

## Apocalypse 371

### Chapter 371: Lower Armor Demon Monster

“Lower Armor Demon Monster!”

The Ah Tao tribe warriors who saw it shouted in shock and retreated.

This black armor bug’s forehead had a white level-two crystal. But when Ah Tao’s tribe saw it, they were more terrified than when they saw the level-six winged demon monster. Ye Zhongming didn’t understand.

What he didn’t know was that these monsters were very famous.

These were parasites that were on large demon monsters. They lived under its scales and fed on insects around. They would give off a matter that would immune the demon monster from itch and skin diseases, so the large demon monsters were happy to let it live on it.

But these harmless-looking bugs had their terrifying side.

They lived on their hosts, but once their hosts died, they would fly out to find new beings. No matter what it was, they would have a full meal. After storing enough energy, they would find a new host.

As they would kill the target that killed its hosts, the Posthumous people called them the Revenge Bug.

This was what they feared. They would appear in groups, and they were very quick. The Posthumous people couldn't do anything to them in front of their sharp teeth and thick armor.

There were a thousand of these bugs. When the quasi-dragon died, they had to find food and a new host.

Ah Tao’s face turned white. He didn’t expect them to be so unlucky to kill a level-six lifeform, which was their host!

With the Ah Tao tribe’s strength, they couldn’t even kill a hundred of them before they got wiped out!

Dabu’s tribe appeared on the side. They went around the corpses of the Winged Demon Monster and looked at Ah Tao’s tribe. They also looked at the Lower Armor Demon Monster charging towards them.

“Dabu, help us kill these bugs; we can pay you in food!” Ah Tao was anxious. When he saw Dabu’s tribe appear, he ignored their unhappiness from yesterday and asked for help. He wouldn’t hesitate. If not, his tribe would get wiped.”

Dabu’s face was ice cold. He told his men to be wary and didn’t let them help.

Ah Tao closed his eyes in pain.

Ye Zhongming looked around casually and stuck Staff of Nature to the ground. A new gem was on it, a basic ice element gem.

A blue light shone, and a lotus appeared.

Blue Blood Lotus!

The temperature fell, and the lotus started to spin. It was so quick that the naked eye couldn't spot it. The ice petals shot out like a storm right at those flying bugs.

They were quick, but the petals were quicker.

There were many of them, but there were more of these petals.

Blue and black clashed in the sky.

The outcome wasn't surprising. One had to be at least level three to survive an attack. If it was a medium-grade ice gem, then... Only level-five and above mutated lifeforms could block it.

Those level-two bugs were killed without any surprise.

"There are some that are alive."

Ye Zhongming reminded them. They quickly killed those Lower Armor Demon Monsters injured or alive when their allies blocked the attacks. They quickly collected the demon crystals.

Such an action became an instinct for them when they cleaned up the battlefield.

Ah Tao's men stopped shivering. The look of despair on their faces was gone. They looked at Ye Zhongming like they were looking at a son-in-law.

Was this guy someone that god sent to them? He could create such strong weapons. He had such clear thinking and such huge strength. Now, he could kill a bunch of demon monsters.

Was this person sent to save the Posthumous people?

Ah Tao's body glew. He had lived for a long time and felt his small tribe might become a huge tribe. His name would also be left in history.

Ye Zhongming tossed the gem away like he had done something small.

Dabu squinted and looked at Ye Zhongming, his equipment, and his movement.

The greed in his eyes was clear to see.

"Ah Tao, send some words to this young man."

Dabu walked over with his group. Ah Tao's soldiers lined up and were wary.

Ah Tao frowned and wasn't willing to let Ye Zhongming contact Dabu.

But he thought about it and still told Ye Zhongming that Dabu wanted to talk.

Ye Zhongming nodded toward Dabu.

"I can release your two friends, but you must agree to two conditions."

"Speak."

He stretched out two fingers, "You must give us a thousand sets of the equipment that Ah Tao's tribe has. Don't tell me you didn't make it, as I will suspect your sincerity."

He knew what Ah Tao's tribe was like. So many strong weapons that could hurt the Winged Demon Monster were related to this young man.

“Second, I want your staff and also the gem. A new one, at least ten.”

Ah Tao was furious, “Dabu, don’t ask for too much. You want to collect good things for yourself. You don’t have the pride and magnanimity a big tribe leader should have!”

He told Ye Zhongming what Dabu said, “Don’t bother about him. We will let King Niel make a decision; he is the fairest Posthumous king!”

Ye Zhongming smiled and told Dabu, “I have one condition too.”

Dabu frowned and told him to give his condition. Dabu Tribe could do anything.

Ah Tao spread the message. He was afraid Ye Zhongming would leave, but he still expressed what both sides were saying.

Ye Zhongming stuck the staff to the ground, “I can kill you and still save my friends.”

Chapter 372: Swallowing and merging

Blue Blood Lotus shone for the second time today.

Dabu didn’t expect this weird-looking young man to attack right away. Moreover, he used such a strong AOE attack straight away.

This medium-sized tribe leader was furious, and he shouted.

He dared to force Ye Zhongming to listen to him because although his weapons were strong, they couldn’t threaten him. He wasn’t a threat to the experts in his tribe, too.

Those attacks could be dodged and blocked by Posthumous people in several ways.

So he wasn’t afraid that Ye Zhongming would reject him as he could steal it. But as the tribe leader, to use such a method in front of so many people would lose some face.

But he neglected an important problem, which was the death of the level-six demon monster. Due to their angle, they didn’t see the final fight. They thought that it was because Ah Tao’s tribe had good weapons and did not think that it was because of him.

This was fatal, and it caused Dabu to lose his life.

Blue Blood Lotus’s petals pelted down and showed no signs of stopping.

Dabu’s tribe was stunned. They didn’t expect this person to attack them. Dabu was a level-five warrior. A person could easily kill Ah Tao and his tribe! Was he crazy?

Ah Tao’s tribe didn’t expect Ye Zhongming to attack too. Weren’t they discussing conditions? If they disagreed, then wouldn’t they just leave? Why did they fight?

Was Ye crazy?

Of course not. Such a thought even appeared in his mind for a long time.

Dabu’s tribe wanted to use the two humans to trade for something good and wouldn’t agree just to release them. Ye Zhongming promised the couple to get them out. Since that was the case, there were only two ways to solve it.

One was to go through a stronger Posthumous person, the King. To reach that goal, it would take a long time. He was afraid that accidents would occur, worried they would think the couple were spies and not release them no matter what.

The second solution was much simpler, which was to save the couple. If Dabu dared to stop him, then he would kill him.

Ye Zhongming was worried about what Ah Tao's tribe thought, so he didn't attack immediately. After all, he had a bigger use for Ah Tao in his plans, so he had to consider his thoughts.

Who knew that Dabu would give himself up? He was so polite!

Thus, Ye Zhongming attacked immediately and used his strongest moves.

Basic Hell Envoy bloodline, Purple Crystal Energy Gun, Space Stack!

Dabu, who meshed the black light of his hands into a shield to block the Blue Blood Lotus, was badly hit.

Due to the height difference when killing the quasi-dragon, his guns could only hit the dragon's stomach. But Dabu and Ye Zhongming were similar in height and close to each other. With the Space Stack, it pretty much exploded on his head.

Dabu didn't even make a sound when numerous darkness energy bullets swallowed his head. His hands even moved when his body fell, making way for the Blue Blood Lotus attacks.

Dabu's sudden death wasn't expected, and the Blue Blood Lotus exploded in the stunned group.

It pierced them one after another. The huge force sent their strong bodies flying backward. A few seconds later, someone reacted and used their various skills to block.

But Ye Zhongming was here.

He had the Crystal Energy Gun on his left and Moon Edge on his right. He charged into the Dabu tribe.

When he faced stronger enemies, he would kill them with a shot. When he faced lower-level ones, he would slice their bodies. A hell being would also appear to help him kill them. Giants were summoned, and they joined this unequal fight.

Ah Tao's tribe was stunned. Ye Zhongming's actions were unthinkable. Since they were placed in such a tough situation, it had been a long time since there was such a large-scale fight between posthumous people.

Their minds were in a mess. That included Ah Tao, who didn't know if Ye Zhongming was doing the right thing.

It didn't seem right as they were of the same race. This guy was killing their race! He should be their enemy!

But it seemed right as Dabu threatened Ye to hand over his own things. This guy was their savior and saved them from the Lower Armor Demon Monsters! He was doing so in self-defense. If not, Dabu wouldn't let him live.

Ah Tao and many from his tribe faced a tough choice.

Dabu's tribe collapsed. When the last level-four leader was killed, the rest collapsed. They lost their courage and started to flee.

Ye Zhongming chose to chase the largest group. A dozen minutes later, he was covered in blood.

He let the rest flee as he had reached his goal.

He released Han Yihao and Sun Yang and led them back to Ah Tao. Ye Zhongming stood before this old man who could communicate directly with him.

"Ye, you..."

"Do you know why your tribe is getting weaker until you are on the verge of destruction?"

Ye Zhongming interrupted him fiercely.

Ah Tao was stunned and didn't expect him to say that.

"Because your methods are wrong. You will only try to make hunts safe, but will that work? It will slow down your destruction, and be a slow death."

"No, I..."

"You need to go all out in every fight. The strongest warriors are at the front; you do this even when facing much weaker monsters. Keke, your warriors all became flowers. Not only won't they get stronger, but they will also get weaker. Your tribe is getting weaker and weaker. Tell me, if you don't get destroyed, who will? If anything happens to you or your two hunting captains in just a while, your tribe will be gone! The monsters will kill you, or a bigger tribe will eat you!"

"That is the truth!"

Ah Tao's face turned red, but he couldn't retort as Ye Zhongming was right.

"I realized this problem, but losses are unavoidable if I allowed them to fight. We will still get wiped then!"

Ye Zhongming smiled.

"So I found a better path for you."

Ye Zhongming waved his hand, "Swallow and merge!"

Chapter 373: Either die or be enslaved

Bent woke up from his nightmare. His cold sweat wet the fur blanket that covered him.

He also awakened the girl beside him. She rubbed her eyes and muttered. She didn't pour water for him like usual, just turning around to fall asleep.

Bent opened his mouth and wanted to scold her, but he didn't make a sound.

He got off the bone bed and picked up the bone cup to pour the water into his body.

The cold liquid entered his stomach and stabilized his emotions.

Since the massacre seven days ago, Bent was shocked.

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He closed his eyes, and all he saw was blood. All he saw when he fell asleep were the gory scenes.

As Dabu's son, he was destined to be the heir of the tribe, the future leader. He was proud and confident.

But until now, when he recalled how his father's body was tossed away like used leather, he felt a chill down his spine.

Everything changed that day.

He fled with the survivors. Even to avoid the killing, he changed into other clothes. He tossed aside the pride and honor of his tribe.

In the past, this tribe would end up being called Bent Tribe, but now...

He smiled bitterly. He looked at the half-naked girl on the bed. Even this woman who kneeled before him to serve him in the past didn't care about him. Those uncles in the tribe definitely wouldn't let him take over easily.

Posthumous people were a race that cared about strength. His strength wasn't enough to gain all their respect.

Everything happened because of that conflict.

That weak Ah Tao tribe became so strong. That man that was younger than himself even killed his father!

Bent didn't understand how these two tribes with a decent relationship would suddenly fight each other. He thought about the tempting Miya. Bent knew that he had no chance to get her. Since that old Ah Tao decided to choose that Male Sa, he had made a choice. The only opportunity to get Miya had disappeared along with that choice.

The prince of the tribe didn't know what he should do; he was afraid.

There were some sounds from outside. He didn't want to care. Those uncles had been causing problems and wanted to interfere in everything.

But when he lay down, the sounds got even louder. There were even some intense shouts. He stood up and walked out with his leather armor.

Two groups were at a standstill. Bent took a few steps before stopping. He then turned around and hid in the shadow of his tent. After which, he ran towards his father's tent. There was a tunnel out that allowed him to hide from these demons.

The demons were here. This wasn't the first time that Ye Zhongming had such a title. He led Ah Tao and his tribe, who were still stunned, to find Dabu's old nest.

He suggested swallowing the tribe. This was a path that he had never thought about. His idea was always to babysit people to let them grow. But Ye Zhongming suggested a gory path that would cause him to get scolded. It opened a brand new door for him.

Of course, he still felt like it was a gate to hell even now.

But this gate that smashed his years of confidence and faith was very tempting for some reason. Ah Tao felt this feeling was much better than the first time he entered a girl's body.

So he came back with Ye Zhongming. He wanted to see what this young man saw as his hope would do.

"Who are you? This is the Dabu tribe, without our permission..." A middle-aged man stood tall to express his attitude, but his words were interrupted by a body thrown under his feet.

It was Dabu's corpse that he was previously so proud of.

It was as if his neck was strangled. Blood surged onto his face, and it was blood red.

This humiliating act was killing the tribe leader and tossing his body back to his people.

Ye Zhongming casually held Moon Edge. He looked at the remaining 500 people. Most of them were old, children or ladies. There were less than 50 warriors who managed to flee back here.

Such a small group couldn't even deal with Ah Tao's tribe, much less Ye Zhongming, who killed many of them.

Despair appeared on their faces.

They saw that their tribe was about to get wiped out.

"Either I kill all of you, or you become Ah Tao tribe's slave; make your choice."

Ye Zhongming and Ah Tao found out that slaves existed in Posthumous people. They were often prisoners after tribe wars. Either that, or they were civilians captured from Dawn Saint Hall.

But during these tens of thousands of days, few wars occurred. Dawn Saint Hall people... It would be good if they didn't capture Posthumous people.

So, although slaves existed, they had disappeared for a long time.

But everyone understood what that meant.

Either they died, or they became slaves.

This was the only path that Ye Zhongming left for them.

They kept silent for a while before charging at him in despair.

Han Yihao and Sun Yang stood before him. Whether they were repaying Ye Zhongming for saving them or taking revenge for the Dabu tribe locking them up, they had no reason to hold back.

These warriors weren't strong. They had around two-star strength and their job. With Ye Zhongming's weapons, they could deal with the warriors.

Very quickly, those warriors with limited strength were turned into warm corpses. They lost their final bit of resistance.

Those who chose to die had already died. Those who remained chose to become slaves.

Ah Tao's tribe had slaves twice the size of their tribe.

On the way back, Ah Tao asked Ye Zhongming if he meant this.

Ye Zhongming shook his head.

“When there is a comparison between our tribe and theirs, people will be able to make a choice. So the plan hasn’t started. We have just created two samples for them.”

#### Chapter 374: Experiment

Ye Zhongming squatted before a Dabu race man and felt the rage in his eyes.

On the first day back to Ah Tao’s tribe, this old man who had some power in Dabu’s tribe started to contact people from his tribe and even tried to start a coup for them to kill Ye Zhongming.

Of course, that didn’t work. Although two Ah Tao tribe members were convinced and helped make things easy for the old man, the camp was too small. His actions were caught with Ah Tao and Ye Zhongming’s mental energy cover.

Ah Tao had already decided to take a gamble with Ye Zhongming. He killed the two from his race in front of everyone. He announced to everyone that if they didn’t stand in the same line as them, they wouldn’t be from the tribe; they would be their enemies! If you disagree with what they were doing, then leave. If you tried to spoil things, you would end up like those two.

Ah Tao’s actions made everyone sure that the tribe was walking a different path. Either you did it without hesitation, or you scram.

To this tribe, with only a few hundred people, everyone was loved ones. No one could abandon their loved ones. Although a portion of them disagreed, they saw the changes and benefits, and they, too, wanted to see what the future would bring.

Ah Tao’s determination stabilized the tribe.

They washed the Dabu tribe in blood. Ye Zhongming left this old man as he wanted to do a few tests on his body.

He loosened the muscles on his body. This old man, who knew that he would die, attacked. But he only had three-star strength. Ye Zhongming could defeat him with just one hand. After fighting the old man, he tied him up again and poured something into his mouth.

Ye Zhongming walked out and saw Miya, who was waiting for him.

She was calm, but she had a complicated gaze. Ye Zhongming was familiar with such a gaze. The entire tribe was looking at him that way.

It included many emotions like gratitude, respect, fear, foreign, unbearable...

“He went against you, so you should just kill him; why torture him? That's not good.”

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Ye Zhongming had already spent a month here and grasped most of their language. Evolved had a strong memory and increased his learning efficiency with the Soul Refining Technique. With Han Yihao and his wife, who were good teachers, he could communicate with them without problems.



Ye Zhongming didn't say anything. He didn't need to explain things, and he didn't feel like he needed to.

"You, you have killed so many. Please, don't continue. Do it for the future kids."

Ye Zhongming frowned at Miya and didn't know what she meant.

He only did things with Xia Lei, and it wouldn't be so accurate to get a kid right away. That means that having kids would be a long time in the future. Moreover, did this even have to do with kids?

He ignored this woman and walked towards Ah Tao's tent. The old man chose a few targets to find out more exact details.

He had to be nice to them, no matter which one. Ye Zhongming planned to bring a few people to hunt some demon monsters. The tribe needed a huge amount of food now.

Ah Tao was drawing a rough map in the tent. They might have maps, but for a small tribe like theirs, the map was basically in their heads.

But it would be different in the future. This was very important, so Ye Zhongming told him to draw it out.

He glanced at the drawing. Ah Tao was quite talented in drawing and could understand it.

"Ye, this pen and paper are so amazing; it is a miracle!"

Ye Zhongming wanted to tell Ah Tao that there were 6 billion such miracles on earth, but he didn't as he felt like he had scared this old man enough.

"This is the Ash Mountain Tribe that I chose. There are 300 of them, slightly stronger than us in the past. Their leader, Grey Mountain, is close to me. We had come into contact with them a lot in the recent thousand days."

Ye Zhongming looked at a dot on the map and estimated they could arrive in three days if his drawing was accurate.

"They aren't in a good state. Winter is coming, and it will be tough. We have a chance if we bring enough food and good weapons to find them." Ah Tao looked at Ye Zhongming, "I will try to convince them. You don't want all of us to be slaves apart from my tribe, right?"

Ye Zhongming agreed. His plan needed a large number of helpers.

Ye Zhongming exited the tent and called for people to hunt with him. With him here, their previously dangerous hunts became a simple food storage mission. The Posthumous people who hadn't been hungry for days were grateful.

Two days later, Ye Zhongming returned with huge gains. Although no one died, a few dozen were injured. This was a result of his training.

He handed the food to the others before he came to where the old man was locked up. But before he entered, he saw Miya standing outside.

"What do you want to do?"

Ye Zhongming asked. If this was Cloud Peak, even Xia Lei wouldn't dare to go against him.

"Stop torturing this person. You should just kill him!"

Ye Zhongming didn't understand how the vicious girl he had met had become such a kind goddess.

"Don't say things you know nothing about; which eye did you see me torture him?"

Miya pointed at the tent, "You hit him and fed him poison!"

Ye Zhongming grabbed her hand and pulled her into the tent.

She was caught off guard, and her face turned red.

Ye Zhongming saw that the old man was still alive and looked good. He was excited.

"What did you give me? Why do I feel weird?"

That old man struggled right away and asked him. He probably thought that Ye Zhongming had poisoned him.

Ye Zhongming didn't reply. He knew his questions wouldn't be accurate, so he just released the old man and told him he would release him if he defeated him.

The old man started to attack, but he still wasn't Ye Zhongming's match.

Ye Zhongming tied the old man up, and that infuriated Miya.

"Remember to apologize to me in the future."

Ye Zhongming ignored Miya and went to Ah Tao's tent, placing something before the old man.

"What is this?" Ah Tao didn't understand.

"Something that can help increase your tribes' strength."

Ye Zhongming smiled mysteriously. He looked at the bottle on the table... Evolution potion.

Chapter 375: Xia Lei and Xia Bai

Sunlight shone from outside. Dust danced around the light pillar and left many uneven lines.

A white veil flew into all of this, and the dust started to fly about in panic.

Xia Lei wiped the blood on her hands. Her eyes had turned sharper during these two months, but one could see some exhaustion inside.

She wrapped the wounds on her ribs and lay on the bed. She thought she would finally have time to rest today after three days, but when she closed her eyes, her mind was filled with the image of that person.

She could only open her eyes once more. She was afraid that she would become weak if she overthought about him.

Cloud Peak needed everything now except for weakness.

Occasionally, Xia Lei would think back to peacetime. She wasn't thinking about the past; she just imagined how things would be if she met him then.

Maybe she would be in her police uniform dragging a terrified-looking guy out of his classroom. She could wear light clothing on a rainy day and get wet to see if he would have a nosebleed.

Then, she would find a memorable day to get him drunk, and when he was unconscious, she would do all the mature things. When he opened his eyes the following day, she held up the stained blankets and told him he had to be responsible. If not, she would slice his thing off.

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All that remained would be to start a normal but special older-younger-brother relationship. With her charm, she would convince his parents and friends.

She smiled. She hugged the pillar and placed it between her legs.

The more she thought about it, the more comfortable she felt. All the problems that she faced recently didn't seem as tough as before.

"When you return, I will keep you here for three days."

Xia Lei muttered and tossed the pillow to the side. She lay and stared at the roof. She tried not to think about the possibility of him not coming back.

There was a knock on the door, and she sighed. She knew that her sleepless day would continue. She wore her clothes to cover her alluring body. She rubbed her face in the mirror on the door and opened it.

"Little fellow, if you don't return, I will harm other girls in the villa and cheat on you!"

Out of the door, the demon of Cloud Peak was back.

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Tang Tian spat out blood. He grabbed the car and didn't let his body collapse.

Behind him was the ashen white-faced Sister Rong.

Apart from a few dozen Cloud Peak soldiers, hundreds of evolved held various weapons.

"Tang Tian, I didn't expect someone from that little team who just picked up rubbish to become Cloud Peak's deputy captain. But after you entered the dungeon, your team disappeared. Did you con them? Uncle Da treated you so well."

A fellow held a thick iron rod that shone a grey light.

Tang Tian laughed coldly, "Do you think anything you say can make your actions reasonable? No need for so much; it is the apocalypse. As long as your fist is tough enough, no one cares why you kill."

That sharp-mouthed fellow's face heated up, and he scolded, "Our boss wants you to tell us where Ye Zhongming is, and we will let you off!"

Sister Rong's eyes shook, and they knew that what everyone was most worried about had still happened. Half a month after Ye Zhongming left, factions started to sneak attack their motorcades. This recent week, these people seemed to have banded together to attack. They realized that Ye Zhongming was gone, so they started to probe.

They wanted to see if Ye Zhongming would emerge once Cloud Peak was in trouble. The rumors that he had died in the Secret Realm would be true if he didn't appear.

“You few noobs think you have the right to see our boss? Go back and tell your master to kowtow to Cloud Peak. Maybe our boss will give him a chance and meet him.”

A Cloud Peak warrior replied firmly. His expression of disdain caused the other warriors to laugh, too.

Cloud Peak's situation showed the true faces of many. Those who were not firm started to waver, but those who were firm got even more firm.

“Then die!”

The guy shouted and raised his arm. The people around started to attack Cloud Peak's grain motorcade.

Cries rang out from both sides.

One side was where Cloud Peak and this group intersected. Life was lost as if it were worthless. The other area where the screams came from was actually on the outside.

The guy turned and saw a petite figure walking in the shadows. Each step it took would mean a heart was being ripped out. It was crushed and then tossed onto the ground.

This woman wore a flower-patterned mask. The gaps showed white jade-like skin. Her hands had the same color, but it was red now. Her body was well-balanced. Unfortunately, flesh hung on it, which dropped as she moved. Moments later, new pieces would attach to her body.

The merger of an angel and the devil.

The guy charged and waved the weapon in his hands. He was confident that his three-star evolved strength was enough to finish her. He wouldn't kill her and wanted to capture her alive. Then, he would teach her how to serve a man.

The eyes behind the mask glanced over, and he felt like he couldn't move. The next second, he saw those white hands stabbed into his chest. She pulled his heart out like how she killed his friends.

“What skill is that, impossible...”

“Nothing is impossible; you've seen too little.”

She pushed him down. He died the moment he fell to the ground.

The attackers were in chaos.

Cloud Peak's reinforcements were here. A hundred people attacked a group many times their number. The battle was very one-sided.

Xia Lei walked to the masked woman and smiled.

“You are back?”

“I am back.”

She reached out in her pocket and passed five bottles of three-star potions to her.

“I was late because of these.”

Xia Bai said.

Chapter 376: Volunteer

“What is this?”

Ah Tao picked up the translucent tube and asked in surprise.

Ye Zhongming tried to form the sentence before saying, “It is a potion that came from my home. Only by consuming this could someone from my home enter a new realm.”

Ah Tao listened on intently. Especially when Ye Zhongming mentioned his home, his body leaned forward like he was afraid he missed anything.

“I have been thinking about whether or not it is useful for Posthumous people. But I couldn’t test it on your lives, so it was just a thought until recently...”

Ye Zhongming didn’t continue, but Ah Tao understood what he meant. This old man sounded happy and complicated. Ah Tao was happy to see the young man cherish his tribe, but the Dabu tribe was still a part of the Posthumous race.

Things weren’t as simple as black or white. Ah Tao sighed to himself.

“Although the end of the experiment hasn’t been reached, it is nearly three days, and it looks good. The people who used the potion seem stronger. This one-star potion can raise their strength by 25% in two days.”

Ah Tao’s eyes lit up. 25%?

Ah Tao naturally knew the person Ye Zhongming experimented on. He was level two to around level three. Wasn’t it too exaggerated for his strength to increase by 25% in just two days?

“This is a one-star potion. This is two-star. I don’t have too many, and my highest level is two-star, so I don’t want to waste it on others.”

Ah Tao understood. Ye Zhongming didn’t have many of these left. If he continued to experiment with it, the moment they fully understood its effects, not many would remain. Even if they proved that there weren’t any side effects, it wouldn’t help them much.

But this thing wasn’t fully tested, if there were side effects...

Ah Tao frowned and didn’t dare to decide. This concerned life and death. Even if he was the leader, he couldn’t be rash.

Ye Zhongming looked at Ah Tao and gave a suggestion.

“Maybe you can ask who is willing. Tell them the effects and the possible side effects to search for someone willing. We can control the number. This can help us reduce the risk. We won’t waste much of these if there are no side effects.”

“But...” He was still unable to decide. Death was a huge matter to the entire tribe.

“High risk comes with high rewards. If we continue developing like this, it will take a long time for us. Since there is a shortcut, we need to take a gamble. Moreover, I am 80% sure it is harmless. There is only a 20% chance of failure. This probability is worth us taking a gamble.”

The old man stood up and walked around the tent. He bit his teeth, “Okay, but you can only select those level-two and below. After confirming that it is okay, you can only use it at scale!”

Ye Zhongming smiled, “That was what I wanted.”

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News spread quickly throughout the tribe. The excitement, along with terror, was something they didn’t feel even when they conquered Dabu’s tribe.

A thing that could increase your strength the moment you drank it without needing you to train. That thing would not only attract their tribe, but it would also attract the Kings in the imperial cities.

Everyone talked about it for a whole day.

The harmonious Ah Tao tribe started to quarrel for the first time because of the potion.

Guys naturally craved power. They didn’t want to give up on a chance to get stronger, even if they had to take a significant risk.

But guys had parents, wives, kids. These people often wanted them to be safe. Strength could increase through cultivation, but if they lost their lives, everything was over.

Disagreements happened because of their differing viewpoints.

Ah Tao tribe all gathered beside the bonfires a day later. They stood before Ye Zhongming and Ah Tao. The complicated emotions were at a maximum.

“We have explained the potion very clearly yesterday. This time, we need five volunteers to take the risk. Kids, I hope all of you consider clearly before you make your choice.”

Ah Tao looked at his race and described the outcomes that might occur. He pointed at the five bottles, “30 breaths later, those willing to use it can walk to the front.”

The quiet area got noisy once more. Many families debated for the last time. Some succeeded, and some failed.

Thirty breaths later, 20 of them stood up.

Ah Tao glanced, and his expression wasn’t good.

Ye Zhongming shook his head.

Half of those people were old and weak. Either they had irrecoverable injuries from previous fights and could not step up. Or they were old and felt they should take the risk of leaving some seeds for the people. If it was really good, then the kids could eat it.

Apart from those who took up over half, the remaining were why Ah Tao and Ye Zhongming shook their heads. These were the strongest and most core people of the tribe.

The two hunting captains, Di Nuo and Kai Nuo, the two most respected elders, and also... Miya.

Ah Tao allowed things to happen to others, but not these few. They were the core and hope of the entire tribe, and they couldn't take the risk.

"They few of you, scram back!" Ah Tao scolded them coldly.

"Leader, we can do it; if it is useful, then we..."

"Scram!"

Ah Tao, who rarely got angry, hollered and terrified them. The two captains and elders gritted their teeth and backed down. Only Miya raised her face and looked at Ah Tao.

"Tribe Leader Grandfather, we have no way back. If we can't get stronger, it would be the race meeting after winter. Do you think the kings will let us off for killing our race? No, they won't let us off. The only way we can leave is to become so strong that they fear us. Since that is the case, what is there to be afraid of? Even if I will die because of this, I am willing to try for the tribe!"

Those words were firm, making Ye Zhongming look at her differently.

This weak, introverted, primitive tribe had such foresight. This girl was good.

Ye Zhongming knew that at least two people now saw his real goal. One was Ah Tao, and the other was Miya.

They knew that he was doing this to make them stronger. But he was also tying them to the same car and making them a part of his plan.

But this helped both sides. Ah Tao didn't say it but Miya did.

"I heard that there are two types; I want the better one."

Chapter 377: Start of the plan

Five days passed since the volunteers used the evolution potions. Apart from those older ones that showed discomfort, the others were okay.

The Dabu race member who was experimented on was beaten up by Ye Zhongming every day to confirm his strength wouldn't increase. Ultimately, he was used as bait and fed to demon monsters.

The volunteers did things, too, during these days. They followed Ye Zhongming to hunt. Not only could he observe their strength, but he could also make their blood flow and speed up the appearance of side effects.

But at least up until now, the potions were safe.

At this stage, he could confirm that the potions were not harmful to them. But to be safe, Ye Zhongming and Ah Tao didn't use it at scale and just chose ten people to use it.

It wasn't wrong to be so careful.

This period was when their morale was the strongest. Each hunt would improve their weapons. As Ye Zhongming joined, with a dozen more volunteers, previously dangerous operations became simple battles. They moved demon monster corpses and food back to the tribe. He turned them into meat jerky that could allow them to survive winter.

Although the Dabu slaves wouldn't be on their side, their resistance wasn't so obvious after a few days. They started to work. They mostly did the dried vegetables beside the bonfire.

Posthumous people were similar to nomads on Earth. Although they belonged to different tribes, they were the same race. Their names were different, but they were a similar body. After getting together, they had similar emotions and weren't as resistant as he thought.

Moreover, as Ah Tao's tribe was getting stronger by the day, some Dabu tribe members who didn't lose loved ones during the war seemed very excited.

They worshipped experts, just that such emotions were more obvious in backward tribes.

This was something Ye Zhongming was happy to see. After all, Ah Tao's tribe was small. Even if he had many magical methods, he couldn't let them jump to become the strongest Posthumous tribe. He still had to absorb more new blood before he could battle those large tribes in the imperial city.

Another 15 days passed, and the 3rd batch of 30 consumed the evolution potion. This included the two elders who were between three-star and four-star.

Unfortunately, Ye Zhongming didn't have three-star potions for them. Most of these one-star and two-star potions were obtained from Glory Army's camp.

Although the level wasn't high, there was a large number of potions, so it should be able to last for a long time. This made Ye Zhongming envy the Glory Army's wealth. A team that couldn't even rank in the top five in their army had so many resources. In comparison, Cloud Peak was too poor.

"Ye, the first two batches are pretty much stable."

Ah Tao, two hunting captains, Miya, and a few respected people sat together to eat with Ye Zhongming. They discussed the plan.

"Ordinary potions are of great help to the level-one people. The best person is close to level two. But it is decent for level-two members, increasing their strength by 25%. As for the stronger potion, it is effective for all. It can allow a level one to reach level two. The effects on those level-two people are different. The most can increase by a level and the lowest by a third. The effect on level three and above is like when level two people use the ordinary potion."

The ordinary potion was one-star, and the stronger one was two-star. Ye Zhongming only had these two, which was why Ah Tao was used to calling them that.

Ye Zhongming knew the relationship between the potions and the warriors. He taught Ye Zhongming about the different levels. With his strong mental energy, he could deduce the difference in their strength more accurately than Ye Zhongming did.

He touched his chin. There weren't potions here, but their effects were similar to that on Earth. It depended on the level that the warriors were at.



“We did the repeat experiment too on Miya.”

Ah Tao said, and then he sighed.

She was too stubborn. She was willing to be the guinea pig to determine what taking two potions would cause.

“It wasn’t as effective as the first time. The ordinary potion was ineffective. When using it the third time, there was no effect.”

Ye Zhongming nodded when he heard her say that.

That was normal. If one could continue evolving when consuming the potion, that would be amazing.

“I am already at level three; I want to join the operation.”

As Miya’s strength was between levels two and three previously, she reached the edge of level three after consuming the two-star potion for the first time. After using it again, she had broken through and became one of the experts in the tribe.”

Ah Tao exchanged glances with Ye Zhongming, and both agreed. Everyone discussed, and they would head out to Grey Mountain Tribe tomorrow. Ye Zhongming’s Swallow and Merge operation would begin.

On the second day, Ah Tao led the team. He led 50 warriors and a hundred Dabu tribe slaves to drag carts of resources.

The day the Ah Tao tribe’s operation began, far away from them, a giant mountain city welcomed a young man. His body was very dirty, and there were many unhealed wounds. Even in the Posthumous people tribe that looked poor, he too looked like a beggar.

Above the city, above the enormous mountain, were many giant ‘lamps’. These lamps lit up the vast city that stood in the mountains.

A few people rode white birds to fly near the lamp. They poured in transparent oil. As the oil was poured, the flames got brighter.

The guards at the gate stopped that person. They watched as this beggar took something and passed it to someone who looked like the captain.

“I am the Dabu tribe leader’s son, Bent. I want to meet King Hong Xiang.”

Chapter 378: Grey Mountain Tribe

Grey Mountain chewed the thing in his mouth. He tried to hold it in, but he still spat it out.

It was too disgusting.

This black vegetable bun with meat jerky filling didn’t taste good. Even if he had been eating this for winter since childhood, he could still not get used to it.

But who knew how many of his people would die if they didn’t have such things for the winter that lasted hundreds of days?

“Leader, Jinke Hunting Team is back.” A muscular middle-aged man opened the tent and said towards Grey Mountain, sitting on a giant stone chair.

Grey Mountain’s face, covered in a beard, was filled with surprise. He stood up. His muscular body was like a stone gate.

“How are their gains?”

He acknowledged, “They brought back five baskets of food.”

Grey Mountain opened his mouth slightly, and he lost all interest. He sat back down and held the chair handle to express his unhappiness.

But he knew that the strong demon monsters were also preparing for winter. They were hunting in the entire Blue Continent. Some demon monsters were about to enter their reproduction period, so they were strict in their defenses. Any Posthumous people or demon monsters that dared to enter their territory would be attacked.

All these situations added together meant that they were facing problems hunting. Coincidentally, they also had to pass the winter. So, each winter was tough for them. A small tribe like Grey Mountain would be happy if 80% of them could survive the winter.

Extreme cold and food shortage was like a death sentence for the weak Posthumous people. Some women and kids weren’t able to survive the winter.

“But...”

Grey Mountain's gaze turned, and he looked at his subordinate. He was annoyed, “When have you become so hesitant?”

“But Jinke brought back the news that they found the tracks of a bunch of Posthumous people. It looks like they are coming towards us. But they were hunting some Black Seed Deer. Moreover, Jinke saw them from a hill and didn’t come into contact with them, so he didn’t know where they were from.”

If the tribes weren’t close to each other, they would defend against each other when they bumped into one another when hunting before winter. Although they rarely killed one another during these thousand days, there were instances where they fought each other to get food before winter. Such situations couldn’t be stopped. Grey Mountain tribe would even do it themselves. Now that they saw the tribe hunting the Black Seed Deers, it was better that they were further away.

“How many of them are there?” Grey Mountain asked.

The middle-aged man didn’t understand and replied, “A hundred.”

En?

Grey Mountain was surprised, “How many?”

“100, not more than 150.”

Grey Mountain's expression changed. Although Black Seed Deers were around level three and not too strong, their defense was high. Moreover, a small group of them would exceed 200. Grey Mountain Tribe was so small they wouldn't want to offend them at any moment.

But this 150-strong team dared to hunt them, meaning their overall strength should be around level three. Moreover, they should have at least 30 close to level four. Only then could they challenge the Black Seed Deer pack.

For such a strong group to be in their territory was unsettling.

"Jinke mentioned that only 50 of them were attacking!"

Grey Mountain stood up right away. What? Only 50? Which large-sized tribe was here? What did they want to do?

He paced around the tent solemnly and said, "Tell the kids to be on guard. Place the grain in the tunnel. If we notice any dangers, arrange people to move the grain away."

The middle-aged man nodded, and he realized how serious the problem was.

He wanted to instruct the others, but suddenly, another member charged in.

The small tribe didn't have many rules, so Grey Mountain didn't care that much. He just asked him what had happened.

"Leader, a bunch came from outside. Ah Tao is here himself!"

Grey Mountain laughed when he heard that. They had a good relationship with Ah Tao's tribe. It was a small, weak tribe, and they would help one another. Now that he heard Ah Tao was here, with the possibility that a large tribe might attack them, their confidence to win was added. As such, Grey Mountain was delighted.

"Go, let's meet my old brother."

Grey Mountain's tribe was smaller than Ah Tao's. If so many people entered the camp, it would be too squeezey, so they met outside the mountains.

This trip took five days. Besides large amounts of resources that slowed down the journey that would have taken three days, killing demon monsters was another reason they were slow.

But fortunately, they had many gains. Especially the Black Seed Deers that they met yesterday. Their meat was tasty, and their leather was useful for creating high-defense armor. They could also be used to make blankets and build tents.

Apart from this surprise, Ye Zhongming also found many other materials. Although he couldn't use most of them now, he still collected them. When he reached Earth, these would be sold for three digits of crystals.

"Brother Ah Tao, why are you here? Did you want to hunt here?" Grey Mountain led his men over. He saw the healthy Ah Tao, and the two of them hugged.

"I can smell your black vegetable taste from so far. I don't want to come to a place where the leader has to eat such things."

Grey Mountain was helpless, “Old Fellow, don’t think you are doing well. You are just like us; I don’t believe you won’t eat them this winter... Er...”

Before he finished, his subordinate dragged his clothes and signaled him to look. He stopped his words like someone had grabbed his neck.

He saw an army behind Ah Tao. The 50 in front were elite warriors that gave off an aura no weaker than level two. There were even 15 of them that were above level three!

Moreover, what he couldn’t accept was that a hundred simple carts were parked behind those 100 people; on them were mountains of food...

Chapter 379: part 1- Swallowing and merging

Grey Mountain had already forgotten how many days had been since he had seen so much food being placed together. In his memory, the last time was when he was still small before the tribe faced those wars that nearly wiped them out.

Although the food gave off a blood stench, the Posthumous people were all hungry, and they could imagine how the demon monster's bodies would be when they turned into golden barbecue meat.

The people who followed the leader out to welcome Ah Tao were all respected people in the tribe, but they were all stunned by the food there.

The ground shook, and Grey Mountain woke up from the constant earthquake. Grey Mountain smiled and told his people to clean the place and lead Ah Tao’s tribe into the camp.

After half a day of being busy, the two teams finally sat together. Ah Tao was very generous, taking out food to feed the Grey Mountain Tribe.

As for those leaders, naturally, they were able to eat delicious barbecue meat in the tent.

“Black Seed Deer Meat!”

The host, Grey Mountain, who was supposed to prepare food to welcome Ah Tao, was embarrassed. He was stunned when he saw the barbecue meat being sent over.

Black Seed Deer? Didn’t Jinke’s team see someone hunting the Black Seed Deers? Did Ah Tao’s group bump into some on the way? Or did he buy some food from that large tribe?

Due to some deep-rooted thoughts, Grey Mountain didn’t think about any other possibility.

Hearing Grey Mountain’s questions, Ah Tao smiled. This smile looked proud. As expected, what the old man said shocked Grey Mountain.

“Why can’t we be the ones to hunt them, Black Seed Deers... Aren’t much.”

Ye Zhongming rolled his eyes. Posthumous people were the same as humans on Earth; they loved to act cool.

“Impossible!”

Many core members of Grey Mountain’s tribe expressed their disbelief.

Ye Zhongming sliced a piece and placed it in his mouth. This was the most delicious thing he had eaten since he came to the Secret Realm.

“There is nothing impossible. I learned a phrase recently: foresight of the future. Grey Mountain, you must look into the future. Ah Tao tribe is different from the past.”

Ah Tao stood up and attracted their attention. He walked to the middle and pointed at the Posthumous people sitting outside, “Do you know who they are?”

Grey Mountain tribe looked out and didn’t understand what he was saying.

“Let me show you something, brother Grey Mountain.”

Ah Tao waved. Someone passed him a leather bag and placed it on the wooden table. He then lowered the curtain.

Grey Mountain opened it, and his body leaned backward. He looked closely and couldn’t hide the shock on his face.

Although Grey Mountain was shocked when he saw Ah Tao’s food and found out they had killed the Black Seed Deers, he had many guesses. He could use the outcome to prove the thoughts that he had.

But after seeing this thing, Grey Mountain was shocked. He didn’t believe that it was real.

It was the tribe token.

Each Posthumous tribe had a token representing their legacy. It was the item held by every leader and a sign of their power.

But when a tribe had the token of another tribe, there was only one possibility. They either wiped out or merged with the other.

Even if a tribe went extinct, the token would be sent to the imperial city. It won’t be left outside.

Ah Tao tribe wiped a Posthumous tribe? Moreover... It was the Dabu tribe?

Strictly speaking, be it Ah Tao tribe or the Grey Mountain tribe, they were both tribes within the Dabu tribe’s territory. When there was an external war, they had to listen to that tribe.

But now, this medium-sized tribe’s token was in front of him.

Thinking back to how Ah Tao’s 50-man-strong team killed the Black Seed Deer, Grey Mountain realized that Ah Tao’s reason for coming wasn’t so simple.

When the curtains were drawn, this tent became a small area. Sounds would spread from inside, but no one could hear carefully. But today, what Grey Mountain tribe felt was that they waited outside for a long time.

After which, Grey Mountain walked out and announced that Grey Mountain would merge with Ah Tao tribe to form the new... Cloud Peak Tribe.

This thing caused a huge uproar. Grey Mountain tribe’s people objected. Grey Mountain predicted that. The core members each went to the regions they were in charge of to explain to their people.

At the same time, cart after cart of food and clothing needed for winter was pushed in front of Grey Mountain’s leader and other camp leaders.

“You might think it is very sudden. I feel the same way.” Grey Mountain stood behind the food, and his gaze was complicated.

The race members listened to their leader and quietened down.

“I know you might not understand and be angry that I am abandoning our tribe name. Even if you freeze or starve to death, you hope to keep a part of the Grey Mountain tribe’s legacy. Me too.”

Chapter 379.5- Swallowing and merging

Grey Mountain clenched his fist. One could see his cheeks puff up from him, gritting his teeth.

Many race members teared up at those words, and they slowly understood why their leader did that.

“But, can we freeze and starve to death because of this pride? Is it worth it?” Grey Mountain’s voice was low and sunken. He looked at a corner, and a young member was holding a clutch. This left leg was gone.

“Goat Seal, our courageous warrior, a strong younger generation fighter. Last winter, he hunted on an empty stomach for many days. A horned demon beast broke his weapon and bit off one of his legs. If not for his luck, he would have died long ago.”

“Such a person that had hunted for the tribe for many winters could only get the lowest amount of resources this winter because he is useless now.”

This young member lowered his head; the wooden staff was creaking as he clenched it.

“Circle Horn.” Grey Mountain looked at a little girl, three to four years old, in her mother’s arms. She was skinny, and her eyes lacked energy.

“She must be hungry. She is hungry every day. She has no father, so her food is limited. Her mother has to work to earn enough. How did her father die? Hunting. But we cannot take care of such a relative of a person who gave up his life for the tribe. Because she is a girl, we can also not give her special treatment.”

“Uncle Shanci had died three days ago; why did he die? Jinke Hunting Squad lost three members this time; why aren’t they back? They only brought so little food back; why?”

“That is because we are weak!” He punched the corpse of a demon monster.

“Even if we attack the weakest demon monsters, we are still at risk of dying. We don’t have enough food, good weapons, no potions. Our techniques are backward. If we don’t change, how long can we last? At that time, what would the last Grey Mountain tribe person think before he dies?”

The entire tribe was silent. Even those who objected previously lowered their heads and bit their teeth. All they thought about was the harsh life that they had.

“So when Ah Tao came to find us and suggested merging, I initially rejected him. But a voice in my heart told me this might be our only final chance.”

“We want to guard our pride, legacy, dignity. But if we all die, what is the use of all that? Those people who objected, what is the use of all that?”

“Can we prevent what happened to Goat Seal from happening again? Can Round Horn have food? Can it stop our people from dying meaninglessly?”

Grey Mountain was shouting it out, and his voice caused the mountain to buzz.

“So I agreed to Brother Ah Tao’s suggestion as I found no reason to reject it. I am also grateful that he gave us this chance.” He slowly raised something in his hands, “Do you see this? This is the Dabu tribe’s token. Yes, they don’t exist anymore. Ah Tao tribe’s brothers wiped them out. All that remained were now their slaves. That is the truth; you can take a look.”

The people who found out for the first time were filled with disbelief. Ah Tao tribe wiped out the Dabu tribe?

But they had to believe it. Those Ah Tao tribe members pushing the carts lowered their heads. They admitted what Grey Mountain said.

“Slaves might sound bad, but look at what they wear and eat. Are they better than us? Do some work, and you could wear warm clothes and eat to your fill. They don’t have to worry about freezing or starving in winter. I am willing to become such a slave!”

“But Ah Tao didn’t use their might to conquer and turn us into slaves. He suggested merging. Maybe all of you were pumped up, but think about it: They have to change their name, too! We pay far less than they have given up, but we get the same!”

“Since that is the case, what reason do I have to reject? What rights do I have to use your lives to maintain my pride?”

“This is my decision!”

Ye Zhongming looked at this short but muscular middle-aged man and praised him in his heart.

This was a responsible tribe leader, one that cared for his tribe. He cared about the lives of his people and not his power.

Ye Zhongming looked at the Grey Mountain tribe’s expression and knew this first step was easier than expected.

When Grey Mountain announced that those who disagreed could take the tribe token and leave, Ah Tao’s tribe started to promote themselves.

This was something Ye Zhongming arranged. It was simple; it would just be them eating and showing off their equipment. Along with bringing out the wine that they had saved for thousands of days...

Many people got drunk, especially people from the Grey Mountain tribe. They accepted the leader's decision, but they needed time to adapt. This required some external help. Wine was undoubtedly one of those.

Another was to fight.

On the second day, some people wanted to leave. Not many, just a few dozen. They were firm in their legacy and wanted to leave even though winter was coming.

But Grey Mountain didn't let them go. He chose to leave this place to them while leading those willing to return to Ah Tao's tribe.

Ye Zhongming left them many resources, allowing these few dozen to survive the winter. This won many of their hearts. Some even hesitated and wondered if they had made the wrong choice.

Ah Tao's tribe had 150 people. Along with the Grey Mountain tribe's 300, they formed a new team that moved toward Ah Tao's camp.

Along the way, they witnessed how strong Ah Tao's tribe was. They saw how sharp and tough the weapons were. They started to get interested. They also recognized how strong this male was.

"Brother Grey Mountain, now you know why I told you to bring the demon crystals, right? These things that even kids do not want can be exchanged for things that we can't even use our lives to trade for."

Grey Mountain took a white hammer that Ye Zhongming gave him for free. He was stunned and could only nod his head.

He knew why Ah Tao's tribe was so strong because they had found Ye...

With good equipment, both sides had a hunting competition. Grey Mountain tribe, who truly sensed how much stronger they got, were interested. They started hunting monsters they hadn't dared to hunt previously, and they could win easily now. Bodies that they couldn't slice before were easily sliced through. Monster attacks that would deal huge damage previously could be blocked by them.

But they quickly realized that Ah Tao's tribe was still stronger than them by a huge amount!

In the past, the Grey Mountain tribe was slightly stronger!

Very quickly, they found the answer. Grey Mountain and his tribe knew Ye had a magical potion that could quickly increase strength.

Grey Mountain started to get close to Ye. Ye Zhongming used 20 one-star potions to trade for all of their crystals.

The Grey Mountain tribe started to get stronger after consuming these potions. Along with their numbers advantage, they could barely compete with the 50 Ah Tao tribe elites.

Ye Zhongming looked at the two tribes slowly getting closer to each other and was delighted. But these people were getting stronger because of him. He, too, had to get stronger.



He had the most number of crystals on him now since he had started this new life. Moreover, the materials he got over these few dozen days couldn't be used by him.

In the next period, the variety of materials will increase. Since that was the case, he decided to use the Gate of Sacrifice to see if he could get something good.

#### Chapter 380: Upgrading Summoning Technique

Although Ye Zhongming got many things when he was on Earth, the resources on hand were very scarce. Not only did he have to increase his strength, he had to take care of his men from Cloud Peak.

So he had only used Gate of Sacrifice once since he got it. It was only the first-tier sacrifice.

Of course, he gained something really good. Although the Blood Stepping Boots wasn't the best equipment he had on hand, it was one of the best.

After getting many materials and crystals, he felt he could make another sacrifice.

After returning to the Ah Tao tribe, he hid in his tent. As for how to arrange Grey Mountain and his people, that was left to Ah Tao.

Gate of Sacrifice was the same as before. The gem that represented the amount of energy it had was empty.

Ye Zhongming didn't toss things in right away. He started to arrange the items that he had.

He gained many demon crystals from the two tribes. Most were level one and level two crystals. These were the average demon monster levels they killed, so naturally, they had many of these crystals.

These crystals could be tossed into the gate. As for those above level three, Ye Zhongming would keep them as he still had a large use for them.

Apart from demon crystals, it would be the materials. Some were animal materials; some were from plants. Ye Zhongming started to split them according to his memory and grouped those he wouldn't use in the future.

After completing all this, Ye Zhongming kept those he could use before tossing the remaining into the gate.

The gem representing the energy level started to light up. The energy line rose, and this speed shocked Ye Zhongming, so he stopped.

He tossed in a few at once. He stopped and took out some more materials before confirming something exciting.

Any material from the Blue Secret Realm contained more energy than those of the same level from Earth!

Ye Zhongming couldn't help but think about how the monsters here were stronger than those of the same level on Earth. It seemed like all of this was connected. The stronger they were, the more energy they contained.

He stopped caring about the situation. This was a good thing for him now. The energy stone was filled when he used up half of the materials!

He hesitated and didn't choose to activate it, so he tossed materials in.

The gem's energy line appeared at the bottom of it again, and it rose...

Ye Zhongming started to toss demon crystals when all the materials were used. When the line reached the top the second time, Ye Zhongming clicked on it.

Similar to the first time, the stone shone. The entire Gate of Sacrifice lit up, and a golden light shot into the sky.

Ye Zhongming bit his teeth. He had forgotten all about this. Nothing could stop the light.

But this was the Secret Realm, and there weren't many people around, so nothing would happen.

Golden light shot through the tent and the mountains. He shocked both Ah Tao and the Grey Mountain tribe. Many people even thought that the gods were sending a sign. They knelt and kowtowed.

Ah Tao and Grey Mountain looked at one another. They knew that it came from Ye Zhongming's tent. Who knew what this mysterious young man was doing?

The light scattered. Ye Zhongming picked up the box under the gate and opened it.

"C Grade Box (Mid)."

Ye Zhongming sighed. He thought that he would get a B Grade case. But what did mid mean?

It was small last time, and there were half-complete Blood Stepping Boots this time...

Ye Zhongming was nervous. He opened it carefully and saw two things inside.

The first was a scroll.

Ye Zhongming picked it up, and he was delighted.

"Basic Skill Upgrade Scroll."

This was a good thing. Like the job upgrade scroll, there were many job users, but it was hard for one to get the scroll. Skills were the same. Many wheels had cards, and people who spun more would get one. But it depended on luck if one wanted to get a skill upgrade scroll.

He held the scroll. He thought about it. If he were on Earth, he would choose the Basic Elimination Technique. That would increase his chances of getting the item that he wanted.

But he was in the Secret Realm, and he didn't know when he could get out. He thought about it and chose the Basic Summoning Technique.

He made his choice and stopped hesitating. He used the upgrade scroll right away.

Light shone on his body. When he looked at the Basic Summoning Technique, this skill had turned into an Intermediate Summoning Technique.

Ye Zhongming picked up a new change of skill in his mind.

"Summoning Being durability +30, last for one more minute, obtain its basic element stats."

Ye Zhongming knew durability and duration. That affected the strength of the summoned being and would increase its defense. But what were basic element stats?

Ye Zhongming summoned an Earth Giant right away.

As he controlled the amount of mental energy, this earth giant wasn't big, just a meter tall. It looked like a little kid.

Ye Zhongming controlled it to attack the wooden table. He punched, and this table made of vines was shattered.

Ye Zhongming knew how tough these vines were after the Posthumous people modified them. This was what they used to make shields. Normally, Ye Zhongming's fist could only crack it. This Earth giant could smash it? Was this fellow as strong as a four-star evolved?

Ye Zhongming summoned one ice giant and told it to attack the table. It wasn't as powerful and looked no different from before.

This... Basic ability? He thought about it and sliced the ice giant. He understood.

The basic element ability meant the material that he summoned them from.

Earth meant power; water was recovery, metal was sharpness, fire was burning, etc.

This strengthened the summoned being. It seemed like the Summoning Technique was not a support skill, and it could be a main skill.

With this done, he looked towards the other item.

What was this? Ye Zhongming looked at this oval thing and couldn't recognize what it was.