

## Another World 241

### Chapter 241 - Waving a Hand to Exterminate the Enemy

Zhao Hai was surprised for a moment, but then showed a faint smile. "Many thanks, beastfolk friends, but we don't need to do so. We can solve this problem ourselves." As he spoke, he turned to the oncoming Jackal tribe cavalry.

These Jackal tribe members were armed with weapons didn't make them look very kind. They seemed ready to strike and kill everyone on the spot.

Zhao Hai snorted coldly and brandished his Ghost Cane. Over a hundred undead suddenly appeared around the caravan. These undead weren't human-shaped, but were instead beast-shaped. Moreover, they weren't zombies but skeletons.

By doing so, Zhao Hai showed he had no intention of hiding his identity. They were going to wander through the Beastfolk Prairie, so sooner or later they would be known by the other merchants. These merchants would then try to ascertain their identity. By revealing his identity as a black magician now, he would let them know that the black magician, Zhao Hai, had entered the Beastfolk Prairie.

Yesterday, Zhao Hai had taken back these undead and placed them in the Space specifically for this situation. As long as a black magician doesn't use human-shaped undead, they wouldn't get annoyed for it. Especially so when they were within the Beastfolk Prairie. Even then, strength was the basis for one's right to speak within the Beastfolk Prairie. If one were to use human undead, the beastfolk wouldn't be so repugnant about it. As long as one was strong enough, they wouldn't act out of place so easily either.

Currently, Zhao Hai had saved around a thousand magic beast undead. A hundred of these undead were enough to deal with the current problem. As such, he didn't release them all.

Even with this much, those Jackal tribe members were surprised. The magic beast undead that Zhao Hai released were really big. In front of these undead, the Jackal tribe members looked like 10-year-olds standing in front of a large man.

These undead had the strength of a Rank Seven magic beast, so they were a lot stronger than those Jackal tribe members. Because of the gap between the sizes of their bodies, the hundred undead were able to surround those two hundred Jackal tribe members. Since the Jackal tribe members weren't able

to react quickly enough, they were attacked twice by the undead. The two hundred Jackal tribe members were instantly defeated.

In the Beastfolk Prairie, if a human kills a beastfolk, they would be chased down by all beastfolk. If a human did it in self-defense, however, then the situation would be different and the beastfolk wouldn't move.

After Zhao Hai released his undead, the Titan Cattle leader quickly understood that Zhao Hai could deal with the attack of the Jackal tribe. He never expected, however, that it could be solved so easily.

As a Titan Cattle prince, he had a greater understanding with regards to magicians than ordinary beastfolk. He had never seen such a magician fighting within the Beastfolk Prairie, however. After all, he lived in the Beastfolk Prairie and human magicians wouldn't normally kill at will within the Beastfolk Prairies.

After dealing with the Jackal tribe, Zhao Hai turned his head to the young Titan Cattle tribe leader and said, "Dear beastfolk brother, we should collaborate with one another and deal with the enemies. Afterward, we can drink two cups together. How about it?"

Zhao Hai's impression of this Titan Cattle person was quite good. When they had been in danger earlier, he had offered his help. Zhao Hai was grateful for such thoughtfulness.

As soon as the young Titan Cattle member heard what Zhao Hai said, he became stunned for a short moment. He thought over what Zhao Hai meant. While Zhao Hai wanted to help him, he also didn't want to damage his face, so he offered his support to cooperate against the enemy—the Jackal tribe.

Although he understood Zhao Hai's intent, the pride of the beastfolk wouldn't let him agree so easily. Instead, he loudly said, "My human brother! I, the Titan Cattle tribe's Wales, will help you exterminate those hateful dogs."

Zhao Hai was surprised for a moment, then laughed. He liked Wales as he was very frank. Earlier, he feared Wales wouldn't let him help, so he spoke of cooperation. He didn't expect for Wales to be so proud that he would instead offer his help and refuse a weaker position.

The dialogue between them was clearly heard by those of the Jackal tribe, who couldn't help but panic. They had seen the battle strength of the undead Zhao Hai had summoned and, to be honest, they weren't very confident they could go up against that. With the addition of the Titan Cattle tribe's three hundred warriors, they feared the situation wouldn't go well for them.

They were about ready to make adjustments when a large number of undead suddenly appeared. These undead were just like the hundred undead that Zhao Hai had summoned previously. They were magic beasts and were a thousand in number. Those undead easily surrounded the two thousand Jackal tribe cavalry.

What was a cavalry's most tragic situation? It would be when they were surrounded and lost the ability to charge out of the area. A rider that loses their ability to charge wouldn't even be as good as infantry.

The reason why the Jackal tribe became the most notorious thieves in the prairie was due to their mounts. Their mounts were wind element magic beasts, cunning lightning jackals. These Rank Five magic beasts boasted a high degree of perception and flexibility. Because of this, the Jackal tribe could come and go like the wind throughout the entire Beastfolk Prairie and not allow others to find a trace of them.

But now they were surrounded. The mobility they had been so proud of had been sealed. The slender Jackal tribe had now truly become furnishings on a tea table, completely disastrous.

Soon enough, they found that they weren't even furnishings on a tea table. To describe their situation more accurately, they were better suited in the kitchen where they would be diced up. They were surrounded by numerous undead and were doomed to a tragic outcome. It was so miserable that a tragedy might not even be the right word for their situation.

The Jackal tribe hurriedly tried to start a charge, but they didn't know how they would deal with this situation. Zhao Hai then issued the attack and the thousand large undead began to assault the Jackal tribe.

Upon seeing the situation, Wales couldn't help but be surprised for a moment. He quickly recovered and naturally wouldn't miss such an opportunity to hit back against those dogs. Wales immediately issued the order to attack.

The Titan Cattle warriors had been surrounded and attacked by the Jackal tribe and their hearts had been continuously aggrieved to death. When they heard Wales' order to attack, they shouted loudly and bristled as though they'd taken stimulants. They called for their mounts and roared on the backs of the bulls, charging straight toward the Jackal tribe.

A Titan Cattle warrior's mount wasn't a stonemountain cattle. While stonemountain cattles were very powerful and had high defensive capabilities, they weren't quick so they weren't the best mount to use as cavalry. As such, what they used as mounts were instead magic beasts called earth-traversing cattle .

Earth-traversing cattles were Rank Five magic beasts and weren't slow. They also had good defensive capabilities. In addition to their high strength, they became the most suitable mount for the Titan Cattle warriors. Earth-traversing cattles were not related by blood to the Titan Cattle tribe, but rather, it was the stonemountain cattle. The problem was that they killed stonemountain cattles and absorbed the magic beast soul from them. Herding blood-related magic beasts for such a task was an exceptional case within the Beastfolk Prairie.

In the Beastfolk Prairie, the beastfolk generally used their own blood-related magic beasts as mounts. There were, however, a few tribes like the Titan Cattle tribe who used other magic beasts like earth-traversing cattle as mounts instead of blood-related magic beasts.

Zhao Hai watched the charge of the Titan Cattle warriors. He had to admit that Titan Cattle warriors were truly a force to be reckoned with. Hands down, they did a great deal more damage than the heavy cavalry recorded from Earth. Imagine an army of massive warriors wielding hundred kilogram heavy war axes as they charged forth... this is what that concept was like.

Chinese martial arts community had a saying. A genuine weapon is swung, and one tael equals one jin . That is to say, a heavy weapon weighing one jin would increase the strength of the wielder and become ten jin of strength when it's being swung. In ancient China, however, charging cavalry used swords that weren't for swinging, but were instead flat and thin. They instead borrowed the force of the horse while atop the saddle to kill the enemy. Along with this, warriors in the prairies of China would use sickles , and the charge of a sickle-wielding cavalry was very lethal .

The Titan Cattle tribe's charge, however, didn't just involve them swinging their weapons. These were a hundred kilogram heavy weapons. Along with the power given off from the cattle they rode, just how much force could that axe possess? Zhao Hai really couldn't come up with an estimate.

Zhao Hai was also a military otaku, so he knew of these things. The reason why ancient cavalry didn't swing their weapons was because it would dislocate their shoulders. As such, when an ancient cavalry charge began, they used a long weapon. This kind of weapon couldn't be held with one hand, but they could tuck the shaft beneath their arms.

During this time, common cavalymen used spears. Once they pierced the enemy they would have to pull the spear back in order to make it useable again. Otherwise, the spear would directly break.

This was how ancient Chinese riders did their assault. While this method of assault was similar for foreign knights, those knights wore heavy armor and held a straight lance. While they charged, they must pay attention to the wooden lance in their hands. So long as they hit the enemy, the lance would snap. If the cavalry had good riding skills, then the lance would only have snapped at the tip and would still be useable.

A Chinese spear considered his problem, however, and the shaft of the spear wasn't made entirely of wood. Instead, the spear would be wrapped around tightly with strips and resemble modern times steel wire ropes. It wouldn't just be tough, but incomparably hard. When used to attack an enemy, the cavalryman could just use a bit of force to shrug the enemy off the shaft. Like this, after impact, the horse could keep its balance and avoid having to back up and die. The spear's shaft in this case wouldn't break .

It could be said that Earth's ancient cavalry didn't use the power of a human, but a horse's strength. This time, the assault of the Titan Cattle cavalry used not only the earth-traversing cattle, but also their own strength, increasing their might greatly.

Naturally, the humans on the Ark Continent would have better bodies than those on Earth. Of course, the plants in the Ark Continent had an abundance of magic elements. Along with the natural qi in the air, it was a lot better compared with Earth. Since this was the case, the people living on the Ark Continent would have better physiques than those on Earth. They could achieve matters that the humans on Earth couldn't.

The assault of the Titan Cattle tribe cavalry could be called, if Zhao Hai were to put it to words, beautiful. A brutal beauty, the beauty of power, the beauty of slaughter.

With the assault of the three hundred earth-traversing cattle cavalry, the fight had basically finished. While the charge didn't exterminate the Jackal tribe completely, they did take down four hundred of them. The remaining Jackal tribe members were killed by the undead Zhao Hai had summoned.

After their assault, the three hundred earth-traversing cattle cavalry returned to camp, eyeing the corpses of those Jackal tribe members outside

It wasn't that they hadn't seen corpses before, just that these warriors protecting Wales hadn't been in many battles. They sighed as they wouldn't have expected that the two thousand large Jackal tribe cavalry would be unexpectedly destroyed just like that.

At this moment, a large amount of black smog enveloped the battlefield. When the black smog dispersed, the battlefield was cleaned up. The only thing that remained were the trampled grass of the earlier fight. No one would be able to believe that there had just been a battlefield here.

At this time, Zhao Hai's caravan slowly moved toward the camp. Once their carriage was twenty meters, Zhao Hai and Laura walked out and slowly approached Wales. The earth-traversing cattle wanted to block their paths, but Wales shouted for them to stand down.

Zhao Hai led Laura and the other two women until they were two meters from Wales. They then made their greetings with straight chest towards Wales. "Brother Wales, hello. Zhao Hai offers the most sincere blessing to you."

Wales also straightened his chest and grasped Zhao Hai, laughing as he said, "Brother Zhao Hai, you are truly a great magician. You easily and unexpectedly defeated the Jackal tribe with your magic. Starting today, you are a close friend of this Wales."

Zhao Hai wasn't able to adapt easily to Wales' enthusiasm. After he broke free of Wales' hug with great difficulty, he panted for air as he said, "Brother Wales, you shouldn't hug me like that. I almost died by your hands."

When Zhao Hai said those words, the beastfolk around them began to laugh. They started to like Zhao Hai because he spoke sincerely, not like those other hypocritical humans.

Laura and the other two also smiled. They were currently facing the beastfolk. When compared to humans where they needed to act reserved, it was more comfortable around the beastfolk. This wasn't something they'd have imagined happening.

## Chapter 242 - 'As Many As You Want'

Wales led the way for Zhao Hai into the tent. Compared to Spiel's tent, Wales' tent was more gorgeous. There was a well made goat rug spread open inside the tent, and top of it were tables and chairs. This was uncommon in Beastmen Prairie. Most of the furniture inside the tent were made of silver. This showed the extraordinary nature of the owner's status.

But what surprised Zhao Hai was that there wasn't a single female or child in the whole camp. In the several hundreds of people who were warriors, there was no one else other than Wales and the prophet.

When they sat down inside the tent, a Herculean Bull Tribe warrior brought them milk tea immediately. Wales raised the cup of milk tea and said, "Brother Zhao Hai, I wish to thank you for your help. Otherwise, those mongrels would've been really hard to deal with. Ah, I forgot to introduce you to him. This is my teacher, Prophet Yale."

Zhao Hai stood up and bowed down to Yale. 'One must maintain respect towards the prophets of beastmen'. This was a sentence that all humans who arrived on the prairie had to keep in mind.

After bowing down to Yale, Zhao Hai said, "Greetings, respected prophet. This is my fiancée Laura, and this is also my fiancée, Meg. This one is Nier." Zhao Hai introduced them to Wales and Yale. It was also his first time introducing that Meg was his fiancée in public.

Laura was the one who let Zhao Hai do it. She thought that it would be fair to Meg.

When Meg heard Zhao Hai introducing her, she blushed uncontrollably, yet she was happy in her heart that her status was finally confirmed. This also made the remaining bit of worry in her heart vanish completely.

Regarding Zhao Hai's introduction, Wales didn't feel much of a surprise as not only human males could marry many wives. It was the same over in the beastmen tribes. In fact, this kind of situation over here

was worse than humans. It was said that a Horse Tribe chief had more than 30 wives on his own. He was nicknamed 'Seeding Horse'.

Wales bowed down to Laura and Meg courteously and then they sat down again. He drank a cup of milk tea and looked at Zhao Hai, "How did you even get the battle flag of the Big Belly Pigs Tribe, brother Zhao Hai?"

Zhao Hai smiled, "We just knew each other in some time before. I helped their Goat Head Hammer Tribe on a favor, and the tribe chief, brother Spiel, gave me that friendship flag."

Wales didn't say that the flag was a friendship flag because he wanted to see if Zhao Hai knew the meaning of the flag. Now that Zhao Hai said it, Wales understood that Zhao Hai knew what the flag was symbolizing.

Wales nodded and said, "Seems like you helped him in a great way, or else he wouldn't have given you the friendship flag, hehe. I see that you're a merchant, brother Zhao Hai? Is your wagon full of grains?"

Zhao Hai nodded, "Yes, brother Wales. Actually, I cannot count as a legitimate merchant. I have a fief and it produces grains. Right now, I have a large quantity them that I want out of my hands. Bamboo rice most of all."

Wales' eyes sparkled when he heard what Zhao Hai said, "My brother, what's the price of your grains?"

Zhao Hai smiled slightly and said, "2000 kilos for 1 argali."

Wales did a double take and then spoke with shining eyes, "My brother, did you just said 2000 kilos of grains in exchange for 1 argali goat? Are you sure you didn't say it wrong?"

Zhao Hai smiled slightly, "Actually, it's just a public price. If it's for friends, this price can be lowered. And I'm not lying to you, I have a senior who likes to research magic beasts a lot, so if they're prairie specialties, especially magic beasts, I can buy them with a great price. Of course, if you need grains, I can also exchange using grains. And I have the freshest vegetables on hand. They are as fresh as they've just been plucked. Meg, go get some fresh vegetables for brother Wales as a meeting gift." Meg heeded with a sound and walked out of the tent.



Wales and Yale both listened to Zhao Hai's words idly. They never thought that Zhao Hai would bring such terms. It was truly out of their expectations.

Wales looked at Zhao Hai and said, "My brother, how much can you provide? I mean, how many of the grains do you have in your hands?"

Zhao Hai looked at Wales, "I have as many as you want."

The words were so boastful they bordered on insanity. Yale and Wales felt that Zhao Hai's words were too conceited. One should know that Wales still had his position. If Wales really wanted to do business with Zhao Hai, the amount of crops required would be an astronomical sum.

Wales stared at Zhao Hai, "My brother, I think I forgot to introduce you to my identity just now. I'm Herculean Bull Tribe's 7th son of the chieftain. If I really want to do business with you then the grains I need will be extremely numerous."

Zhao Hai smiled a little, "I don't mind, my brother. I know your identity isn't common. You have a prophet teacher and you wear gorgeous robes, so your identity is surely uncommon. But please relax as I just said it. I have as many as you want. This isn't a bluff. You can calculate the amount that your entire Herculean Bull Tribe needs, and then we'll talk."

Wales looked at Zhao Hai with incomprehension. He didn't understand where Zhao Hai's confidence came from. One should know that grains had always been the trading goods that were exported to the beastmen in the largest quantity of all trading goods. Likewise, it was also the most powerful weapon used by humans to strangle them. It was exactly because of this that the prices of grains in the beastmen parts were high on end.

Even though there were many grains transported to the Beastmen Prairie by humans, compared to the massive population of beastmen, they were far from enough. Every year there were many beastmen who had to eat their goats sparingly in order to survive the famine.

Long periods of goat eating wasn't something good for beastmen. If they ate up the goats, they would lose more compared to trading them for grains, but when they couldn't resort to anything else when they lacked grains.

It wasn't as if humans didn't bring grains to the Beastmen Prairie on purpose. In the eyes of human merchants, bringing grains to Beastmen Prairie meant getting argali back in exchange. That's money. Why let go of such a business on purpose? But the problem lied in the fact that humans didn't have that many grains.

Now all the large countries on the continent were adopting a 'turn a blind eye' attitude towards the matter of selling grains to the Beastmen Prairie. You could sell, but not too much. You couldn't sell them to the point of affecting the grain prices of the continent. Otherwise, the royals would not let it slide.

It was because of these various reasons that there was always a large gaping hole in the Beastmen Prairie's grain supply. Even if they were willing to trade their argali, it couldn't be helped. There were no grains.

Wales didn't readily believe in Zhao Hai's words. Even if Zhao Hai had a fief, the bamboo rice production could not possibly plug the gaping hole of the Beastmen Prairie's grain supply. How could Zhao Hai's be so boastful?

Compared to Wales, Yale felt even stranger about this. Zhao Hai seemed to be too confident. This made Yale think of something bad all of a sudden.

There were human merchants who said such things before in front of beastmen in the past. In the end, it was proven that the merchants were all liars. They could never have that many grains, so it was them who brought some mouldy grains to deal with the beastmen. If it were mouldy rice, then it would've been manageable. At least the rice would be barely edible after some washing. But if there weren't a lot of grains and the tribe were depending on the grains to get through winter, then the outcome would be very dire.

Yale remembered clearly that 5 years ago, there was a great battle tribe that had its members starved to death in grain panic because of such a liar. That tribe ate large amounts of argali and incurred heavy losses. Even now the tribe had yet to recover.

Yale was afraid that Zhao Hai was such a person as well. If Zhao Hai wanted to use this method to deal with Herculean Bull Tribe, then his appearance would not be a coincidence.

Once Yale thought to this point, he stared deeply at Zhao Hai. Before Wales said anything, Yale coughed a little and then spoke to Wales, "Wales, it was thanks to Zhao Hai's assistance today that we could win against the mongrels. Should we serve them properly? They must also set up their camping grounds as well."

Once Wales heard what Yale said, he knew Yale wanted to talk alone. He didn't discuss with Zhao Hai about the grain issue any further. He just nodded and said, "Right, will you look at me, only knowing how to talk about such things. Brother Zhao Hai, you go and set up camp first, and then we'll have a couple cups of drinks for sure."

Zhao Hai could see them through, so he didn't say anything and just smiled. He stood up and spoke, "Alright, brother Wales. I will go and set up camp, and then I'll bring the vegetables over." After speaking, Zhao Hai let Laura and Nier bow down to Wales and Yale before they all left the tent.

Just then, Meg was leading some undead creatures to bring some basketfuls of vegetables to outside the tent. These vegetables were just put into the wagon by Zhao Hai. After all, they couldn't be put outside for too long. Otherwise, they wouldn't be fresh anymore.

Zhao Hai didn't let Meg enter the tent again, and just let her bring the vegetables to the guards outside the tent. He led Meg back to the team of wagons.

The camping grounds building today was very convenient. The wagons had already formed a circle formation. Just set up a tent within the formation, and presto.

When they went back to camping grounds, the tent had been constructed. Zhao Hai and others went back into the tent. It was a very simple tent; the ground was adorned in rabbit fur and there weren't too many decorations so it appeared to be spacious.

When they sat down inside the tent, Laura laughed at Zhao Hai, "Hai-bro, you're too impatient. I think Wales and Yale must've treated you like a liar."

Zhao Hai laughed, "What? Do beastmen come across such liars often?"

Laura replied seriously, "It depends on whether or not the tribe is worth cheating. If a beastmen tribe's strength is too powerful, it's very likely that there will be this kind of liar."

#### Chapter 243 - Sneaky Move

When Zhao Hai heard what Laura said, he felt that there were words within her words. He looked at Laura in confusion and asked, "What do you mean?"

Laura glanced at Zhao Hai and then snickered, "It means, those liars were not real merchants. They had background. Solid background."

Zhao Hai looked agape and asked, "You mean someone made the liars act this way? Who? For what?"

Laura let out a bitter smile and replied, "Who else could it be? The ones who are afraid of beastmen getting powerful. Among them are Fansile family, as well as Axu Empire's royal members. There are many merchants on Beastmen Prairie right now, and they are their spotters. If they find out which tribe is very powerful, they will both think of a way to weaken that tribe. In order to weaken a tribe, there's no move more vicious than cheating. This move doesn't need manpower and too much wealth. Even less so for fighting, and it can let them fulfill their goal. That's why a lot of people use this move."

Zhao Hai seriously never thought that it was because of this. He did a double take and said, "No wonder Yale just interrupted Wales. It seems like Yale treated us as those sort of liars as well. Blame me, for I just spoke too surely."

Laura laughed, "We can't blame you as well. What you said was the truth. It's just Yale doesn't believe you. Once we make more contact, they will believe it. That's right, Hai-bro. Do you feel that Wales' camp is a little strange?"

Zhao Hai nodded, "It's a little strange, yes. This camp is full of combatants, and not a single woman. This is a little inexplicable."

Laura nodded, "I can tell as well, but from the look of Wales, it's not like he had anything important to do, so why would he come all the way here?"

Meg, who had never spoken just now, said, "Can be it be that Wales is here for a trial? Wales is the 7th son of the Herculean Bull Tribe's chieftain, which is basically a prince. Human nobles usually let their own children go out to brush up, and Wales' identity is also a noble one, so he might be here for a trial of combat, right?"

Laura and Zhao Hai both did a double take, and then Laura laughed softly, "It seems like we've thought things to be more complicated than they really are. Yes, I also heard that the great tribes' princes would also come out for trials. It seems like Wales is part of it as well, but the matter of him being surrounded by jackals is also full of fishiness."

Zhao Hai nodded, "This matter is somewhat odd, but it's not what we need to concern ourselves with. We've arrived at our destination and we dealt with the Jackal Tribe, right? I even stored the Jackal Tribe's people, but none of them alive, unfortunately. Still, there are two mounts which are alive. They're now in storage."

After the battle, Zhao Hai put the jackal tribesmen corpses into the space. In order to avoid Yale's suspicions, Zhao Hai personally used the black mist spell to cloud the battleground, and then collected the corpses. He didn't turn the jackal tribesmen into undead creatures in a hurry. He still wanted to get some information from their mouths.

But he also couldn't let Wales and Yale know that, so he used the black mist spell to cloud the battleground. By the time it dissipated, the jackal tribesmen's corpses had disappeared. This would make Yale and others think that Zhao Hai had turned the corpses into undead creatures which he put into his summoning space.

This was also the common method used by black mages on the continent. Usually after they killed their enemies, they would turn their enemies into undead creatures and then put them into their own summoning space. Not only would this deter enemies, it would also add to their own strength. That was why Zhao Hai did it earlier. Both Yale and Wales weren't the slightest bit suspicious.

Laura nodded and said, "Let's wait until it's night to sort out those jackal tribesmen. We don't know when Wales will come look for us, so let's not enter the space." Zhao Hai nodded as well. He didn't intend to enter the space at this time.

Zhao Hai and others didn't know that Wales and Yale were talking about them at the moment.

When they saw Zhao Hai and others leave the tent, Wales spoke to Yale in confusion, "Teacher, why didn't you let me and Zhao Hai continue on? If he has a lot of grains and they're very cheap, then it's great news for our Herculean Bull Tribe."

Yale glanced at Wales and shook his head, "I feel that Zhao Hai wasn't being truthful. Does he really have grains in his hands? Do not forget Black Bear Tribe's lesson 5 years ago."

The Black Bear Tribe lesson 5 years ago which Yale meant was that scamming incident, when a human merchant who had cooperated with Black Bear Tribe many times in the past promised to prepare the grains meant for lasting through winter. Because the Black Bear Tribe worked happily with the other party, they wouldn't expect that the other party would cheat them. As a result, the black bear tribesmen never bought any grains from other human merchants to pass the winter.

Yet that human merchant had disappeared in the end, and never appeared on the prairie. By the time the Black Bear Tribe fell for it, it was already too late. They didn't stockpile grains for that winter, and the snowing was fierce. It was hard to mobilize the forces, and the entire Black Bear Tribe faced the danger of food depletion.

Eventually, they had no choice but to eat argali and other magic beasts in order to overcome the danger. Even so, many of the Black Bear Tribe's slaves had starved to death. The once powerful Black Bear Tribe had weakened. If it weren't for their powerful fighting abilities, they would've already been terminated.

Afterwards, this matter had caused a huge backlash on the Beastmen Prairie. There was even a period of time when all the races on the prairie didn't do business with human merchants. Many of the merchants had unrecoverable losses because of this.

When Wales heard what Yale said, he was startled and said, "It can't be. I don't think Zhao Hai is that sort of person, and he's holding a friendship flag. Aren't you worrying too much?"

Yale shook his head, "It's always better to be a little more cautious. We must always remember the Black Bear Tribe's lesson. Regardless of whether or not Zhao Hai has the grains, we cannot put all the fortunes on him."

Wales didn't object regarding this point. Putting all of one's fortunes on someone else is too risky. He wouldn't do it, so he didn't object to what Yale said.

Yale looked at Wales as he said, "Don't you think it's very strange that we were under attack today, Wales? When did those mongrels get so gutsy and they dared to attack us?"

Wales was startled, "Then teacher, what you mean is?"

Yale replied, "There's something fishy about this. Even though the mongrels will rob anyone, when they do, their teams have elderly and women, and usually act in a whole group. But the ones who attacked us today were all strong and of age. No elderlies and women. Have you heard of any jackal tribes that mobilized 2000 strong adults to conduct robbery before? Furthermore, we're just here to roam so we didn't bring a lot of valuables, and just 300 warrior guards. We're more powerful than the smaller tribes with this kind of strength by many measures, yet the mongrels still came for us. This isn't like their usual style of action, so I'm saying that this matter is very strange."

Wales' facial expression kept changing as he heard Yale's words. He wasn't a fool. He knew what Yale's words meant.

Although Wales was the chieftain's 7th son, he was his father's most favorite son, and he was smart since he was little. This might not mean much to humans, but in beastmen tribes, it was an incredibly positive trait.

Beastmen had direct personalities. Normally when there were beastmen that weren't too clever, they appeared to be silly in others' eyes and easily deceived, so the beastmen placed great importance on smart children and assign a prophet teacher to them since little for education. This kind of children were often the ones to become the next chieftains.

Since little, Wales proved to be very smart, so his father assigned Yale to him when he was 5 years old. This was almost like a hint to everyone that he was ready raise Wales as a successor.

If Wales' other brothers had ordinary strength, then it wouldn't be much. The Herculean Bull Tribe would complete the succession smoothly. But the problem was that his brothers were powerful as well. It would be problematic.

Wales' eldest brother Gasol stayed at his father's side since little and always fought for Herculean Bull Tribe. In the beastmen circles, he had a glorious nickname of 'bull-headed war god'. His strength was enough to match against a human level 8 expert. Among beastmen who admired strength, Gasol's fame was quite large. His prestige was very great within Herculean Bull Tribe as well.

Even though Gasol wasn't as smart as Wales, he helped their father manage the tribe's matters all these years, so his performance could be said to be commendable. That was why many people were supporting him in Herculean Bull Tribe and wanted him to be the next chieftain.

Wales' second brother Paul wasn't too worth the attention. Because Paul had always been a very short tempered person, even though he was powerful and eager to battle, he was obviously not chieftain material. But Paul had a very good relationship with Gasol, and he always supported Gasol in becoming a chieftain.

Wales' 3rd and 4th brothers were killed in action during their teenage years. The ones who could remember their names in the tribe were few.

Wales' 5th brother Hales had a sickly body since little. He would get sick in half of every year, so he was a forgotten existence in the tribe who didn't pose any threat.

Wales' 6th brother Mendez had a very good relationship with Wales. He took great care of Wales since little, but his current age wasn't very high so he couldn't be of much help.

Wales had 2 more younger brothers, but their age was still little. They didn't even have the right to engage in trials, not to mention helping out.

Wales had another 4 older sisters, but they were married to another bull headed race that wasn't weak: Fighting Bull Tribe. Wales had a good relationship with his 2nd and 3rd sisters, while the eldest and 4th sisters were in good relationships with Gasol.

To really count it up, Gasol had larger odds than Wales in becoming the chieftain of Herculean Bull Tribe.



## Chapter 244 - Re-evaluation

Wales learned from Yale since he was little, while after becoming Wales' teacher, Yale became deeply imprinted. Yale felt that he must help Wales become the chieftain, so he educated very attentively.

Other than being Wales' teacher, the reason why Yale taught Wales with dedication was because of the Buffalo Tribe. Even though Buffalo Tribe had a very high standing among bull headed races due to many of their famous prophets, if Wales failed in this fight for succession, he would surely be oppressed by Gasol, and then Yale's days would not be any better. The Buffalo Tribe which Yale hailed from would surely suffer.

It was exactly because of this that Yale must help Wales succeed the position. Only then would he be able to guarantee Buffalo Tribe's benefits.

Buffalo Tribe was the smartest of all the bull headed races. With Yale being of high age, he had seen a lot of such family fights for succession, so he spoke of such things to Wales since little. With Wales being this smart, as soon as Yale spoke about the strangeness of being attacked, Wales immediately knew what Yale meant.

Yales said nothing while he saw that Wales went speechless. He knew Wales never wanted to resort to full open hostility with Gasol. Even though Wales was young, his education made him understand that no matter who won between them, the greatest losers would be Herculean Bull Tribe, so he never wanted to fight against Gasol.

Yet it was because of Wales being too smart since little, that Gasol always treated him like an opponent and made things hard for him. For the sake of his own safety as well as Yale and those around him, Wales had no choice but to strike back. With this, the fighting between him and Gasol had started with none the wiser.

Gasol had long years of prestige and social connections, so he had an upper hand in the succession, but Wales had a stroke of genius since little, and with his father's support, he wasn't in the lower hand as well.

The fighting between the two had always in behind the scenes instead of out in the open, and their fighting was within the lines, and never too far. Things like threatening the life of one another were something they never did. The matter this time was somewhat strange.

Once Wales thought this, he frowned and spoke, "I feel that there's something weird about today's matter. You're saying, teacher, that this was possibly caused by Gasol, but would he want my life at this point? He wouldn't, right? Father is still alive and well. If tries to make a move against me, father won't let him go, and that way, he'll have no hope of becoming the chieftain. Even though 2nd brother isn't suitable and neither is 5th brother, but 6th brother's performance in these years is passable. Little 8th and 9th have yet to grow up, and it's not like there'll be no one to become the chieftain without the two of us. He won't have any benefit in removing me at this time, will he?"

Yale also felt very confused after hearing what Wales said. He frowned and said, "If he (Gasol) is really behind this, then unless he can immediately become the chieftain after removing you, the chieftain will not let them go unpunished. But now that the chieftain's still alive, it's impossible for him (Gasol) to be the chieftain. He wouldn't dare make a move against the chieftain, since the high elders will never agree to that. From the look of this, this whole thing is really not his handiwork. Can it be that other people want to deal with us?"

Wales was also frowning. The fishy parts of this matter were too many, so he couldn't comprehend it all at the time. Suddenly, Wales thought of something and he asked, "Teacher, do you think that this matter is related to Zhao Hai?"

Yale thought for a bit and he shook his head, "No. Zhao Hai is a human. Humans cannot possibly command the Jackal Tribe. You saw it too that the jackals had indeed perished. If Zhao Hai were in cahoots with them, he wouldn't have dealt such a lethal blow."

Wales nodded, "Then who can it be? We've never heard of which race would make contact with Jackal Tribe. Their name is too foul on the prairie. If it's discovered that someone is making contact with them, then that someone will also have a foul reputation. There is no one who would be so daring, is there?"

Yale nodded to the statement. The Jackal Tribe's attack this time was too eerie. On the prairie, the Jackal Tribe was always known for taking advantages instead of shortcomings. They wouldn't touch anything they found to be dicey. Yet this time they sent 2000 of their stronger ones to kill them (Wales and others), which made Yale and Wales reach no conclusions in their minds.

After the 2 of them discussed for a while, which proved to be inconclusive in the end, Wales shifted the topic to Zhao Hai. Wales looked at Yale and asked, "Teacher, if Zhao Hai really has a lot of grains in his hands that can be sold to us at that price, should we go for it immediately?"

Yale thought for a bit and nodded, “We should, but it’s best that this matter doesn’t involve the tribe. Right now, Gasol has a greater power in the tribe, so I think we should let Buffalo Tribe and Fighting Bull Tribe make contact with Zhao Hai first. If Zhao Hai really has a lot of grains, then Buffalo Tribe and Fighting Bull Tribe’s grain problems will be solved. And because you are spearheading this matter, they will have gratitude towards you, and it will become a power in your hands. If Zhao Hai is a liar, then the only ones in loss will be Buffalo Tribe and Fighting Bull Tribe as well, and then you can solve the problem in their stead, and they won’t blame you. What do you think?”

Yale’s idea wasn’t bad. Because the Herculean Bull Tribe had Gasol, there would always be someone getting in Wales’ way, so Yale let Wales make the Buffalo and Fighting Bull tribes handle the matter.

Fighting Bull Tribe was also a branch of bull headed races with powerful fighting strength. With frequent contact between them and Herculean Bull Tribe, Wales’ 4 older sisters consequently married into the Fighting Bull Tribe in order to forge ties. For Wales, the benefit was large. If he got the Fighting Bull Tribe’s support, he would have great hope in becoming the chieftain of Herculean Bull Tribe.

Buffalo Tribe had a special place among bull headed races. Their fighting power wasn’t bad, and with the reputation of being the smartest of all bull headed races, the Buffalo Tribe had a certain influence. If Wales got Buffalo Tribe’s support, then it would achieve a certain effect in his succession of the chieftain position.

On Beastmen Prairie, when any ruling tribe of a great race wanted to select its own chieftain, it wasn’t a matter of that tribe alone. It was a matter of all the branch tribes. The words of these branch tribes would sometimes influence the positioning of the chieftain.

For example, the Herculean Bull Tribe, which was the ruling tribe of all bull headed races. If they wanted to pick their own chieftain, then it wouldn’t be something that they alone could decide. They also needed the opinions of all the other bull headed branch tribes.

The reason why this sort of situation was present was due to the fact that, a ruling tribe of a great race couldn’t order the branch tribes around during normal occasions, but when fighting great wars, the ruling tribe could hold the great responsibility of commanding all of the branch tribes of the whole race.

To make an example, if the beastmen waged war against humans, the beastmen would naturally address the battle tribes as lords. They would normally pick a marshall to command all the beastmen. All the chieftains of the various great races would be the various generals, each in charge of their own race.

All of the branch tribes would be the officers under the generals, who must listen to the chieftain during this time. That was why the position of chieftain of the ruling tribe was extremely important.

Right now inside the Herculean Bull Tribe, Gasol's fighting power was something deeply rooted in the minds. If Wales and Gasol kept fighting inside the tribe, then Wales would be the one to lose. Which was why Yale already planned to let Wales make more contact with other bull headed branch tribes. Zhao Hai's appearance happened to give them a good opportunity.

Grains was something all of the beastmen lacked. For beastmen, there was no such thing as too many grains, so Wales using grains to forge ties with Fighting Bull and Buffalo Tribes would be a right move.

After thinking about this, Wales nodded, "I think I can do it. My sisters are in the Fighting Bull Tribe, so connections won't be a problem. And you are part of the Buffalo Tribe, teacher, so there should also be no problems there. When we get out, I'll discuss this with Zhao Hai."

Yale nodded. He looked at the sky and said, "The outside should be ready by now, so let's get out after a moment. Oh right, Zhao Hai let his people send some vegetables. Let's go have a look."

Wales nodded to that. For the beastmen on the prairie, fresh vegetables were definitely luxurious goods. Even the ruling tribe like Herculean Bull Tribe could not simply eat them. Wales assumed that what Zhao Hai gave them wouldn't be more than things like magic radishes which could be easily stored, and thus paid them no mind.

Wales followed Yale out of the tent. It was now afternoon and the weather was fine. The 2 of them were dumbstruck the moment they came out of the tent, because they saw that more than a dozen of baskets were placed outside the tent. Each basket had a type of vegetable. The vegetables were rather common on the continent so Wales and Yale knew what they were. They wouldn't be surprising. What surprised them was the fact that all of these vegetables were actually fresh. So fresh, it was like they were just plucked.

The 2 of them looked at each other and saw trembling in each other's eyes. The reason why they came here was just as Meg guessed; They were here for a trial. This was something all the young higher ups of all beastmen had to experience. Wales was not an exception.

Going outside to roam wasn't something others cared about, but there was a rule, which was one couldn't bring more than 500 escorts. This was ordained in all of the beastmen tribes.

The reason why escorts were brought out during roaming was related to the situation on the prairie; Beastmen Prairie was simply too large and there were too many dangers. It would be very hard to survive on the prairie alone. In order ensure the safety of the young generation, they were allowed to bring escorts.

Young beastmen who came out to roam were often ones with prince-like identities. Those whose status was insufficient would usually have to get busy with their own tribes everyday with no time to spare. They started fighting battles with adults in the tribes since little. There was no need to take part in trials at all.

In other words, the 'trial' was actually something that allowed the next generation of the powerful people in the tribes to go out and see the world in order to shave off their noble attitudes.

Wales came to this place mainly to look at the human city in Iron Wall Fortress. Wales was still young and he didn't participate in the previous war between humans and beastmen. Although there was Beast God City, there wasn't a real stone-clad city, so Wales was always curious about the stone-clad cities of humans. He wanted to use the chance in his trial to look at a human city.

Although Wales had never been to Iron Wall Fortress before, he still knew about the travel path. He knew well that from their current location, it would take several days of travel to get to Iron Wall Fortress, and that place couldn't possibly produce these vegetables. In other words, Zhao Hai's vegetables came from even further away.

It meant that these vegetables had made their way here for more than a few days at least. The fact that the vegetables could retain their freshness in these few days like they were just plucked was too surprising.

Yale looked at Wales but he said nothing. He turned to go back into the tent, and once inside, he spoke to Wales, "Wales, I think we will have to re-evaluate Zhao Hai's strength."

Wales nodded and then looked at Yale with incomprehension, "Why are those vegetables fresh, teacher? How did they keep them so fresh?"

Yale smiled slightly, "I'm guessing that he has a spatial equipment in his hands. Spatial equipments are things researched by human mages. This type of thing seals a subspace which can be used to store objects. Things stored inside the subspace can last much longer than outside. He probably has such a thing in his hands. I just never imagined that he actually used a spatial equipment to put vegetables."

Wales too had heard of the scarcity of spatial equipments, but there were no such things in beastmen's possession, so everything about them was simply told to him. He didn't understand them enough.

But he thought that spatial equipments should be very precious as well. Otherwise, with so many of the human merchants travelling to the prairie, they wouldn't have used wagons by now. Wouldn't they rather use spatial equipments?

Wales' eyes sparkled and spoke, "Teacher, doesn't that mean Zhao Hai has a method that allows him to transport the grains from the human lands in a faster way? If that's the case, I think it's very likely that he has as many grains as he claimed."

Yale nodded, "His strength seems impressive, but it's still prudent for us to be careful. Although we're not the most powerful tribe of all the beastmen races, our strength is up there. Even compared to battle tribes, us bull headed race can manage to stay in the competition. If it weren't for some of the branch tribes dragging out feet, we would've already become a battle race. This strength would indeed make many people jealous. We can't be certain we won't be eyed by the human liars."

#### Chapter 245 - Liar With A Complicated Identity

Wales knew about this point as well. Beastmen had been deceived by humans for too many times. So many, it was no longer something they could count on their own. That was why they harbored intense caution towards humans, and also why very few human merchants could get friendship flags.

Beastmen would never give friendship flags to people they wouldn't trust, since they believed that it would be the greatest desecration to the flags themselves. In fact, other than Zhao Hai, there were no other human merchants who had ever gotten a friendship flag from the beastmen for so many years. Not even ones from smaller tribes like the Goat Head Hammer Tribe.

It could be said that the friendship flag on Zhao Hai's wagon left Wales with a great impression towards Zhao Hai. It was also because of the flag that Wales wanted to cooperate with him.

Wales exhaled and said, "I seriously hope that Zhao Hai is a good merchant. If he has a large amount of grains and is willing to sell them to us, then I will gladly give him our friendship flag."

Yale knew what Wales meant. What the beastmen lacked was grains. If he could really solve Herculean Bull Tribe's grain issues through Zhao Hai, then he would get closer to the chieftain position.

Yale also hoped that it would be so, but he was also on high alert regarding Zhao Hai. With a long time in a large tribe and fighting against Gasol in secret for a period of time, Yale's heart was still very dark.

A moment of silence in the tent took hold before Yale spoke, "Let's go out and take a look. I am more and more curious about Zhao Hai right now. If he's really a liar, then he must have a complicated identity. A liar with a spatial equipment? Hehe. I think he isn't be an ordinary person, is he?"

Wales also started to laugh. Indeed, if a liar had a spatial equipment, then he must had been an incredible liar.

After looking at the time, Wales laughed, "Let's go out, teacher. I promised Zhao Hai to give him a good toast."

Yale chuckled as both of them walked out of the tent. Bonfires were made outside the tent and argali had been put to roast.

The beastmen were like this. To them, serving you a roasted goat would be the greatest treatment. Although Wales was out for a trial, no matter where beastmen were, they would bring a herd of goats with them. Roaming while grazing the goats was the beastmen's life.

Actually, the argali were also their food, which was why they would bring them anywhere. The tribe wasn't going to be able to keep the goats. Even if they could defeat the Jackal Tribe's assault, the goats would've been robbed away.

But they were lucky today. They came across Zhao Hai who exterminated the Jackal Tribe's people with no escapees, so these goats had been kept. Wales would naturally not be stingy over a few of them.

Although the ones who followed Wales were warriors, they were among the highest elite. They often served as escorts for the ranked personnel of Herculean Bull Tribe. The things they knew wouldn't be less than normal beastmen, and what they could do were better than others. It was because when you are next to the higher ups, you must learn how to serve them.

The goats had been roasted above the bonfires. What was special about the occasion was that some tables had been placed next to the bonfires, which wasn't a common sight. Next to every table were milk wines, and on each of the tables were 2 plates and a wine cup. The notable thing was that no matter the plates, the wine cup, or the wine pots, all of them were made of silver.

All of this displayed the extraordinary nature of the owner's status. A common small sized tribe would never have such things. Beastmen were nomadic. If they put these things in their wagons, they would've needed several more wagons, which would greatly inconvenience them when moving about.

But some great races, in order to display their identities, would ready such things. Wales was a powerful contender for the chieftain of Herculean Bull Tribe, so it was a given that his identity was extraordinary. Bringing these things was not something to be wondered.

After many years of development, many of the younger generation of the higher ups were still maintaining the tradition of taking the trial of roaming, but with the protection of escorts and some of the smaller tribes' respect, the core of their trials had changed completely. Now it was not much different from travelling.

Once Wales saw that it was about to be ready, he looked at Yale and said, "Teacher, you wait here. I'll go and invite Zhao Hai."

Yale didn't object to that. In their view, putting the question of whether or not Zhao Hai was a liar aside, Zhao Hai was a mage with supreme strength, which alone could let him gain respect accordingly. Wales inviting Zhao Hai on his own was enough to explain the respect he had towards Zhao Hai.

Wales walked towards Zhao Hai's camp with 2 guards behind him. These 2 guards didn't bring weapons, as to the beastmen, bringing weapons to meet one's friend was a very impolite behaviour.



There was a distance between Zhao Hai's camp and Wales', but Wales didn't ride his own mount. Instead, he walked to outside of Zhao Hai's campsite.

Zhao Hai used his wagons to form a circle outside of his campsite because of the battle earlier. Inside the formation, undead creatures were standing there like statues.

At first Wales assumed that those undead creatures were ordinary wagon drivers, but when he walked to the front of them, he realized he was mistaken. Those weren't people at all. No matter how excellent a fighter would be, there would be no way one could stand for such a long time without blinking. There was no breathing, even.

Wales wouldn't feel uneasy when facing human fighters, but when facing the undead, Wales still felt insecure. After all, he had never seen humanoid undead for more than a few times.

Just when Wales was deciding whether to shout out to Zhao Hai or speak to the animated corpses, Zhao Hai had already walked out of his tent with Laura and others.

Zhao Hai already knew from the undead creatures that Wales had arrived, so of course he wouldn't be too keeping of his appearance. The other party was a prince, after all. Keeping up the appearance too much would make it look like was trying too hard.

Once Zhao Hai was out, he laughed to Wales and said, "Brother Wales, have you been waiting for me with the goats roasted? Hahaha, I'm starving!"

Wales obviously liked how Zhao Hai was speaking like a beastman. He also laughed and said, "Brother Zhao Hai, the goats have been roasted and the milk wine has been poured, waiting for us to drink."

Zhao Hai laughed his way with Wales as they walked into the latter's camp. Once Zhao Hai saw the placements, he was stunned. He didn't expect that Wales would be so prepared when going outside. If it weren't for the numerous large wagons around, he would've thought that Wales had spatial equipment as well.

Yale was sitting at a table while waiting for Zhao Hai and others. Next to the bonfires were many small tables, and each table could only accommodate 1 person. Notably, the tables weren't large and small rugs were put next to the tables. A person had to sit on a rug directly.

Once Yale saw that Zhao Hai and others had come, Yale stood up to greet them. Zhao Hai and others immediately bowed down to Yale. After all, the prophets' status on Beastmen Prairie was too special. They couldn't afford to have the slightest inadvertence.

There was a saying on Beastmen Prairie which went, 'Offending a prophet means offending all of the beastmen'. Of course, it was only good for the humans. For beastmen, it wasn't too effective. Yet even a chieftain of great tribe wouldn't easily offend a prophet.

After the formalities, all of them sat down, and someone else brought Zhao Hai and others some roasted mutton. According to the beastmen's usual acts, they must first eat a mouthful of mutton before drinking wine. This showed their importance towards food.

After eating a mouthful of roasted mutton, Wales raised his silver cup and extended it towards Zhao Hai. The two of them weren't far apart, but with the distance between the tables, the two of them were about 2 metres apart.

Wales spoke with his cup raised, "Brother Zhao Hai, thank you for assisting me. Please have this toast representing my gratitude."

Zhao Hai smiled and raised his cup as well, "You're too kind, brother Wales. We are friends. There doesn't need to be too much of a gratitude when friends help each other."

Wales nodded to Zhao Hai in appreciation and shook the wine up saying, "Please!" Zhao Hai also did the same, and both of them drank the wine from their cups in a single shot.

After a cup of wine, Wales started talking with Zhao Hai about casual topics. The two of them talked as they were eating the mutton and drinking milk wine. But Zhao Hai felt that he wasn't eating very happily today compared to at Spiel's. It wasn't because of the food, but the atmosphere. They could eat and drink happily at Spiel's because there wasn't any scheming, but in here, Zhao Hai felt that Wales and Yale were observing him. This made him feel very uncomfortable.

By the time the 3rd cup of wine was drunk, Wales asked Zhao Hai, “Brother Zhao Hai, do you really have a lot of grains to sell?”

Zhao Hai nodded, “Yes. Plenty. I want to exchange for some special magic beasts, even argali. Of course, some goat hair products are fine as well.”

Wales replied to Zhao Hai, “Brother Zhao Hai, it’s not that I don’t trust you, it’s just that to us beastmen, grains are too important. I really want to know how many grains you have, and then decide on how to cooperate with you. Also, I want to know about the quality of your grains.”

Zhao Hai laughed, “It’s nothing. I can tell you that right now, I have 100 million kilos of bamboo rice, and there will be even more in the future. As for the quality? Let’s see. You can let your escorts go and get some grains from my grain wagon. Any bag of them will do. You can take some extra and then bring them here. You can take a closer look after that.”

When Zhao Hai mentioned that he had 100 million kilos of grains, Wales breathed in a mouthful of cold air. This was the largest amount he had ever heard of. If he could really get the grains, then Herculean Bull Tribe wouldn’t need to worry about food problems for a very long time.

What sort of concept was 100 million kilos of grains? It was the amount enough for use by a large tribe of 10 million people for 3 days. Of course, this was because of the fact that beastmen could eat more than humans. If it were on humans, this figure would multiply for many times.

#### Chapter 246 - ‘I Want The Battle Flag’

Wales heard Zhao Hai’s words idly. 100 million kilos of grains wasn’t enough for the entire bull headed race, but for just Herculean Bull Tribe alone, these grains could last for a very long time.

Yale had also idled at this time, but he immediately reacted. He called out a couple of warriors to bring the grains from Zhao Hai’s wagon. He wanted to see if the grains Zhao Hai brought were good or bad.

Beastmen prioritized food. It was exactly because of their importance towards food that they were extra demanding when it came to grain quality. Many beastmen were illiterate, but they wouldn’t need to

look if a rice was good or bad. They could just use their hands to weigh them in order to tell the difference. They were simply that amazing.

Wales returned to his senses from Yale's action. He looked at Zhao Hai and asked, "Brother Zhao Hai, you really have 100 million kilos?"

Zhao Hai shook his head, "More than that. To be precise, I can get 100 million kilos of grains every period of time. My fief is very large, so when I plant the bamboo rice in batches, I can harvest them once in a while, hehe."

Wales was stunned again, and then his expression changed, "Brother Zhao Hai, I'm treating you as a sibling so don't lie to me, ok? I don't know how about planting but 100 million kilos would need a very large field, right? Can you really harvest 100 million kilos of grains in such a short time? How large is your fief?"

Zhao Hai had a sudden feeling of sadness when he looked at Wales. He knew that food was precious in beastmen territories, but it seemed like the merchants weren't being truthful when talking to Wales.

The yield of bamboo rice was very high to begin with. Even outside of the space, the yield wouldn't be much lower than in the space. As long as there were no vandalizing, the yield of bamboo rice wouldn't be greatly affected. Bamboo rice on the continent could feed all of the races, including humans, elves, dwarves and even magic beasts.

If humans really wished to trade with beastmen, then the beastmen wouldn't have to worry about food crisis and the prices of grains wouldn't be absurdly high.

Yet beastmen didn't know how to plant crops, so when the human merchants traded with beastmen, they would make crop planting out to be a very difficult thing, and lower the figure of grain yields by a lot. This created an illusion in the beastmen that grain planting was a very difficult and low yield practice. The human merchants no longer needed to lower the grain prices this way. It could be said that they were sucking the beastmen's blood.

Zhao Hai put down the curved knife in his hand and turned to Wales, "Brother Wales, I told you I'm not a legitimate merchant. I produce my own grains, so I know very well about the grain yields. Do not be deceived by the sly merchants. Take bamboo rice for example. Just 10000 acres of land would yield 100

million kilos, and it matures once every 3 months. If the weather is fine and it could be planted in winter, 1 year 10000 acres, 3 harvests, no natural disasters or human destruction, then brother, I can get 100 million kilos of grains without a problem.”

Wales and Yale both stared blankly at Zhao Hai. To be honest, they really didn't know about what Zhao Hai said. Beastmen didn't know how to plant crops, just like how humans didn't know how to graze herds. For humans, grazing was too hard. Why would the magic beasts get sick all the time? In relation to that, for beastmen, crop planting was too hard. Why would those crops always wilt? It was an unsolvable problem.

It was exactly because of this that the human merchants would speak of grains like they were treasures, and the beastmen believed it, because in the latter's view, crop planting was truly a difficult matter.

But now Zhao Hai told them that in the human lands, grain production was very high. Wales and Yale couldn't accept this statement completely at the moment.

The 2 of them looked blankly at Zhao Hai and hoped that what Zhao Hai said was false, because the figures Zhao Hai listed were too far apart from the figures listed by the human merchants.

Wales stammered after a moment, “Y-y-you're telling the truth?”

Zhao Hai nodded, “Of course! Beastmen usually can't look at the crop production areas. Once they're there, they would know it's real. It's just most of the major production areas are planted with wheat instead of bamboo rice.”

Just then, the couple of guards that Yale sent out had returned. Each of them were carrying 4 sacks of rice between their arms and torsos. It should be noted that each sack had 100 kilos of rice. The fact that each of them could carry 400 kilos while running was enough to show that the strength of Herculean Bull Tribe members was as the legends said.

The guards put the 8 sacks in front of Wales. Wales and Yale stood up almost at the same time, and walked to the sacks. Both of them opened up a sack each.

Inside the sacks were bamboo rice. They were a little yellow, like someone coated them in a layer of oil, making it appear to have an oily sheen. It was the highest grade of bamboo rice.

Yale almost instinctively poured out a sack of rice and then the ground was full of rice pellets. Zhao Hai wasn't mad, as he knew why Yale would do that. It must be due to some human merchants who had cheated them in the past, by putting good rice on top, but put mouldy ones at the bottom. That was why Yale did it.

Yale looked at the pellets on the ground and scooped them up softly. He sniffed them with his nose and then chewed them in his mouth. He stood up slowly and turned to Zhao Hai, "Mr. Zhao Hai, are all of your rice of this quality?"

Zhao Hai nodded, "All of them are as such. You can inspect them in any way you like."

Wales didn't say anything. He just walked to his table and poured himself a large cup of milk wine. After drinking it all down, he put down the cup and looked at Zhao Hai, "Brother Zhao Hai, I want to have a proper talk with you."

Zhao Hai looked at Wales and knew that what Wales was about to say would be the key to matters. He nodded and replied, "You can, brother Wales. These 3 next to me are people who will absolutely not betray me. What about the ones around you?"

Wales looked at his escorts and replied, "They too can be completely trusted."

'Use people without suspicion, don't use people when in suspicion'. Wales had demonstrated his ruler's etiquette on an entry level. The reason why Wales was so sure that these people wouldn't betray him was because their families were under his control. If these people betrayed him, they and their families would be finished.

Wales received a ruler's education since little, so he understood very clearly that, as a higher up, just having a bright side isn't enough. Your subordinates cannot all be proper gentlemen. You can use a gentleman's methods against gentlemen. If you use a gentleman's methods against lesser people, you will lose greatly.

Wales' escorts didn't make a sound, but the eyes that were looking at Wales had changed. They were eyes of gratitude. One could say that a single sentence from Wales had grabbed the hearts of these 300 escorts.

Beastmen were very simple and their thoughts were not as complicated as humans'. To the ones they were truly grateful of, they would give their lives. They wouldn't be swayed no matter how large of a benefit was placed before them. But if these beastmen knew that Wales had controlled their families in secret, they would fight against Wales despite the cost of their own and their families' lives, without backing away. This was the beastmen; Direct, brave, and no sands in their eyes.

It was exactly because of this that Wales only controlled their families in the shadows and not daring to let them know. If these people really knew about it, then Wales would have no one left to use.

This is the contradicting part of a ruler. They know how to control their subordinates and get their hearts, but they always think that just having their subordinates' hearts isn't enough. They have to put a failsafe over their hearts.

Zhao Hai glanced at the eyes of the escorts and knew what Wales meant. He didn't display anything and just smiled, "Then what are you waiting for, brother Wales? Speak."

Wales looked at Zhao Hai and said, "Brother Zhao Hai, you should know that I'm the 7th prince of Herculean Bull Tribe. In fact, I'm even one of the candidates of being the chieftain. The top competitor is my eldest brother Gasol. He has the most accomplishments in the tribe and has the most following. My seniority isn't enough, so I would like to cooperate with you."

Zhao Hai listened to Wales' words silently. To be honest, he felt that what Wales said was seriously cliched. It's like the large kingdoms would always run into such things. Sibling conflicts seemed to be something all the families in high positions could not avoid.

Wales noticed how Zhao Hai went silent so he added, "If you really have that many grains, I want to cooperate with you, and use your grains to solve my tribe's food problems. I can gain public opinion this way and maybe the position of chieftain in the tribe will be mine. If I become the chieftain, then you'll be the Herculean Bull Tribe's sole grain dealer."

This temptation was huge. The sole grain dealer of a race, for any merchant, was an irresistible temptation.

How many grains does a single race need each year? No one really calculated it before, but what was certain was that it would be an astronomical sum, especially for beastmen. All of the beastmen could eat more than humans. With the same amount of population, they needed several times more food than humans. If a merchant became a race's sole source of food, that merchant would become one of the greatest dealers on the continent almost immediately.

Unfortunately, Zhao Hai could not be regarded as a legitimate merchant, but he could still fulfill Spiel's request. He looked at Wales and said, "I don't care about whether or not I can become Herculean Bull Tribe's sole grain dealer. I planted the grains myself. As long as I have the grains, I will not worry about selling them on Beastmen Prairie. I can cooperate with you, brother Wales, but I want something from you."

Wales looked at Zhao Hai with incomprehension, "What do you want?"

"I want Herculean Bull Tribe's friendship battle flag."

#### Chapter 247 - Battle Rations

It was an answer that was beyond Wales and Yale's expectations. Friendship battle flags were very important to beastmen, which would not be gifted away easily, but compared to being a sole grain dealer to a whole race, it should be expected that everyone would choose being the sole dealer instead of a flag.

But Wales and Yale were clever people. They immediately knew Zhao Hai's intentions. Zhao Hai was telling them, that between him and them, he'd rather choose friendship than profit.

Wales looked at Zhao Hai just as Zhao Hai was also looking at Wales calmly. After a moment, Wales raised his wine cup towards Zhao Hai and said, "As you wish, brother Zhao Hai."



Zhao Hai smiled and he raised his cup, "Thank you, brother Wales." Both of them smiled and drank the wine in their cups in one shot.

Sometimes, friendships between men are truly strange. There is no need to say a lot and there's also no need to do a lot. Perhaps it's just a drink, and they will become friends. Yet sometimes, this friendship needs to be tested.

The two of them drank for 2 more cups before Zhao Hai spoke, "Brother Wales, where are you headed now? If you still want to go forward, you might run into Iron Wall Fortress' cavalry. One mistake and there'll be conflict."

Wales smiled, "The reason why I've come here is simply because I want to take a look at Iron Wall Fortress and nothing else special. Now that I've run into you, I can't possibly go to Iron Wall Fortress. Grains are more important than sceneries."

Zhao Hai smiled, "Seems like you're not letting us go. To tell you the truth, I want to set up shop in Beast God City, hehe. You should know that I not only have grains, but also plenty of vegetables, all fresh. Do you think opening up a vegetable shop in Beast God City will make a lot of people buy them?"

Wales looked at Zhao Hai with a bitter smile, "My brother, are you joking with me? Do you know how expensive vegetables are to us beastmen? You can use vegetables to exchange an argali of equal weight to your vegetables, and without market price. Do you think people will buy your vegetables?"

Zhao Hai smiled, "Seems like it's really a good thing. Oh yes, brother Wales. You beastmen really like to eat mutton. Have you done a lot of research regarding the making of mutton products? Can you make canned mutton?"

Wales did a double take, and then shook his head, "We can't, my brother. You know that things like cans could be stored for a long time, but there aren't that many cans, so we have no way to produce them. In fact, producing cans is too troublesome, and frankly, the flavor of the cans doesn't suit our tastes too well."

Zhao Hai chuckled, "Then is there any method here that can create long term preservable mutton? Of course, the taste has to be good as well."

Wales looked at Zhao Hai with incomprehension, "My brother, what are you trying to pull? Why ask these questions?"

Zhao Hai laughed, "My fief is too large, my brother, but my subordinates are few. I need people. Lots of people. That's why I want to buy some slaves from here. My grains can exchange for a lot of argali from your place, but once they're in human lands, they won't survive for a long time. There's no argali related business on the continent, so in such circumstances, the argali can only die when I bring them back. That's why I want to find a way to process them for long term storage after killing them. This way, I can take my time to think of a way to sell the mutton. What do you think?"

Zhao Hai wasn't telling the truth, of course. He could toss as much of the argali into the space as he wanted. But there was one thing Zhao Hai had to admit, and that was he wanted to earn even more money. If he could build a mutton processing factory, then he would be able to earn even more money.

He had a large fief right now, but just using it to plant things wouldn't be able to earn too much money. If it weren't for the cheating device like the space, Zhao Hai wouldn't possibly have this many funds by now. To earn money, a factory was needed. With industry, even more money could be earned this way.

There was one more thing Zhao Hai was worried about. He could buy slaves from the beastmen, but beastmen wouldn't know how to plant things. They may learn, but it would take a very long time. Once in winter, the slaves would have almost nothing to do. It would be better to do some side jobs.

Wales agreed to Zhao Hai's suggestion. In fact, many merchants who did business with beastmen had meat processing factories or leather factories in human lands. The higher ups of the beastmen knew about it as well.

What were merchants? They were people who maximized profit. They wanted to bring argali back to the continent which, except for a portion which was sold directly, had to undergo thorough processing.

Goat skins can be made into clothes shoes, while cow skins and other magic beast skins can be made into leather armor or other leather products. How could the merchants be willing to leave such a big slice of the cake to others? So except for some merchants who didn't have a lot of strength, many large dealers who did business with beastmen had their own factories on the continent. Their fortune was very shocking.

But the so-called thorough meat processing on the continent was seriously bad. Except for canned meat, which was ham and the like, there were no other ways.

After they did it in such a way, the price of mutton on the continent had become high on end and a lot of civilians couldn't afford to eat them at all.

Zhao Hai didn't think about changing such a situation, because that way, he would touch on a chain of profit too large to break. He had no way to withstand the backlash.

But he could develop new foods, like specialties on the prairie, which was why he asked Wales whether the prairie had mutton products that could be stored for a long time.

Wales thought about it and replied, "There IS a kind of mutton production method that's very in line with your conditions, but there's a catch. You humans might not like how it's made."

Zhao Hai laughed, "Do tell. It's totally better than wasting it."

Wales laughed and replied, "Battle rations. They're the most common food beastmen bring during battles. To put it directly, this type of food is actually jerky. We kill the magic beasts and then cook them, air dry them, and after several times of processing, the meat will become jerky. The size of the jerky is very small. The meat of an argali can even fit into a grain sack in the end. But do not underestimate the jerkies, as the small size is also their greatest advantage. During battle, every beastman will bring a sack of them. Just bring a piece and cook with water. The meat will become large again. One small piece can feed an adult beastman for a meal. It's the best battle ration."

Zhao Hai nodded. He had heard of this method before. Back on Earth, as a pretending military fan, he once saw a forum thread which detailed the method of creation for rations created during the times of Genghis Khan. It was similar to what Wales just said. Although Zhao Hai didn't know if the thread was being truthful or falsifying, what Wales said should be true.

The making of jerkies didn't seem to be of much use to Zhao Hai, because making them was too troublesome. Even if they're made, they might not be sold. People who could afford mutton wouldn't buy the jerkies. Selling them to human troops on the continent would also be impossible, because troops had their own provision system, so they wouldn't be having a rage over the jerkies. People who

couldn't afford mutton would also not be able to afford the jerkies, because after processing, they would be more expensive than normal mutton.

But then Zhao Hai thought about it. This type of jerky wasn't completely without a market. In opposite, the market wasn't small. He almost forgot that there was crowd of a very special occupation on the continent: mercenaries.

On Earth, mercenaries only existed in legends, which a homebody like Zhao Hai couldn't possibly meet. Mercenaries on Earth wouldn't eat the jerkies as well, because they had their own provision lines.

But on Ark Continent, it's different. Those mercenaries would travel about in order to stay alive. Sometimes they would engage in rather special missions which would have a long duration. They would need to prepare a lot of edibles, and sometimes they had to hunt magic beasts in order to solve their hunger problems.

But many special missions wouldn't let them receive additional provisions, so they could only count on themselves. The main ration of the mercenaries some time ago was normally a kind of large rough flatbread. This flatbread was very hard, and it had to be boiled in water before it could be eaten. It could be stored for a very long time, but the price wasn't cheap as well. As for the taste? Don't count on it.

If Zhao Hai could really make the jerkies, then it would definitely be a blessing for the mercenaries. The jerkies would not only guarantee the taste, they would also be easy to carry with even richer nutrients. This would definitely be the mercenaries' main selection.

Laura obviously never thought of all these, and neither did Wales. To be concise, the taste of this battle ration could only be said to be common. If it weren't for a need during battles, beastmen wouldn't make such jerkies.

After thinking about the use of jerkies, Zhao Hai's face was full of smiles, "Thank you, my brother. This suggestion of yours is too marvellous."

Wales looked at Zhao Hai and replied, "You must know, my brother, that the taste of jerky isn't too great. We beastmen also don't make them very much. We only make them when we have to fight battles, and ones that are long in time and in distance."

Zhao Hai laughed, "Of course I know, my brother. But these jerkies are very suitable for type of people: mercenaries. Beastmen have no mercenaries, but humans have many of them. Every time and every moment there are mercenaries fighting, my brother. This kind of battle ration is like the best of delicacy to them."

Wales and Laura were both stunned as they never thought about this aspect. Laura never made a lot of contact with mercenaries before. Her main clientele was common folk, while mercenaries were of a lower level compared to them. It could be said that they were people of 2 different worlds.

But you have to admit that on the continent, the amount of mercenaries were numerous. It was force that didn't attract attention, but it existed nonetheless.

Once Laura heard what Zhao Hai said, her eyes sparkled. Her beyond ordinary business senses allowed her to discover the business opportunity immediately, but she thought that all of this still needed careful observation.

Wales looked at Zhao Hai and said, "Brother Zhao Hai, you are a smart person. You can even think of such an idea. Now I'm really curious as to where your fief is."

Zhao Hai smiled, "Brother Wales, my identity isn't too welcomed for the humans, hehe. That's why no one knows where my fief is. Alright, let's not talk about this. I want to open up a shop in Beast God City. I need your help in this."

Wales laughed, "My brother, what are you opening up a shop for? I want all of your grains and all of your vegetables. What are you going to do that for?"

Zhao Hai laughed, "Believe me, my brother, you can't digest the things in my hands. Just the vegetables alone will be more than you can handle, hehe. Of course, all of my things can supply the Herculean Bull Tribe first, and then sold to other people later, alright?"

Wales laughed, "My brother, I've been waiting those words. You don't need to worry about the shop. I can help you settle it. But brother, you must ready the grains for me. We're going to the Buffalo Tribe and Fighting Bull Tribe for a look. Buffalo Tribe is my teacher's tribe, and Fighting Bull Tribe has relative ties to me as well. 4 of my older sisters were married into there, so I want to solve their grain problems."

Even though Wales spoke of his situation to Zhao Hai in order to cooperate with him, he still couldn't trust Zhao Hai completely. Besides, the things he told Zhao Hai could be heard from any tribe on the prairie. The fighting between him and Gasol had long been public knowledge. It wasn't a big deal.

But grains were too important to Wales. If Zhao Hai really had a lot of grains, then he would have hope in defeating Gasol. But the pretext was that Zhao Hai really had the grains.

Zhao Hai didn't object. To him, cooperating with Wales was just for the sake of getting the Herculean Bull Tribe's friendship flag. It's just as Zhao Hai said; he had grains in his hand and didn't need to worry about selling them on Beastmen Prairie. But if he could get the friendship flag, it would have a lot of benefits in later business on the prairie.

He was simply selling the grains. What Wales would use them for and how to use them, wouldn't be any of his business. To be honest, Zhao Hai really didn't want to be dragged into the conflict between Wales and Gasol.

There was a great difference between the situation among the beastmen and the humans, and that was humans had already been treated with hostility on Beastmen Prairie. If Zhao Hai were inadvertently dragged into this sort of inner conflict of the beastmen, he would have nothing to gain. This was something he didn't want.

#### Chapter 248 - Healing Is Costly

Zhao Hai didn't drink a lot today. He was friends with Wales, but this 'friend' couldn't be compared to Spiel. Zhao Hai could get along with Spiel completely because of their personalities, so they truly became friends. With Wales, it was more or less mutual manipulation.

Zhao Hai and others returned to the space that night and also brought Greene and others into the space as well. Then, Zhao Hai spoke to them about wanting to make battle rations.

Greene and Kun Zheng trained outdoors when they were young, and they were also mercenaries for a period of time. The 2 of them knew well about the life of mercenaries, so they had a greater say about the matter of battle rations.

When Zhao Hai finished, Greened nodded, "This is a good idea. Some business owners on the continent treat mercenaries with importance, but I've never heard about it when it comes to battle rations. Many mercenaries whine that the flatbread is too hard to eat, but they have no other choice, since mercenaries have to prepare foods that can be kept for a long time. To be honest, I ate that kind of flatbread back in the day, and it was really bad."

Kun Zheng nodded, "This can count as a low end business as well. Actually, such a low end business can bring in profit easier. I think we can turn blue-eyed rabbit meat into battle rations, so the price will be cheaper. But as for just the factory, it's too much of a waste. If we have the time, we can purchase a poultry processing factory. Whether long-haired boars, blue-eyed rabbits or argali, we will have a place to 'digest' them later."

Laura nodded, "Purchasing the factory isn't hard, and neither is the production. The problem is the selling route. We can't do it if we want to sell it in Fansile Duchy. Besides being too small, our names are too big over there. We have to change a venue this time."

Zhao Hai nodded, "We're going to Rosen Empire anyway, so we'll leave it to you when it comes to business matters. With a 'heavenly beauty' like you, I don't need to worry about things being unsellable, hehe."

Laura rolled her eyes at Zhao Hai and then said, "There are many benefits when we form ties with Wales this time, but there are also lots of troubles as well, so we have to be careful. I think we should make a foothold in Beast God City first before we think about something else."

Zhao Hai nodded, "Let's rest for today. We've been in a hurry since yesterday, so first we plant the roots in Beast God City, and then execute our plan."

Laura and others nodded. The plan Zhao Hai spoke of was actually the collection of special magic beasts and plants. It's just they still knew too little about Beastmen Prairie right now, so Zhao Hai wasn't in a hurry to collect those things.

Greene asked Zhao Hai suddenly, "Young master, what do you think about this Wales character? Is he trustworthy?"

Zhao Hai thought about it and replied, "He's a rare clever being among beastmen. I think he's more like a human. I'm scared about trusting him completely, but I think it's ok to cooperate with him."

Greened nodded, "From what you said about what Wales did, it can be said that he's an ambitious and clever person. It's dangerous to cooperate with such a person, but it's good that we're only cooperating. Whatever the case, Herculean Bull Tribe is also one of Beastmen Prairie's powerful race tribe. Cooperating with him will bring us a lot of benefits."

Kun Zheng spoke to Zhao Hai, "You were right in wanting their friendship flag instead of being the sole grain dealer. If we really went for the latter, other beastmen tribes would think that we're trying to control the Herculean Bull Tribe using grains. We won't get any benefit on Beastmen Prairie that way. There are some contradictions among beastmen, but treating humans with hostility is something common. If we do anything that makes the beastmen feel endangered, all of the beastmen will boycott us and then the Herculean Bull Tribe will deny the agreement. Instead of letting that happen, it would be more practical to get the friendship flag."

To be honest, Zhao Hai really didn't think that much, but he had to admit that things would probably unfold that way. Beastmen themselves had strong caution towards humans. If Zhao Hai really became the Herculean Bull Tribe's sole grain dealer, he and others might be spited by all of the every beastman, considering the history of beastmen being cheated. It seemed that his choice at the time was correct.

After discussing about setting up shop in Beast God City again, Zhao Hai and others went to rest. But before he did so, he turned the Jackal Tribe's people, which he stored, into undead creatures. The leader among them turned into a high level undead. He wanted to know who it was exactly that let the Jackal Tribe attack Wales.

And the result was within Zhao Hai's expectations. It was indeed Gasol. Zhao Hai was sure that it must be Gasol after knowing about what went on between Wales and Gasol. It's just he didn't know about the reasons which Wales spoke of, since he wasn't a Herculean Bull Tribe's member.

These Jackal Tribe's members didn't come from a single tribe, but formed by many of the jackal tribes. Before they took action, Gasol gave their tribes lots of argali. That was why they came to deal with Wales.

It could be said that jackals were like the mercenaries of the beastmen. Zhao Hai knew after questioning, that it wasn't the first time Gasol made them do such a thing. In fact, he would seek out the



jackals every year, and let them help him deal with beastmen hostile to him. Jackals played the roles of mercenaries and assassins on Beastmen Prairie.

But all this wasn't what Zhao Hai was concerned about. He didn't get too many things out of the jackal, so he threw him back into Storage, and let out the 2 spirit jackals that were still alive and injured.

Their injuries weren't light. One's front paw was broken and was connected by only some skin, while the other's spine was snapped. Both of them were at their last throes, and they weren't going to make it.

Zhao Hai looked at these 2 spirit jackals without knowing what to do about them. Could they still be alive after being taken to the ranch? Would it admit them?

After a wry smile, Zhao Hai decided to test things out. With a flash of his figure, he brought the 2 heavily injured spirit jackals to the ranch.

Immediately after that, the notification voice said,

Zhao Hai couldn't help but cursing the system for being too black-hearted. This was practically forcing him to treat the spirit jackal's injuries. Without treatment, there would be no rank, and they wouldn't be able to be raised. What a black-hearted establishment. It's 10000 gold coins! How many more must Zhao Hai sell in order to get the amount back?

But it might be a good thing after thinking about it more. When encountering injured magic beasts later on, he could bring them into the space and let it treat their injuries. That way, he wouldn't attract attention. Gold coins could be earned after using them anyway. Compared to the coins, levelling up the system was more important.

Zhao Hai immediately chose to treat the spirit jackals' injuries. It was good that it was simply 10000 gold coins. Otherwise, he would be even more heartbroken.

With a flash of white light, the 2 spirit jackals became alive and well in front of Zhao Hai. There were no traces of injury at all.

The notification voice also came out at this time,

Zhao Hai nodded as he was quite satisfied with the results, but Zhao Hai didn't raise spirit jackals immediately. He couldn't use them now, so he decided to wait and see if they could be used later. If there was no need to, perhaps he wouldn't raise them in his lifetime.

After sorting out the matters in the ranch, Zhao Hai returned to his room in order to sleep well for a night. He drank too much yesterday and he drank again today, so his headache was beyond painful. He also had to sort out the deal with spirit jackals earlier, so now that it's all done, he felt like he was about to fall apart.

After an uneventful night, Zhao Hai and others came out from the space the next morning. Wales sent people to invite Zhao Hai for breakfast, but they didn't go as they had breakfast in the space. They then readied the wagons in order to leave.

Wales was indeed smarter than other beastmen, but as someone who grew up in people's hands, he still had some bad noble habits, and one of which was the knack for keeping up appearances. If it weren't for this, he wouldn't have brought so many tents as well as useless things.

By the time Zhao Hai was completely ready, Wales only just finished his meal and was slowly tidying up his things. Zhao Hai couldn't hold back a wry smile when he looked at that. With Wales' speed, it might be noon before the things could be packed up. Zhao Hai really didn't know how many hours out of today could he use to hasten the trip.

But there's no helping it. He promised Wales to travel together, so he could only wait. Fortunately, the herculean bull escorts weren't slow in packing things up. They had finished around 9 o'clock in the morning, so they would finally get on the road.

What Wales and others used to pull wagons were a type of bull shaped magic beast. These bull shaped magic beasts were the same as their mounts. They were all ground based bulls. Their forward movement speed weren't much slower than horses, yet they were more powerful. This could be seen from their wagons.

The wagons Wales and others used were very large. A single one of them was as large as 4 of Zhao Hai's wagons. This impressed him very much. He looked at the ground bulls and imagined when he would get one for himself.

Wales wasn't inside a wagon. Instead, he was riding on his own mount. Although Wales was a prince, beastmen rode on mounts since little. For the beastmen, riding on mounts was more comfortable than being inside wagons.

#### Chapter 249 - Sudden Change

By noon, Zhao Hai knew why Wales didn't hurry earlier at morning. Wales and the others didn't even stop during noon, and they just ate some jerkies on their mounts and drank a few mouthfuls of water. They didn't stop during their trip.

Of course, the jerkies Wales and the others were eating were not that type of battle rations. They were a type of food that beastmen frequently ate, especially during a rush. They would prepare some when herding, and then put them in pouches to eat anytime.

These jerkies had a certain water content, so the storage time wouldn't be too long. They were easy to make and common beastmen knew how to make them. They could count as beastmen's dried food.

Once Zhao Hai saw this, he had to refrain from stopping as well. To be honest, when it came to sprinting, ground bulls couldn't compare to windchaser horses. But to compete in endurance, windchaser horses would be far too worse. Zhao Hai and the others' current speed could barely keep up with the speed of Wales' group. If Zhao Hai stopped to eat now, it would surely affect the speed of the trip.

But this wasn't too much for Zhao Hai. He found a time to enter the space, and then let Maylin make them a meal before returning back into the wagon, where he ate lightly with Laura and others.

Laura's wagon wasn't small, so it wasn't a problem for Zhao Hai and others to eat inside it. At night, they started setting up camp. Just then, he had to admire the ability of the beastmen in setting up tents; they set up their campsite in just a short time. The whole process only took a little more than an hour. This speed was very surprising.

Luckily, Zhao Hai and others didn't need to ready too many things. Just a single tent was needed to settle things, since it was just set up in order to put up a front.

Zhao Hai and Wales ate stewed mutton for the day, which the latter was very generous with. This was the difference between large tribes and small tribes. For people of smaller tribes, every goat was their fortune, which would be too much of a waste if eaten. But for Wales, the argali were just their food.

After the dinner, Zhao Hai didn't chat with Wales. He felt that he and Wales weren't of the same kind. Wales was smart and ambitious, while to be frank, Zhao Hai was just a normal person, working hard to live out his humble days.

Zhao Hai originally thought that they could reach Beast God City uneventfully, and then set up shop there to develop slowly like smooth sailing.

But he forgot about a saying, which goes 'plans are never faster than changes'. Right at the 3rd day of their trip with Wales, a sudden change came.

They were still rushing ahead like before. As the Beastmen Prairie was too large, running into a small tribe in a few days' time would not be an easy matter. Zhao Hai would still let blood hawks conduct reconnaissance in the sky, albeit in a very reduced range.

At noon of the 3rd day, Zhao Hai and the others were still rushing without rest. In order to ensure that their speed could keep up with Wales, Zhao Hai turned the windchaser horses that pulled the wagons into undead creatures during the 1st night when he returned to the space. With these undead that didn't know what fatigue was, Zhao Hai's group could easily keep up to Wales and others.

Zhao Hai drank some coya while sitting next to Laura after they had dinner. He had to admit that the design of Laura's wagon was too ergonomic. If it weren't for size issues, they could just sleep inside it.

Just then, a cry from the hawk in the sky grabbed Zhao Hai's attention. Zhao Hai raised his head to look at a single blood hawk going in circles in the sky. He looked at the hawk carefully and his expression changed.

Laura and the others didn't pay it any mind as the blood hawks would fly back to report in these days, so they guessed that it was probably due to having discovered magic beasts or some small tribes nearby. Perhaps Wales thought that the matter of grains was too important, so he didn't go to the smaller tribes for a spin like before. Instead, he just moved forward. Zhao Hai was somewhat disappointed at this, but in order to get to Beast God City as soon as possible, he moved along with Wales like he had for the past few days.

Zhao Hai looked at the blood hawk for a while and then spoke to Laura, "Get ready. There's a team of bull-headed cavalry coming our way. About 100 in number."

Laura was startled and her expression changed, "Should we notify Wales?"

Zhao Hai shook his head and said, "Let's not do so for now. Wales has the power to protect himself, since his escorts aren't vegetarians. But why have the bull-headed cavalry come here? There are no large tribes nearby. Mobilizing 100 cavalry in one go, this tribe's strength wouldn't be too bad. How could they be here?"

Laura had also frowned, "Let's not think about it too much. We're still in the fringe areas of the prairie. The ones active here are small tribes, while the medium and large tribes are further inside. The other party is all cavalry and 100 isn't a large number. Unfortunately, we don't know which race they belong to."

Zhao Hai nodded, "We'll know it soon. The other party will be able to see us after an hour, so we'll just have to be more careful." Laura nodded. When it came to their safety, Laura didn't worry in the slightest. They just didn't want to expose themselves too much.

They were being careful, but they weren't too worried. Now that they were next to Wales, anything could be settled by him. This was the logic of 'a large tree is good for staying under it'.

As expected, after an hour, a very loud galloping sound came from far away. The galloping was like rumbling thunder, which would let any listener know that whatever was running would be heavy. Wales and others also went on alert.

With the galloping sounds, Zhao Hai and the others could see that a black line was slowly coming after them from their front left. Then the black line was followed by a layer of green stuff behind it. When

they got closer, Zhao Hai and the others found out that the green stuff was actually broken grass raised up in hands.

Very soon, the team of people got closer, and Zhao Hai could gradually look at them clearly. But when he did, he was shocked, because they were herculean bulls as well.

What differentiated them from Wales and others was that this team didn't raise battle flags. They had wounds, and some were even covered in bloodstains. One could tell at a glance that they had been through a great battle. This team of people was protecting a single person.

That person was also a herculean bull. He was wearing a bright yellow robe, but he had obviously been through a great battle as well, so his robe was full of bloodstains.

These 100 people were holding weapons with bloodshot eyes and faces full of fatigue, but their killing aura was soaring sky high. It was as if they had killed during every step of the way.

Zhao Hai and others were dumbstruck when they saw them, but soon they understood. The one leading this team must be a prince of the Herculean Bull Tribe. If not, why was he wearing a robe and why were they so discomposed?

Right now, Wales was even more shocked than Zhao Hai, because he knew these people. The one in the robe was exactly his 6th brother, Mendez!

If it was asked who of the Herculean Bull Tribe treated Wales the best, it would be Mendez, of course. Wales' father also treated him well, but it was more like a form of admiration, while Mendez displayed caring love.

When Wales saw Mendez looking so worn, he was shocked before his heart sank. He knew why Mendez was in such a way; It must be that something had happened in the tribe. When he connected this to the jackals' attack on him, a bad feeling surged in his heart.

Wales immediately made his way to the cavalry, while Yale and others also recognized them. Everyone stopped as they looked at Mendez and the others in shock.

Mendez also saw Wales, and the murderous expression on his face disappeared instantly. His eyes closed, his body swayed, and he collapsed from his mount in an instant.

Wales immediately got down from his mount when he saw this, but he never expected that Mendez's collapse was just a start. The cavalry warriors who followed Mendez, upon seeing Mendez's collapse, had also fallen from their own mounts one after another.

This situation was like how Chinese people put dumplings into pots. In just an instant, everyone fell down from their mounts, which frightened Wales and others a lot. Every escort got down from their mounts and ran towards the cavalry.

Zhao Hai's group looked at all of this idly. He didn't know what became of the trip. Why would herculean bulls, who were known for being powerful and enduring, be in such straits?

Zhao Hai immediately jumped down from his wagon and walked towards the people. He spoke to Meg as he walked, "Meg, help me out." Meg heeded with a sound and took out her own iron scroll.

There were 5 magics in the Demon Sealing Iron Scroll;

Protection Of Angels, which was a single target protection magic, level 6;

Blade Of Judgement, which was a single target attacking magic, level 7;

Descent Of Holy Light, which was a group healing magic, as well as a group attacking magic against dark creatures, level 6;

Holy Light Step, which was a teleport type single target escaping magic, level 6;

Holy Recital, a single or group attacking mental magic, level 7.

These light magics were only level 7 at the highest, but they included 3 aspects like attacking, protecting and escaping. One could say they were very practical. In a light mage's hands, this was an incredible treasure already.

Zhao Hai walked quickly towards the crowd of people, while Wales had embraced Mendez and called out his name. But it seemed like Mendez and others were very tired as they had all lost consciousness.

Zhao Hai walked to Wales and said, "My brother, let my fiancée take a look. She knows some healing magics."

Wales raised his head in a hurry after hearing Zhao Hai's words. He glanced at Laura and Meg at Zhao Hai's side, who were wearing ordinary home clothes. He couldn't tell how either of these 2 knew magic.

Zhao Hai smiled and spoke to Meg, "Meg, help out and see." Meg heeded with a sound and then walked forward.

#### Chapter 250 - Determination

Meg wasn't that good at treating wounds. She was just a wind mage, but with the iron scroll in her hands, she would naturally have an easier time.

She walked over to the herculean bulls and opened the scroll to use 'Descent Of Holy Light'. A pillar of white light came down and illuminated the several hundred square metres of ground they were on.

As the white light came down, the complexions of Mendez and others became much better while fatigue vanished from their faces. Those who had injuries were having their wounds closed up rapidly.

The white light faded soon after. Those people were still lying on the ground, but their complexions were much better than before. None of them woke up, however. They were breathing stably, and they appeared to be asleep. Wales no longer shouted for Mendez when he saw this. Instead, he let his people set up tents and prepare food.



These people appeared to be really exhausted, as no matter how Wales' escorts moved and hauled them, there was no response. They used more more than 2 hours to put all of Mendez's group into the tents.

The weapons in their hands made Wales' group even more surprised. They were all Herculean Bull Tribe's people, and they commonly used double-sided heavy axes. These axes and their hafts were all forged of fine iron. As for people of Wales' status, their heavy axes were forged of fine steel, and were very rare among beastmen.

Heavy axes like these had great killing power. The axe heads were thick and sturdy so they weren't easily damaged, which made them suitable weapons for herculean bulls. On Beastmen Prairie, other than the Herculean Bull Tribe, there were also many other powerful races whose weapons were this kind of heavy double-sided axe.

But these weapons had now been broken; some of the hafts had been seriously warped, and some of the cutting edges showed large cracks. It was obvious that they had undergone a very brutal fight.

Some of their mounts also bore wounds. One should know that ground bulls' defenses couldn't compare to stonесkin bulls, but only in a relative sense. The stonесkin bulls' defenses were very freakish, so compared to other magic beasts, the ground bulls' defenses were already high enough. Yet for them to have injuries, this explained the strength of their opponents.

Yale was at a ground bull's side to examine the scars carefully. Even though 'Descent Of Holy Light' had healed the wounds, some who were too heavily injured would still leave scars behind.

It was a very large scar, from the back to the rear waist, nearly 1 metre long. Yale looked clearly at it, as if the scar had grown flowers.

Yale stood up after a while. Wales looked at Yale's darkened face and asked, "What's wrong, teacher? What kind of weapon did this?"

Yales glanced at Wales and replied, "It's flying axes."

Flying axes were heavy thrown ranged weapons. Normally much smaller than heavy double-sided axes, and weighing about 10 kilos each. But once thrown, the damage would be very large. Even a common iron shield could be shattered from a single strike by this kind of flying axe.

Normal people couldn't use these flying axes because they were too heavy and couldn't be thrown very far. Adding their special shape, their accuracy was difficult to grasp, so only very few people would use these flying axes as long range weapons.

But there was a race born to use flying axes. They had boundless strength and a natural grasp of flying axes' usage. The axes they threw would be extremely accurate, which made the axes become known far and wide as one of the famous long ranged weapons. This race was the herculean bulls.

Once Wales heard that the ground bulls were wounded by flying axes, Wales' expression changed. Even though it was a scar, it sent Wales a message: the ones who hurt Mendez and his group were very likely herculean bulls.

Mendez and the others were hurt by his own people? What did this mean? This meant that a change had taken place within the Herculean Bull Tribe, and one that was highly unfavorable to Wales.

Wales' expression darkened. He looked at Yale and asked, "Teacher, how do you perceive this?"

Yale replied with a darkened expression as well, "Something must've happened in the tribe. You and Mendez are on the best of terms, and he also knew you would be coming here. It looks like he was looking for you. I'm afraid that 'something' in the tribe must've been incredible, and is likely tied to Gasol."

Wales replied, "It can't be. Father and the high elders are keeping watch. What tides can Gasol raise?"

Yale looked at Wales and said, "Do not forget that the 10000 Beast Festival is approaching. The high elders might've gone to Beast God City. If 2 of the high elders had left, then Gasol would have a chance."

Wales shook his head, "There's still my father..." He stopped. His father was the chieftain, but his strength was only at level 8. There was no way to compare a level 8 with a level 9. Level 9 meant invincible, while level 8 meant vulnerable.

One couldn't possibly use any kind of scheming attacks to deal with level 9 powerhouses. Even poisoning would be very difficult to achieve. Unless it was a place filled with toxic air like Rotten Corpse Swamp, poison wouldn't be a threat to a level 9 powerhouse.

But the same couldn't be said for level 8. A level 8 could also be called a powerhouse, but level 8 powerhouses couldn't fare well against poisons. There were a lot of level 8 powerhouses who had died from poisons across history.

Once Wales thought about this, his expression changed before he stared at Yale, "Teacher, you mean...?"

Yale nodded, "It's very likely that Gasol's lot used an unspeakable means to deal with the chieftain, and then made a sudden move to usurp the position, making it a factful succession. This way, even the high elders won't be able to do anything if they return, since Gasol has now become chieftain."

Wales' bull eyes glared and even became red. His 2 hands were balled into fists and his breathing became hoarse.

Yale looked at Wales and said, "All of this is just our speculation at the moment. We will have to wait until the 6th Prince wakes up to confirm it. But Wales, right now you not only need to take care of the 6th Prince and know the truth, but there's also him." Yales pointed towards Zhao Hai's direction.

Zhao Hai's group had also set up their tent right now. They didn't come to Wales' camp because they knew Wales would be very busy right now. They did what they could, so it was up to Wales and the others.

Wales glanced at Zhao Hai's campsite and then asked Yale with confusion, "What do you mean, teacher?"

Yale replied, "If Gasol has now become chieftain, it is illegal. We can rally the other branch tribes and overthrow Gasol's rule. In order to do that, it won't happen just by using our lips. There has to be a benefit as well, and a sufficiently large one at that. If Zhao Hai hasn't lied to us, then he himself is a sufficiently large benefit."

Wales knew what Yale meant. So what if Gasol became chieftain now? He had used an unspeakable means to become one. Even the high elders would be dissatisfied with him. This was Wales' chance; if he joined with enough branch tribes, he could apply for the abolishment of Gasol's position with the high elders. No matter how powerful Gasol would be, he wouldn't dare to disobey the wills of the high elders.

But just parading around wouldn't be enough, as it wouldn't be possible to make the branch tribes follow him. He needed benefits to move them, and Zhao Hai had something that could move them.

Grains were too important for beastmen. If Zhao Hai had enough grains, he could take the position of chieftain back from Gasol.

Wales nodded and said, "When 6th brother wakes up and we figure out what really happened, then I will look for Zhao Hai. There's no use doing so now. We don't know what happened in the tribe at all."

Yale nodded, "Yeah, let's confirm what happened first. It's strange though. I heard the human merchants saying that among them, light mages and black mages are mutually opposed. Why does Zhao Hai's fiancée know how to use light magics? It doesn't make sense, does it?"

Wales let out a grunt before replying, "How many truths can those human liars tell? Besides, I keep feeling that Zhao Hai has an unusual identity. You remember, teacher? He let it slip himself, that his identity wasn't welcome over there in human lands. He must've gotten into trouble, or else he wouldn't be here on Beastmen Prairie. You saw his grains. Why would he bring them here if he didn't run into trouble? Those are the best grains I've seen in my life. I've never even seen such fine bamboo rice from lion tribes or tiger tribes."

Yale nodded, "No matter what his identity is in the human lands, if he has the grains and can help us, it's enough."

Wales nodded and looked into the distance at the prairie, "Whatever happened, I will become Herculean Bull Tribe's ruler. If Gasol really intends to harm our father, I will kill him myself."

Yale was quiet as he just looked at Wales quietly. To be honest, he was worried, but more than that, he was happy. Wales was ambitious before, but he didn't want to fight against Gasol. Otherwise, with his father's affection, his force wouldn't be smaller than Gasol's.

Although Wales looked like he was fighting before, Yale had always felt that he had lacked something. Now he knew. What Wales lacked was a determination, which he now had.

Just then, a wave of thick aroma came. Wales looked around, and saw that it was his subordinates cooking a mutton soup. This was for Mendez and the others, who looked like they hadn't eaten or slept for a long time. It was already a miracle that they could fight fiercely and reach here.