

Another World 221

Chapter 221 - Joining the Alliance

Zhao Hai nodded. Such conditions were acceptable for him. If the Black Magician Alliance was truly this loose, then joining wouldn't be an issue.

Maru watched Zhao Hai's expression, smiled, then said, "So long as you join the alliance, some common and ordinary intelligence will be provided free of charge. If you wish for the alliance to help you investigate matters with special circumstances, or to look up a specific individual, then the alliance will request a fee. This fee will be based on the difficulty of obtaining this information.

"Naturally, the alliance will also give missions you can partake in. For example, some magicians might also wish to obtain information on certain individuals. How much you help in their investigations will become the basis for the amount you gain off the alliance's commission. If there is a magician that requires a magic beast and you help in catching it, then the alliance will also pass a commission for that as well."

Zhao Hai smiled and thought the Black Magician Alliance was interesting. It seemed like a common mercenary guilds in novels back on Earth. The things they did were similar, except that the alliance catered to black magicians.

Smiling, Zhao Hai said, "What do I need to give in order to join the alliance?"

As soon as he heard the question, Maru understood Zhao Hai's intent. He was excited and immediately replied, "We do not require anything. It's fine if you just agree to join. Later on, you cannot spread matters pertaining to the alliance and you cannot betray it. If you agree, then take this and become a full fledged member of the alliance."

As he spoke, Maru took out a small badge. The badge was similar to the size of a yuan coin back on Earth. On the front side was a dark cloud pattern while the back had a pin, allowing it to be attached to one's clothing

Zhao Hai carefully inspected the simple badge. After a while, he looked at Maru and said, "Such a simple badge, aren't you afraid of fabrications?"

Maru smiled. “No. Although this badge looks insignificant and made of simple metal, it was actually made by an elder of the alliance. They performed a few magic experiments and obtained this. Although it isn’t a hard metal, it has very good elasticity. It can change its shape when subjected to external force, then slowly change back to its original state. Moreover, the badge has a number that prevents others from making a counterfeit.”

Memory metal !

As Zhao Hai listened, he thought the material of the badge was similar to memory metal. He really didn’t think there would be such a thing on this continent.

Zhao Hai took up the small badge and carefully checked it, yet he couldn’t see anything peculiar about it. He placed the badge back on the table and turned to Maru. “If the alliance had a lot of rules, I wouldn’t have agreed to join.”

Maru couldn’t help but feel happy. He had a certain understanding of Zhao Hai. He knew Zhao Hai was very strong. During the time Garan had tried to cope with Zhao Hai, his group disappeared without a trace. There was also the attack on Laura by the Immortal Mercenary Group that he repelled. Later on, they too had vanished from the continent. This had proven Zhao Hai’s strength. Such a powerful black magician joining the Black Magician Alliance would definitely increase their strength. This was what made Maru truly happy.

Obviously, the Black Magician Alliance was more into preservation when compared with the Radiance Church. Their aim was simple. Just as Maru said, they aimed to first help other black magicians and pass down their magic techniques. The second goal was to resist the Radiance Church.

Compared to Radiance Church, the Black Magician Alliance’s organization structure was quite loose and less utilitarian. Because of this, Zhao Hai decided to join the alliance.

Once he saw Zhao Hai taking the badge, Maru felt relieved. He smiled and said, “Good. From now on, you are a member of the Black Magician Alliance. Our alliance’s main goal is to help other black magicians and resist Radiance Church. For the rest of the time, you can do your own thing and needn’t worry about being restrained.”

Zhao Hai smiled. "This is good. Since Sir Maru has come this time, we must entertain sir well. Laura, order some people to make preparations. In a while, I will ask sir to join us for a meal. After dinner, I would also like to ask sir to enjoy a play."

Laura smiled faintly and said, "Alright, I'll order them to prepare. We happen to have several fire fish at the moment, so it will be good so serve it to sir." She then told Nier to start preparing.

Maru looked at them strangely. After hearing him speak Laura's given name, it seemed that Zhao Hai and Laura had some sort of relationship. It wasn't just that of a collaborator with her benefactor, but instead displayed a sort of intimacy.

What was more important was that he heard Laura telling him to eat fire fish. Although fire fish was not an advanced level magic beast, it was very difficult to eat some. Maru was only a black magician and hadn't eaten fire fish before. Laura suggesting this was truly surprising.

Before, Laura had returned with fire fish from her visits to Zhao Hai's place. It wasn't a gift, but something they ate privately and it also hadn't been sold to her. As such, no one else on the continent knew Laura had a large amount of fire fish in her possession.

Maru felt extremely flattered with the accommodations. One must know that fire fish were very high quality. With the present status of black magicians, few could eat such delicacies. He hadn't expected he would taste some today.

With regards to the play Zhao Hai had invited him to watch later, he understood what Zhao Hai had meant. He had investigated earlier before he came. For the past two days, Boric had sent his people into Casa City. It seemed that they were here to deal with Zhao Hai. He didn't understand it at first, but now that he was being asked to deliberately stay here a bit longer, he knew Zhao Hai's intentions. Zhao Hai had stayed back in order to wait for the people Boric sent.

Maru, however, didn't say anything about that. He stayed and waited. In any case, Boric was also a member of Radiance Church, so tidying up his men would be a good thing.

Zhao Hai turned to Maru and said, "Sir Maru, may I know how many members the alliance has?"

Maru nodded. "Naturally. We currently have a total of 13,600 members. Although this may look like a lot, one must understand that the alliance aims to invite every black magician on the continent. While there are some black magicians we cannot contact, there are also those who are reluctant to join. On the continent, about forty or so out of a hundred meetings result in recruitment. If we only have so few, then our days will be tough."

Zhao Hai nodded. Although he didn't understand much about the situation of the Ark Continent, he had a certain understanding of the Purcell Duchy. As such, he knew the population of the Ark Continent was immense, and its size was probably greater than that of Earth. The population shouldn't be lower than that of Earth. In this case, as an organization of the Ark Continent, even with a member count of over ten thousand it was a very skewed ratio.

Zhao Hai turned to Maru and asked, "Does the alliance have any semblance with the church? Like, do we control several mercenary groups?"

Maru smiled and said, "As you know, the alliance is an organization wherein those in direct control have no great power. Some magicians, however, have established their own forces, such as yourself. At present, your influence isn't small. In the future, the alliance may ask for your help when necessary. Your strength is a part of the alliance and unlike the Radiance Church, we don't directly order our members. We generally please the magicians working with us. As such, we usually give notice to the magician beforehand and seek their advice. If you don't wish to help, then we won't force you."

Zhao Hai curiously asked, "What if a magician always declines to help? Will the alliance still provide information to him? Wouldn't this be a loss for the alliance?"

Maru chuckled. "The alliance isn't a merchant group. It was established to help black magicians and help them pass down their magic. At the same time, we resist the Radiance Church. Helping the alliance is voluntary. We won't force anyone."

Zhao Hai somewhat admired Maru and the alliance. So far, the things that had been presented by the alliance showed that they wished to help black magicians. Furthermore, the utilitarianism wasn't forced. Seeing this, it truly was actively trying to help the black magicians.

Nodding seriously, Zhao Hai said to Maru, "Sir Maru, please help me pass a message along to the Elders Assembly. If there is anything I can help with, please don't be polite. So long as I can help, I shall."

Maru laughed. "Alright. I will certainly pass on this message. Zhao Hai, we black magicians have been pushed into a dead end now. If we do not give our all, then it will be our own bad luck in the end."

Zhao Hai nodded. Although he wasn't a true black magician, helping the black magicians whenever he could was equal to gaining a patron. If anything happened in the future, then he could ask the Black Magician Alliance for help. This was very important for him.

Around this time, the food had finished being prepared. Zhao Hai and the rest moved to the dining hall and Meg immediately set the meals.

The truth was, these meals had been prepared within the Space. They'd been prepared by Meirin. What Laura had said earlier had just been a cover. Maru had invited Zhao Hai to join the Black Magician Alliance, and Zhao Hai didn't wish to be malicious. It was just that the Space wasn't something Zhao Hai could easily share with Maru. This was his greatest secret. Except for those whom he was intimate with, like Laura, in which he was sure wouldn't betray him, he wouldn't easily tell others about it.

The reason Zhao Hai didn't conceal this secret from the slaves was because it was impossible for those slaves to betray Zhao Hai. In addition, it would be impossible for them to establish themselves anywhere else on the continent. If they weren't under a master and ran away to some other place on the continent, then they would be called a runaway slave and captured. This was the reason why Zhao Hai wasn't afraid of them speaking out irresponsibly.

The meal was very sumptuous. Of course, the main course was fire fish. There was also beef, pork, rabbit meat, and various kinds of vegetables. Maru looked at the vegetables and couldn't help but swallow his saliva. These years, due to the suppression of the Radiance Church, the life of black magicians had become very bad. He himself hadn't eaten such a grandiose meal as of late.

Chapter 222 - Become My Slave

The meal made Maru very happy. Moreover, it surprised him that the meat on the table was all made with advanced level magic beasts as they contained a high level of magic elements.

As a magician, Maru was very sensitive to magic elements. In addition to this, Zhao Hai had used ingredients prepared from the Space. The beef was a common cattle meat used on the continent called a fierce cow .

Fierce cows were a very strange kind of magic beast. Their bodies didn't have any wool and instead had thick skin and a lot of meat. Its strength was also very high. This type of cattle could be used to plow arable fields, and the meat could be used as food. Laura raised several fierce cows, but not for farm use. The fierce cows were raised for their meat.

Previously, Laura had raised a lot of wind falcons. These wind falcons alone ate a lot of meat. Now that she raised the eagles, their appetite was also quite large. Providing meat for the wind falcons and eagles had required her to raise several fierce cows. Afterward, Zhao Hai received them inside the Space.

The Space's evaluation of fierce cows wasn't very high, only level 4 magic beast. This was just the rating inside the Space, however. Outside, the rating of fierce cows was only level 1. The highest level of animals within the space was level 50, but on the Ark Continent the highest was only a level 9 magic beast. Reaching level 10 would be the same as reaching godhood and that only existed in legends. This was the reason why the assessment of animal levels inside and outside the Space was different.

The reason why Zhao Hai raised fierce cows was for their meat. They were all used to eating Space produced meat, so the meat outside always tasted off. This was why they were currently eating products taken from inside the Space.

Products that were produced from within the Space was of high quality. These were good ingredients which, in turn, naturally enhanced the flavor of the dish. Along with the use of cooking methods from Earth, Maru's appetite was greatly increased.

After dinner, they went into the parlor room where Nier and Meg served them tea. Zhao Hai drank a mouthful of the tea and looked at Maru, smiling as he asked, "Sir, what do you think of tonight's meal? Was it delicious?"

Maru replied with a smile, "Delicious, it was too delicious. Is this the continent's famous Taoyuan products? They are truly extraordinary. I really didn't expect Mister Zhao Hai to have such good things. No wonder Boric has thoughts about them."

Zhao Hai smiled faintly. "Yes, good things are always on a person's mind."

Just then, Zhao Hai's expression changed. He turned to Maru and said, "I didn't think that the play would start just after we finished eating. Interesting."

As soon as Maru heard what Zhao Hai said, he knew the play was being staged. He smiled and said, "Yes, ah, just finished dinner and we can already see a good play. Haha, I hope it's a splendid play."

Zhao Hai smiled faintly. He turned to Laura and said, "Open the doors and let the people acting in the play come onto the stage. Let us have those watching the play be comfortable. There's nothing else we can do but show our due respect for their feelings."

Laura smiled faintly and nodded. Nier and Meg ran to open the doors and windows of the parlor room.

Maru didn't know when it happened, but the entire courtyard began to be filled with undead. Some of those undead wore the armor of warriors while others looked like magicians in their presentation. They appeared in the courtyard one after the other and stood motionless like statues.

Furthermore, the entire courtyard was covered with a black fog. One simply couldn't see the situation outside, but could only hear the sounds of footsteps. The number wasn't small.

Maru looked at Zhao Hai with astonishment. These undead were obviously being summoned by Zhao Hai, but he didn't see when Zhao Hai had summoned them. There weren't movements of any sort, nor did he make any sound. What's more, he didn't feel any magical fluctuations. This surprised him.

Many black magicians would study how to hide magical fluctuations. After learning how, they would only be able to use it for casting low level magic. This made it difficult for others to detect their magical fluctuations and it could be used for sneak attacks.

This method, however, required a lot of preparation. If the opposing magician noted them, then using this method would be difficult.

Hiding magical fluctuations using any method wouldn't completely erase the presence of magical fluctuations either. Rather, it could only weaken it. When a person didn't pay close enough attention, the magical fluctuations wouldn't be felt. If one were to carefully observe, however, then it could be found.

Maru felt nothing when Zhao Hai summoned his undead. There were no magical fluctuations of any kind, which was the most surprising part.

Naturally, it was impossible for Maru to know that Zhao Hai didn't use the common dark summoning magic technique. If he knew this, then he wouldn't be so surprised.

Zhao Hai didn't pay attention to Maru. He watched the front of Faith Mansion and wanted to see what method the intruders would use to break through the walls and enter Faith Mansion.

Just then, a knock suddenly sounded at the door. Zhao Hai and Laura were surprised for a moment. How come there was someone knocking at the door at this time ?

Zhao Hai couldn't help but smile gently. "The people at home are resting. Come back tomorrow."

As he said this, Zhao Hai and Laura laughed. They didn't need to ask for the identity of those currently knocking as they were surely those people were sent by Boric. The opposite party's action of knocking on the door was supposed to make them feel tense, as though they despised them.

Unfortunately, Zhao Hai answered with a joke which ruined their plans completely. They wanted to pressure Zhao Hai, but were instead ridiculed.

Sure enough, after Zhao Hai's joke, a voice was heard from outside. "Junior, you have some balls."

After they heard those words, a loud bang sounded from the front doors. The two thick wooden doors fell inward.

Zhao Hai and the others didn't pay any attention to the fallen doors. They did, however, look towards the doors in order to see who had come this time around.

Five individuals stood outside. Those five all wore white magic robes and carried white magic staffs in their hands. Zhao Hai understood that these five were all light magicians. Moreover, their ranks weren't low. The five light magicians stood beside an extravagant looking carriage. The body of the carriage was colored a pure white that glistened in the night. There weren't any ordinary horse-shaped magic beasts pulling the carriage, but lion-shaped ones. Those lion-shaped magic beasts were also white and didn't only exude a fierce battle aura, but also an aura of holiness.

Laura whispered to Zhao Hai, "A carriage made of sacred light wood . It seems these are people of Radiance Church, and their statuses aren't low. From their appearances they should be white-clothed bishops. Pulling their carriages are level 6 light element magic beasts, Moonlight Lions . Their battle quality is high and they also use light elemental magic."

Standing behind the five white-clothed bishops was a platoon of knights. The appearances of those knights was quite distinct. They each had a cross beneath their uniforms and rode white-horned warhorses. Those white-horned warhorses were equipped with bright silver armor. Each knight wore bright silver body armor and held a four-meter long knight spear in their right hand. A large tower shield was held in their left hands and there were white feathers that stuck out of their body armor. Beneath the spearhead of their knight spears was a triangular flag. The spears pointed toward the sky, allowing the triangular flag to wave in the air.

Zhao Hai examined the appearance of those mighty knights and muttered, "I have to say, the look of those fellows is really good. It's just that I don't know what's beneath the armor. Would there be a human, or a ghost?"

As Zhao Hai's voice faded, a colder one came from one of the white-clothed bishops. "Are you Zhao Hai? Dirty black magician. Today, for the glory of god, we'll make you disappear forever."

Zhao Hai looked at the five white-clothed bishops and smile. "How many times have you said that line? How can you say it so smoothly? Today, didn't you promise the Purcell clan you wouldn't make such a big ruckus? Listen to me. We should speak from the heart and not use any actions. I may have attacked first, but this way we can save a lot of trouble ."

When she heard Zhao Hai, Laura couldn't help but smile. She didn't expect Zhao Hai to be such a rascal at this time and unexpectedly say these words.

Zhao Hai's disposition was quite cheerful, but he was a person who stayed at home for too long so he appeared a bit dull. In addition, he'd just moved to the Ark Continent. Because of the pressure, he hadn't been able to joke a lot. Today, however, he had joined the Black Magician Alliance and was about to leave the Purcell Duchy. As such, he loosened his heart a bit. He couldn't help but say a couple jokes with the white-clothed bishops.

Those white-clothed bishops didn't expect Zhao Hai to be this relaxed when he saw their lineup. The bishop in the middle couldn't help but angrily say, "Junior, you dare speak such nonsense. A dirty human like you needs to be purified under the brilliance of god. That's the only way out."

Zhao Hai smiled and said, "That's a good choice. You came at the wrong time, however. The brilliance of god can purify in the day, but at night the brilliance of god is replaced. Haha, I see your fancy carriage and big cats pulling it. I also see the knights behind you look very good. I am quite reluctant to make you all my slaves."

Maru sat beside Zhao Hai and, to be honest, he was currently very nervous. One must know that within Radiance Church, those white-clothed bishops were existences that stood just beneath the Pope and the archbishops. Each of them would be at least a Rank Seven magician in strength. In addition to the magic staffs they held, the carriage and magic beasts pulling it could superimpose with their strength and increase it. It could be said that their strength wasn't any lower than that of a Rank Eight expert. Five Rank Eight light magicians. With this, their battle strength wasn't something that could be lightly called a play.

Light elemental magic was the nemesis of black magic. This sentence wasn't false. In front of a light magician, black magicians suffered innate disadvantages. What's more, the opposite party had sent magicians of such high strength in order to deal with Zhao Hai. Seeing Zhao Hai so indifferent when dealing them made Maru feel admiration towards Zhao Hai.

Chapter 223 - Undead with Light Magic

After Zhao Hai spoke, he turned to Laura and asked, "What do you think, Laura? Is the idea good or bad? If a black magician sat on that sacred light wood carriage as it's pulled by undead Moonlight Lions with an undead bishop coachman. it must certainly ride like the wind."

Laura and the others were shocked. Although Laura was very confident in Zhao Hai, hearing him say such things still surprised her.

No one could blame them for being surprised. Zhao Hai's words were truly too astonishing. If Zhao Hai did this, then it would be tantamount to slapping the face of the entire continent's Radiance Church. The Radiance Church wouldn't let this go.

Among them, the most surprised was Maru. Maru was one of the first to join the Black Magician Alliance. These past few years, they had resisted Radiance Church so he had a certain understanding of exactly how powerful the Radiance Church was. To be honest, many wouldn't speak like Zhao Hai. Even Rank Nine experts wouldn't dare to easily say such things. The Bright Church didn't only have a single Rank Nine expert, so a common Rank Nine expert wouldn't be so bored as to speak out like this.

Maru, however, was very excited. The Black Magician Alliance had been resisting Radiance Church for years, yet they were only participating in secret and used sneak attacks. The majority of the people on the continent didn't even notice. Moreover, they were still afraid of the Radiance Church's retaliation. They did minor acts, but what Zhao Hai said he would do to the white-clothed bishops... they didn't even dare to think of it.

Those white-clothed bishops were stunned after hearing what he said. What followed was boundless anger. They didn't think that a black magician would dare to speak such insolence towards them. The power and influence of a bishop was no less than that of a middle-rank aristocrat on the continent. Now, however, someone had dared to speak such insolence towards them. They were even ignored, which had truly made them angry.

The bodies of those white-clothed bishops shook with anger, and one of them loudly shouted, "Dirty black magician! Your thoughts have been poisoned by the devil. Come and accept a baptism from god."

Zhao Hai laughed and looked at the bishop as he said, "Were your heads caught in the door? Is that why you can say such things? Can you find someone on the continent that would just let their heads be chopped off if they were asked by someone to do so? Does the Radiance Church really have such idiots in control?"

The eyes of the bishop turned red with anger. Just as he was about to say something, the bishop beside him said, "We are not of Radiance Church. We are just mercenaries that do not understand black magicians."

Zhao Hai looked in this bishop's eyes. While the other white-clothed bishops were also filled with anger, this one appeared calm. This bishop hadn't been angered or affected by Zhao Hai's taunting.

Zhao Hai watched the person's appearance and knew that this was a person with a deep and profound background. Such a person couldn't be compared with the others that were easy to mess with. Zhao Hai, however, didn't care. He smiled and said, "Clear-sighted people shouldn't speak lies. Who you are is something we are crystal clear about. You do not have the right to speak of evils since the Radiance Church isn't so clean itself. Saying so many words, the cost isn't something such hands could pay..."

After saying this, he waved and several undead dressed as magicians appeared before the white-clothed bishops.

Those undead were Zhao Zui and his team, Zhao Jia, Zhao Shi and Zhao Jie, Lycra and his trio, and Buffy. Those fifteen undead magicians suddenly appeared and frightened them. Zhao Hai had feared that people might recognize them, so they appeared as skeletons instead of zombies.

Those white-clothed bishops looked at Zhao Hai's expression and grew more angry. They were light magicians, the nemesis of black magicians. Now, however, Zhao Hai unexpectedly had his undead deal with them. This made them despise him greatly.

One bishop couldn't bear it anymore and spoke first. He angrily shouted at Zhao Hai, "Junior, today we shall let you know that the brilliance of god is everywhere!" After he shouted, he raised his staff and recited a spell incantation. A white light suddenly shot at Zhao Zui. This spell was expectedly a Rank Six light element area of effect attack, Sacred Light Descends.

Maru sat quietly beside Zhao Hai. When Zhao Hai bickered with the bishops, his heart couldn't stop beating. Seeing Zhao Hai send the undead to deal with the white-clothed bishops worried Maru. The difference was too great. One must know that one cannot easily mess with a bishop.

Everyone, however, was surprised after seeing how the scene unfolded. They saw an undead magician suddenly step forward. This magician wore a white magic robe and held a white staff. They didn't see anything until, suddenly, a light element magic shield appeared, blocking the attack directed at the nearby undead skeleton magicians.

Including Laura, the white bishops were startled and froze for a moment. Maru, who was also startled, suddenly stood up. They had all thought that the skeleton magicians would use black magic to deal with the white-clothed bishops. They didn't expect, however, that it would actually use light magic.

This skeleton was naturally Zhao Jia. He himself was a light magician. After the improvements from the Space, his magic had been preserved. Thus, it was natural for him to be able to use light magic.

This, however, made Maru and the others very surprised. They hadn't seen an undead before that could use light magic. The simple fact of it seemed like a joke. This was like a man holding the knife that would cut his own body. It was purely suicidal behaviour.

Zhao Hai didn't want to make a move since he wanted to see the effect. He also wanted to let Maru know that he wasn't afraid of Radiance Church.

At this time, Zhao Zui and his team made their move. Zhao Zui and his team were true black magicians and they shot black magic attacks that covered the sky and overwhelmed the white-clothed bishops.

Zhao Shi and Zhao Jie also moved, along with Buffy and the others. Zhao Shi and Zhao Jie were earth element magicians while Buffy was a wind element magician. Adding in Zhao Zui and his team, the attacks of three magic elements was magnificent and unparalleled.

Zhao Zui and his team's actions moved the souls of everyone. Maru looked with shock at Zhao Hai and asked, "Mister Zhao Hai, this... what is this all about? How can your undead use light elemental magic?"

Zhao Hai smiled and said, "Sir Maru, don't worry about it and sit down. Listen to my explanation. This undead using light elemental magic was Garan, who had attacked me in the past. After I killed him, I turned him into an undead. To my surprise, he suddenly became a variant undead that could use light elemental magic. I was also surprised after seeing this back then, but I don't actually understand how it happened."

After hearing Zhao Hai's explanation, Maru felt relieved. Black magicians had their own system for summoning undead. Sometimes, there would also be variations. As such, while Zhao Jia's ability was strange, it wasn't completely out of the norm.

Even though Maru had calmed down, he still felt it was inconceivable. An undead that could use light elemental magic. Even though he personally saw it, if he told others they wouldn't believe him.

Maru still didn't feel this was right. He turned to Zhao Hai and asked, "What about the other skeleton magicians? What's going on with them? What are their ranks?"

A low ranking undead wouldn't be able to use magic. Since Zhao Zui and his team could use magic, Maru knew that they were all high ranking undead.

Zhao Hai smiled and said, "How should I put this, I'd say it's all thanks to my lucky magic cane that I found. I don't know what it's made of. While I was hunting for magic beasts in the forest, I fortunately found it. This magic cane has a very special ability. Using it to cast the Bone Forging technique on the dead blesses it with the Spirit Trap technique. That's the reason why I can summon high-level undead."

Maru stared at Zhao Hai's Ghost Cane with a pair of shining eyes. Zhao Hai laughed inside his mind. He remembered what Sir Wei Xiaobao had said. An explanation should be nine parts true, one part false. Even if he lies, there was no way for others to figure it out .

At this time, several of the white-clothed bishops couldn't withstand Zhao Zui and his team's attack. Those Radiance Knights behind them also saw this and shouted. The spears those Radiance Knights held lowered as they rushed Faith Mansion.

Zhao Hai didn't move. Instead, he made the warrior-clothed undead form a square formation. They blocked the entrance into the mansion. The entire courtyard of Faith Mansion became a battlefield.

Zhao Hai wasn't worried. Even though those Radiance Knights were formidable and had good numbers, he himself had many undead with strengths comparable to that of Rank Seven warriors. Such a strength couldn't be overlooked by anyone. He believed that those undead could block the Radiance Knights.

All of this made Faith Mansion very lively. The people around seemed to sleep soundly, however. They didn't make any sound, so there was no problems with killing everything here.

Such a great ruckus should have already alarmed the city guards into action. The city guards, however, seemed to have taken a vacation. Not one figure could be seen. It seemed that the Radiance Church really had made a call to Grand Duke Evan.

With regards to Evan's response, Zhao Hai understood it. Although the Purcell clan was a large clan, the combination of Boric and the Radiance Church going into action was too strong, so the Purcell clan had given in. That warning earlier was enough for them.

Sure enough, following Zhao Hai's thoughts from before, the Radiance Knights were repelled by the undead warriors at the front doors. They hadn't been able to crash into Faith Mansion.

Suddenly, at this time, shadows of several courageous people appeared as they crawled up the walls surrounding Faith Mansion and leapt over. Those people wore mercenary clothes and held weapons. They looked at Zhao Hai, the person they were to deal with.

Chapter 224 - The Final Blow

Maru also saw these people. Although they wore mercenary garbs, their movements were very neat. At a glance, it could be seen that they had good coordination and weren't your average mercenaries. They should have received regular military training.

Zhao Hai watched the mercenaries. The number of people that had jumped over the wall numbered several hundred. When they entered the courtyard, they didn't immediately attack Zhao Hai. Instead, they stood in place and changed their positions slightly to form ranks. Although they used up a bit of time, they had already lined up properly and into formation. After that, they charged at him.

On the other hand, Zhao Hai wasn't worried. He himself was surrounded by many undead and at this time, he'd only used the human-shaped undead. Those beast-shaped undead hadn't yet been mobilized.

Zhao Hai counted the knights attacking Faith Mansion from the front and came up with 18. These 18 knights had very good coordination with one another and were Rank Six experts.

Soon enough, no matter if it was Maru or the white-clothed bishops, they realized the abnormality of the situation. Those undead were really too special as they didn't fear the attacks of the Radiance Knights.

One must understand that the weapons and equipment of the Radiance Knights had been blessed with light elemental magic. In addition, those knights themselves had very high battle strength. Zhao Hai, however, had only sent a hundred undead to withstand the attacks of the Radiance Knights. This was simply inconceivable.

Knights and warriors were different. The general understanding of the populace was that knights were a more advanced profession than warriors. Knights could be called the aristocrats of warriors.

An ordinary warrior wore leather armor at best and were equipped with a poor quality weapon. If a warrior wore armor and had a good weapon, then they wouldn't simply be called a warrior.

A knight on the other hand must have a horse and wear full body armor. Their weapons weren't like of warriors who only used a single type of weapon. Knights must have a knight spear along with a tower shield and a heavy sword . Once they had those items, they could be called a knight .

Warrior, however, only needed to take care of themselves. Even if their weapon was damaged, they could just replace it. The cost also wouldn't very high.

Knights, aside from looking after themselves, needed to take care of their mounts. Their knight spears was a weapon that could be easily damaged, so they needed to replace it if it was damaged. The price of a knight spear, however, was simply too expensive when compared to ordinary weapons . Due to these reasons, from an ordinary warrior's point of view, knights might be powerful but was an occupation that burned a lot of money . If one wasn't an aristocrat or a rich person, then there was no way to become a knight.

Also, due to the fact that knights were so rich, many of them would have a knight attendant. The knight attendant would usually take care of the day to day life of the knight, such as looking after their mounts. When the knight goes into battle, they would be beside the knight .

The battle strength of a knight was, without a doubt, formidable. Their strength was directly related to their mounts. If the mount was formidable, then the knight would be formidable. Naturally, if they wanted a formidable mount, then they would need to spend a considerable amount of money.

These Radiance Knights had uniform mounts. Each of them had a Rank Five magic beast, a unicorn . Unicorns were Rank Five light element magic beasts and there were rumors that the Rank Nine saint beast of the elf race had a blood relationship with the unicorns. They had a very high battle strength and could carry heavy loads. These were very good mounts.

The knights of Radiance Church mostly used these kinds of unicorns as their mounts. This wasn't only because of their battle strength, but also because it looked very strong.

When fighting against a hundred ordinary warriors, an eighteen member squad of knights would be more than a match for them. A single mounted knight's strength could easily tear apart a warrior's formation with ease. After a few assaults, they could easily kill those hundred warriors.

Unfortunately, this time the knights were not facing ordinary warriors, but undead as strong as a Rank Seven warrior. The knight charge didn't go smoothly and they didn't have a method to tear down these undead. This was truly a very rare matter for them .

Dealing with common undead was a very simply problem for these Radiance Knights since their weapons were all blessed with light element magic. So long as they encountered undead, they could inflict great damage to them. The problem was these undead weren't normal, common undead. These undead were not afraid of light element magic.

Maru stared as he watched the situation. What he saw today was something he'd seen in the past: a battle between Radiance Knights and undead. Today, however, the battle had gone beyond his cognition. The undead and Radiance Knights both resisted the other greatly and didn't fall to the wind. This, in his opinion, was a fantastical scene.

The undead surrounded by those mercenaries blocked their attacks continuously. Zhao Hai just sat there like one of the old gods. It was as if he truly was watching a play before him instead of a live battle.

Maru didn't know what Zhao Hai was thinking. He suspected Zhao Hai wasn't just a madman. A madman wouldn't be able to do such a thing. Maru didn't know whether it was right or wrong to invite such a super madman into the Black Magician Alliance.

At this time, Laura looked at the people outside and said to Zhao Hai, "Brother Hai, don't drag this out for too long. It'll be bad if you do this and have to give a confession to the Grand Duke."

Zhao Hai nodded and waved his hand. Suddenly, a lot of undead magic beasts appeared within Faith Mansion. The characteristic of these undead was that they were all very large. Each undead was at least two to three meters in height. Some were even five to six meters tall. Moreover, their skeletal bodies were dark green in color and had spikes protruding from their bones. They didn't look like something one should mess around with.

When these undead appeared, the sharp spikes on their bodies flew out fiercely like a brutal arrow being shot. They flew towards the mercenaries and shot down many of them.

After the spikes flew, the magic beasts quickly overran them. Maru, however, noted that behind those mercenaries were many undead. Those undead were like death as they mainly used assassination tactics. They were silently getting rid of the mercenaries at the back. Many of the mercenaries now had nobody at their back and were easily killed.

This disaster had come too fast. The mercenaries didn't have enough time to react before they were killed. Those that hadn't been killed yet were now caught in a circle of undead and weren't able to escape.

To deal with these mercenaries, only a few undead had been used. Most of the undead were instead surrounding the Radiance Knights and the white-clothed bishops.

Maru didn't know what to say. He never would have expected Zhao Hai to have so many undead. Moreover, the battle strength of these undead was very high. This time around, the Radiance Church would eat a loss.

Those five white-clothed bishops had also realized that things were not looking good. They didn't expect Zhao Hai to have such unexpected strength. Slowly, they began to grow desperate. They knew that today, they had to do everything they could to desperately stay alive and fight.

Zhao Hai stood at this time and watched the five white-clothed bishops. He knew that these were the leaders. Others could run, but these five couldn't.

He secretly gave Cai'er an order. So long as the white-clothed bishops made any movement, she was to immediately move against them.

The reason Zhao Hai ordered Cai'er to prepare was because of a single bishop's calmness. When he released the magic beast undead earlier, all four of the white-clothed bishops' facial color changed. All except for one. This was the one Zhao Hai was talking about, the one bishop he thought was very calm and might be planning something.

This bishop was very calm, and his calm didn't seem to be due to his own strength. The might of this bishop was average when compared to the other four. He was, however, extremely calm, as if he didn't have any fear.

Such a person must be hiding something in their hands. This kind of person with a deep background must certainly have a last card to play. Moreover, no one knew what card he had. As such, Zhao Hai paid special attention to him. This was why he ordered Cai'er to deal with him.

Laura and the others had observed the same scene. They looked at the white-clothed bishops and knew they couldn't run away.

Maru didn't know, but the rest understood that they had two Rank Nine experts on their side. At a moment's notice, the Rank Nine experts would follow the command and get rid of their opponents. Even if the opposing party had an ancient magic tool, like a non-directional transfer scroll, they still wouldn't be able to escape.

Battle was full of chances. So long as one was ready, all accidents could be inevitably avoided. Zhao Hai, this time around, was ready. He was waiting for all of his enemies to arrive. If the enemies didn't come, then there was no problem. If they did, then they wouldn't be able to escape.

The mercenaries went down one after another, and the battlefield didn't give off any suspense anymore. Both the Radiance Church and Boric's plans had been completely defeated.

Just then, three shadows appeared from the white-clothed bishop's carriage. Three white-clothed bishops weren't able to react before three piercing swords claimed their lives.

Although the white-clothed bishops used a light element protective shield, they weren't able to block the attack of those piercing swords. As such, the three white-clothed bishops died in the blink of an eye.

At this time, Zhao Hai was still paying attention to the calm bishop and saw his facial expression finally change as he gritted his teeth. He looked maliciously at Zhao Hai as he extended a hand to his breast. Just as he was about to touch it, vines erupted from the ground and thrust towards the chest of the two remaining white-clothed bishops. When the vines came, a flash of white light appeared and tried to block the vines, but failed. The white-clothed bishop was killed on the scene, his eyes full of disbelief as he died.

Chapter 225 - Destroy

Maru saw it all, and even the eighteen Radiance Knights were dumbfounded. Regardless of what had happened, they weren't able to believe that five white-clothed bishops could just die so unexpectedly.

This was especially true for that white-clothed bishop that had tried to reach for something in his chest. That white-clothed bishop had a deep background and even though the Radiance Knights didn't know what he was taking out, they did know that the white-clothed bishop had something in his possession, one protection ring.

A protection ring was a common magic item on the continent. This type of magic item was imbued with magic arrays that had been founded from the research circles. After a long period of research, they were able to seal protection magic into a ring, which is where it got its name.

Protection rings were divided into several grades. Low-level protection rings were disposable, one-time use items. The materials used for such an item weren't special and were common materials like wood or stone with low level protection magic sealed within. These were relatively cheap and common.

High level protection rings, however, were made of metal alloys which could seal high level protection magic. They could also be repeatedly used and were regarded as a more precious magic item.

The father of this white-clothed bishop was a red-clothed archbishop and a Rank Eight expert. To ensure his son's security, he had given that white-clothed bishop a high level protection ring. It could even block a Rank Eight expert's attack without breaking.

This pitiful ring, however, couldn't block Cai'er's attack. Cai'er's strength was greater than that of a Rank Nine's, and her casual attack had the same strength of a regular Rank Nine. Because of this, the white-clothed bishop wouldn't have been able to block her attack.

Those eighteen Radiance Knights were aware of his identity. The reason the white-bishop had gone with them was to obtain some merit. No one would have thought he'd die instead.

His death didn't really matter, but it meant the knights wouldn't be able to live anymore. They knew the father of that white-clothed bishop wouldn't let them off.

The eyes of the Radiance Knights immediately turned red. They knew that no matter what happened today, they would die. If they died in battle, then their family members wouldn't be affected. If they came back alive, however, their family members would receive bad luck.

These Radiance Knights had been trained by the Radiance Church. The church had selected talented children and trained them from childhood. As such, their loyalty towards the Radiance Church didn't have any issues. Moreover, their detailed backgrounds were archived by the Radiance Church.

It was because they were loyal and absolutely wouldn't betray the church that there were clear about its internal matters. They knew the Radiance Church wasn't as bright as they appeared to be and was actually quite tarnished on the inside, yet they weren't able to betray the Radiance Church. One could say that these people wearing the clothing of knights were already dead.

The eighteen Radiance Knights made their move at almost the exact same time. They discarded their tower shields simultaneously and pierced their knight spears into the ground. Then they all pulled out their heavy swords from their saddle and swung it down on their left hands.

Zhao Hai was surprised for a moment. He didn't understand what they were trying to do until Green said aloud, "Master, we must kill them. They wish to use Sacrifice ."

Sacrifice was a unique skill used by knights. This skill meant they intended to go all out as they sacrificed their flesh and blood and dedicated it to their god of knights. By doing so, they would gain a strength that was a greater than what they currently had. This skill, however, once used would claim a knight's life. Sacrificing oneself to obtain greater power. The skill's duration was just an hour as well. After that hour, the knight would die, so the use of Sacrifice was akin to suicide.

Once a knight used sacrifice, they would generally obtain a boost in strength of two ranks. In other words, once these Radiance Knights used sacrifice they would be able to reach Rank Eight. On the continent, a Rank Eight knight was a master, an almost invisible existence below Rank Nine deities.

Zhao Hai smiled coldly and waved his hand. Several vines drilled up from the ground and straightened, thrusting at the heads of the knights. The eighteen Radiance Knights didn't even have a chance to groan before they died.

Although Sacrifice was very powerful, it still needed time to prepare. The eighteen Radiance Knights weren't able to complete their preparations in time before they were killed by Cai'er.

Zhao Hai didn't want to wait, so he made Cai'er attack twice. He didn't care if they died several times over. In a flash, Cai'er killed the remaining mercenaries and ended the battle.

One couldn't say that the strength of the opponents were weak, just that Cai'er was ridiculously strong. Even if those Radiance Knights were to complete their Sacrifice, they would at most amount to a Rank Eight knight. Compared to a Rank Nine expert, those Rank Eights were just too weak . It was just like when the Rank Eight expert, Green, faced the Rank Nine expert, Wind Saint Buffy, and didn't have a chance to fight back. Don't even mention Buffy, Cai'er didn't have trouble with these mercenaries that were weaker than Rank Eight.

Almost instantly, Faith Mansion became quiet. Zhao Hai waved and the undead all picked up a corpse. He then took them back into the Space. The living unicorns and moonlight lions hadn't been received by Zhao Hai yet. He had to wait till Maru left before he could do so.

After the corpses were taken away, Zhao Hai turned to Maru and said, "Sir Maru, we shall leave this place immediately. You must also leave. While the sky is still dark, you should leave Casa City as soon as you can. The Radiance Church has eaten such a big loss and certainly wouldn't give up. In the future I shall not contact you. If there is any matter, then come to Stony Mountain and knock on the ground three times. Write the matter on paper and place it in a room. I will then contact you at an appointed time."

Maru looked at Zhao Hai deeply and found that he had many secrets and a strength beyond his imagination. He, however, wasn't ready to inquire into it. In any case, Zhao Hai had already joined the Black Magician Alliance and him having such strength would be beneficial for the alliance. Why would they inquire into his secrets when it might offend Zhao Hai .

Maru breathed in deeply, then nodded and said, "Alright, then we'll keep in contact in the future. If Mister Zhao Hai needs help from the alliance, then you mustn't hesitate to contact us. We have members of the Black Magician Alliance here within Casa City. If there is any matter, you can go and look for them."

After he said this, he handed over a small book to Zhao Hai. This small book had obviously been prepared to be given out earlier, but he gave it now.

Zhao Hai wasn't polite and received the small book. He nodded and said, "Alright, if I have any matters I will immediately contact you. I won't send you off."

Maru nodded his head and bid Zhao Hai farewell, then his stature flashed and disappeared in place.

Zhao Hai asked Cai'er to check on Maru until he left. He then received the sacred light wooden carriage along with the unicorns and moonlight lions.

He then turned to Laura and she also turned to Zhao Hai. Taking a deep breath, Laura carefully looked at Faith Mansion, then turned back to Zhao Hai and said, "Brother Hai, let us begin."

Zhao Hai nodded and pointed his Ghost Cane towards the floor, then took Laura and the others and disappeared from the courtyard. As they disappeared, the ground beneath Faith Mansion began to shake fiercely. The area affected by this quake was small and didn't bother the neighbors of the mansion.

Not long after, except for the walls of Faith Mansion, there was not a single building within the area. All of the houses had been taken down. Laura actually did have a secret passage, but it had disappeared without a trace due to this violent quake.

This was an earth element magic spell that Zhao Hai and the others had agreed to be used in order to eliminate their tracks. Although they wouldn't face problems when they moved into the Space, they had to destroy Faith Mansion in order to lessen suspicion. This was the real reason why Zhao Hai felt sorry for Laura.

Upon entering the Space, Zhao Hai first went and moved the unicorns and moonlight lions into the Spatial Ranch. Zhao Hai had just entered the ranch with the two magic beasts when the Space suddenly prompted:

[Discovered unicorn-shaped animals. Evaluating level; Level 25 animal.]

This animal can be raised inside the Space. It has a maturity time of 36 hours and can give birth to a foal every 12 hours. A total of eight foals can be birthed.

Digitizing animal. Animal can now be purchased from the Spatial Shop.]

[Discovered lion-shaped animal, new form variation. Evaluating level; Level 30 animal.]

This animal can be raised inside the Space. It has a maturity time of 40 hours and can give birth to a cub every 12 hours. A total of eight cubs can be birthed.

Digitizing animal. Animal can now be purchased from the Spatial Shop.]

[With the discovery of new animals, the Spatial Ranch has reached the requirements for upgrade.]

Spatial Ranch has been upgraded to Level 6.]

In all honesty, Zhao Hai wasn't surprised by the Spatial Ranch's upgrade. What he didn't expect was that the unicorn and moonlight lion would be given such a low rating by the Space.

Yes. In Zhao Hai's view, the unicorn and moonlight lion's ratings were low. One must understand that these two were magic beasts that, on the Ark Continent, were Rank Five and Rank Six magic beasts. They would be considered the equivalent of young masters. Yet, the Spatial Ranch had assessed them as Level 25 and Level 30 respectively, which wasn't high .

In the original list of animals for the Spatial Shop, a Level 25 animal was a crane, and a Level 30 animal was a hippo. Although the crane could fly and a hippo's battle efficiency wasn't low, they were quite lacking when compared to magic beasts. How come the Space ranked those two magic beasts so low ?

Yet, while this idea circled Zhao Hai's head once, he didn't think much of it. Anyway, there were more magic beasts on the Ark Continent. When the time came that his level increased, he would be able to buy animals from the Spatial Shop and be able to compare them and know.

Right now, Zhao Hai needed to deal with the corpses of the five white-clothed bishops. These white-clothed bishops were core members of Radiance Church. They certainly knew more matters about the church. For Zhao Hai, this information was of very great use for him. Anyway, both of his identities were now considered enemies of the Radiance Church. As such, he needed to understand more about them. To know them as intimately as he knows himself.

Chapter 226 - Blessed Magic Arrays

Zhao Hai returned to the Spatial Villa. Laura had stayed behind and was currently sitting in the living room, her mood obviously quite low. Zhao Hai didn't speak and just moved to Laura's side quietly. He placed a hand on her shoulder and sat down to accompany her.

Zhao Hai knew Laura was currently sad. Seeing the home they'd built with their own hands destroyed had given her a strange feeling. Saying anything to comfort her at this time was unnecessary. So long as he silently stayed with her and gave her a shoulder to lean on, it would be enough.

Laura leaned gently against Zhao Hai's shoulder, her tears flowing freely. Faith Mansion wasn't just a simple home, but an enterprise. It had her sweat and tears, and was also the home of her heart.

Holding Laura's hands tightly, Zhao Hai said with a low voice, "Laura, rest assured that we will come back sooner or later. When that time comes, we'll build something grander and more attractive than Faith Mansion."

Laura's tears didn't stop, so Zhao Hai then whispered, "It's alright, don't cry. Crying isn't beautiful. Although you have lost Faith Mansion, you gained the Space and Fort Iron Mountain, and also me. What aren't you satisfied with?"

When she heard what Zhao Hai said, Laura smiled through her falling tears. Zhao Hai looked at Laura and said, "Don't cry. If Grandpa Quinn John and the others see this, they might think I'm bullying you. If your father sees this, then it'll be a lot more serious and he might blow up my house."

When she heard his words, Laura wasn't startled but began to smile more than cry. Her tears fell more, but this time around they were tears of joy. Zhao Hai couldn't help but pat his head as he murmured, "Again, Laura, don't you want to go down and have a look at uncle? This time around, the explosion wouldn't be small."

Laura shook her head and smiled. She laughed so much that she couldn't reply to Zhao Hai's words, and Zhao Hai also couldn't help but join in.

Since Karen had taken over the basement of the Spatial Villa and made it his experiment room, an explosion could be heard every other day. Sometimes, they might hear several go off in a row. Zhao Hai and the other had already gotten used to these explosions by now.

Zhao Hai felt a little resentment from it. Karen performed his experiments at random times and sometimes, it happened while Zhao Hai was sleeping. When the explosion occurred, he'd wake up and have a cup.

The Zhao Hai of Earth was an otaku writer. Due to him staying up late in the night, he had a slight nervous breakdown. He'd fall asleep and then wake up in the middle of the night and it would be difficult for him to get back to sleep again. Therefore, when Karen made those explosions, Zhao Hai would take a cup. He now thought he wouldn't get any sleep this night too.

He couldn't, however, say anything to Karen and continued to endure it. At the moment, it was better. Even though there would be an explosion at night, he'd just turn over and sleep. One had to admit that a human's ability to adapt to changes was truly amazing.

After some time, Laura stopped laughing. She turned to Zhao Hai and said, "Brother Hai, you haven't dealt with the white-clothed bishop corpses yet. Why not deal with them now?"

Zhao Hai nodded. "Their processing has a been a bit long. Let's go see and you can ask them anything. Moreover, the bodies of those white-clothed bishops should have a lot of good things on them. I just happened to have brought them for you."

Laura smiled and said, "If there is a good magic item, then we might as well give it to father and have him study it. Perhaps we can get something good from them through his research."

Zhao Hai smiled helplessly. He followed Laura outside the Spatial Villa and took out the corpses. He first made those ordinary mercenaries into undead. He only left two corpses back and turned them into high ranking undead, then asked these two leaders his questions.

These mercenary soldiers really had been sent by Boric. They were from a regular mercenary group and were Boric's men; a mercenary group under Boric's control.

Aside from this they didn't obtain any better information. They were, after all, just a mercenary group and could only be regarded as one of Boric's external forces that wouldn't have any contact with his core strength.

Since he didn't obtain any useful items from these mercenaries, Zhao Hai gave up on them. He then transformed the eighteen Radiance Knights into high ranking undead. These knights knew more than the mercenaries, but what they knew consisted mostly of knowledge about the Radiance Church's teachings for their Protector Knights. They were part of the commonly used Radiance Knight groups.

The entirety of the Radiance Knight group was, on the surface, quite small. They were said to have only five hundred individuals, and most of this group didn't have unicorns as their mount. After all, a unicorn was a Rank Five magic beast that wasn't easy to obtain.

Their actual numbers, however, amounted to a thousand Radiance Knights. Among this thousand, a good two hundred were unicorn mounted knights that were considered the elites. This time around, they had sent eighteen of them to deal with Zhao Hai. It was obvious to see that the Radiance Church had attached great importance to this black magician.

These Radiance Knights, however, didn't know much. They weren't administrators of the church, so they only knew a bit of the church's secrets.

Although Zhao Hai was a bit disappointed, he couldn't say anything about it. These Radiance Knights had all been turned into undead by now. Their appearance didn't change greatly from when they were alive. Even if they had cut off their left hands, their strength was still comparable to when they lived .

After Zhao Hai moved the Radiance Knights away, he began to turn the white-clothed bishops into undead. The one that had wanted to take out something was named Lyndsay Baker . His father was Rooney Baker , a red-clothed archbishop.

This Lyndsay Baker had a really good item in his possession. There wasn't just a high-level protection ring, but also an ancient magic scroll—a non-directional transfer scroll.

This scroll hadn't been something Rooney Baker had given to Lyndsay, but was instead something Lyndsay had obtained on his own. He was innately selfish. Although his father was good to him, he didn't even tell his father about the scroll and had secretly hidden it. He'd placed it on his body as he was afraid of losing it. He'd also killed everyone who knew of the scroll, so no one else knew he had such an ancient magic scroll in his hands.

Zhao Hai held the ancient magic scroll and looked at it foolishly. Ancient items made long ago referred to something that had become incredibly aged, yet this thing didn't seem all that old to him. It glittered as if it were made of gold, but Zhao Hai was sure the material wasn't metallic.

At this time, the Space suddenly prompted in a tone:

[Unknown magic item.

Analyzing item's function. This item is a simple space system magic item.

This item can produce a non-directional, indeterminate distance spatial channel.

Extracting functions. Incorporating functions into the Ghost Cane.

Use of the Ghost Cane will now allow the creation of a non-directional, indeterminate distance spatial channel.]

[Unknown magic item.

Analyzing item's function. This item is an autonomous stimulation-type protective magic item.

When the host is suddenly attacked, the item will produce a protective shield to guard the host.

Extracting functions. Enhancing functions. Incorporating functions into the Ghost Cane.

Ghost Cane can now automatically protect the host if attacked.]

[Multiple magic arrays.

Extracting magic arrays.

Storing into Spatial Files. Facilitating options so that host may view them at any time.]

[Appearance of blessing-shaped magic arrays.

Extracting magic arrays. Incorporating magic arrays into the Space.

Incorporating magic arrays into machine-type humanoid objects of Space. Strengthened machine-type humanoid objects.

Improving magic.

Combining magic arrays with sprite-type biological body. Strengthened sprite-type biological body.]

Zhao Hai and Laura listened to the prompts. This time, the prompts hadn't been short yet the two of them actually understood what they had heard.

To keep it simple, the Space had extracted the abilities of the ancient magic scroll, then incorporated it into the Ghost Cane. The protection function of the protection ring had also been extracted, strengthened, then incorporated into the Ghost Cane.

The Space had also extracted several magic arrays and placed them into a Spatial File, then extracted a blessing-type magic array from the armor of the Radiance Knights. Those were placed on the undead as well as the other creatures such as the stone giants which then resulted in an increase in strength .

Zhao Hai hadn't thought that the Space would have such powerful abilities. He could now regard the Ghost Cane as a protection ring and a non-directional transfer scroll. These two functions would be very useful in saving his life.

Moreover, those magic arrays had strengthened the undead within the Space. Their battle strength naturally received a boost. Although he didn't know to what degree their strength had grown, it should be much higher. This made Zhao Hai happy.

Zhao Hai breathed lightly to calm his emotions. He passed the protection ring and ancient magic scroll to Laura and said, "This protection ring can still be used, so please take it. With regards to that magic scroll, it won't be as useful. Better to give it to uncle so that he can study it."

Laura didn't say anything and just nodded as she received the items. She wouldn't be polite around Zhao Hai. In any case, the functions of these two items had already been extracted by the Space and incorporated into the Ghost Cane. Zhao Hai could already use those functions, so being polite was useless.

Zhao Hai looked over the other white-clothed bishops. Although they did possess some items, they weren't as good as what Lyndsay Baker had. Zhao Hai only glanced at them before throwing the items into the warehouse without managing them.

After dealing with these things, Zhao Hai turned his eyes towards the white-clothed bishops themselves. Compared to the items he obtained, he was more interested in what information they could give him. For him, intelligence was something more valuable than items.

Chapter 227 - Strength of the Radiance Church

Zhao Hai, Laura, Green, and Quinn John sat quietly within the living room of the Spatial Villa as they listened to Lyndsay Baker's report about the Radiance Church.

After he'd finished transforming those white-clothed bishops into undead, he began to ask them about matters relating to the Radiance Church. Unsurprisingly, the one with the most detailed information was Lyndsay Baker. As such, he kept Lyndsay Baker back as he called for Green and the others before allowing him to continue to detail what he knew of the Radiance Church.

The Radiance Church was a great deal more formidable than what Zhao Hai and the others had thought. They currently controlled a dozen large and small duchies. Furthermore, several influential aristocrats from a few empires had already enlisted themselves as members of the Radiance Church. Specifically, they became the Radiance Church's Protector Knights or elders.

Unfortunately, Lyndsay Baker had only been a white-clothed bishop. Although his father was a red-clothed archbishop, he didn't have too much information to share. He only knew of some Grand Dukes and other influential nobles that had joined the Radiance Church; nothing more than that.

In addition to these influential nobles, Lyndsay Baker also knew of several mercenary groups and medium sized merchant firms that were affiliated with the Radiance Church. Several of those were even managed by him.

Other than that, Lyndsay Baker didn't know anything else. Zhao Hai, however, had already benefited significantly from this. They now had a deeper understanding of the Radiance Church's strength.

The Radiance Church was truly too formidable. When Zhao Hai had heard that the Black Magician Alliance had ten thousand black magicians, he'd thought the alliance was already pretty good. Now he understood that compared to the Radiance Church, they were really too far off.

They were really too clever as they pulled those influential aristocrats and Grand Dukes into their camp and made them either Protector Knights or elders. If the Radiance Church had a matter, then they would naturally help. Don't underestimate the strength of these people. Even if they themselves didn't directly assist, they would only have to say a few words and those lower aristocrats would naturally follow them as a way to curry favor and they would act on their order.

Because of all this, the Radiance Church had developed quickly within the past several years. The church didn't just pull aristocrats in, but also used them to spread their influence. Due to a variety of benefits, those aristocrats were tied tightly to the church's chariot.

With the help of those aristocrats, the black magicians had been repulsed within the continent. In such a short amount of time, black magicians had become isolated.

Compared to the Radiance Church, the Black Magician Alliance fell short. Maru didn't speak of how many aristocrats had joined the Black Magician Alliance. This was, in fact, a weakness of the Black Magician Alliance.

One must understand that on the continent, the rules of aristocrats governed the commoners. Once the commoners had a preconceived idea about something, it would be very difficult to change it.

When comparing the Black Magician Alliance with the Radiance Church, the biggest flaw of the alliance was that it wasn't under a unified leadership. The Radiance Church, however, was like the headquarters of light magicians. All light magicians were members of the Radiance Church and were under unified leadership. It goes without saying that all of their actions would naturally have a purpose. They had the upper hand when fighting against the divided black magicians.

While the black magicians had recently established the Black Magician Alliance, this alliance was, in fact, very loose. Wanting to achieve victory over the Radiance Church to any degree was impossible several times over.

Zhao Hai, however, didn't think the black magicians would be suppressed by the Radiance Church to such a level. After all, the Black Magician Alliance was a loose organization with a lot of freedom. It was precisely because of this that they could develop anywhere. If the Radiance Church was the shining rays of the sun in the day, then the black magicians would be the dark clouds of the night sky. Wherever the sun doesn't shine, there will always be a place for them to survive.

Furthermore, the Radiance Church wasn't in a state of crisis at the moment. While they grew quickly and desperately pulled aristocrats into their camp, for any empire this became a factor of instability. Those great empires might possibly go against the Radiance Church. When this happens, the Radiance Church wouldn't be able to continue their arrogance.

Zhao Hai thought that if the great empires were to deal with the Radiance Church, it would create a large opportunity for the black magicians. A great aristocrat didn't wish to see one side being dominant; they wanted the play to be balanced. To deal with the Radiance Church, there was no more appropriate enemy than the black magicians. Once the Radiance Church began to threaten their rule, the great empires would start to check and balance them. They would begin to move their own influence in a battle of wits against the Radiance Church, and the black magicians would be a vital part of this.

Of course, at present, these were all just Zhao Hai's conjectures. Those great empires wouldn't dare to easily move. Here on the Ark Continent, beliefs were free. Anyone could have faith in anything. If those great empires really had to deal with the Radiance Church, then they could just introduce new beliefs to replace the church's. This way, they wouldn't even need to use the black magicians.

The suppression of black magicians by the Radiance Church had been viewed with indifference by the great empires. Those great empires didn't have a good impression of black magicians anyway, so they wouldn't necessarily ask the black magicians to help deal with the Radiance Church.

After they listened to Lyndsay Baker's explanation, Green and the others were in a heavy mood. The strength of the Radiance Church was beyond their imagination. Later on, when they began to act on the continent, they feared it would be difficult for them to move.

Zhao Hai waved and recalled Lyndsay Baker. He then turned to Green and said, "What does Grandpa Green and Grandpa Quinn John think of this?"

Green pondered for a moment. "They're not easy to provoke. It seems we will have to implement our plans. First, we hide in the Beastfolk Prairie for a while."

Quinn John nodded as he said, "Although the strength of the Radiance Church is formidable, it's impossible for their influence to reach the Beastfolk Prairie. For the beastfolk, there is only one god. The Radiance Church is radically unpopular there. As such, nobody would buy into their words. After arriving in the Beastfolk Prairie, we will need to stay there for some time. After we're out of the limelight, we can come back."

Meirin also nodded. "That's good. Right now, the Radiance Church only knows the black magician identity of the Young Master and not of the Buda clan. If they knew of that, then we wouldn't only be facing the Radiance Church, but the whole of the Aksu Empire. If that happens, then we'll need to hide in the Beastfolk Prairie for our lifetime. It's good that they don't know our identity. We'll first hide in the Beastfolk Prairie and do business with the beastfolk. With this, they won't be able to find out anything about us."

Zhao Hai nodded and said, "Even if we're in the Beastfolk Prairie, we have to be careful. This time around, we bought many commodities. Those with high aspirations have surely looked into what we've bought and know we're going to the Beastfolk Prairie. No matter if it's the Radiance Church or Boric, they have both suffered losses at our hands and will surely retaliate. I fear that even if we hide in the Beastfolk Prairies, they won't let us off."

Green smiled faintly and said, "After they've attacked us several times, those fellows still want to retaliate against us. We have to think about this. I fear that the next time, we may have to deal with a Rank Nine expert."

Quinn John chuckled. "That won't be possible. As long as we're in the Beastfolk Prairie, they won't dare to send a Rank Nine expert to deal with us. It's impossible for a Terran Rank Nine expert to enter the Beastfolk Prairie, otherwise a Rank Nine expert of the Beastfolk Prairie would strike at them and kill them on the spot. Moreover, it might provoke a war between the Terrans and beastfolk. Whether it is the Radiance Church or Boric, do either have the courage to do so?"

Green smiled. He certainly knew of this matter as he had participated in a war between the Terrans and beastfolk in the past. Beastfolk were a militant group. If the Terrans really did send a Rank Nine expert to run around in the Beastfolk Prairie and cause storms, then what awaiting the Terrans would be thousands of cavalries.

Laura also smiled. “Actually, we’re thinking about this a little too much. Although Lyndsay Baker had told us a lot, don’t forget that he stated a few other points. The influence of the Radiance Church within the Rosen Empire isn’t very strong, and the Rosen Empire is the most powerful empire on the continent, incomparable.

“If the Radiance Church wants to win over the aristocrats of the Rosen Empire, then it would be too difficult. Once the king of the Rosen Empire knows, then the Radiance Church wouldn’t be able to move within the empire. The strength of the Rosen Empire is the same as the combined strength of several other empires. This can be an opportunity for us. With the Space, we can set up a transfer point within the Rosen Empire. We can slowly start developing within the Rosen Empire without needing to fear the Radiance Church.”

Quinn John shook his head. “We still need to be careful. Although the Rosen Empire is powerful, they probably don’t like black magicians. If the Radiance Church uses this point and tells them that they are dealing with black magicians, then they might turn and deal with us. This won’t make it easier for us.”

Laura nodded and Zhao Hai smiled slightly as he said, “Actually, we’re just repeating things over and over again. The issue here is my status as a black magicians. Don’t forget, everyone that as a magician, I can also use earth element, wind element, and light element magic. Light magicians are members of the Radiance Church, so this wouldn’t be a good choice of disguise. An earth element magician or wind element magician could be something I can pretend to be. Those people wouldn’t be able to keep a constant eye on me.

“Moreover, the Rosen Empire is quite a distance from the Aksu Empire . How would the Aksu Empire’s great aristocrats know of my Buda clan identity there? Also, the Rosen Empire and Aksu Empire aren’t friendly neighbors. They wouldn’t help the Aksu Empire’s aristocrats deal with us, right?”

Everyone’s eyes couldn’t help but light up when they heard what Zhao Hai said. They had forgotten that Zhao Hai could use four types of elemental magic. Black magic and light magic couldn’t be used, so he would just use the other two. It was the same since he could still pretend to be a magician, which was a good idea.

Meirin frowned. "Will this be alright? Aside from black magicians, almost all of the other magicians don't wear magic hats. If the Young Master doesn't wear a magic hat, then he'll be identifiable. Even if we're speaking about the Rosen Empire and don't need to fear the aristocrats of the Aksu Empire, the Young Master had still drunk the Water of Nothingness. This fact is known by all. If they know of Young Master's identity, then we will face greater troubles. After all, the Water of Nothingness is known to have no cure. If we make it known that we can cure the toxin of the Water of Nothingness, then it'll cause trouble. Even if the Young Master denies it, they might find out about the Ghost Cane. If this secret gets out, then it'll cause trouble as people try to grab it ."

Zhao Hai smiled faintly. "Alright then, I won't pretend to be a normal magician. I'll just stick to being a Divergent Warlock. Anyway, one doesn't need to cultivate to use a Divergent Technique."

Green frowned. "Actually, what the Young Master said about him being a Divergent Warlock isn't incorrect, it's just that his Divergent Technique is truly too formidable. As such, we shouldn't let others know of it. If the Young Master reveals his identity, then we will gain more problems. No matter what, the identity of the Young Master shouldn't be shown there. We cannot let them know of the Young Master's identity."

Quinn John nodded. "This is right. If we let them know of Zhao Hai's identity, then it'll be very troublesome for us. How about this? Why don't we let him wear a mask? There are many Divergent Warlocks on the continent with unique appearances, so if Zhao Hai wore a mask then nobody should be able to recognize him."

Zhao Hai frowned. "But if that's the case, I won't be able to wear this magic robe. This magic robe was given to me by Laura, so I like it very much."

When she heard Zhao Hai's words, Laura's face turned red . As the others laughed, Laura turned more embarrassed. Although her heart felt sweet, Laura still stretched out a hand to pinch Zhao Hai's back.

Laura's attempt to hide it naturally wasn't hidden to Green and the others, and this made them laugh louder. Only Meg's facial expression was gloomy as she'd paid attention to Laura and saw it all clearly .

Meirin smiled and said, "Young Master won't need to worry about your magic robe. We can just change your attire. Whatever a Divergent Warlock uses, so long as the style of the robe is altered then nobody will be able to see through it."

Zhao Hai nodded. "The mask is something that's needed, but I don't want it to be the type that blocks the entirety of my face. That'll be too stuffy."

Everyone laughed. It seemed that everything had been set. It can be said that the matters within the Purcell Duchy has been left behind.

Once the laughter stopped, Laura continued, "Since we're going to the Beastfolk Prairie, we will need to find a place to live. I had some businesses in the Beastfolk Prairie, but trade there isn't great. Only a handful of ethnic tribes do business with me, and none of them war tribes. As such, the income isn't great. I had kept a steward in the Beastfolk Prairie named Artest. He's a very loyal person and someone we can rely upon completely. He is, however, there to work. One must know that things are very different within the Beastfolk Prairie. Generally, if we make agreements with the buyers of our commodities, we then transport the cargo. If we just place it wherever, then we may get robbed."

Zhao Hai didn't do any research about business, nor did he have any contact with the beastfolk. As such, he didn't understand much and had no real say in these matters.

Quinn John nodded. "Right now, what we must do is establish a relationship with one of the war tribes first. So long as we create a business around a war tribe, nobody would dare to touch us later on in the Beastfolk Prairie. When we act within the Beastfolk Prairie, we can rely on a tribe's War Flag. No one would dare to move against an ethnic group within the prairies."

Zhao Hai wasn't able to understand any of this, but Green knew that the war tribes were the kings of the Beastfolk Prairie. In fact, it could be said that the Beastfolk Prairie was a collection of several large and small bandit groups. The larger tribes would be the bigger bandit groups, while the smaller tribes were smaller bandit groups. The bigger bandits robbed the smaller bandits. This was the rule of survival within the Beastfolk Prairie.

Because of this, if the beastfolk had a harder time making a living, they would rob from others. To continue living was one of the reasons why the beastfolk and Terrans fought against one another.

These war tribes were the powerful fighting ethnic groups within the beastfolk race. They were the biggest tribes—the big bandit groups.

If you only did business with some regular ethnic tribes or ordinary war tribes, then you'd be unsafe. Only when you did business with the formidable war tribes would you be safe from danger. This was how business was done within the Beastfolk Prairie.

Each war tribe had their own flag, and this war flag represented the dignity of the war tribe. Anyone who dared to offend those with that war flag would be hunted down endlessly by that war tribe and killed.

War tribes held a high degree of respect towards the merchants they worked with. To ensure the safety of those merchants, they would give them their war flag and allow them to raise it upon their caravans. This way, they could guarantee the safety of those merchants. Otherwise, the caravans would meet with smaller bandit tribes within the Beastfolk Prairie, which was unsafe.

Zhao Hai nodded. "What commodities are best sold within the Beastfolk Prairie?"

Quinn John smiled lightly. "Food is ranked first. Second is salt and weapons take third place. These are the things that are scarcest within the Beastfolk Prairie."

Zhao Hai smiled faintly. "Salt and iron, these items are ones we can't get. Food, however, isn't a problem. In any case, once we arrive in the Beastfolk Prairie, they won't be able to gain control of our food supply. This is the same for those beastfolk if they tried to rob and steal from us. We can grow a variety of grain products within the Space and then supply it to the beastfolk."

Quinn John nodded. "This is exactly what we want. Since the price of food in the Beastfolk Prairie is high, if we lower our prices then we will most certainly become the most popular merchants there. Moreover, vegetables is also one of the most scarce produce for those beastfolk. Since we have the Space, we won't have any problem with transporting vegetables. If we can transport vegetables, then I believe they will certainly sell well."

Zhao Hai nodded. "While I say we cannot supply their other needs, if it's just vegetables and grains, then we can openly and widely supply them. We can also trade large quantities of magic beasts with them, which is a good thing."

Laura smiled. "With the things you have here, I don't need to be worried. I do think, however, that we should first set up a transfer point within the Beastfolk Prairie. We will also need to set one up inside the

Rosen Empire. We cannot always take magic beasts from the Beastfolk Prairie and just keep them stored. We'll need to get rid of them, and we can do that by selling them to the Rosen Empire. As such, we can turn grains and magic beasts into money."

Zhao Hai nodded. "This is also good. Right, Laura, where are your people located within the Beastfolk Prairie at the moment?"

Laura quickly replied, "Right now, they're at Three Paths Curve near Yaja River . It's the largest of two rivers in the Beastfolk Prairie, and Three Paths Curve is the reason why the riverway bends and the basis for its fame. The appearance of the water is gentle, and it isn't too far from the border near Black Mountain Fortress within the Purcell Duchy. It'll take us five days to reach there."

Although Zhao Hai hadn't been to the Beastfolk Prairie and didn't know the situation there, he did have a certain understanding with regards to Yaja River. He knew that it stemmed from the Extreme North Ice Origin , which was one of the continent's five great restricted areas. It shared this honor with the Carrion Swamp. This river crosses through the entire Beastfolk Prairie and into the Purcell Duchy. Once it reached the Purcell Duchy, it took up the name of Jade Belt River .

That was right, Yaja River was the upper part of Jade Belt River. As such, the Purcell Duchy had a detailed record about Yaja River. The Yaja River was also the Beastfolk Prairie's most famous river and was referred to as the beastfolk's mother river.

No matter if it was herding or for living, the beastfolk and water were inseparable. The Yaja River wasn't only the largest flowing body of water, but it was also a gentle one. The beastfolk wouldn't just be able to fetch water from it, but also fish from it. For the beastfolk, the Yaja River was their mother. Generations of beastfolk were raised by it.

Zhao Hai nodded and said, "That's not too far from the Purcell Duchy then. Right, which tribe are you in contact with? Is it safe?"

Laura smiled and said, "It's secure. My business has contact with two tribes. One is the Cattle-people Tribe , the other is the Fragrant Pig Tribe . These two are ethnic groups. The Cattle-people Tribe raise cattle while the Fragrant Pig Tribe is also very famous on the continent. These two beastfolk tribes are very mild. Moreover, they are near to the Purcell Duchy. The magic beasts they produce are meat producing magic beasts, and the income from this is quite good."

Zhao Hai nodded. His understanding of the beastfolk wasn't much . One must know that there were a thousand different beastfolk races. Take, for example, the Cattle-people Tribe. They were divided into rhinoceroses, yaks, oxen, longhorn cattles, buffaloes, and many other dozens of races. Wanting to memorize all these races was like trying to memorize a whole book. Zhao Hai didn't have that kind of ability .

Zhao Hai nodded and said, "First, we'll go and see Three Paths Curve and have a look. Then we'll proceed onward into the Beastfolk Prairie. Since the Beastfolk Prairie is big, we must find a suitable place to set up the transfer point. It has to be near a region inhabited by a large tribe."

Laura thought about it for a while, then her eyes shone brightly. "I thought of a place. Although the place is far and deep within the Beastfolk Prairie, it is the holy land in the hearts of the beastfolk."

After Laura said this, the people in the room knew what Laura meant . Although they couldn't have possibly gone there, they had all heard of it; the only city within the Beastfolk Prairie—Beast God City .

Beast God City was famous among the beastfolk. Within the Beastfolk Prairies, there was only vast and endless grasslands. There were no mountains, no stones for production. As such, constructing a city was too difficult.

The establishment of Beast God City, however, was actually a miracle. A beastmen-created miracle.

Chapter 228 - Occupying an Area

Everyone understood what Beast God City signified. It was the holy land in the hearts of every beastfolk. The city was placed on the original land of the beastfolk, and was made of hay and mud. But the water used for the mud wasn't ordinary water. This mud was instead created with the blood of various magic beasts that they had originally raised, so one could actually call this beast blood mud.

Due to the lack of lumber in the Beastfolk Prairie, the wood that should have been used within Beast God City was instead replaced with the bones of magic beasts. These reasons were the basis for the city's name of Beast God City.

To construct Beast God City, every beastfolk tribe had to live frugally for decades. They didn't even know how many magic beasts had been sacrificed to complete the city.

This was the holy land in the hearts of every beastfolk. The position of Beast God City was close to the Extreme North Ice Origin. This was because the beastfolk had repelled the demons within the Extreme North Ice Origin, so they constructed Beast God City as an icon to commemorate that victory.

Furthermore, there was no City Lord or city garrison. Beast God City, however, was the safest city on the entire continent. The beastfolk population within Beast God City numbered almost one million. Within a thousand miles around the city, violence and theft wasn't allowed. The penalty for either was execution on the spot.

This was the custom of Beast God City and it had been set during its founding. No one could destroy Beast God City because of the formidable war tribes that lived there. Moreover, it wasn't just a single ethnic race that lived there, but a cohabitation of various ethnic races. This was the area where the most violent beastfolk became the most honest.

After many years of development, Beast God City became the Beastfolk Prairie's largest commodities distribution center. Every day was lively as merchants from every race and tribe did business within Beast God City.

Although violence wasn't permitted in Beast God City, if a merchant dared to deceive a beastfolk then they would certainly be unfortunate. What Beast God City prohibited was violence among the tribes and ethnic races, so if a Terran dared to act unreasonable, then Beast God City's law enforcement team would act. These beastfolk weren't ones to be trifled with. They would kill the Terran, and moreover wouldn't have any regard over their circumstances. If one dared to deceive a beastfolk, then no matter what tribe, they wouldn't give any opportunity for an explanation and would just move to execute.

For merchants like Laura who didn't wish to make dirty money, Beast God City was the best destination. Although they wouldn't be able to set up a store there, a tent could still be established to start their business.

Before, Laura had wanted to go to Beast God City, but unfortunately her business had still been too small scale back then so she was unqualified to trade there. If someone wanted to do business in Beast God City and the commodities they had on hand came up short, then they'd be extremely embarrassed. To be able to make transactions in Beast God City, one must have at least 5 million kilograms of food . Laura didn't have capital that large to bring in such an amount of commodities back then.

Now, however, things were different as they had the Space. If Zhao Hai saved all the bamboo rice being harvested, then they could hoard 10 million kilograms of bamboo rice per day. This wasn't a small amount. With so much food in their possession, Laura could certainly dare to walk into Beast God City to do business.

Due to these reasons, Beast God City became famous on the continent. Whether it were the Terrans or other races, they had all heard of it. After all, the beastfolk were a large and numerous race on the continent, and in the hearts of these beastfolk, Beast God City was their holy land.

When he heard Laura refer to Beast God City with her description, Quinn John nodded and said, "I also think Beast God City is the most appropriate place. If we do business there and don't deceive the beastfolk, then we won't have to worry about trading there. What's more, security is guaranteed. Within a thousand mile radius of Beast God City, violence and theft isn't allowed. Even the beastfolk wouldn't dare to create any disputes, not to mention us Terrans. If someone dares to move against us there, then they are just courting death."

Green also nodded. "I agree. I heard that in Beast God City there are five Rank Nine experts there all year round. Although they don't manage the city, they'll immediately move to execute any expert that dares make trouble in Beast God City. Those five beastfolk within Beast God City are called the Five Great Law Enforcers."

Nodding, Quinn John said, "Those Five Great Law Enforcers are famous beastfolk experts. Their battle strength is formidable. Also, several large war tribes live near Beast God City and those large tribes also have their own Rank Nine experts. If a matter occurs in Beast God City then those Rank Nine experts will be able to rush forth at a moment's notice and ensure the security of Beast God City. I can say that the quantity of Rank Nine experts in Beast God City wouldn't be less than ten."

Zhao Hai was surprised. He didn't think that the defenses of Beast God City would be at such a level. Ten Rank Nine experts. This almost caught up to the defense of Flower City.

This was about right. At the moment, no matter what Zhao Hai's status was, it would be equal to zero in Beast God City. The beastfolk wouldn't accept any status given by Terrans. Even if a Terran was a murderer or arsonist, to the beastfolk they didn't care as they only saw you as a Terran. They wouldn't treat you like a criminal so long as you were honest within the Beastfolk Prairie.

This was what Zhao Hai wanted. The Radiance Church had a strong influence within Terran territories, so he had to avoid it. Zhao Hai could provide food, something the beastfolk needed the most, and so long as he established a relationship with the beastfolk, the Radiance Church wouldn't be able to move against him so casually.

This thought made Zhao Hai smile. "That's right, it's only with Beast God City's security that we can feel relieved enough to do business there. With this, we can start tomorrow and immediately leave. First, I'll order an Eagle Virtuous Phantasm to bring the Ghost Cane into the Beastfolk Prairie. Then we can use a saddled horse carriage to head for Beast God City. This trip will allow us to understand how the beastfolk live and learn their habits as well as observe the surrounding terrain. What do you all think of this?"

Green nodded. "I agree. In the end, our biggest secret is this Space, and it needs to be upgraded as soon as possible. That is our most pressing matter. Since the Beastfolk Prairie not only has an abundance of magic beasts but also a variety of plants, then even if those plants aren't magic plants, they can still contribute to the upgrade of the Space. Also, the Spatial Ranch level is too low. I think we should increase its level as soon as possible."

Laura and the others simultaneously nodded. With regards to the Space's mysterious ability, they had understood a little of it after several days. This Space was truly too mysterious. If they could upgrade it as soon as possible, then the benefits for them would be very large.

Nodding, Laura said, "Alright, I think we should do this. As the matter stands, even though it would take a long time for us, the benefits we will obtain would also be very large. Let's do it."

Zhao Hai nodded. "We will now prepare the food so that later on, we won't be in short supply once we do transactions with the beastfolk. Moreover, we must finish the transformation plan for the Black Waste as soon as possible. We should also prepare a carriage. When we arrive in the Beastfolk Prairie, we can start to sell food to any tribe that wants it. This will certainly make our products very popular."

Laura nodded and said, "Clearing the way with food. This is the best way to do it, but we must overcome problems and lay a foundation ahead of time in order to let those large war tribes notice us. With this, once we move into Beast God City, it'll help us a lot. One must know that occupying a place in Beast God City isn't easy."

Quinn John nodded. "In the past, we'd planned to go and do business in Beast God City. Unfortunately, our foundations was still too thin and we gave up in the end. We do, however, understand a little about

the situation of Beast God City. We know that there is a million beastfolk living in the city. It can be regarded as a great city, but since way back then, major merchant clans on the continent have already put up shop there. The places that could be occupied by merchants have already been taken. If we go there and want to occupy a place, I fear it won't be easy. If we can show them that we have a lot of food in our hands that we can sell, then there will be more certainty of being able to occupy a place there."

Laura nodded. "In the Beastfolk Prairie, so long as the beastfolk think that we're good people, we can occupy a place in Beast God City. With that, we will be able to stand firmly there."

Quinn John looked at Zhao Hai and said, "There's no need to be so curious. Although they constructed Beast God City, the city had been built using the blood of magic beasts to make mud for the construction. As such, there weren't many buildings created. The majority of the city is just stretches of open land. There wouldn't be any stores, but tents instead. If we wish to open a shop there, you'd need to occupy an area and then it would be alright."

Zhao Hai nodded. He thought about how there wouldn't be any high rise buildings in the city. A large city with a population of a million, how much area did this cover? Furthermore, the city was also built using magic beast blood mud. How many magic beasts did they need to kill? To be honest, if the beastfolk could build a modern urban constructed city, then it would be a miracle. How much force would be needed to do so? If the city had high rise buildings, then needless to say the amount of magic beast blood mud would reach an astronomical figure. He feared the beastfolk couldn't afford to do so.

With this thought, Zhao Hai's eyes shone brightly. "The Space can produce a lot of fruit trees and we can also move a lot of stone through it. So long as we can occupy a place, we can construct a wooden house. There is only one Beast God City so by the time we head there our names won't be unknown."

Laura nodded. "This is also a good idea. Those beastfolk handle matters in a very direct manner. If we want to obtain their respect, then we cannot hide anything and must show off our strength. This will allow the beastfolk to see that we have the skill, and with this they will place importance on us."

Zhao Hai nodded. "Alright, things are set. Cai'er, arrange it like this. First, plant a lot of bamboo rice, but don't stop planting the fruit oil. We want a lot of them as we will primarily be selling those low-end products first."

Cai'er complied immediately and made the preparations.miracle.

Chapter 230 - Into the Prairie

The next morning, Zhao Hai followed the plan they'd agreed on yesterday and released two blood-colored Eagle Virtuous Phantasms and gave them his Ghost Cane. Then he ordered the blood-colored eagles to fly in the direction of Ironwall Fortress .

Ironwall Fortress was very far from the Black Waste. If one were to travel by saddled horse carriage, then it would take about half a month to reach it. By horse it would take around ten days. Of course, this was assuming one were traveling leisurely and without haste.

This Ironwall Fortress was the first line of defense for the Purcell Duchy against the Beastfolk Prairie. It was the firmest defensive line in the Purcell Duchy and garrisoned 20,000 elite Benniu Guards the whole year round. These 20,000 elite Benniu Guards, when facing the non-elite beastfolk army, could stand against 100,000 of them. They could even hold that defensive line for several days.

The most important part was that the Purcell clan kept a magician corps inside Ironwall Fortress. This magician corps couldn't actually be called a corps, but instead a squad. Altogether, there were only 50 Rank Four to Rank Six magicians in the corps, and around 200 Rank One to Rank Three magicians.

There were many Rank One to Rank Three magicians on the continent. Some of those magicians could only drift along with a mercenary group and wouldn't have many good days. As such, defending Ironwall Fortress was comparatively better. The allowance was good and so long as there wasn't war they would be very safe.

Although the number of magicians in this corps didn't amount to much and were of low ranks, in a war they wielded a might that was quite powerful. A common soldier wouldn't be able to do anything while a magician would be able to cast area of effect offensive magic techniques. With regards to a battle, this was very useful.

Drawing on a modern analogy, a common soldier could be compared to a millet and rifle soldier. They could only attack one at a time like a single-shot rifle. A magician, on the other hand, would be like a machine gun. When they were connected, magicians would be able to cause mass destruction. This was the difference .

The reason Ironwall Fortress was called such was due to the brilliant record made by the Purcell Duchy's elite Benniu Guards. With 50,000 soldiers they were able to block a 500,000 strong beastfolk army's offense for half a month. When the Aksu Empire's reinforcements finally arrived, the 50,000 strong elite Benniu Guard was down to a mere 5,000 and the walls of Ironwall Fortress was dyed with blood.

Due to this service done by the Benniu Guard, they became famous. As such, the Purcell clan, after this battle, obtained the position of a Grand Duke household. This was the time when the present Purcell Duchy was established.

It could be said that Ironwall Fortress wasn't only famous for the Terrans, but also for the beastfolk. The beastfolk had tried many times to invade, but was always blocked by Ironwall Fortress.

Zhao Hai and the others sat in the living room, watching the scenery shown on the screen. To be honest, Zhao Hai didn't know much of the Purcell Duchy. These days, he only understood the situation in Casa City. He'd only travelled from Black Mountain Fortress to Casa City, so with regards to the foundations of the city, he didn't know much.

Now he had the opportunity to gain a better understanding. Although he could only take a glance at everything since the Eagle Virtuous Phantasms were flying, it was still better than nothing.

By the time the sky turned dark, the blood-colored Eagle Virtuous Phantasms had left the boundary of the Purcell Duchy. They had not officially entered the Beastfolk Prairie and was now over a hundred kilometers away from Ironwall Fortress. They hadn't seen any beastfolk tribes yet, but this wasn't surprising. Beastfolk tribes wouldn't be so close to Ironwall Fortress, otherwise the garrisoned troops would rush out and exterminate them. This was due to a fear that the beastfolk might spy on their military.

With regards to this situation, the beastfolk accepted it since the Terrans couldn't arbitrarily send many armed soldiers into the Beastfolk Prairie either.

Now that the eagles were over a hundred kilometers from Ironwall Fortress, Zhao Hai took the blood-colored Eagle Virtuous Phantasms back. They were preparing to travel on via carriage starting tomorrow. After all, they were now in the Beastfolk Prairie. If they wanted to do business with the beastfolk, then depending on the flying blood-colored eagles wouldn't be enough.

In the evening, Zhao Hai went back to the Black Waste to continue improving the land. With relation to the Space's recent upgrades, he could now improve more land each day. He improved 700,000 square meters of land, which wasn't a small area.

Zhao Hai, however, was very careful. He improved the land that was covered by the smog while those outside the area stayed the same.

After such long use of Spatial Water in the irrigation process, the outer perimeter of Fort Iron Mountain could now be planted with ordinary vegetables. In addition, the corn within the valley was about the mature.

This was very good news for Zhao Hai. The Spatial Water could be used to irrigate and unexpectedly it could also reduce the maturity time for the crops. For Zhao Hai, this was very important.

Laura was also very busy. She hadn't been to the Black Waste before, but since this was her home now, she naturally had to understand the Black Waste.

Laura understood that the Black Waste was a really large place. This excited her and increased her enthusiasm. She was ready to regulate the Black Waste and go all out.

Zhao Hai was tolerant of Laura's enthusiasm. He didn't have any reason to block it anyway. It seemed that right now, Laura had found a new and novel toy and was fiddling around with it non-stop. If he wanted to stop her at this time, she would definitely not comply .

Fortunately, Zhao Hai still came out of the Space the next morning with three people, Laura, Meg, and Nier.

With three beauties accompanying him, Zhao Hai was of course happy. Some time ago, Meg hadn't been very happy after she'd determined the relationship between Zhao Hai and Laura. Zhao Hai didn't have much time back then as he'd had a lot of matters to deal with, so he wasn't able to have a discussion with Meg about it all. Afterward, no one knew what Laura had told Meg, but Meg was now happy. Although Zhao Hai didn't know why this was, since she was happy he also felt relieved.

The four of them now sat within Laura's original carriage. Snowflake celestial foals pulled the carriage and the wagons behind it. All of these were once the property of Laura's original stores. Since Laura was leaving, then naturally the wagons would be put to use.

Since they were now venturing into the Beastfolk Prairie, those wagons were loaded with food. There was a long way to go so there wasn't much food loaded onto the wagons themselves. Each wagon held half a tonne of commodities. 50 wagons total held 25 tonnes .

25 tonnes of food. With regards to a small tribe, it wasn't a small amount. For a medium sized tribe, however, it wasn't much.

Those 50 wagons were all manned by undead. They drove the wagons and also protected them at the same time. The remaining undead were all placed in the Black Waste by Zhao Hai.

When the four of them appeared in the Beastfolk Prairie, they weren't that surprised. The scenery in the prairie was pretty much the same as the Space's. Since the Space now had a prairie as a background, and it was also more stunning than the Beastfolk Prairie, the scenery around them didn't have much of an attraction.

Aside from the undead driving the wagons, Zhao Hai also released a hundred blood-colored Eagle Virtuous Phantasms. These weren't used for attacking, but for scouting the area. Since the Beastfolk Prairie wasn't that safe, those blood-colored Eagle Virtuous Phantasms were there to act as insurance.

Zhao Hai looked around at the prairies while Meg stared at Zhao Hai. Her gaze was filled with the infatuation of one that was charmed . When she looked at Zhao Hai's appearance, Meg remembered what Laura had said a couple days ago.

That day when Laura and Zhao Hai had secretly talked, Laura saw that Meg had followed them and seen what had happened between the two of them. She also saw Meg's expression becoming odd. Laura was clever and understood that Meg was worried.

Later on, Laura searched for Meg and spoke with her. Laura knew from looking at Zhao Hai that he also held affection for Meg and that he couldn't forget his feelings for her. Laura, however, had decided to marry Zhao Hai. Naturally, she hoped that everything around Zhao Hai would be fine and that unpleasant things wouldn't appear. The rear court especially couldn't catch on fire .

Presently, their foundations were too thin and there were many issues that had happened. If a fire started in the rear court, then it wouldn't do any good for Zhao Hai if every day there was a fire.

As Zhao Hai's wife, Laura thought that she should fix this unstable factor and nip it in the bud. Therefore, Laura looked for Meg and thoroughly discussed things over with her.

Laura didn't say much. She just told Meg that during the time Zhao Hai had proposed to her, he'd also told her that he would certainly marry the two of them, so she told Meg to not be worried.

Meg didn't think Laura would be this frank and direct. This made Meg somewhat embarrassed. At the same time, she also accepted Laura. As such, after they spoke, their relationship became better.

These two women were in love with the same man, so they would naturally and wholeheartedly consider everything for the sake of this man. On the Ark Continent, men had the right to marry several wives, and this was normal. Thus, they weren't jealous, and for Zhao Hai, this solved a lot of trouble .

Zhao Hai didn't know any of this. To be honest, his feelings with regards to this was really dull. Fortunately, there was Laura. Otherwise the problem would have been troublesome.

Due to their conversation, the knot in Meg's heart was untied and the last of her worries vanished. Therefore, she was very happy.

For Meg, status wasn't important so long as she was beside Zhao Hai. After Laura told her Zhao Hai intended to marry her, everything else was ignored.

Laura also noted Meg's performance and didn't say anything. Her heart, however, felt slightly sour, but she didn't have any means of mending it. After all, Meg had known Zhao Hai a lot longer than she . Even if she was angry, it was useless since her heart was already firmly tied with Zhao Hai.

At this time, a blood-colored eagle Zhao Hai had ordered to fly to the east suddenly flew back and alerted them. It kept circling Zhao Hai's head. Zhao Hai now knew that a situation had occurred in the east.

