Another World 271

Chapter 271 - No Chance Whatsoever

Right now, Gasol was like a madman who had calmed down completely and whose mind was now thinking of ways to throw away his life. This kind of person is the scariest of all, because there's a word that's synonymous to them, and that is 'maniac'.

Right now, Gasol was like a maniac. He needed to kill people from time to time in order to appease his anger, which was why he had attacked the Large-Horned Raging Bull Tribe. On top of that, he killed people randomly along the way. He would kill anyone he found unpleasant to him.

There had been another purpose behind his attack on the Large-Horned Raging Bull Tribe, and that was to prepare presents for West Wonder King. Now that he had nothing, he would feel that he was overstepping the bounds if he went to see him empty-handed. The Large-Horned Raging Bull Tribe's people were his presents for West Wonder King.

Of course, the tribesmen weren't his only presents. Gasol had wanted to turn every tribe he could attack into slaves, and then send them to West Wonder King as presents. Coincidentally, the Large-Horned Raging Bull Tribe became the first sacrifice.

Right now, even Gasol's escorts were afraid of him, because Gasol appeared to be too gloomy right now. There wasn't a trace of the high spirits as he had been in before.

The sky had darkened, and the enslaved tribesmen had become exhausted, but they didn't dare to stop or slow down, because as soon as they stopped, the escorts would rouse them with their whips. If they passed out, the only things waiting for them would be the herculean bulls' axes.

Before all this, all the raging bulls had been compliant with the herculean bulls, who had never mistreated these smaller bull-headed tribes to a great extent. The herculean bulls would even help if there was trouble.

Right now, however, they just felt that these herculean bulls were not beastmen at all, but outright demons. Because the tribesmen couldn't resist these demons who were too scary, they could only accept this fate of theirs.

Just then, sounds of galloping came. It was very rhythmic and orderly. Gasol was taken aback when he heard this galloping, which was then followed by a change in his expression. He called out loudly, "To arms!"

He was very clear that troops that were able to make such galloping sounds must be well-trained elites. It was anything but good news when such a well-trained army showed up around him and his men.

His escorts had seen many battles, so they knew what was going on. They immediately gathered at Gasol's side and looked towards where the galloping was coming from.

The weirdest part was that they didn't see the slightest bit of torchlight. Could it be that the opposite party wasn't carrying any torches? As such thoughts were in their minds, the galloping sounds came closer and closer.

Although the darkness of the night had affected their vision, Gasol and his men could hear from the galloping that this group of cavalry should have more than 1000 people. This put an unpleasant expression on their faces.

All of them knew very well that, now that they could hear the galloping, it was too late to run away. Right now, all they wanted was to know who the other party was.

Slowly, a large shadow came towards Gasol from a distance. It didn't take a moment for a whole cavalry unit to appear in their sights.

Gasol's eyes went red as soon as he saw the cavalry, because the cavalry was composed entirely of fighting bull riders in neat rows.

Right at that moment, one of Gasol's escorts suddenly shouted in fear. Gasol turned to look at him fiercely, as he assumed that the escort was afraid. It was far from what Gasol could tolerate.

In his eyes was the escort's deathly pale expression. The escort's eyes were fixated on a single direction, like he was seeing a ghost.

Gasol looked toward that direction, which had a fighting bull whose armor was broken. Other than that, there was nothing else special.

Gasol spoke coldly, "What did you scream for? Quit embarrassing us."

However, that escort's expression was still ugly. He turned to Gasol and said, "Chieftain, I know that guy. He's one of the people who followed us to kill Lord 7th. He was already killed by undead creatures. How come he's still here?"

Gasol's expression changed immediately upon hearing that, because he thought of a possibility. When he and his men had been fighting Wales, they had been defeated by a necromancer. Now, the fighting bulls who should've been dead, had now appeared here. What could this mean? The necromancer had caught up to them.

Gasol couldn't help but speak out, "Have you come, Wales? Come and face me."

As soon as he finished speaking, an undead beast crawled over, which reaffirmed his thoughts. He didn't know why such a bizarre undead beast would show up here.

Just then, the undead beast opened its large mouth, and the figure of a person appeared inside. That person slowly walked out of the mouth, stood in front of the beast, and looked at Gasol calmly.

Gasol was watching that person, who was wearing a black magician's robe with a staff in his hand, silently. Obviously, he was a typical human mage, who should only be around his 20s, with average looks. At the very least, the looks weren't anything special in a beastman's eyes.

That person was Zhao Hai, of course. Zhao Hai wanted to look at what had become of Gasol, and right now, he had 1 word to describe Gasol's current look: gloomy. Yet embers of madness were flickering in Gasol's eyes, which made Gasol look especially fearsome.

Zhao Hai didn't mind, and just smiled and bowed towards Gasol. "Greetings to brother Gasol. I am Zhao Hai, Beheading Blood Oath brother of Wales."

Gasol did a double take, and then stared at Zhao Hai, "You're saying you swore the Beheading Blood Oath with Wales?" As a beastman, Gasol naturally knew what the Beheading Blood Oath meant. He hadn't expected that there would be anyone on the prairie who would swear it. And with a human, at that.

Zhao Hai smiled, "Indeed. When you came last time, little me couldn't come and deliver greetings. That was truly impolite of me. I hope brother Gasol can forgive me."

Gasol laughed coldly at Zhao Hai and said, "Humans are just hypocritical. You're here for my life, yet you have to put up a joyful look. It's disgusting."

Zhao Hai smiled, "Your words are too harsh, brother Gasol. You should know how potent the Beheading Blood Oath can be. I cannot possibly do anything that will be harmful to the Herculean Bull Tribe. What I don't know about is you, brother Gasol. Who were the humans you made contact with? Were they the spies that the Fighting Bull Tribe sent to help you?"

Gasol's expression went cold when he heard that. "Cut the crap. Where's Wales? Tell him to come see me."

Zhao Hai smiled, "Brother Wales went for the Mastiff Tribe's turf. I heard that the Herculean Bull Tribe's people are there, so he's going there to pacify his people. That's why he's not here, and he let me go to see the 2 older sisters in West Wonder King's place."

Gasol was taken aback at this, and said to Zhao Hai, "It seems like Wales really trusts you. He actually left you such an important task. So I guess you happened upon me by chance? What exactly do you want?"

Zhao Hai smiled, "Nothing much. Brother Wales has been meaning to find you, but he has his own matters to take care of. Since I've found you, it's natural that I have to help him keep you here."

Gasol's expression changed and he snorted coldly. "That will depend on whether or not you have what it takes." As soon as his words ended, his hand moved suddenly. A flash of light, and a hand axe was hurled towards Zhao Hai.

This attack of Gasol's was very sudden, and well hidden. There were no signs whatsoever. This hand axe of his wasn't the type used by the bull-headed races, but a small one that was only as large as his palm. It looked like it was meant to be a hidden weapon.

Zhao Hai wasn't expecting that Gasol would use hidden weapons, but he was no fool, and had come prepared. Which was why when Gasol made his move, Xenomorph stepped in front of Zhao Hai and blocked the hidden weapon, followed by Zhao Hai disappearing from where he was. The fighting bull cavalry then moved towards Gasol and his men.

Instead of reacting to that, Gasol and his men turned around to run. But as soon as they turned, they saw that their path of retreat had already been cut off by jackal cavalry.

The jackal cavalry's mounts were flash jackals, which were carnivores. Carnivores' feet have claws instead of hooves, and claws have paws. The flash jackals' paws allowed them to run with only very small sounds being made. This had allowed them to surround Gasol while Zhao Hai had drawn his attention.

It was also why Zhao Hai had let the undead appear as zombies. It was to keep the paws of the flash jackals, and therefore achieve the effect which Zhao Hai wanted.

Gasol was in disbelief as he looked at the jackal cavalry. He was pretty sure that the cavalry had appeared as skeletons last time. Why did they change their looks this time?

Before he could figure out what was going on, the jackal cavalry had charged forth, leaving no chance whatsoever for Gasol and his men.

This time, Zhao Hai had given strict orders to kill everyone but the ground bulls and Gasol.

If the escorts were killed, then fine. But if Gasol were to be killed, then Wales would definitely feel bad in his heart. Whatever the case may be, Gasol was Wales' older brother. Their grievances were their own matters. Zhao Hai couldn't intervene.

Gasol was obviously under-prepared for this pincer attack, and by the time he wanted to strike back it was already too late. The jackal and fighting bull cavalry had killed his dozens of escorts, while only their

mounts were still alive. Gasol was then surrounded by the two groups of cavalry, who stood looking at him silently.

Gasol couldn't help but make a bitter smile at this. He lifted his large axe to engage in the 'final' charge of his life, but right at that moment, a vine appeared behind him all of a sudden, and struck his head. Gasol felt a headache, and then nothing. He swayed before collapsing from his mount. The moment he fell onto the ground, he was wrapped by more vines before disappearing on the spot with a flash of light.

Zhao Hai then waved his staff and put the ground bulls, as well as the weapons, into the space. The corpses of the herculean bull escorts were buried using earth magic. He knew that Wales wouldn't like to see herculean bulls being turned into undead creatures, so Zhao Hai didn't do so. After all, having these few more underlings wouldn't make any difference.

After the process was complete, Zhao Hai turned to look at the Large-Horned Raging Bull Tribe tribesmen. They didn't run, but stood dumbly at the side. Some of the kids had been scared to tears.

Zhao Hai walked in front of them and said, "I am a necromancer. I'm called Zhao Hai. Starting today, I am your master. You can call me 'young master'."

The tribesmen watched him with fearful expressions. Behind him was Xenomorph, which was swaggering imposingly. What could they do, when the undefeatable Gasol and his men had been destroyed without a chance to resist?

With a wave of Zhao Hai's hand, the fighting bull and jackal cavalry turned into skeletons in an instant, and then stood in formation behind him. This made the tribesmen even more afraid. A lot of the women had started to cry, and the eyes of the elderly shone with despair.

It was on purpose. He wanted to scare them in order to make them follow his orders to a tee.

Zhao Hai said, "I will send you to a place, and you will live there from now on. You have to obey the people there. Anyone who doesn't, I will turn them into an undead myself."

The tribesmen looked at Zhao Hai dumbly, as they couldn't register all of this immediately. But one thing was for sure: this frightening human mage in front of them didn't seem to want to kill them.

Zhao Hai glanced at them and spoke, "Have some leaders speak with me."

There was a fuss before 2 of the elderly tribesmen were selected. Although they were tall, their waists were somewhat bent. It seemed as if their horns were keeping them from raising their heads. One of them spoke, "Young master, I am Alaes, Elder of the Large-Horned Tribe."

"I am Alea. Likewise."

Zhao Hai nodded. "Good. Assemble your tribesmen. I'm going to send you all to where you are going to be living from here on."

Chapter 272 - Complicated Human Merchant

Alaes and Alea could only address their tribesmen with lowered heads, after glancing at Zhao Hai and the undead creatures behind him.

It didn't take more than a while for every tribesman to be assembled. There were only about 900 people left in the tribe, with more than 100 of them being youths, and the rest being the old and weak.

Everyone was looking nerve-wrackingly at the undead creatures, whose strength they had just witnessed. All of Gasol's escorts had been experts with at least the strength of level 6 warriors. And yet, even with such strength, the undead cavalry had exterminated them in a single charge with no casualties. What sort of concept was this?

The large-horned tribe's people were not idiots without common sense. They knew quite well that if the undead creatures had not been powerful enough, Gasol's dozens of escorts would've been able to deal with several hundreds of them without breaking a sweat. But the escorts had been taken care of without a single casualty on the undead's side. This could only prove that the strength of the undead creatures was not inferior to that of Gasol's escorts. And since they numbered more than 3000, there was no way the tribesmen could oppose them.

If they couldn't oppose them, then all that was left was only submission. They gathered around cautiously, with the women and children in the middle, then the elders, and finally the youths.

Zhao Hai glanced at them, then waved the staff in his hand. A cloud of black mist wrapped everyone up, which made the tribesmen nervous for a while.

Soon, the black mist dissipated, and the tribesmen discovered that they were now standing outside a castle. A real human castle.

Beastmen had always heard about such castles more than they had seen them. Now that the largehorned tribesmen were finally seeing one, they couldn't react. They just stood there in front of it, staring dumbfoundedly at 2 people.

Yes. Not beastmen, but true humans. They couldn't understand how they had suddenly appeared here.

Just then, Zhao Hai's voice suddenly rang out, "Alright, from here on out, this will be where you live. Remember, you are the slaves of Zhao Hai. Me." The tribesmen returned to their senses in an instant, and then looked at Zhao Hai at a loss for thoughts. They seriously couldn't understand how Zhao Hai had done it. Why was he able bring so many people here from the prairie in an instant?

Without care, Zhao Hai continued. "This is my supervisor, Greene, and likewise, this one is Kun Zheng. They will arrange your accommodations, as well as clarify the rules here. Remember. Whoever dares to cause trouble, I will be turning them into a specter."

Of course, Zhao Hai was terrorizing the tribesmen, which was something he couldn't afford not to do. If he couldn't make the tribesmen feel fear, then he would have to kill more people if they caused trouble.

In order to settle the large-horned tribesmen down as quickly as possible, Zhao Hai waited and watched Greene arrange them into their accommodations instead of going back to the prairie in a hurry.

Greene and the others had prepared for this. With their crazy purchases in Casa City beforehand, they were not lacking in supplies right now. It didn't take a lot of effort to settle the tribesmen.

Most importantly, this castle wasn't small. Zhao Hai and the others had only been able to use a part of it since they had been too few in number. With more than a thousand of the large-horned raging bulls here, it was just enough to make the castle a little more lively.

Although the tribesmen didn't know where they were, they didn't dare to disobey Zhao Hai's words. Adding the fear of being in a completely foreign environment, they could only enter the castle nervously under Greene and Kun Zheng's arrangements.

Food had already been prepared for them in the castle, so all the tribesmen needed to do was to occupy themselves in it. With Zhao Hai keeping watch, everything proceeded very smoothly. In the eyes of the large-horned raging bulls, Zhao Hai was a devil with power beyond boundaries. Otherwise, there would be no way for him to have such a large army of undead, not to mention the ability to bring them to here in an instant from the prairie.

Zhao Hai had used the space to bring them here, of course. In order to avoid letting them see what was going on inside the space, he had used a black mist spell to cover their entry, and with the speed of the transition being so fast, they could only feel the black mist covering them up before they were transported to a completely foreign location. This caused them to have an incomparable fear towards Zhao Hai's ability.

The large-horned raging bulls were a very gentle race among beastmen, and their nature made them a little cowardly. With how 'obeying the strong' had always been the rule on the prairie, they could only be complacent.

By the time they had settled down, dawn was about to break, and Zhao Hai immediately returned to the prairie, where there were a lot of matters he had yet to attend to.

When Gasol had defeated the Large-Horned Raging Bull Tribe, all of their supplies had been looted, including magic beasts, food, wagons and tents, which were the most commonly-used by beastmen.

Zhao Hai had only taken care of Gasol and his men, and the matter of transporting the large-horned tribesmen to Iron Mountain Castle, while the other things had been left untouched on the prairie. Right now, they were being guarded by the undead creatures, led by Laura.

Zhao Hai entered Xenomorph as soon as he arrived, and found that Laura and the others had gone to sleep. He smiled a little and didn't disturb them as he walked out.

The things which Gasol and his men had looted weren't a lot, for the tribe in question was a small tribe of more than 1000 people. Even so, their supplies were not little. Just putting these things away required several hundred wagons.

One had to keep in mind the difference in size between beastmen wagons and human wagons. The wagons that Zhao Hai's group was using could only fit up to 1000 kilos of grains each, while each of the beastmen's wagons could carry more than 5000 kilos of grains.

Zhao Hai counted it carefully. The Large-Horned Raging Bull Tribe had up to 500 large wagons, with 300 of them containing tents and everyday necessities, while only 200 of them contained grains. However, when Zhao Hai took a look, he saw that the grains had not been fully packed. Every wagon only carried around 2000 kilos, and each had been tightly covered with leather. This showed that they treated the grains with great importance.

Some magic beasts were tied to every wagon. There were 3 kinds: large-horned raging bulls, ordinary raging bulls, and argali goats.

The first of which were obviously the tribesmen's mounts, while the ordinary raging bulls were for pulling the wagons. The argali were naturally their most important assets.

After careful counting, there turned out to be more than 1500 large-horned raging bulls, more than 1100 ordinary raging bulls, and the argali were too many to be counted.

The beastmen certainly had a way to deal with the argali. Such a large commotion had taken place last night, yet the argali hadn't run away, and right now, in the morning, the argali were eating grass in a laid-back manner.

After some thinking, Zhao Hai put everything into the space, while leaving only several hundred argali and a couple of supply wagons outside. One contained tents, while the other contained living necessities. Although they were meant for beastmen, they were enough for appearances. Zhao Hai had thought the merchants on the prairie to be too simple when he had talked with Wales in some days ago. The merchants on the prairie were even more like beastmen in lifestyle. They brought large numbers of grain wagons, as well as wagons with tents and supplies, because they had to set up their own tents most of the time. It would be impossible for them to seek accommodation with beastmen everyday.

Humans who had arrived at Beastmen Prairie would normally wear clothes made of beast skins. The first reason for this was to generate a sense of positivity in the beastmen, and the second was for suitability.

It was also until now that Zhao Hai knew that human merchants were living their lives this way on the prairie. He tried to ask Laura, since Laura should've had known all of this since she had claimed to have done business on the prairie.

Unexpectedly, Laura rolled her eyes at him and said that businesses on the prairie had always been monitored by Kun Zheng, who had always barred her from making contact with those people (human merchants) on the prairie. Then, it had been passed to Ah-Tai, so she had only been in charge of ledger issues instead of the specifics.

In Kun Zheng's view, the main purpose of this excursion was not to do business, but to acquire rare magic beasts and plants, so he hadn't said too much of this to Zhao Hai and the others. Besides, with the space, there wasn't a need to do so many things. Kun Zheng could never think of seriously letting Laura eat and sleep while exposed outdoors like the merchants. He couldn't bear the thought.

The wagons which Zhao Hai left behind were just to keep up appearances, and he wouldn't use them seriously. After all, they rested inside the space.

The reason why he had left the argali outside was to have them match his identity of being a merchant. On the prairie, it was very normal for merchant convoys to be followed by a large herd of argali.

The grain wagon of the Large-Horned Raging Bull Tribe was left outside, since he would use it to engage in trade from this point onwards. The smaller wagons were too small after all, and unsuitable for use on the prairie.

After sorting everything out, Zhao Hai let out 500 undead humans and 100 undead large-horned raging bulls to guard the wagons. He also let out Laura's wagon and woke her up. They had to hurry up once again.

Chapter 273 - Children Issues

Laura and the others discovered that Zhao Hai had taken care of matters as soon as they woke up. Laura couldn't help but speak in a heartache tone upon looking at Zhao Hai's bloodshot eyes, "Did you not sleep for the whole night, Hai-bro? Take a rest, quickly."

Zhao Hai smiled, "It's nothing. All of you, go into the space and clean yourselves up. I'm going to write a letter to brother Wales, tell him about the situation here, and arrange a place for our meeting to hand Gasol over to him. Having Gasol in our hands is not a solution in and of itself. With all those supplies seized from the Large-Horned Raging Bull Tribe that are meant to be used by beastmen, we have to leave them with big brother, since we can't use most of them."

Laura nodded, "Right. We'll go and make ourselves presentable. Head into the space and rest as soon as you finish writing the letter. We'll just keep watch outside. We won't go the wrong way, after all."

Zhao Hai nodded and turned around to write the letter, while Laura and the others immediately went to clean themselves up in the space. They had slept quite late yesterday, so they needed to wake up properly now.

Soon, Zhao Hai had finished writing a letter to Wales. It wasn't a long letter, as it was just about meeting Gasol, having captured him, and asking about how to deal with him.

After writing the letter, Zhao Hai returned into the space and called back one of the 5 blood hawks he had gifted to Wales in order to send the letter.

The blood hawks were actually phantasmal beasts from the space. No matter how distant they would be, the space could always contact them. As Zhao Hai was the owner of the space, he could naturally command the blood hawks through the space without concern for distance.

Zhao Hai went to the ranch inside the space after commanding a blood hawk. He wanted to see the assessed levels of the 2 new types of magic beasts he had gotten yesterday.

He immediately released the raging bulls, which prompted the immediate sounding of the space's voice, Just as Zhao Hai had imagined, these large-horned raging bulls weren't of a high level.

He paid it no mind, as long as the space had an additional type of magic beast from here on. He then released the ground bulls. Once again, the notification voice came: Zhao Hai wasn't in a hurry after there was nothing more from the notification. He realized that it was much harder to raise the ranch's level compared to the farm's. He had already gotten a lot of animals into the space by now, yet the ranch was still at level 6. It seemed that it would be very difficult to raise the ranch to higher levels.

Zhao Hai let out a sigh. He didn't intend to raise ground bulls and large-horned raging bulls immediately, and right now, it was useless to do so. He'd be better off raising argali and raging bulls. After all, argali and raging bulls could be exchanged for money in human lands, while ground bulls and large-horned raging bulls would not have a lot of use in human lands.

Zhao Hai came out of the ranch, and saw Laura and the others, who had finished cleaning themselves up by now. They appeared to be a lot more energetic.

Zhao Hai laughed at the 3 of them and said, "I think you won't need to head out now. Just stay here and monitor what's outside using the surveillance function. Head out when there are people while letting the undead creatures lead the wagons. If you're really bored, you can head to Iron Mountain Castle."

The ladies agreed after some thought. They had grown bored of the scenery of the prairie, which was not as comfy as the space, where they could lie around and sit anywhere they pleased. They had a bigger range of activity here, too.

Zhao Hai said nothing more after knowing that the girls had agreed with him. He then went to sleep in the bedroom inside the space.

He was worried that they might get truly bored in here, so he told Cai-Er to go keep watch outside should Laura and the others want to go to Iron Mountain Castle. If something really happened while he was sleeping and Laura and the others were in Iron Mountain Castle, Cai-Er would wake him up.

Actually, Zhao Hai was still not clear about Cai-Er's role right now. However, he didn't need to worry; Cai-Er had managed the space so well, while the same could be said for Mu-Er and the ranch. He was relaxed in that he only had to let Cai-Er do his bidding. Until now, he hadn't discovered anything asked of Cai-Er that couldn't be done.

Zhao Hai was very clear that he was Cai-Er's master after she had merged with the space. If there were something Cai-Er couldn't do, she would tell him about it, so he felt assured about her.

After a full sleep, Zhao Hai felt very replenished. If he had to list something he was the most dissatisfied with regarding his body, it was the fact that he would be very worn out just after a bit of fatigue, which made him pathetically weak.

After cleaning himself up, Zhao Hai arrived at the living room of the villa. He noticed that the wagons were still moving (through the surveillance), and they had not deviated from their course.

He immediately returned to Iron Mountain Castle, as he hadn't found Laura and the others in the villa inside the space. As expected, he found them in Iron Mountain Castle. They were instructing the Large-Horned Raging Bull Tribe's people how to perform their tasks.

Zhao Hai smiled as he appeared next to Laura. Laura suddenly sensed that there was another person next to her, and realized that it was him. She smiled, "You're awake, Hai-bro."

Zhao Hai nodded and glanced at the tribesmen, who were lifting some goods. He asked, "How are they? Are they obedient?"

Laura nodded, "Very. They're just a little not used to living here, but I believe it won't take too long for them to get used to it. Just look, Hai-bro. So many large-horned tribesmen kids, running around with nothing to do. It just won't do. How about we find some things for them to do?"

Zhao Hai nodded. He had seriously considered this problem before, back when Qi and Xi had gotten married. There was no such thing as 'planned childbirth' on Ark Continent. For people in this world, birthing was just a natural affair, so in the near future, there would be a lot of children here. So what about the children? Let them run around ignorantly everyday? Safety aside, it would not bring him any benefits whatsoever.

There was only one way to solve this issue: schools.

Right now, this place was a de facto independent kingdom, so these things should have been planned. Which country doesn't have schools? Schools are an important unit in which the quality of the citizens is raised, so they must be built. If a school were to be built at this time and get on track, then future school-building would be a lot more convenient with the experience gained for building the first one, even if there were a lot of people.

There was a great saying in China: 'Education is the foundation of a hundred year plan'. In order for Buda family to develop, the matter of education must not be overlooked.

Zhao Hai turned to Laura and said, "Let the tribesmen work first. Call grandpa Greene and the others. We'll head to the living room and discuss some things."

Laura nodded and let Nier go and call the people. Zhao Hai said, "Oh right. Contact Alaes and Alea as well." Nier heeded with a sound, and ran off.

Zhao Hai and Laura walked towards the living room in the castle together, while the large-horned tribesmen looked at him with eyes full of fear. He paid them no mind and just asked Laura, "Laura, how do you think we can solve the issue with their children?"

Laura thought for a bit then said, "Schools. I think that maybe we can build a school."

Zhao Hai smiled, "My thoughts exactly. I too want to build a school. It not only lets people pay attention to them, but by the time they grow up, we'll have a lot of capable people."

Laura nodded, "We bought a lot of books when we came out this time. They can be used to educate the children. Even if they won't be able to learn martial arts and magics when they grow up, they will help us a lot."

Zhao Hai nodded, and the 2 of them entered the castle. Right now, there were quite a few people inside the castle who had become married couples. They had not only been given civilian statuses by Zhao Hai, if they willed it, Zhai Hai would give them houses inside the castle perimeter. Of course, they weren't the quarters of the main castle, but the servants' quarters instead.

When the 2 of them arrived at the living room, Greene and the others were already there. Other than Greene, Maylin, Kun Zheng, Meg, Blockhead and Rockhead, Seyer, Alaes and Alea had also arrived. Right now, they were the management of the whole Buda family.

Zhao Hai let everyone sit down, while only Alaes and Alea felt uncertain and sat down carefully. He didn't say anything about them, and just turned to Greene and the others. "The reason I've called everyone here today is to talk about the Large-Horned Raging Bull Tribe's children issues."

Greene and the others were watching Zhao Hai in confusion. Zhao Hai turned his head to Laura, which meant that he wanted her to carry on. Laura smiled and said, "Before, we didn't have a lot of people in this castle, and there were no children, so no one has paid attention to this issue. Right now, with the addition of the Large-Horned Raging Bull Tribe, we have suddenly gained a lot of children. But with no one to keep watch over them as they run about everyday, besides not having learned anything, it is simply unsafe. There is a moat outside this place. If they play around there, it will easily cause accidents."

Greene and the others did a double take, and then nodded, while Alaes and Alea were looking dumbstruck at Zhao Hai and Laura. Although they were beastmen, and therefore not as smart as humans, with age came wisdom, or so the saying goes. They knew what Zhao Hai and Laura meant. They saw that Zhao Hai and Laura seemed to want to make a school.

Chapter 274 - National Policy

Schools. Not only humans had them, but beastmen as well. However, only major battle races had schools. The most famous school was in Beast God City, which was the oldest one in the long history of beastmen. But in that school, only the high ranked battle races and some prophets, shamans and witch doctors were taught. Common beastmen would never be able to take lessons there.

It was exactly due to this reason that schools had a very high standing in the hearts of beastmen. Due to old age and the fact that they had experienced a lot of things, Alaes and Alea got the impression from Laura that she wanted to build a school, since the purpose of schools for the major battle races was to conduct concentrated management and training.

The 2 of them looked emotionally at Zhao Hai, who glanced at Greene and said, "In the days to come, our population will be higher and higher, and with it, the number of children. In light of this, building a school is inevitable. I think we should build one now, when our population is still small, and compile the experience. That way, if we want to build schools when the population becomes greater, we will not have our hands tied."

Greene nodded, "Young master has a point. A school should be in order. There are quite a number of rooms in the castle right now, so we should do it immediately."

Kun Zheng also nodded and said, "I think we should make a magic-martial school. Examine the children when they're little, put the ones that are good at martial arts to be taught martial techniques, and the ones that are good at magic to be taught magic spells. The teacher for martial arts can be settled with Seyer. As for the magic teacher, how about Meg?"

Zhao Hai shook his head and said, "No, that's too broadly laid out. If we want to build a school now, we have to do it right, for the sake of future experience. It's definitely a 'no' if we do it according to the format of magic-martial schools on the continent. We need to have more detailed curriculums. How about this? First we survey the number of children and get their ages, then separate them based on their age. My plan is to have the children taught by their parents before they are 4 years old. Upon becoming 4 years old, we send them to a unified kindergarten, and have them taken care of by specific personnel. We bring them to the kindergarten every morning, and bring them back to their homes every night. They will eat there at noon. While they're at kindergarten, we give them a rudimentary education, so that they know some basic words and arithmetics.

At 7 years old, they'll officially go to classes, divided into literature, mathematics and martial arts classes, which will have to be conducted in the same time period. For example, the three classes could all be an hour long each. They'll go to school and come back from it at the same times as the kindergarteners, with the same meal time.

At 12 years old, they'll be officially split by categories. Like for the ones talented in martial arts, most of their time will be spent on martial lessons and general learning. For the ones talented in magic, their attention will be mainly put into magic spells and general learning. If there are ones who have talent in neither, they can then focus on learning other lessons, and we can then hire some workers to teach them some skills. That way, even if they aren't good with words and numbers, they will have some skills to ensure their own safety. Even barring that, at least they will know about basic arithmetic, which can only be good for them. What do you think?"

Greene and then others didn't expect that Zhao Hai had actually taken everything into consideration. They knew from his words that this wasn't a spur of the moment plan, because the plan which he had just proposed was very detailed. It could be said that the magic-martial schools on the continent were not as detailed as what Zhao Hai had suggested, and starting from 4 years old at that. One should know that schools on the continent generally started from 6 to 7 years old, during which only basic training and words were taught and nothing else. They couldn't possibly know that Zhao Hai had simply brought Earth's education over after giving it a facelift.

However, they had to admit that Zhao Hai's schooling plan was far better than that of the other schools on the continent. If they managed to pull it off, it would definitely be a one-of-a-kind school on the continent, which would make it a historical first.

Because the people of the continent valued martial strength, magic-martial schools normally taught martial techniques and magic spells as their main curriculums. However, the school which Zhao Hai had proposed was different, as it was mainly teaching writing and mathematics. From start to finish, the importance was put upon those, which for Greene and the others was something they had never heard of before.

Laura frowned, "If we do it as you say, Hai-bro, the cost we will need to put into it will be hefty. For example, children from 4 to 7 years old are very hard to take care of, and with the amount of different lessons, and the ones who will need to be in charge of making meals and babysitting, they all need people. Who do we put in charge of them? Every member of this kindergarten has to eat, and teachers have to get their wages. Do we have to pay them ourselves? The investment will be a bottomless pit, and there are too many things in need of budget allocation when it comes to developing the Black Wastelands. I'm afraid it won't work."

Greene and the others nodded, as they knew what Laura meant. Indeed, if they did set up such a school program as Zhao Hai had suggested, the amount of investment would be too great. They might not be able to feel it right now when they were few in number, but if there were a lot of people, the expenditure would be an astronomical sum.

Zhao Hai nodded, "I know about that, of course, which is why lesson fees will have to be received. But we can't take too much. The students' parents will pay a portion, while we will pay another. That way, the school can be built. My plan isn't made based on a fief's, but a country's outlook. Schools have to be managed by a country directly, instead of leaving them to someone else. Besides, we are few in number and have almost no commerce, but once there are a lot of people, there will surely be merchants, and we will have taxes. What are taxes for? Just to equip troops? I think there's no need to. We can implement military style management in the school. That way, when there's any kind of battle, we won't have to worry about a lack of soldiers. For the sake of Buda family's prospects of becoming a long-lasting

dynasty, I think we will have to look at taxes rationally. The taxes we receive must be used on the right places, in accordance to these words, 'from the people, for the people'."

Laura and the others were stunned. It was the first time they had heard of Zhao Hai's ideal, which was different from all the other countries on the continent when it came to the view on taxes. Currently on the continent, the highest rulers were royal families, followed by nobles. Although a part of the taxes which they received was used on necessary construction and military expenditures, little was put into other aspects. Even the schools on the continent required lesson fees. What Zhao Hai had proposed was something they had never heard of.

Everyone went silent for a moment before Kun Zheng slapped his own thigh and said, "Great! Very well put, little Hai! Your words are too appropriate. For the sake of Buda family's great future, this is what we should do. Otherwise, what's the use of losing our entire home for the sake of piling up money? I support little Hai."

Greene wasn't someone uncultured. He was simply taken aback for a bit due to the shock of all this. He had never thought that Zhao Hai would plan so far ahead. Thanks to Kun Zheng, he returned to his senses and spoke with a face full of excitement, "Right! Too right! I support young master."

After the words of those 2, the entire matter was basically settled. All that was left was finding a place and teachers.

Maylin said, "Finding a place isn't hard, but for children, we will have to find a more quiet and spacious place, so that they can learn martial arts. They can also play under the supervision of adults. I choose the back of the castle."

Behind the castle was a place that was originally intended to be a place for storage, servant quarters and stables.

No one had been there, but the houses were intact. Just some cleaning, and they could be used for schooling. They were distant from the outer parts, far away from the oil and milling factories. This quietness was exactly the ideal condition for a school.

Right now, the one who was the most knowledgeable about the castle was Maylin, so when she made her point, no one opposed her. Zhao Hai nodded, "Then let's pick the back of the castle, and have

granny Maylin be in charge. Next up is the selection of teachers. We can have Seyer handle the role of martial arts teacher, but due to a majority of children being large-horned raging bulls, we will have to let one of the tribesmen become a teacher. I will leave you to it, Alaes. Find a warrior from your tribe to teach the children, but remember to find someone smart. We're teaching children here. If he cannot even speak and doesn't even know how to teach, the children will be brought up wrongly."

Zhao Hai knew that the martial arts of beastmen and humans were very different. Evidently, humans couldn't teach soul fusion-related techniques to beastmen children, thus, Zhao Hai wanted to select a teacher from the tribe.

Alaes and Alea suddenly knelt down in front of Zhao Hai, with the former proclaiming loudly, "O great magician, your heart is as wide as the prairie itself, and your power is as omnipotent as the Beast God. Your knowledge is even greater than prophets, and you are as kind as the Mother River. Please be at ease, for we will surely handle what you have asked of us well." After those words, the 2 of them kowtowed to Zhao Hai 3 times.

Zhao Hai didn't expect that they would act this way. He waved his hand before Blockhead and Rockhead held both of them up. Zhao Hai looked at the 2 of them and said, "Remember that while you are my slaves, I am different from other humans. In here, you and humans are equals, but you must never betray me. If you do, I will have you become a part of my undead army."

Alaes bowed down and said, "Benevolent master, please relax. Once a beastman acknowledges a lord, it will never change for life."

Zhao Hai nodded, "Also, do not forget that the tribe is already no more. Tell your people to get used to the life around here as soon as possible. If there's any assistance you require, just find any of the people you see in this meeting. That reminds me, do you still have your tribe's friendship flag?"

Alaes nodded, "We still do. Do you need it, master?"

Zhao Hai nodded, "Bring it to me after a while. I need friendship flags in order to do business on the prairie." It was something Zhao Hai had thought up all of a sudden. The Big-bellied Pig Tribe's friendship flag which Spiel had given him had garnered a lot of positive feelings from a lot of beastmen, which made the importance of such flags clear to Zhao Hai. Now that Alaes himself was his, using his flag was even less of a problem.

Alaes nodded immediately, "Relax, my master. I will immediately bring it to you after I return."

Zhao Hai nodded, "Alright, sit down. Remember to call me young master. Didn't I tell you that already?" Alaes and Alea both heeded with a sound before sitting down.

Zhao Hai turned to Greene and the others and said, "Seyer is the martial arts teacher, and there will be another one from the large-horned raging bulls, which should be enough for the time being. If Seyer has matters to attend to, have Blockhead or Rockhead take care of it. However, both of them are still primarily about martial training. When it comes to the magic teacher, I pick Baphay. Even though he's become an undead creature and his level was decreased by a lot, he should be able to manage. He was once a level 9 mage after all."

Maylin and the others didn't want to let an undead creature teach the children, but there was no other way. They had no suitable candidates right now. However, having Baphay act as a teacher wouldn't be too big of a deal. Beastmen couldn't learn magics, so Baphay only had to teach the children how to react to magical attacks.

Once Zhao Hai saw that no one had anything to say, he continued, "Making meals won't be an issue. Select 2 women from the large-horned tribe, and another 2 women from among the slaves. Teaching the kids about reading and writing will be more difficult. Oh right. We can let Orloba try his hand at that. He can teach them about words and mathematics, which should be possible. What do you think, granny Maylin?"

Maylin felt that this was the only way. They didn't have a lot of people at their disposal right now. Maylin could do it, but she didn't have the time for it. They could only do as Zhao Hai suggested.

Once he confirmed that there were no objections, Zhao Hai spoke to Greene and Kun Zheng, "Grandpa Greene, grandpa Kun Zheng, I'll leave these matters to you both. We're heading back to the prairie. Contact me if you need anything. Alaes, bring me the friendship flag."

Alaes and Alea heeded with a sound and left. Zhao Hai spoke to Maylin, "Beastmen mostly eat meat. They will not get used to our eating habits right now. Their lifestyle will have to be changed little by little as well. Keep an eye on this, granny." Maylin nodded. Just then, Cai-Er told him that the blood hawk had returned.

Chapter 275 - Teaching Material Frustrations

This was the 2nd time the blood hawks had returned this day. The 1st time was when Zhao Hai had been sleeping, but he had left the letter which was meant for Wales with Cai-Er, who had then passed it over to the blood hawk. This time, it must've brought back Wales' reply.

As it turned out, the moment Zhao Hai appeared in the space, he saw a blood hawk standing in front of Cai-Er. When it saw Zhao Hai, it walked over to him and used its hook-like beak to peck on his face gently as a show of affection.

Zhao Hai patted the blood hawk's large head gently while Cai-Er passed a letter to his hand. Zhao Hai could easily tell that Wales had been worked up, since the words on the letter were hastily written.

Even so, Zhao Hai understood what the letter was trying to say. Wales' intention was to have him hand over Gasol. On the back of the letter was a very simple map, and he let the blood hawk lead the way.

Zhao Hai didn't have an opinion on this matter, since he was going to West Wonder King's territory for a few days. He wasn't in a hurry, so he returned to Iron Mountain Castle once more after putting the letter away.

Greene and the others were now discussing the matter of building the school . Fortunately, there were relatively few people in Iron Mountain Castle, so it would be easier to set things up.

But what Zhao Hai had meant was that they must not do things half-heartedly just because they only had a few people. The framework must be set properly in order to make a decent example. If there were other schools to be made later, they would be able to use their first school as an example to do so.

Just then, Alaes and Alea both returned from outside. They were bringing a battle flag in their hands, which had a head of a bull with large horns painted on it. It was none other than the friendship flag of the Large-horned Raging Bull Tribe.

Zhao Hai took the flag, glanced at it, and passed it over to Meg, who was at his side. He turned to Alaes and said, "Alaes, you must count the number of children you have as fast as you are able to, and find a teacher. The school must be built at once."

Alaes and Alea both heeded his order with a sound. Zhao Hai turned to Greene and said, "Grandpa Greene, I'm leaving this to you. We still have to return to the prairie. I just received word from Wales to give Gasol to him."

Greene nodded. "Relax, young master. Everything's normal in the castle and nothing has happened. The firewood for winter has also been prepared, so there's nothing to worry about."

Zhao Hai laughed. "Very well, then. Actually, we don't need too much firewood for winter now. Cai-Er's flowers can spread heat during the winter, so that the castle will not be too cold. We now have so much food we will never be able to finish it all, and there's no lack of meat. Right now, I still think we should build a battle ration factory as soon as possible. With Alaes and his people joining in, producing the rations should be easy. We aren't short on argali, so everyone will have something to do during the winter. What do you think?"

Greene nodded, "How many argali have we gotten this time, young master?"

Zhao Hai 'glanced' at the space, and said, "About 30000 of them, all from Alaes' tribe."

Alaes and his people did not show any sign of discontent. Since they now belonged to Zhao Hai, the ownership of the argali was not even a question. However, Alaes frowned slightly and asked, "Young master, I recall that our tribe had more than 50000 argali. How did it go from that to 30000?"

Zhao Hai did a double take, thought for a bit and replied, "They probably ran off during the fight between me and Gasol. No matter. 30000 is enough for us. Looks like we'll have to raise more of them. Right now, the blue-eyed rabbits which we've been raising in the ranch can more or less supply the Fansile Duchy. Later on, we will focus primarily on argali."

Greene nodded, "Very well. Oh right, young master. We can also open a goat hair product factory. We'll hire Alaes' people for this as well, and let the slaves learn from it. What do you think?"

Zhao Hai nodded, "Alaes and his people are the best in this field. You just arrange things accordingly. We don't need to worry about the goat hair processing. With them, we can now do what we couldn't before."

Alaes and Alea couldn't help but straighten their backs. Beastmen were so simple; they had been afraid that Zhao Hai would look down on them after becoming his underlings. Now, with Zhao Hai's words, they felt truly happy.

Zhao Hai glanced at them before continuing, "Grandpa Greene, find an empty plot of land specifically for cavalry training. Alaes and his people are beastmen, so we must not let them forget their roots as riders. Besides, we have the room. Preparing a training field for them isn't a difficult matter. When those kids take their lessons, we'll have to set up riding lessons for them as well. We'll let Alaes and his people pick someone to be the teacher for those lessons, while grandpa Kun Zheng can also provide some guidance. After all, humans have their own ways when it comes to riding."

Kun Zheng laughed, "Alright. I'll teach them well."

Zhao Hai nodded and looked at the sky. "I'm heading to the prairie first to alter our course. I'll come back for a meal in a bit. Laura, Meg, Nier, stay here. I'll be on my own."

Laura nodded, but Meg said, "I'll go with you, young master. I have nothing to do here anyway." Zhao Hai didn't object, and just brought her along.

Upon arriving at the prairie, Zhao Hai immediately released the blood hawk, then ordered the undead coach drivers to follow it. He then brought Meg back to Iron Mountain Castle once again.

No one could notice anything different about this convoy from its appearance. Laura's wagon was completely sealed, so no one could tell if there were any people inside.

Zhao Hai and the others still returned to rest inside the space at night, under Laura's insistence. It was because she knew that Zhao Hai had drunk the Water Of Void, and the space was good for his body. That was why she wanted Zhao Hai to sleep inside the space every night.

Zhao Hai knew that Laura's insistence was due to her caring for him. He didn't object to that. After all, no one would disturb his slumber in the space, which was good for him. There was also no noise. He could sleep well there.

Crune's laboratory, which had originally been inside the space, had now been moved to Iron Mountain Castle. Crune had originally wanted to stay inside the space, but Laura could no longer stand him, and had chased him out to Iron Mountain Castle.

Crune didn't mind. He could settle with just a laboratory that had been readied for him. To be honest, he had willingly relocated to Iron Mountain Castle, since the environment there wasn't bad.

Over the next few days, most of Zhao Hai and the others' focus was put into the construction of the school. There were more than 200 kids from the Large-horned Raging Bull Tribe. More than 40 were over 12 years old, and more than 100 were under 12 years old, while more than 3 dozen were between 4 to 7 years old and around a dozen were under 4 years old.

Zhao Hai and the others organized them. The children over 12 years old would mainly learn literature and martial arts. The children between 7 and 12 years old would learn mathematics on top of those. The children from 4 to 7 years old would be taught like they were budding talents, with simple language and simple physical training first.

But now there was a problem, and that was teaching materials. There weren't a lot of concrete teaching materials on Ark Continent. Normally, teachers would teach the students about words, and then start by bringing out the magic or battle aura books, expecting the children to know what was written in them. Almost every school on the continent taught like this.

Zhao Hai thought that this wasn't a very good method. Kids were active, and books like the basics of magic and battle auras were some of the most boring and tasteless things. Normal children would find it very hard to be interested in them, so Zhao Hai believed that such books were not suitable to become teaching materials.

Zhao Hai had never wanted to write his own teaching materials, for it would take too much time. They could only look through the books that they had right now for something suitable.

However, Zhao Hai knew after searching that the spiritual well-being of the people in this world was sorely lacking. Books in this world were divided into 4 major kinds. 1st was magics, which included basics, techniques, visualization, research of magic formations, low-level, mid-level, and high-level usage manuals, and nothing more. One would seldom see the recollections of high class mages, because such a book would not be circulated, and would instead passed down to their own apprentices.

2nd was battle auras, which included basics, basic techniques, utilization of weapons and such, and nothing else. Like magics, recollections would be passed down to close disciples.

3rd was alchemy and medicine concoction. Such books were few in number, with few readers and fewer writers. These books would only contain basic knowledge, and nothing of post-learning thoughts.

4th was notes. Books like these consisted mainly of travelogues, which mostly introduced the lifestyles of the local countryside and special legends. Such books were many, but were not written according to a standard. Normally, they had been written by mages or some high level warriors regarding their experiences and impressions. Zhao Hai liked these books a lot, for he could learn a lot of special customs from them.

But if teaching material were to be selected from these 4 kinds of books, it was evident that none of them were very suitable. In the end, Zhao Hai decided that children from 4 to 7 years old would mainly learn literature, which would be from travelogues. Such books introduced all sorts of curious tales, which a lot of children should like. Children from 7 to 12 years old would also learn from travelogues, but such books would not make up the main part of their education, which would mostly be composed of the basic books of magics and martial arts. The teaching materials for children over 12 years old would have to be decided after confirming their development.

Chapter 276 - 'You Have Won'

No one went against the plan Zhao Hai put forward. On the continent, children were enrolled in school at around the ages of 6-8 years old. Children that enrolled at around the age of 6 came from well-off families like merchants or nobles, and children that enrolled at around the age of 8 were from families that were not well-off, mainly commoners.

But the school enrollment age that Zhao Hai had set was 4 years old, two years younger compared to those noble children. Teaching these children some basic knowledge wouldn't be detrimental, and wouldn't affect their martial arts studies.

Zhao Hai carefully examined the map that Wales had given him. Right now, Wales should have reached the horse-headed race's territory and become very familiar with them. Based on this, he should hurry and catch up with him.

From Zhao Hai's current position, he would have to walk around five days or so to reach Wales' position, but Zhao Hai did not want to waste that much time walking. His undead did not need rest anyway, so he could just let them walk without stopping. This way, they could reach Wales' position in around two days.

During these two days, they did not meet anyone on the prairie. Zhao Hai did not care about the prairie, and let Cai-Er manage everything. He was currently busy constructing the school with Maylin.

Although the size of their school was not very big, it still needed to contain several hundred people. Zhao Hai had just realized that they did not have enough teachers, but they did not have enough workforce available. They were especially lacking in people that were literate and could teach mathematics.

One person that was literate and could do mathematics that Zhao Hai had prepared was Orloga. Even though Orloga was an undead and did not need rest, there were too many children, and it wasn't enough for him to do it alone.

But the problem was that Zhao Hai could not take people out to act as the children's teachers, which made Zhao Hai feel very difficult. Eventually, he had no choice but to pull out some undead mages to teach the children how to read and write, and the person he chose was Zhao Jia.

Zhao Jia was a great light-element mage, so naturally he was literate. But the students were all Large Horned Raging Bull children, and they could not learn magic, so letting him teach the children how to read and write was very normal. As the matter stood, the literacy aspects would be handled by Zhao Jia, and the mathematics would be given to Orloga. As for the children aged 4-7 years old, Zhao Hai did not pull out a teacher for them. Rather, he selected two female slaves, as well as a female from the Large Horned Raging Bull Tribe, to teach these children. The children aged 4-7 were still young and needed to be nurtured, so it was better to let females do this.

At the same time, there was another matter that was causing headaches for Zhao Hai, and that was textbooks. He had already decided on the teaching material, but what would he do about textbooks? They did not have enough books on hand to give each child a book.

In the end, Zhao Hai had to come up with another method. He gave each child a stack of white paper which was bound together by strings. They would be using these to write down what the teachers taught them. Although it would slow down the teaching process, it was still a good method.

Although they would need a large supply of paper and ink to teach the children like this, it did not matter. On the continent, buying paper was much cheaper than buying books.

On Ark Continent, there were currently no moveable printing presses; what they used was a simple primitive engraving printing, so books were much more expensive. There were many commoner children on the continent who couldn't afford textbooks in schools, so they used the same method Zhao Hai was using now.

Zhao Hai gave those children the steel pens he had prepared for them. Zhao Hai had purchased these in bulk when they were still in Casa City. He had originally bought them for the beastmen, but now they were being used by the children.

But Zhao Hai had said that the children had to treasure the pen and paper in their hands. They had to take notes everyday, and the teacher would check them the next day. The teachers would also check their pens. If their pens were even slightly damaged, they would receive punishment.

Of course, it wasn't any kind of corporal punishment, and Zhao Hai did not want the teachers to hand out corporal punishment. But this punishment which was to not let them go to physical education class, was quite serious to a child.

If one had to say which class was the favourite class of all among the students, it would be physical education, because they would be allowed to go out and play. But the physical education they taught

here was different from the one Zhao Hai had on Earth. Here they used physical education class to teach the children martial arts and riding skills.

This kind of physical education was very beloved by the children. Once they heard that if they even slightly damaged their pens, they would not be allowed to go to physical education, to them this was the most serious punishment possible, and thus the children all treated their pens with care.

With the full support of Zhao Hai and the others, the school was finally finished, and those Large Horned Raging Bull children became the first batch of students. But they were only daytime students. Once the children were let out of school, all the people in the castle could go to school to learn how to read, write, and do arithmetic. This was something Zhao Hai had stipulated, since the teachers for language and arithmetics were all undead, they wouldn't get tired, and could give extra lessons to the beastmen and servants.

These two days also allowed Zhao Hai to completely understand how vast Beastmen Prairie was. After moving non-stop for two days, Zhao Hai had not met a single beastman on the road, which completely surprised him.

After two days, he had already gone from the Bull Head Tribe's territory to the Horse Head Tribe's territory. Because this was the adjacent area between the two territories, there were few people that came here, out of fear of causing a misunderstanding.

But once they entered the Horse-headed races' territory, not much time passed before Zhao Hai saw a camp not far away. The camp was not very big, but the ruling flag of Herculean Bull Tribe fluttered in the wind above the camp.

Zhao Hai couldn't help but reveal a faint smile. He knew that Wales was a very proud person, and although his Herculean Bull Tribe had been defeated by the Fighting Bull Tribe, he would not hide his identity. He would always show his ruling flag high on his tent wherever he went.

Zhao Hai did not say anything, as he just sped up and hurried towards Wales' camp. He did not release Gasol because he was being held by Cai-Er. Cai-Er had been controlling Gasol, or rather, it was more accurate to say that Gasol had been in a half conscious state the whole time. Cai'er had been giving him water from the space, which was why Gasol had not starved to death yet.

Actually, not only had Gasol not died, he was living quite well. It had to be known that the water from the space was the water of life, which was a rare treasure on the continent. It would have been strange if something had happened to him instead.

It was very obvious that Wales had also seen Zhao Hai, as people came rushing out from his camp, their hoofbeats creating a shocking sound. When Zhao Hai saw this, he gave a faint smile and turned his head to speak to Laura, "It seems big brother Wales is anxious to see Gasol. What do you think they will do to him?"

Laura gave him a bitter smile, "How will they treat him? You can tell by the brothers from my family, fighting to the death over their positions. Big brother Wales is still alright, but Gasol caused the death of his father, so he definitely will not let Gasol off. Even though they really need people right now, Gasol will not be able to live."

Zhao Hai nodded; he understood Laura's logic. The Herculean Bull Tribe needed people right now, and Gasol was a level 8 expert, which would be a great help to the current Herculean Bull Tribe. But because the grudge between Wales and Gasol was too deep, Wales would definitely not let him go.

When Wales appeared in front of Zhao Hai, he did not greet him, but instead immediately asked, "Little Hai, where's Gasol?"

Zhao Hai smiled and waved his hand, then Gasol appeared in front of Wales. The vines on his body had already disappeared and he was still unconscious.

When Mendez who had followed Wales saw Gasol, he immediately released a roar of rage and jumped down from his bull. An axe head then flew at Gasol.

With a "dang" sound ringing out, Wales blocked Mendez's axe. Mendez's eyes were blood red as he turned to look at Wales and angrily roared, "Little Seven, what are you doing? I want to kill him, I must kill him!"

Wales spoke with a cold expression, "Calm down, sixth brother. He is still unconscious right now, so if you kill him, he wouldn't be aware of it. That would be letting him off too easy. We'll wake him up and then kill him."

Zhao Hai quickly said, "Big brother, don't get worked up first. Let's go to the camp first, I have some things I want to discuss with you."

Wales nodded and waved his hand. A subordinate immediately came over and turned his head. Without dismounting from his bull, he grabbed Gasol and placed him onto his bull as he followed Wales back into the camp.

Once they arrived at the camp, Zhao Hai saw Yale standing in front of the camp. Yale's complexion was a little thin and pale; it was clear that he had been running around the past few days settling the worries of the Herculean Bull Tribe.

Zhao Hai and Laura dismounted from their wagon and greeted Yale. Yale returned their greetings, and then looked at Gasol on the back of the bull with a complicated gaze. He was not a part of the Herculean Bull Tribe, so his hatred towards Gasol was not as deep as Wales and the others'.

Wales and the others also jumped off of their bulls, and Wales looked over at Gasol. He said to Zhao Hai, "Little Hai, how do we wake him up?"

Zhao Hai gave a faint smile and said, "Just dump a bucket of cold water on him."

Wales did not have any cold water. He just walked forward and sent Gasol flying two meters with a kick, which woke him up.

When he opened his eyes, Gasol saw Wales and the others, as well as Zhao Hai standing beside Wales, and he understood what was happening. He did not show a trace of nervousness and slowly stood up. Looking at Wales, he suddenly revealed a faint smile and said, "You have won in the end, haven't you."

Wales went forward and grabbed Gasol by his collar. He punched him to the ground and angrily scolded, "Bastard! Are those the kinds of words you can still say? Are you even a member of the Herculean Bull Tribe? You bastard!" He continued to scold Gasol as he kicked him several times. Chapter 277 - Best Time To Counterattack

After kicking Gasol a few times, Wales finally stopped. Gasol did not put up any resistance, and Wales' kicks were quite heavy, making Gasol spit out two mouthfuls of blood.

Wales did not want to kick Gasol to death like this, so he stopped. Looking at Gasol, he said, "What is your brain made of? Is it full of goat sheet? Did you feel like our father had mistreated you from the beginning? Is it because you achieved the greatest merits in battle, and did the most for the tribe, but you still couldn't become the chieftain?"

Gasol gave a cold snort and said nothing else. It was very clear that he was agreeing with what Wales had just said. Wales looked at Gasol's appearance and suddenly felt an an urge to laugh. He really wanted to laugh at the fact that Gasol was too foolish. Even now, Gasol still did not realize why their father did not want to give him the position of chieftain.

Wales shook his head and sighed as he said, "Gasol, I had always thought that you were a smart person, but now I finally realize that you are just an idiot. A fool that could not be any dumber. Did you not realize that our tribe had been fighting less and less with foreign tribes? A few years ago, father had the same idea as you. He wanted to prove that our Herculean Bull Tribe was the number one tribe amongst the bull-headed races, but then what? Our father found that after every expedition, although we obtained many slaves, the strength of our own tribe was slowly being consumed, and slowly, most of our youth were dying out. But because he chose not to fight for a year, the youth population of our tribe slowly began to increase once again. Our father realized this, and chose not to launch any military campaigns, just so he could give our tribe a chance to rebuild our strength."

When he said this, he saw the expression on Gasol's face changing. Today, he decided to let everything out, so that Gasol would no longer feel like he had suffered any kind of injustice.

He took a deep breath, and then said, "After learning of the Fighting Bull Tribe's threat towards our tribe, our father reduced the number of foreign troops, and began to support West Wonder King, who the Fighting Bull Tribe's chieftain is at odds with. If West Wonder King broke out, the Fighting Bull Tribe would be weakened. Without our father's support, what do you think West Wonder King would rely on to fight against the Fighting Bull Tribe for so long?"

Gasol's expression turned even uglier. He had not seen through anything that Wales had just told him, and he had always wondered why his father would be close to West Wonder King rather than the Fighting Bull Tribe's chieftain. It was for this reason that he had cried out for injustice from the Fighting

Bull Tribe's chieftain. It could be said that the reason why the Fighting Bull Tribe had recovered so quickly was inseparable to his support.

Wales saw Gasol's expression and he gave a cold snort, "What? You're regretting your decision now? You couldn't see why our father supported the Western King, and stubbornly supported the Fighting Bull Tribe's leader. You were completely fooled by just a few words of praise. What a joke. Just based on this one point, are you worthy of being the Herculean Bull Tribe's chieftain? A pity. What a pity indeed. Father was too soft, and chose not to limit your military power, otherwise, the Herculean Bull Tribe would not be in this kind of situation today."

Gasol quickly got up and said, "Nonsense, that's all nonsense, it's all fake. Father never thought of this, and everything was fabricated by you!"

Wales gave a cold snort and said, "You're already clear on whether I made it up or not. In order to sit on that spot (chieftain position), you went crazy and even dared to cause the death of our father. Now you've even dragged your own tribe into the deep abyss. I'll see what sort of face you make when you see the Beast God after you die."

The beastmen all believed that after they died, they would meet the Beast God. The Beast God would look over the deeds you accomplished throughout your life, and decide whether you were to be a beastman or just a beast in your next life.

When Gasol heard Wales say this, his face turned completely pale. He had been on the verge of breakdown to begin with, but now he had already fallen to ground while continuously muttering, "It's a lie, it's all a lie."

Wales looked at Gasol's appearance, and then he turned his head to look around at his guard and said, "Prepare the white flag, brother Sixth. It's your turn."

The white flag was a beastman tradition. It was something that was used to wrap dead traitors. The beastmen had a legend saying that the Beast God hated the color white the most, so anyone that was wrapped in white when they died would be turned into a beastkin by the Beast God. It was because of this that beastmen executed their traitors in this fashion. They wanted them to become beasts in their next life so they could compensate for the debts they had incurred in this life.

As soon as the guards heard Wales telling them to prepare the white flag, they immediately understood what he meant. They rushed off to prepare it as Mendez picked up his giant axe.

He did not have the slightest bit of compassion for Gasol right now. How could he possibly have compassion? It was this man in front of him who had caused the deaths of his father and brothers, and caused them to lose the camping grounds that the Herculean Bull Tribe had inhabited for thousands of years. Right now, Mendez wished that he could skin Gasol alive, so how could he feel any kind of compassion?

Meanwhile, Gasol had completely lost his will to live. He curled himself up into a ball, not knowing what was happening around him at all. When Mendez lifted him up, he did not react at all.

Soon, a piece of white cloth was prepared, and Mendez helped himself to it. A single swing of the axe chopped off Gasol's head, not giving him a chance to retaliate at all.

After Gasol died, the guards wrapped his body in the white cloth, while Mendez threw the giant axe in his hands away and broke down loudly in tears.

Wales let out a sigh. His eyes were also a little wet, and he was filled with sorrow. The Herculean Bull Tribe had been destroyed by Gasol's hands in such a way that even if they reclaimed their main camp now, their status among the beastmen would fall by a large margin. This was a bad kind of news that could not get any worse.

After seeing them tidy up Gasol's corpse, Wales let out a sigh and beckoned with his hand as he said, "Find a place to bury him." The guards took the body away.

Wales felt as if he had somehow lost all the strength in his body. He stumbled back to his own tent and drank large mouthfuls out of a silver wine jug.

Although he had exacted his revenge now, he did not feel any happiness at all. On the contrary, he was deeply saddened. The sadness in his heart was getting close to driving him crazy.

Yale and Zhao Hai had also noticed that Wales' emotions were unstable, and quickly followed him into the tent. When they saw Wales' appearance, Yale couldn't help letting out a sigh. He knew that Wales

had been suffering a lot of pressure lately. The Herculean Bull Tribe was like a rock that kept weighing him down. Although he had exacted his revenge, he still had to kill his own brother in the process. Wales was a very compassionate and righteous person, so Yale knew that must be feeling very uncomfortable in his heart right now.

Zhao Hai did not know how he should approach Wales right now. He had never gone through anything like this, so anything he said right now would seem tactless. Zhao Hai did not say anything, and just gave a sigh. He sat down beside him and picked up another silver jug to pour himself a cup of milk wine. After drinking a mouthful, he turned to Yale and said, "Mister Yale, please sit. I have something I want to discuss with you."

Yales looked at Wales once, then nodded and said, "Alright. Go ahead."

Zhao Hai said, "I met Gasol in the Large Horned Raging Bull tribe's territory while he was robbing them. He had killed almost all the youths, and was transporting something, wanting to go to the Western King's territory. I killed all his guards, but please rest assured that I buried them all. In order to make sure that this disappearance was not spread, I sent people to bring all the Large Horned Raging Bull Tribe's people to another location, and they will never appear in the bull-headed races' territory ever again."

Yale did not understand what Zhao Hai meant by this in the beginning, but after thinking about it for a bit, he immediately understood. He looked at Zhao Hai with an expression of gratitude as he said, "Thank you, little Hai. If it wasn't for you, the Hercules Bull Tribe would not have had the opportunity to reclaim the position of the ruling race."

"That's right, little Hai. I, your big brother, am truly thanking you. If it wasn't for you, the Herculean Bull Tribe would have been done for." At this moment, Wales had already let go of his wine jug, and he looked at Zhao Hai with a grateful expression. Mendez had also just come in from the entrance.

Wales was truly a heroic figure to be able to recover himself this quickly. Actually, this was also thanks to Zhao Hai. If Zhao Hai had not talked about this matter, Wales would not have recovered himself this quickly. Compared to Gasol, he cared more about the future of the Herculean Bull Tribe.

Wales and the others were very clear that if the other bull-headed tribes knew about the matter of Gasol robbing the Large-horned Raging Bull Tribe, then the Herculean Bull Tribe would never receive the support of any other bull-headed race in the future.

The Large-horned Raging Bull Tribe hadn't had a high status within the Bull Head Race, and they weren't powerful in fighting ability, but they were always hospitable, and their disposition was famous. If it became known that Gasol had tried to rob them, it would have definitely incurred public outrage.

The Herculean Bull Tribe had just been chased out by the Fighting Bull Tribe, so the branch tribes would definitely not be willing to accept them. And over the years, the Herculean Bull Tribe's chieftain had taken care of the branch tribes, so these people had not forgotten this kindness. This was very important for Wales.

If the branch tribes knew that it was Gasol who had robbed the Large-horned Raging Bull Tribe, then they would come to dislike the Herculean Bull Tribe and not support them anymore. For the Herculean Bull Tribe, this would definitely have been a catastrophe. What the Fighting Bull Tribe could only dream of, would then have been realized by Gasol himself.

Wales couldn't help but shake his head upon thinking such thoughts. He really did not know when Gasol had become this stupid. He remembered that Gasol had not been this dumb in the past.

Zhao Hai turned his head to look at Wales as he said, "It was because I was lucky enough to bump into Gasol. Otherwise, things would have truly become troublesome."

Wales let out a sigh and shook his head, "Little Hai, come with me to see the Mastiff Tribe. You have many things in your hands, so perhaps you can help your big brother stabilize the current situation there."

Zhao Hai did a double take. He looked at Wales and said, "Big brother, are you serious? You aren't going to West Wonder King? Are we not going to find out the situation with the Fighting Bull Tribe?"

Wales let out a sigh, but he did not know what to say. He wanted to find out the current situation with the Fighting Bull Tribe and West Wonder King, but he also felt as if he could not leave Zhao Hai's side right now. This was all making him feel very conflicted.

The beastmen all worshiped the Beast God, and from what Wales could see, Zhao Hai was a benefactor sent to him by the Beast God. He had encountered all kinds of trouble during this period of time, but Zhao Hai had solved it all for him, making him want to keep Zhao Hai by his side.

Zhao Hai saw Wales' expression and said with a smile, "Alright, big brother, no problems. We should stick to our original plan. You and others go meet the Mastiff Tribe, and I'll go find West Wonder King to get some news. Then I'll immediately come to the Mastiff Tribe's territory and look for you. What do you think about that?"

Wales nodded, "It's our only choice. You should stay here tonight and have a good drink with us, and then you can leave tomorrow."

Zhao Hai smiled, "No problem. Oh yeah, I still have something I want to give you. Come with me." After he finished speaking, he walked outside.

Wales and the others had confused expressions on their faces as they looked at Zhao Hai, but they still followed him outside. When they came out, Zhao Hai took out all the resources he had taken from the Large-horned Raging Bull Tribe. He pointed at the resources and said, "Big brother, these are all the items that Gasol stole from the Large-horned Raging Bull Tribe. They have all been used, and they cannot be sold on the prairie, so you should use them."

Wales patted Zhao Hai's shoulder and said, "Thank you brother, I won't say any unnecessary words. Let's head into the tent and have a drink."

They reentered the tent and after sitting down, Zhao Hai looked at Wales and said, "Big brother, what plans do you have to attack the old camp?"

Wales was stunned for a bit. To be honest, he really did not have any plans. Right now he was only thinking about pacifying his tribesmen. He had not thought about attacking the old camp at all.

When Zhao Hai saw the expression Wales had, he knew that he had not thought about this at all. He couldn't help but say, "Big brother, I think you should give it some more thought. Although the Herculean Bull Tribe has suffered heavy losses, the tribesmen's hearts are also filled with hatred. As long as big brother has a supply of grains and they can eat their fill, the first thing they will think of will be revenge. Adding on the fact that the Fighting Bull Tribe has just seized the old camp and still do not have much control over the bull-headed races, there should be many tribes still in support of you, which you can make use of. If there is a need, you can also ask the Mastiff Race for help. If push comes to shove, just give them some grains. If you give the Fighting Bull Tribe enough time, they will be able to regain

their footing, and your tribesmen will be disappointed in you. It will make getting revenge much harder when the time comes."

Wales silently listened to Zhao Hai speak. This was his first time thinking about this, but he had to admit that what Zhao Hai said was right. The beastmen were like this; they worshipped the strong, but the Fighting Bull Tribe's reputation was not good, since they liked fighting too much. Considering the fact that the Herculean Bull Tribe had ruled the bull-headed races for many years, the majority of the branch tribes all supported them. It meant that this was indeed the best time to launch a counterattack.

Chapter 278 - In Need of a Maniac

Yale nodded and said, "I think what little Hai said is very right. Sometimes, hatred is not a force to be underestimated. If we can use this power well, then defeating the Fighting Bull Tribe by ourselves is not an impossibility."

Mendez had just recovered, and he also nodded and said, "We also have the element of surprise on our side. No one would think that we would counter attack right after a big loss. Didn't the Fighting Bull Tribe also use the element of surprise to steal our main camp?

Wales frowned and said, "These are valid points, but the problem is that our tribe's only high elder is injured. I'm afraid it's not enough to deal with the Fighting Bull Tribe's high elder. Furthermore, didn't the Fighting Bull Tribe also hire a level 9 human powerhouse?"

When Wales laid it all out, everyone fell silent. Regardless of their plans, the presence of a level 9 powerhouse had always been a giant rock weighing down on their hearts. If they really wanted to fight against the Fighting Bull Tribe, they couldn't do it without a level 9 powerhouse of their own.

Zhao Hai turned to Wales and said, "Big brother, do you think we can use grains, vegetables and oil to convince the Mastiff Tribe to use their level 9 powerhouse? You'd best ask the other tribes and see if we can also use what we have to bring out their powerhouses too. Also, don't forget that, out here in the prairie, if a human powerhouse is too full of himself, the larger fighting tribes won't let that fly. If we can bring out the powerhouses of the other tribes, we can win. Maybe with the Liquid of Life and the Magic Peach Juice, we can heal the high elder of the Herculean Bull Tribe as well. That will greatly improve our chances of winning."

Wales frowned, "The wounds of a level 9 powerhouse don't heal that easily. If we can actually heal the wounds of the high elder, I will immediately arrange for a counterattack. If we can't, then we will just have to endure."

Zhao Hai nodded at that. He still admired this careful part of Wales' personality. He hadn't let hatred fill his mind, and instead remained calm. This was good.

He replied immediately, "Good. If big brother has needs, I have all the grains you need. Oh yeah. Tell them that I also have vegetables and oil. All are guaranteed to be fresh."

Wales nodded and turned to Mendez. "Sixth brother, slaughter a raging bull. Let's have whole roasted bull today." Mendez turned around and left.

Zhai Hai was somewhat surprised. Usually, the beastmen wouldn't slaughter cows. Cows and bulls had many uses to them. Normally, they only served cows and bulls to the most respected of guests as a feast. He never would have thought that Wales was going to slaughter a bull.

He spoke hurriedly, "Please, big brother, we are already a family. Why do you do this?"

Wales smiled and said, "Save it, little Hai, you don't have to mind. I have been feeling uneasy because I haven't been able to serve you a whole roasted bull ever since I met you. And today, I, your big brother, have settled a big grudge. We are going to have a big drink."

Zhao Hai smiled, "Fine. Since big brother is in the mood today, we will drink till we drop, hahahaha." After the conversation, they went outside to find the bull already slaughtered and ready for roasting.

Laura and the others weren't just loitering around doing nothing. They were helping the guards rearrange stuff. This was permitted by Zhao Hai, as he was now the blood-sworn brother of Wales. Laura and the others weren't outsiders, so they should be helping.

After Zhao Hai and company sat down, they began to discuss the matter of their counterattack nonstop. Even though Wales was highly conservative, he still had a fire in his heart when it came to the Fighting Bull Tribe stealing their main camp. However, now that he was the Herculean Bull Tribe's chieftain, he couldn't afford to make a mistake because of a moment's rage. That was why he was being careful. If there was a chance to counterattack, however, he would still take it.

Like he had said before, he would immediately begin preparations for a counterattack once the Herculean Bull Tribe's high elder was healed. That was his intention.

Later that night, Zhao Hai couldn't help but get drunk again. Wales' feelings were complicated, so he needed to drink, and Zhao Hai thus had no choice but to drink with him. In the end, everyone fell asleep drunk.

But this time Zhao Hai did not get wasted. He had arranged for Cai-Er to give him the Space's water if he got too drunk, so he could wake up faster. He didn't want to sleep in a big tent with Laura and the others, because while it would feel good, it would honestly still be quite awkward.

If anyone knew that Zhao Hai used the Liquid of Life as a means to cure hangovers, they would strangle him for sure. The Liquid of Life was too precious to be used as a mere hangover cure. No one would stand it.

After drinking the Liquid of Life, Zhao Hai sobered up immediately. It wasn't too late, so Laura was just sitting in the tent chatting. When she noticed Zhao Hai waking up she immediately said, "How are you feeling, Hai-bro? Feeling well? Do you have a headache?"

Zhao Hai chuckled. "Good, no pain at all now. We have to go back to the territories of the bull headed tribes tomorrow, so we must be completely on our guard. I'm afraid the Fighting Bull Tribe might catch word of our presence."

Laura paused. "Are you saying the Fighting Bull Tribe might obtain information regarding our meeting with big brother Wales? No way, right? We haven't encountered that many beastmen tribes on the way here, right?"

Zhao Hai shook his head. "It's better to be careful. We should try to avoid going outside to gather information. It should be fine if we can just be more attentive than usual. Do not actively gather information. That may attract suspicion."

Laura and the others all nodded, then Zhao Hai turned to Wales' camp and sighed, "The Herculean Bull Tribe has been hurt badly this time. Even if they reclaim their main camp, the humiliation they've suffered will be forever recorded in their history. A stain that can't be erased. Most importantly, with their main camp stolen, it's a death blow to their authority. It won't be possible for the Herculean Bull Tribe to rule the bull headed tribes again in the future. There will surely be more and more challengers."

Laura had once been part of the upper class, so of course she understood this logic. That time when she was assailed, the Magidel family had wanted to immediately take over her business. Many of her employees were thinking of betrayal, so after the incident she had mercilessly cleaned house. It was because of her ruthless policy that she was able to become completely independent from the Magidel family.

Now that Laura heard what Zhao Hai had to say, she couldn't help but nod in agreement, "Yeah. The thing that took the biggest hit from this incident was the Herculean Bull Tribe's authority. It will become increasingly difficult for them to rule the bull headed tribes again."

Zhao Hai nodded, and with both eyes staring coldly, said, "If I were big brother Wales, I would mount an all-out counterattack with the entire tribe to take back the main camp as fast as possible, and slaughter all of the Fighting Bull Tribe's members. We'll have to eradicate all of the Fighting Bull Tribe. This must be done so that we can deter the other tribes and instill fear in anyone who plots against us. You must understand that, in this world, the most feared person is not an expert who calculates his losses and gains, but a maniac who doesn't care about them. And right now, that is what the Herculean Bull Tribe needs."

Laura frowned. "But won't that just cause more problems for the Herculean Bull Tribe? How will they ever rule the bull headed tribes again?"

Zhao Hai smiled. "There will be no other tribes that will dare to fight to the death with the Herculean Bull Tribe. Even if they can knock the Herculean Bull Tribe down, will they even be able to hold on to the throne afterwards? Once the Herculean Bull Tribe takes it back in that manner, there will be no one that can easily push them off. If they can peacefully recuperate after that, there won't be any problems in the future."

Laura nodded. Sometimes that was what a tribe had to do. Use a moment's rampage to bring about a longer period of peace. It was highly necessary.

Zhao Hai sighed. "Forget it, I'm not even the Herculean Bull Tribe's chieftain. There's no use talking about it anymore. It's getting late, so let's go to sleep. We still have to rush tomorrow."

The next morning, Zhao Hai said his goodbyes to Wales and headed towards the West Wonder King's territory. It was apparent that the movements of West Wonder King had become increasingly important. If he were to support Wales still, then the chances of Wales winning against the Fighting Bull Tribe would be greater. Of course, it would have to be under the condition that they were able to control the situation. Wales did not want to create another Fighting Bull Tribe's chieftain.

Zhao Hai had now grown curious about West Wonder King. He thought West Wonder King had to be someone with capabilities. West Wonder King had been at war with the Fighting Bull Tribe's chieftain, who hadn't been able to get rid of him. With the support of the Herculean Bull Tribe, he had been able to fracture the Fighting Bull Tribe. He was not some simple personage. Zhao Hai really wanted to know what kind of person was capable of doing such deeds.

It would take around 10 days to reach West Wonder King's main camp from their current location. They would also encounter several smaller beastmen tribes along the way, which Zhao Hai wouldn't bother with anymore. He needed to speed up, so he attached both the Big Bellied Pig Tribe and the Large-horned Raging Bull Tribe's friendship flags on his wagon and headed straight for West Wonder King's main camp.

Along the way, Zhao Hai's group mostly spent their time either in the Space or in Iron Mountain Castle. Now that the school was up and running, it seemed to be fairly effective. Although the Large-horned Raging Bull Tribe's children had yet to adapt completely, they started to attend school under the supervision of Alaes' group so they wouldn't run all over the place. The school was slowly getting on the right track.

What Zhao Hai needed to do right now was to quickly build processing factories for mutton and goat hair. Also, he had had another idea, which was getting Alaes' group to build a milk wine processing factory.

Milk wine had always been a specialty liquor of beastmen. The main ingredient came from the milk of various animals, and the refining technique was not that complicated either. However, beastmen had not yet come up with a means of distillation, therefore their milk wine was not so easily preserved, and its alcohol percentage was not as high. That was why whenever the beastmen drank, it was always one jug after another nonstop.

Chapter 279 - West Wonder King's camp

Beastmen weren't the only ones who didn't utilize distilling methods in their alcohol; humans didn't use them either. This puzzled Zhao Hai greatly. Another thing was that the popular alcohols here on Ark Continent were typically fruit wines for humans, while it was milk wine for the beastmen. There were basically none that had been made using grains or vegetables. This also puzzled Zhao Hai.

Beastmen drank a lot of alcohol due to the environment they lived in. It was very cold here during the winter, and the other three seasons weren't much better. They had to eat and sleep in the open when they herded animals, and given the unpredictable weather, a good sack of wine could sometimes be a lifesaver.

Because of that, the beastmen weren't just alcoholic, they were inclined towards strong liquor. But right now, there wasn't any strong liquor produced on Ark Continent, but they could make milk wine themselves, which meant that they didn't have to go and buy liquor. That was why milk wine was still the staple on the plains.

Back on Earth, Zhao Hai would drink sometimes, but he mostly drank beer or white wine. He rarely partook in fruit wines, so he didn't know how to judge them. But if he had to put it into words, white wine would be fine. It was strong in alcohol content, and if produced properly, he wouldn't get a hangover the day after drinking.

But here in Ark Continent, he could only have a few fruit wines, and undistilled at that. Honestly speaking, they were really not that great.

That was why Zhao Hai had wanted to start a brewery early on, but he hadn't known how, and the same applied to Greene and others. Although Laura's subordinates were very capable, they didn't know how to brew liquor as well. If they just followed the recipe books, nothing of good quality would be produced anyways. So Zhao Hai had never gotten started with the whole project.

But now they had Alaes' group. Although they didn't know how to make grain wines, it was enough to just make milk wines. Don't forget, right now in Zhao Hai's ranch, he could purchase milk cows, and their milk production was surprisingly high.

So now Zhao Hai wanted to experiment and see if he could make some grain wines. The food production of his farm in the Space was ever increasing. If he unloaded them all onto the food market of the beastmen, it would have too much of an impact. It would most definitely attract too much attention, and then every country on the mainland would investigate the cause. The result of that investigation would lead to a certain individual that didn't exist, which would be a major problem. So he wanted to transform his stockpiles into something else he could sell, and liquor was undoubtedly the optimal choice.

Regardless of whether it was rice or corn, they were both excellent materials for fermentation. If they could manage to ferment white wine and process it through distillation, the resulting white wine would be around 40% proof. Even with only this much alcohol content, it would be considered fairly strong here in Ark. The beastmen would love it for sure.

So liquor-making has been added to the schedule. But there were still many difficulties to consider before starting. So Zhao Hai wanted to try making milk wines first, and experiment based on how they did.

Right now, Zhao Hai had 200 milk cows and 1000 sheep. This way, whether he wanted milk or wool, there would be plenty. Now he could actually go ahead with producing dairy-related products and wool processing, so he wouldn't have to only sell rabbit meat for income like before.

However, all of this would take a long time to prepare, and Zhao Hai was not in a hurry. He had all the time in the world now; they could take it slow.

Zhao hai travelled in 4 days what would take 10 for others. That was because his carriages were pulled by the undead, which didn't feel fatigue. So, he could just let them keep marching.

The carts that the beastmen had were all unsuited to be pulled by the scale-horned horses or windchaser horses. As a result, Zhao Hai turned all the cart-pulling raging bulls into undead with a merciless heart. And now all the raging bulls could work all day and night.

In all honestly, Zhao Hai's heart still ached after turning all those raging bulls into undead. Even if he had simply sold those bulls on the market, they would have fetched a pretty penny. Sadly, he did not have the connections to do so.

Recently, Zhao Hai would let his blood hawks roam to see if there were any small tribes around. If there were any, they would try to go around and avoid them, which would save them some travel time.

What Wales needed the most right now was information regarding West Wonder King, so Zhao Hai went around the smaller tribes because he didn't want to waste too much time with them.

The way Zhao Hai was moving right now might probably make West Wonder King suspicious. He was ignoring all the different territories, and heading straight for West Wonder King's base. Normally, considering how much food Zhao Hai could hold on his carriages, he would have had to sell to most, if not all, of the smaller tribes he encountered on the way to West Wonder King's base. It would be impossible to haul all of it safely to his base. Bigger tribes like the West Wonder King's had their own connections with a steady food supplier if they ever wanted to buy food. When those food merchants wanted to transport the food they bought, they would have their tribes' battle flags planted on their carriages, thus signaling who the transports were specifically for, and in turn ensure their safety.

People like Zhao Hai who did not have the support of bigger tribes would usually sell their food to smaller tribes or have them robbed; they rarely reached the bigger tribes.

On the prairie, every big tribal camp was like an open market. There was a day each month where the human merchants came and did business with smaller tribes in the larger tribes' camp. Usually, the smaller tribes had to be lucky if they wanted to buy something from these markets, because they would have to meet a willing human merchant. If they were unlucky, they would have to wait until market day and go to the bigger tribes' base to buy what they needed.

Among all the beastmen tribes, West Wonder King's base was not actually considered a big base. However, they were considered at least a medium-sized one, so they were able to host open markets, but only for a day every two months.

The result was that the smaller tribes around West Wonder King's camp found it even more difficult to get what they needed. It was also because of that that their desire to buy was very strong. Hence it was generally impossible for a passing convoy like Zhao Hai's group who was not specifically delivering to a bigger tribe to travel safely. Their goods usually ended up being bought off or robbed.

Good thing Zhao Hai had already prepared an excuse. He could say that he thought there was a bigger tribe around here, so that's why he hadn't sold his food, and he was bringing a sample for West Wonder King.

After four days of restless marching, Zhao Hai had almost reached West Wonder King's camp. He and others had also returned to the prairie from Iron Mountain Castle.

Once on the prairie, Zhao Hai immediately opened Laura's carriage door. He looked outside and smiled. "Doesn't it feel like we haven't been back in a long time? It suddenly feels like the prairie looks even more beautiful than before."

Laura and the others all laughed at that. These days, they had all been busy building the production facilities at Iron Mountain Castle. Now that the temperature around the Black Wastelands had dropped, they had stopped farming and switched their focus towards building those facilities.

But they still don't have enough people to build all the production facilities. At first, Zhao Hai had really wanted to start a facility for making battle rations. But then he considered that even if he had the facilities, there was no market for battle rations among either the beastmen or the humans. The only thing they could do right now was make wool products. That way they didn't have to kill the goats.

But now they had an even better product: milk wine. Although the beastmen themselves also produced milk wines, they only made the usual goat milk wine. It was incomparably inferior to the ones that Zhao Hai was now making from cow milk. The main difference was that his milk wine had been distilled, which would most definitely make it taste better than the ones the beastmen made.

Of course, in Zhao Hai's eyes, milk wines were ultimately a lower-tier product. But because beastmen liked to drink good milk wine, he could use it to trade for better goods.

The convoy was quickly entering the area around West Wonder King's camp. They could, in fact, already see it in the distance. The area it covered was very large. All they could see on the horizon were the tops of white-domed tents. The middle of the camp seemed the busiest; according to Zhao Hai's estimations there had to be more than a hundred thousand people here.

Just then, with a rumbling of hooves, a group of riders came rushing out of the base and approached Zhao Hai's convoy. Perhaps it was because they noticed the two sets of friendship war flags, but the riders slowed down and scrutinized their convoy carefully.

Zhao Hai hurried out of the carriage and bowed respectfully to one of the riders. "Hello, respected warrior. We are merchants from the humans. Is this where West Wonder King's base is located?"

After the warrior from the Fighting Bull tribe noticed Zhao Hai's kind behaviour, he hurriedly replied, "Hello, human friend. This is indeed West Wonder King's camp. What business do you have here?"

Zhao Hai quickly replied, "Respected warrior, I'm a merchant. My business here is of course to establish trade with West Wonder King, and sizable trade at that too."

The rider didn't think too much of it; there would often be human merchants that came to make deals in their base. He looked at Zhao Hai's convoy again, then said, "Human friend, we welcome your trade, but you don't seem to be carrying much?"

Zhao Hai smiled, "Relax, respected warrior. These are just samples. If you agree to trade, the food will come nonstop."

The rider nodded. "Alright then, human friend, please follow me." He then lead Zhao Hai further into the camp.

To avoid suspicions, Zhao Hai had already put all the undead large-horned raging bulls away. There were no undead creatures in his convoy right now; they looked just like your average group of human merchants.

Zhao Hai followed the rider into the camp, and immediately discovered that this place was not the same as the smaller tribes. It was more than a matter of size; in a bigger tribe, of course the camps are bigger; the difference Zhao Hai saw was in the attitudes of the people here.

Chapter 280 - Surveillance

Zhao Hai has had many interactions with small Beastmen tribes, but for a big tribe like West Wonder King's, it'll be his first.

Back when he met the small tribes, they would be very enthusiastic upon meeting a Human merchant, take Spear's Sheep Hammer tribe for example, due to Zhao Hai willing to sell them grain for a small price, they'd gone and happily offered their friendship flag to him.

But in West Wonder King's camp, that scene is non-existent, upon seeing Zhao Hai arrive they did not even show an expression of surprise. Even the children inside the tribe did not come over and surround him. Zhao Hai could instead see in the eyes of some of these people a glint of contempt.

Zhao Hai stared blankly for a moment before realizing that the reason these Beastmen looked down on them is because their caravan's size and cargo is too small, about 200,000 jin, at most, and 200,000 jin when regards to a big tribe such as this, is really too low as supply.

Zhao Hai didn't mind it, escorted by some beastmen cavalry, he was led towards a corner of the camp where surprisingly a tent was located, moreover the surrounding area seem to be devoid of other beastmen.

The leader of the beastmen cavalry, riding a cow, arrived before Zhao Hai and said with a strong tone, "Human friend, you can temporarily stay here, this tent is specially made for human visitors to stay in, you can move in immediately, you can also inquire other people nearby should you need anything, naturally you need to offer something in exchange."

"Well thank you so much brave warrior, may I ask for your name?", Zhao Hai felt somewhat flattered because he never expected that West Wonder King' camp would provide accommodations.

The cow riding beastman grinned and said, "My name is Beta, you can call me Beta".

Zhao Hai smiles and said hastily "Good! Brother Beta, I've prepare a small gift, please accept, if you have time, please help me send one to Sir West Wonder King, I have a big business to discuss with him." As he said that he waved hand, Laura immediately took a bottle of alcohol, naturally this isn't Milk Wine, but a genuine Human Fruit Wine.

Beta was stunned for a moment before he laughed and took the wine from Zhao Hai's hand. "You are an interesting person, very interesting indeed! Hahaha, be at ease, I'll tell the elders about your request."

Patting the cow's belly, he moo'ed towards the other Fighting Bull clansmen, then began to turn away, the team of beastmen cavalry also followed him to leave.

Zhao Hai shows a faint smile as he turned to Laura and said "A big tribe is different it seems, they unexpectedly provided a place for living. Go take a look, see if the tent has anything in it." Laura complied with a smile and turned around towards the tent, Zhao Hai commanded his Undead to go tie up the grain carriages.

After being settled, Zhao Hai pulled out some grain and went to trade some Milk Wine and mutton to the nearby bull-headed tribesmen.

After quite some time Zhao Hai felt the West Wonder King's tribe's differences with the small tribes, West Wonder King's tribe is more utilitarian.

Perhaps this is an inevitable phenomenon of societal development. The larger the population, the more utilitarian the people are, while the smaller the population, the more they stick to morals.

Time passed at their settlement, Zhao Hai was just quietly waiting, he did not go around too much and he also did not interact much with the other beastmen. His surroundings appears very peaceful without much disturbance.

However inside the tent, Zhao Hai has opened his space's radar, he wants to look at the surrounding situation and was quick to notice some peculiarities. The surrounding bull-headed beastman warriors appear a bit too many, sometimes there would be patrols around the camp, eyeing the tent from time to time.

As Zhao Hai sees this situation, he couldn't help but look blankly, he turned to Laura and asked, "Did we have any flaws in our actions? Why would they send some people to spy on us?"

Laura frowns and shakes her head, "I don't know, we haven't done anything out of the ordinary."

Meg looked at the screen and said," Young Master, maybe they think that we are spies sent by the Patriarch of Fighting Bull tribe? The Fighting Bull tribe has defeated the Herculean tribe, but there was a Human expert that helped out. Then all of a sudden we appear here, wouldn't they suspect us?"

Zhao Hai stopped for a moment, then he nodded and said, "It is possible, they have a grudge against the Fighting Bull chieftain before, now the Fighting Bull's power has become strong, and they have shown their their relations with humans, then suddenly we come, it is very possible that they would suspect us."

Laura affirms and says "It seems that our decision to stay honest here is correct, otherwise they would be onto us "

Zhao Hai nods. "In this case, let's just stay here honestly, Cai'er". Zhao Hai called, Cai'er immediately appeared on his shoulder.

Zhao Hai turns his head to Cai'er. "Cai'er, can you record everything here so that we could watch it afterward?". Zhao Hai remembers that there was a video recording function, he had not used it before because he didn't have any use for it.

Cai'er nodded and said, "Can record, and if there is no command to retain it, seven days later, it will be deleted."

Zhao Hai nodded and said, "Good, starting today, record all that happens in West Wonder King's tribe, in the evening we'll be watching it."

Cai'er complied, then return to the space, at this time, there is suddenly someone speaking outside, "Human friend, are you well?"

Zhao Hai was surprised, but after he heard that the voice was Beta's he immediately replied, "Brother Beta, I am well, come inside."

Beta walked in, saying that the tent is really nice, that the things inside must've been brought in by Zhao Hai, in fact Zhao Hai can just use the things provided but Laura objected, she fears that too many people have used the furniture, so they just used the furniture that they brought with them.

Inside, Zhao Hai is sitting down while drinking milk tea, this milk tea is also traded from other beastmen nearby. When he saw Beta come in, Zhao Hai beckoned and said, "Brother Beta, come and drink a cup of tea". After which he poured Beta a cup of tea.

Beta smiled, he held the cup and downed it in one go, then he says to Zhao Hai, "Human friend, the elders in charge of outsiders wants to see you, come with me."

Zhao Hai nodded and stood up, as he walked outside he tells Laura, "Just stay in the tent, do not wander around." Laura complied, she escorted Zhao Hai up until the entrance of the tent.

After walking a few meters, Beta turned his head and asked Zhao Hai, "Human friend, why can I see that you're not like any other human merchant? Other human merchants would move around to other places to get business."

Zhao Hai gave a forced smile and said, "Brother, if I depend on that kind of business, how much money can I make? How many things can I sell? Too little, my goal now is to supply grain to your tribe, that would give me big profits, those small profits don't have any value to me."

Beta looked surprised at Zhao Hai's response, "It seems that you really didn't lie to me, do you really have large supplies of grain? For how much would you sell it?"

Zhao Hai smiled and said, "A lot of grain, and the price I give is definitely the lowest in the entire priarie."

Beta looked at Zhao Hai, he couldn't make out if what Zhao Hai said is true, at this time they have arrived outside a big tent, this tent is bigger than most tents. Additionally, erected outside this tent is a flag, Zhao Hai didn't know what this flag meant but he could understand that this tent isn't so simple.

Outside the tent, there are two Fighting Bull beastman guards standing straight, each of them holding a giant mace in their hands making them look very imposing.

Beta walked towards the entrance and nodded towards the guards, he then led Zhao Hai inside. Zhao Hai felt the surroundings dim as he went inside, he sized up the tent, the inside is very big, about 40 square meters, this is not small when describing a tent.

The decoration inside the tent is very peculiar, things that most beastmen use, this tent seems to lack, instead there are books upon books stacked inside, nothing else.

On the floor there is just a plain-colored carpet, actually looking very ordinary, in the middle of the tent is a fire pit with which a steaming copper pot is hanging above. Also inside, there is a small table where sitting behind it is a old looking Fighting Bull tribesman.

Some of the hair on this Fighting Bull tribesman's head have turned white and his face has grown wrinkles, making him look like an old senile man. But his eyes were not clouded at all, on the other hand his eyes were very clear and full of wisdom.

Beta stepped forward and gave a bow, "Beta has seen the elder."

The old Fighting Bull beastman nodded, "Is this the merchant you were talking about?"

Beta nodded hastily, Zhao Hai stepped forward and in manner of courtesy said, "Zhao Hai has seen the elder, I thank the elder for meeting me."

The elder nodded, he waved, Beta bowed towards the elder and promptly left the tent, Zhao Hai kept silent, he just kept standing there.

The old man looked at Zhao Hai and said, "Human friend, please sit down." After Zhao Hai expressed his gratitude, he sat at the right side of the elder.

The eyes of the elder showed a small flash of approval, then he went on,"Human friend, I heard from Beta that you have a lot of food that can be traded with us?"

Zhao Hai nodded, "Yes respected elder, I have plenty of grain, to be honest I am not a pure merchant, I have my own territory and my territory's product is Bamboo grain, I don't want to sell it cheap to other merchants so I decided to sell them myself."

The elder nodded, "How much grain do you have?"

Zhao Hai said with a serious voice, "30 million jin". He didn't declare too much, afraid that the elder would hold suspicion.

While in his eyes it is still less, the elder asked, "The price?"

Zhao Hai calmly replied, "every 2000 jin of grain, i'll trade for one mountain sheep(Argali)."

The elder's expression dropped, he looked at Zhao Hai surprised, "You say 2000 jin of grain for one Argali? Are you sure you're telling the truth?"

Zhao Hai nodded, "Respected elder, I will not joke on this matter, what is said is true, 2000 jin for one Argali."

The elder looked at Zhao Hai, "How is the quality of your grain? If the quality is not bad, when can it arrive so that we can immediately trade for Argali?"

Zhao Hai replied, "The quality of the grain is not a problem, I brought some samples, I'll be honest with elder, these grains that I brought are the most inferior among their batch. But the grain that I'll send later is absolutely first grade."

The elder nodded, at this point Beta's voice rang from outside the tent "Beta reports to the elder, the grains have been checked, the quality is very good."

The elder smiled and turned his head towards Zhao Hai, "Human friend, you really did not lie? You really have more grain of such quality?"

Zhao Hai shook his head, "No elder, these grain that I have brought are the worst among the grains I have, the incoming grains would be of better quality."

The elder looks at Zhao Hai silently for a while while Zhao Hai is staring at the elder as well. After some time, the elder nodded, "Human friend, we'll go with this transaction, have your people transport the grain. But remember, you only have a half months to transport, bring all you can in those half months

because after which winter will come and the snow will seal the road, when that happens no matter how much you want to deliver, it would be impossible."

Zhao Hai faintly smiles and says, "Elder be relieved, it wouldn't take too long, we'll also be able to deliver for a little less than a month, then please allow me to excuse myself, elder, I still have some things to prepare."

The elder gave a nod, Zhao Hai slowly exits the tent to make his preparations. At this point Beta went inside the tent, "Elder, they're very clean, they almost didn't leave their tent, I can't see any issue with them."

The elder agreed, "I also think that this young man is good, monitor them more for a few days, if they have the same behavior then we could trust them. If they do something out of the norm, like contacting other tribe members, find out what they said, if it's just ordinary conversation then we don't need to spy on them."

Beta looked puzzled at the old elder, "Elder, they already acted positively, why need to monitor them further? And you also said to monitor them when they talk with tribe members, isn't that just normal behavior?"