

Black Iron 1331

Chapter 1331: Zhang Tie's Arrangement

Zhang Yang's decisive attitude on providing all-purpose medicament was astounding; however, from the other perspective, even though the purchasing price of an all-purpose medicament was one gold coin per vial, Jinwu Business Group would also make an astronomical amount of money in the theater of operations each year in the future. How many major clans in Taixia Country could make hundreds of millions of gold coins a year?

As the holy war further went on, all-purpose medicaments would win an increasingly bigger market in Taixia Country. If it kept going on like this, Zhang family would be the richest family in the world only in a few years...

The officials of the Peacewest Farming Administration were sensitive about figure and money. Therefore, they were calculating the revenue of Jinwu Business Group in the future inside as they changed their looks toward Zhang Yang. They were watching Zhang Tie and Zhang Yang like watching the bright future of a rising top sect in Taixia Country. As Zhang Tie took up the position of Weiwei General of the theater of operations and was going to marry the daughter of Lord Guangnan, Zhang family was growing more like a top clan in Taixia Country. Money, power, influence and human relationship, all these were expanding in an amazing way...

"Fine, now that Jinwu Business Group has such a plan, Mr. Lu, you will be responsible for collaborating with Jinwu Business Group from now on..." Zhang Tie immediately fixed the thing after his elder brother expressed his opinion.

"All the corps in the theater of operations are longing for the all-purpose medicament. This humble official will definitely select able subordinates and accompany the boss of Jinwu Business Group to carry out an investigation across Peacewest Military Region and coordinate with the local forces so as to build all-purpose medicament bases as soon as possible..." Lu Yanyu stood up as he said solemnly.

Zhang Tie nodded. Lu Yanyu then sat down once again. Zhang Tie's eye light then fell onto Li Tao as he said, "Li Tao..."

"Here I am!" Li Tao instantly sprung up from his seat after hearing his name.

"Although you're my myrmidon, as you were responsible for building all the Fiery Oil Bases in Fire-Dragon Bounty Territory, nobody knows Fiery Oil Base better than you across Taixia Country!"

"Thanks for your trust and cultivation, master!"

"That's because you're trusted and worthy of cultivation. I want you to be in charge of the production of Fiery-Oil in the entire theater of operations. I will appoint you as the supervisor of Weiwei General's Mansion. You will have the full right to manage the production of Fiery Oil within the four provinces. There are over 10 billion mu official fields within the four provinces. Corns would be planted on all of these official fields this February and be reaped this June. I want you to guarantee that at least 200 Fiery Oil bases are available and would meet the primal demand of the theater of operations by this June, can you do it?"

Li Tao flushed abnormally. At the same time, he took in a deep breath as he chested out, "This humble man would like to make a military pledge to guarantee the work!"

"Fine, I will allocate an airboat to you for traversing across the theater of operations. Additionally, you will have 20 bodyguards of mine. Here's my token arrow 1. You could chop anyone below provincial Weiji envoys within the theater of operations before reporting the case to me..." Zhang Tie said in a muffled voice. Meanwhile, he withdrew a token arrow from the tiger-shaped table. At this moment, a bodyguard walked to him and took his token arrow before handing it to Li Tao.

Li Tao bowed as he held high his hands over his head and received Zhang Tie's token arrow meticulously. Closely after that, he looked at Zhang Tie and asked him loudly, "This humble man has a question. As only master's family could benefit Fiery Oil across Taixia Country, may you tell me about the property rights of the new Fiery Oil bases within Peacewest Military Region and the purchasing price of Fiery Oil in the future?"

After hearing Li Tao's question, all the officials of Peacewest Farming Administration pricked up their ears.

After considering about it for a second, Zhang Tie made a decision, "Divide the property rights of all the Fiery Oil bases within the Peacewest Military Region into 10 parts. Fire-Dragon Bounty Territory would only take 3 parts; the rest 7 parts would be allocated to these officials and commoners who were still standing fast in the theater of operations as an award. Concretely, the local officials of the place where the Fiery Oil bases are founded will possess 30% of its shares; non-governmental major clans could possess 30% of its shares; the managers and workers of the Fiery Oil bases would possess 10% of its shares. The purchasing price of Fiery Oil within the theater of operations should not surpass 60% of its sales price outside the theater of operations!"

Many officials in Taixia Country came from major clans, which meant that Taixia Country didn't forbid officials' clans to engage in business. When Zhang Tie mentioned that local officials could possess 30% of the shares of the Fiery Oil base in their territory, the eyes of all the officials from Peacewest Farming Administration sparkled.

When Taixia Country's officials took bribes or feathered one's nest at public expense, they would be punished to eat gold. Therefore, very few officials in Taixia Country dared take bribes and make profits for his family members with the convenience of their positions. In this case, although officials had nice salaries, most of the officials; especially medium- and low-level officials were not rich, not to mention luxurious. Even Mr. Lu's family couldn't match that of major clans across the theater of operations as he had about 1,000 relatives and servants to raise at home. By contrast, his compensation was not enough.

The profit of Fiery Oil was open to the public. Otherwise, the major clans across the theater of operations would not scramble for that. By promising local officials 30% shares of Fiery Oil bases, Weiji General was gifting money to the officials within the theater of operations. How could those officials at present not long for such a reasonable and legal wealth? Additionally, all the officials at present were in major positions in the Peacewest Farming Administration and were incisive, the moment they heard Zhang Tie's words, they had known that Zhang Tie was gifting them money. "A waterfront pavilion gets the moonlight first!"

After hearing Zhang Tie's words, the officials at present immediately realized that Wei Ji general quoted the purchasing price of Fiery Oil too low. 80% of its sales price in other places outside the theater of operations was okay; however, he made it 60%.

At the sight of the looks of those officials of Peacewest Farming Administration on his side, Lu Yanyu let out a sigh inside, 'Without my assistance, Wei Ji General could also easily buy over all the officials in Peacewest Farming Administration with his human relationship, wealth, power, dignity and the trust of commander-in-chief while having no interest in wealth and power himself. What an amazing person...'

After hearing that Li Tao was assigned with such a vital position by Zhang Tie and crowned with eternal glory, all the people at present realized that the meritorious deeds of Li Tao were destined to be recorded on the local history within the provinces, prefectures even the entire Peacewest Military Region as they all watched Zhang Tie with widely opened and shiny eyes and pricked up their ears to listen to Zhang Tie's following arrangements...

Chapter 1332: Ending up the Secular Affairs

Under the expectant eye light of people, Zhang Tie moved his eyes onto Lu Yishan's face as he said, "Now that we've got the Fiery Oil, of course, we need to use them. The advantage of Fiery Oil could first be manifested on airplanes. There was not a single airport in Huanzhou Province, Kangzhou Province, Ningzhou Province and Military Province within the Peacewest Military Region. Lu Yishan, I appoint you as the supervisor of Wei Ji General's Mansion too. You will also have an airboat and 20 bodyguards. Half an hour later, I want a Class A airport in every 500 miles and a Class B airport in every 200 miles within the four provinces. Can you do it?"

"This humble man has already been clear about the rules and regulations regarding the establishment of airports within Fiery-Dragon Bounty Territory. I dare make a military pledge. If I cannot accomplish the task on time, the homeowner could behead me!" Lu Yishan stood up as he said while thumping his chest thrillingly.

The last thing that Lu Yishan was not certain was airport construction; especially in the theater of operations. With Zhang Tie's support, Lu Yishan had so many methods to meet Zhang Tie's requirement. In the second half of last year, over 20 airports had been completed in Fiery-Dragon Bounty Territory and Youzhou City under the leadership of Lu Yishan. Therefore, Lu Yishan had long been versed in constructing airports. It was too simple for him to do that. Additionally, he would enjoy great fame after making it; therefore, he became so thrilled.

Zhang Tie nodded as he picked up a token arrow from his tiger-shaped table and had a bodyguard give it to Lu Yishan.

After taking the token arrow, Lu Yishan sat down. Zhang Tie then moved his eyes onto Sun Qiming's face as he said, "Although you're not my myrmidon, you and Sun family have participated in the whole process of the production of dual-drive engine and airports in Fiery-Dragon Bounty Territory and are pretty familiar with this process. Therefore, I also appoint you as the supervisor of Wei Ji General's Mansion and gift you a token arrow, an airboat and 20 bodyguards. You could casually allocate the resources of the official plants within the four provinces. I don't care what you will do, purchase or build

plants within the 4 provinces, all in all, you will be in charge of this thing. I want each of the 4 provinces to have the industrial capacity to produce at least 500,000 operational aircrafts a year!"

"Yes, sir. If not make it on time, Sunqiming would have no complaint about accepting punishment!" Sun Qiming said in a low voice.

Zhang Tie then picked up a token arrow and had one of his bodyguards hand it to Sun Qiming.

After Sun Qiming sat down, Zhang Tie moved his eyes to Zhang Su. The moment Zhang Tie opened his mouth, Zhang Su and the other air cavalries had blushed.

Zhang Tie said, "As you're my students, I dare say that the air cavalries from Fiery-Dragon Territory could turn up your nose at the whole world. Besides being matched with the most advanced operational airplanes of human, you've also learned the most advanced and established air-combat tactics and ideology. None of the human troops across Taixia Country could match you. You will be the protagonists of Taixia Country and Humans on the stage of the holy war. All the past ground forces would be dwarfed in front of you!"

"I'm waiting for your order, corps leader!" Zhang Su shouted while all the other officers of Fiery-Dragon Corps stood up at once and watched Zhang Tie's flashing eyes.

"I did not call you here for the battle. I want you to kindle. I wish air cavalries are not exclusive to Fiery-Dragon Bounty Territory, but the entire Taixia Country as a whole. I hope all the commoners who couldn't become powerful fighters above LV 9 could become air cavalries as long as they're healthy. I hope that even the weakest people could resist demons. The Thunder Hawk Instruction Unit is here to establish pilot training schools. You need to establish one pilot training school in each prefecture of the 4 provinces and enable more and more people to drive operational aircraft. I hope your students are waiting for driving airplanes, not the other way round.

"I swear to make it!" Zhang Su said resolutely.

"Fine, you're also a supervisor of Wei Ji General's Mansion. You will also take the token arrow, one airboat and 20 bodyguards. You will be responsible for all the members of the Thunder Hawk Instruction Unit of Fiery Dragon Corps..."

"Trust me, corps leader, each member of Thunder Hawk Instruction Unit is qualified to be a coach..."

"Nice!" Zhang Tie took out the token arrow and had a bodyguard give it to Zhang Su.

Zhang Tie finally moved his eyes onto the last person who looked honest, tolerant and average at his 40s at the end of the representatives of Fiery-Dragon Bounty Territory. That person, who had been sitting there silently since the beginning, was one of Zhang Tie's men of sacrifice and one of the senior agricultural agent that Bai Suxian gifted Zhang Tie.

As this man was reliable, Zhang Tie didn't feel like having this man die for him. This person was one of Zhang Tie's general managers who was responsible for those fertile farmlands that Zhang Tie rented in Ninghe Prefecture. The execution of "new policies" in those farmlands of Ninghe Prefecture including the feeding of No.1 earthworms and production of "earth pulp" in each farm would be arranged by this person.

“Zhang Fu!”

“Here I am, owner!’ The middle-aged man at his 40s instantly stood up after hearing his name being called.

“There’s a patch of official land outside Kangzhou City. From tomorrow on, you will be responsible for the management of that patch of official land with your men. Just imitate what you’ve done in Ninghe Prefecture. If someone comes to the farms for a visit or learning, just manifest the methods of feeding “No. 1 earthworms” and producing “earth pulp” as much as you could. No need to keep any secret. You will take charge of the sales of No.1 earthworms within Peacewest Military Region. Its price depends on you. Don’t suffer a loss. Although what you do seems ordinary, it’s related to the overall battle situation of the theater of operations. I don’t trust anybody else but you!” Zhang Tie said calmly.

“Yes, sir. I see!’ The middle-aged man called Zhang Fu answered before sitting down quietly.

After making a clean breast of these things, Zhang Tie finally became reassured. Although the problem of grain supply counted most among the 5 urgencies, it was easiest to solve too. Thankfully, the seeds provided by the Imperial Land Ministry were safe. Only after having people make a “demonstration field” near Kangzhou City, those Wei ji envoys who were stimulated by the order of balancing rewards and punishments across the entire military region would promote the new technologies of “No. 1 earthworms” and “earth pulp” which could help farmland realize steady, growing yield like that “demonstration field” to the rest of the military region as soon as possible. In this way, the issue of grains supply could be basically solved. ‘Given my ability and fame, if I have people make such a “demonstration field” outside Kangzhou City, not only those officials even those major clans across the military region would imitate it as much as possible...’

Besides the issue of grains supply, the supply of all-purpose medicaments, the production of airplanes, the construction of airports in the theater of operations and the training of air cavalries indicated that he had exerted his utmost efforts to fulfill his commitment as Wei ji General. At least, the 5 aspects would not face the same problem anymore.

Actually, Zhang Tie could do it without having to select other people exclusively.

“Mr. Lu. There’re some manufacturing blueprints and formulas of Fiery-Oil weapons on the airboat from Fiery-Dragon Bounty Territory. After a while, you have people duplicate those maps and materials and deliver them to each arsenal within the theater of operations so that they could make the corresponding preparation in producing weapons...”

Fiery-Oil weapons such as Fiery-Oil inflammable bombs and Fiery-Oil spears could be easily produced by major clans across Taixia Country as long as Fiery-Oil spread over the country. It was just a matter of time. Zhang Tie just took the lead. Zhang Tie had not thought about occupying the formulas himself; instead, he just shared them with the public so that each weapon factory within the theater of operations could accomplish the preparation for production of Fiery-Oil weapons.

Through one year’s R&D, Fiery-Dragon Bounty Territory had been able to produce 5 categories of Fiery-Oil weapons as follows: first, different types of Fiery-Oil inflammable bombs in different specifications for airplanes and airships; second, inflammable spears; third, inflammable bolts for crossbows and ordinary bows; fourth, single-soldier inflammable grenades; fifth, inflammable flamers. Now, the entire

Fiery-Dragon Corps had started to be matched with these new weapons. Among these weapons, the most destructive one was inflammable flamer which was lethal to the enemy from 50 m away. This weapon had started to be deployed for squads. After being matched with these destructive inflammable weapons, the overall battle strength of Fiery-Dragon Corps would definitely reach a new height.

This time, Zhang Tie brought the manufacturing blueprints of the 5 weapons.

“Yes, sir!” Lu Yanyu said as he stood up. After that, he threw a glance at Zhang Tie, “Could we deliver these manufacturing blueprints of Fiery-Oil weapons to the commoners so that the corps across the military region could purchase them through multiple channels?”

“We could. But I have to clarify that the non-governmental workshops and factories which receive these manufacturing blueprints should give us discounts on the premise of quality guarantee! Additionally, what I’ve told you just now is closely related to the overall situation facing the theater of operation. All the 4 provinces and local places should coordinate with it at their full efforts. Nobody was allowed to stir up trouble. In the case of coordination, I don’t need to know about it. Mr. Lu could arrange it yourself. Later on, I will only pay attention to the result. If the result is good, all the participants would be awarded; if not, I will have to chop off your heads...”

“This humble official is clear. All the staff in Peacewest Farming Administration would live up to the expectation of general!” Lu Yanyu bowed towards Zhang Tie, closely followed by all the other officials of Peacewest Farming Administration who stood up and bowed before saying in unison, “We will live up to the expectation of general!”

“Good. My heart is at peace with your words...” Zhang Tie nodded after these urgencies were fixed.

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On the second day since they arrived here, Zhang Tie’s elder brother, 2 myrmidons and Zhang Su had left Kangzhou City by airboat and started their actions.

Besides Zhang Tie’s bodyguards, Lu Yanyu also assigned some experienced officials from the Peacewest Farming Administration who were familiar with the affairs of the 4 provinces to help them.

The only ones who stayed in Kangzhou City were Zhang Fu and his retainers. However, these people were not inside the city wall; instead, they went to take over the official farmlands outside Kangzhou City accompanied by 2 officials from the Peacewest Farming Administration.

There was neither Fiery-Oil nor No.1 earthworm in Peacewest Military Region yet, which could only be transported from Fiery-Dragon Bounty Territory, Youzhou Province for the time being. Lu Yanyu had already worked out a plan last night by arranging airboats to transport them from Fiery-Dragon Bounty Territory. As airboats had a large carrying capacity and great speed, they could make a round trip in about half a month. The components of thousands of airplanes, also the first batch of airplanes demanded by all the pilot training schools within the theater of operations could be transported from Fiery-Dragon Bounty Territory to the theater of operations by 50-60 airboats only in one trip. In case of Fiery-Oil demanded by pilot training schools, Zhang Tie had contacted Heavens Fortunes Sect and had them distribute the latest batch of Fiery Oil over here from the territory of Heavens Fortune Sect. It would cut off 50% of cost by transporting them from Youzhou Province.

Everybody across Peacewest Farming Administration had also been busy solving the “5 issues” mentioned by Zhang Tie in the conference today.

When everyone started to “be busy”, Zhang Tie got free from these secular things. Like how he said before, from now on, he would only pay attention to the result and determine who to award and punish. Zhang Tie didn’t know whether this was his way as an official. This way of being an official was a bit indolent more or less. Perhaps, the others might be more diligent in this position by making an inspection across the military region by airboat or make comments and instructions on various documents that were handed in each day and would never lose their interests in doing it as an official; however, Zhang Tie was not addicted to being an official. He felt that it was enough to do so by having experts to give full play to their strong points. He only needed to assign proper people to proper positions. As for the details, it depended on themselves.

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“General, after knowing that you’re back yesterday, 7 major clans in Kangcheng City have presented their posts to invite you together...”

Raising his head and watching the last airboat leaving Kangzhou City, Zhang Tie was thinking that he could finally become relaxed and promote to 9 changes earth knight and study the bet between him and Feng Cangwu, Lu Yanyu’s voice sounded.

The highest official in Kangzhou City was the commander-in-chief of Peacewest Military Region, closely followed by the provincial governor of Kangzhou Province. However, at this moment, the commander of Peacewest Military Region was in Xuanyuan Fortress; the provincial governor of Kangzhou City was also making an inspection across Kangzhou Province and in charge of the reorganization of the Kangzhou Provincial Army; instead of being in Kangzhou City. Therefore, Wei Ji General became the highest official in Kangzhou City. After knowing that Zhang Tie was going to take drastic measures soon after he came back yesterday, of course, those major clans in Kangzhou City would like to strike up an acquaintance with him.

Kangzhou City was really boisterous and eye-catching that Zhang Tie could not stay here any longer.

Those who were called major clans and qualified to send their posts to invite Zhang Tie for a banquet in Kangzhou City were all local forces in Peacewest Military Region. Zhang Tie was clear what these people would speak after attending their banquet. It was boring; however, Zhang Tie didn’t want to offend these local forces out of no reason.

After rubbing his hand, Zhang Tie put down his hand as he turned solemn, “Reply them on behalf of me. I’m going for inspection across the military region right now. I’m too busy. Therefore, I couldn’t accompany them for the time being...”

“Ahh, general, you’re going for inspection once again?” Lu Yanyu asked with an amazed look because Zhang Tie had just come back from inspection yesterday, “General, where are you heading for? Do you need my arrangement...”

“Ahem...ahem...no need. This time it is confidential. I will be there alone. Remember to report me once per 7 days. If there’s something that you couldn’t solve, I will solve it when I come back...” Zhang Tie replied with an undoubted reason without even blinking his eyes. As Wei Ji General, anything that Zhang

Tie regarded as confidential was confidential. If Zhang Tie liked, all of his schedules, opinions, words and plans and the likes could become confidential. Commoners were not qualified to ask about it, not to mention making a discovery about it.

Now that it was confidential, Lu Yanyu didn't ask about it as he continued, "When will you set off, general?"

Zhang Tie finally blinked his eyes as he replied, "Right now..."

Closely after saying that, Zhang Tie had rushed into the sky with a roar before Lu Yanyu uttered anything. When Zhang Tie was in the sky, a thunder hawk dove downwards him from the clouds. After being mounted by Zhang Tie, the thunder hawk instantly turned into a golden lightning bolt and disappeared from the sight of Lu Yanyu...

"Is that what knights usually do?" Lu Yanyu muttered as he watched Zhang Tie disappearing into the sky...

Chapter 1333: Heavenly Craftsmanship City

Under the control of Zhang Tie, the trickling water elements filled into the patterns like how liquefied steel was poured into delicate molds from steelmaking furnaces. Pieces of molds were assembled like gears of a difference engine or the steel structure of a skyscraper. They started to have reiki and utterly different abilities. They would not be icy, useless or simple anymore. This was how Zhang Tie formed his water chakra.

When the last extremely sophisticated, mysterious, geometric pattern, which was shaped like a diamond, was fully filled by water elements under the control of Zhang Tie, Zhang Tie quivered all over at once while a familiar strength reappeared in his body. Being penetrated and affected by this strength, Zhang Tie's body as a whole started to update automatically while each cell was becoming stronger and more energetic. The battle qi in the void of his qi sea surged once again like a rising tide. There were some more spiritual stars in the space of his mind sea. Those sparkling stars adorned the brilliance of the two full moons in his mind sea, making them more brilliant and denser. The light poured down like mercury...

After a long while, when this energy wave recovered its composure, Zhang Tie, who had promoted to the 9 change realm of earth knight and was only one step away from shadow knight, opened his eyes.

Zhang Tie then threw a glance at the empty water-element crystal in his hand before throwing it into Castle of Black Iron. After that, he got off the bed.

It was a strange room featured by the rich style of steel and steam. The room was made of the steel frame as all the beams, columns, basic partitions and floors were made of steel. Only the walls were made of pinewood. Given the look of the pinewoods, they had been used for a long time. After taking anti-corrosive treatment, the pinewoods gave out a bright yellow luster in the baptism of years. Such a luster brought the room some warm tint more or less. A row of 10 cm-thick steam pipelines penetrated through the walls like pronunciation tubes of the organ in the church. The exposed part of steam pipelines was connected to a row of crude yet durable heating units. As it was already March, of course,

those heating units were not open yet. In winter, if the heating units were not available, it would be hard to tide over.

The room was not large at least for Zhang Tie. The entire room, covering less than 150 square meters, was divided into a bedroom, guest room, parlor, study, toilet and workshop. It was a high-level serviced apartment, especially for singles. Zhang Tie had been here for over 1 month. Everything in the room was practical and ordinary. Only the study and the workshop made people feel it a bit unusual.

The study included many professional books such as *Metal Processing Manual*, *Preliminary Learning on Alloy*, *Middle-level Learning on Alloy*, *Advanced Learning on Alloy*, *Science of Steam Dynamics*, *Self-cultivation of Runed Instruments Master*, *Dictionary on the Parameters of Crystal Energy and Mechanical Association*, *A Summary on the Steam City-Defense System of Class A Cities*; *The XXth Issue of Steam World Magazine* and *Yearbook of Theses of Runed Instruments Masters Labor Union Headquarters on the 904th Year of Black Iron Calendar*. Additionally, there were over 1,000 metal samples, a set of mini advanced alloy smelting crucible, a set of multi-functional steam processing lathe, a complex, comprehensive metal processing table and a set of input ports that could be available for acquiring computing power of the difference engine in the hotel at any time.

This workshop almost occupied half of this apartment. Given the arrangement in the study and workshop of this apartment, anyone could easily get a conclusion——this was an apartment, especially for rune instrument masters.

That was truly an apartment for rune instrument master.

Rune instrument master was also a senior human profession. The low quantity and supreme position of this kind of professional led to the very rare quantity of serviced apartments especially for rune instrument masters in many continents and subcontinents; unless the boss's head was kicked by ass. Nobody would like to spend so much on preparing for such a room for such few customers. Starting from advancing to golden hammer artisan, a rune instrument master would not lack money wherever he was because there would always be advanced talents scrambled for by major clans and local forces. Such professionals would always have their own workshops; instead of doing studies in hotels.

Only Heavenly Craftsmanship City in Military Province of Taixia Country could provide serviced apartments and rooms especially for rune instrument masters in Eastern Continent and Western Continent.

The influence of Heavenly Craftsmanship City among people in Taixia Country could be seen from a familiar common saying——Battle fortresses in Taixia Country rank first in the world; Battle fortresses in Military Province rank first in Taixia Country; Battle fortresses in Heavenly Craftsmanship City ranked first in Military Province.

Heavenly Craftsmanship City was a unique Class A city with a rich feature of this age. As for steam engineers and rune instruments masters, Heavenly Craftsmanship City was their holy land.

The entrance from where humans entered the Earth-element Realm was in Military Province. The special geographical location and the history of Military Province in the former two holy wars led to Heavenly Craftsmanship City.

Zhang Tie left Kangzhou City directly for Heavenly Craftsmanship City about 2 months ago.

Strictly, Zhang Tie's trace was indeed confidential. Because Zhang Tie was here for developing a weapon that could be used to kill demon knights and completely grabbing the highest-level force of demons away from the air to the ground by the power of steel and steam in the hand of humans.

Zhang Tie wanted Taixia cities and commoners to get hang of the power for resisting even killing demon knights. That was absolutely a crazy whim.

Zhang Tie rarely had any ambition, except for this one. By then, it had been Zhang Tie's obsession rather than his whim...

Since Zhang Tie entered the theater of operations and saw numerous commoners evacuating from their hometowns and so many cities being destroyed and abandoned and the surging tide of demon army that crossed so many provinces, this obsession had gradually been strengthened in Zhang Tie's heart. After eating the last meal of Ancient-well bean curds in Xiangshan City, this obsession became clear abruptly.

Additionally, Zhang Tie had already aimed at the power of having commoners resist even kill demon knights—kinetic strike!

The energy of kinetic strike of Zhang Tie himself originated from his ability as a divine dominator. As for commoners, if they could acquire the necessary speed and energy required by the kinetic energy through mechanical equipment or steam dynamic devices, they would make it come true too.

Before the Catastrophe, humans had already invented kinetic weapons. Within days, Zhang Tie was racking his mind to try to have kinetic weapons reappear in the world. As long as humans got hang of kinetic weapons and each Class A city in Taixia Country was matched with such a weapon, the scale of the holy war would completely tilt to one side. By then, the combat pattern of the holy war would change.

In case of the proper place for attempting to make devices and weapons concerning steel and steam, Heavenly Craftsmanship City in Taixia Country would definitely rank first.

Coincidentally, Heavenly Craftsmanship City was also in Military Province, right in the rear end of the area under the jurisdiction of Wei Ji General. After making a short inspection of this city with Lu Yanyu by airboat, Zhang Tie had already made a decision.

After coming to Heavenly Craftsmanship City for 2 months, this kinetic weapon was still a concept and barely in its embryo. However, Zhang Tie had already promoted to 9 change realm of earth knight...

Chapter 1334: New Friends

Zhang Tie promoted to 9 change realm of earth knight after consuming the energy of the three demon earth knights that he captured when he escorted the squad of airships from Xiangshan Prefecture. Because the 3 earth demon knights didn't have great battle strength, it took Zhang Tie 800 more water-element crystals to light 324 scales of his water chakra.

Zhang Tie accomplished this promotion in his serviced apartment silently.

After sitting on his bed overnight and completing his promotion, Zhang Tie got off the bed to warm up; after that, he washed up in the washroom quietly.

After opening the water faucet in the washroom and washing his face, Zhang Tie looked up as he saw a 40-year old gentle face of a Hua man who had keen eyesight. Over the past 2 months, Zhang Tie had been showing up in Heavenly Craftsmanship City with this face. His current name was Tie Changgong.

As Zhang Tie had not performed his expertise in rune instruments development, nobody across Heavenly Craftsmanship City would connect this strange face and name with that of Zhang Tie.

There were so many rune instruments masters in Heavenly Craftsmanship City. Besides those from Taixia Country, a lot of rune instruments masters from other subcontinents also gathered here. Strange faces would arrive here almost every day; similarly, familiar faces would leave out of here every day too. Therefore, it was fine for Zhang Tie to use that face.

"I've already reached 9 change realm of earth knight, do I need to continue staying here?" Zhang Tie muttered towards himself in the mirror before shaking his head.

Zhang Tie didn't feel surprised after promoting to the 9 change realm of earth knight smoothly. Not until he stayed in Heavenly Craftsmanship City for 2 months did Zhang Tie realize how difficult it was by making that dream come true.

Over the past hundreds of years, Zhang Tie was not the first rune instruments master who wanted to make weapons that were lethal to knights. However, nobody had ever succeeded. Compared to the process of forming chakras, this road seemed to be a more difficult, steeper and harder to ascend.

In the trouble-reappearance situation of Xuanyuan Hill, Zhang Tie had looked for the confidential materials of the headquarters of all the human trade unions over the past 2 months. He found that all the influential forces even the top 7 sects across Taixia Country were making the similar study. This topic had been one of the most classified topics among Humans Rune Instruments Master Trade Union, Alchemists Trade Union, Pharmacists Trade Union and Animals Controllers Trade Union over the past hundreds of years. Rune instruments masters would like to invent mechanical equipment which could be used to kill knights; alchemists would like to invent more destructive alchemist bombs which could kill knights in a normal environment; pharmacists were studying terrifying drugs to kill knights; animal controllers were training odd things that could devour knights. All these were proceeding in the name of resisting demons; despite some top professionals who were thinking about pulling human knights off their thrones.

The reason that alchemist masters were in a high social station lay in that only alchemist bombs could kill black iron knights in specific environments by far; however, earth knights could barely be killed by alchemist bombs. Neither could the other trade unions' research findings could make it.

If some professional could invent something that could kill knights, undoubtedly, that person would become the king in that profession; however, such a king had not appeared until now.

Facing such a tough challenge, even Edward in Castle of Black Iron couldn't provide too much help to Zhang Tie; he had to depend on himself. Although Edward could accomplish something according to Zhang Tie's requirement as a rune instrument master which was one level higher than Zhang Tie, who was a major craftsman, Edward couldn't make innovative studies and inventions.

Zhang Tie maintained his confidence. However, during the period in this city, Zhang Tie had been clearer about that tough challenge facing him—a high mountain, the top of which could not be reached by one step.

After cleaning up himself in the room, Zhang Tie groomed his hair and clothes before leaving the apartment. Before leaving, he flashed in and out Castle of Black Iron with the fruit of redemption from the gratitude of golden uangs in mouth.

This serviced apartment was called Steam World. There were many serviced apartments especially for rune instruments masters in this city. Zhang Tie selected a medium-grade one which fit his current status and frame pretty well, making him not that eye-catching at all.

Heavenly Craftsmanship City was rooted in one of the largest mining areas in Military Province. Therefore, metals were usually seen in this city. Only by digging the earth for a few meters by a shovel could people see high-end ferromanganese ores.

When Zhang Tie walked out of the gate of the hotel, it was already afternoon when the entire city was boisterous.

Zhang Tie barely saw clusters of chimneys in other Class A cities of Taixia country. However, chimneys could be seen almost everywhere in Heavenly Craftsmanship City. As a result, the black smoke that emitted from the chimneys made the azure in the sky blurry. The moment Zhang Tie walked out of the apartment, he had sniffed the faint smell of coal tar.

Environmentally, Heavenly Craftsmanship City was severely polluted. Whenever it was, the booms of steel and machines couldn't be compatible with green mountains and crystal water. However, the popular wisdom didn't fit this city as nobody in this city cared about it. Actually, in this city, that blurry azure in the sky won a special appellation in Military Province—Heavenly Craftsmanship Azure.

Among the cities that Zhang Tie had ever seen, only Kalur the city of machines in Waii Subcontinent could have such a feature after being 10 times more in its prosperity and 100 times larger in its area.

With the arrival of the holy war; especially after demons started to invade Taixia Country, all the battle fortress manufacturers and steam weapons plants had been facing an explosive growth in order. Numerous large airships were rising and falling in this city so as to carry products from here to the other places.

Zhang Tie threw a glance at the sky, then the passers-by on the road; closely after that, he pulled down the respirator to cover a small part of his face. After leaving the hotel for 50m, he jumped onto a free trolley that passed by him and headed for the eastern urban district of Heavenly Craftsmanship City...

Over 10 minutes later, after shifting another 2 trolleys, Zhang Tie got off the vehicle. After over 10 minutes' walk in the familiar streets and lanes of the city, he came to the gate of a building which was covered with bizarre, complex geometric patterns and made of full steel components.

There was no label on this building, neither was there any post outside the gate. It was just a naked thick iron gate with a special device near the lock catch.

Zhang Tie took out a gold coin and inserted it into the slot on the device. Closely after that, he ran his spiritual energy and jostled down an ordinary rune of consolidating skill on a mithril rune writing board

beside the slot. With the effect of the gold coin and that rune, the thick iron gate slowly opened. Zhang Tie then flashed inside.

This was a place where rune instrument masters in this city gathered. The entry fee was 1 gold coin. Additionally, the visitor should at least be a runemaster. If not leave a rune on the mithril rune writing board, the gate would not open automatically itself. Actually, the iron gate was a high-end rune instrument.

There was an aisle behind the gate, guarded by two tough guys who would guarantee that only one person was allowed in each time. After passing that aisle, Zhang Tie entered a bar.

Even though it was daytime, there were also many groups of people in this bar who were talking with each other.

The moment Zhang Tie entered, two people at one table had waved their hands towards him.

Zhang Tie unveiled his aspirator as he walked towards them. When he reached there, he sat beside them.

The two Hua rune instrument masters at the table looked older than 50 years old. One of them was tall, sturdy and unkempt while his beard and hair could almost touch each other. The other man in glasses looked more delicate.

“Old Tie, you’re late. We thought you would not come.” The rune instrument master who looked strong and unkempt said loudly.

“I lit one more surging point today. Therefore, it’s a bit late!” Zhang Tie said calmly as he made a cup of lemon wine by the bottle on the table. Most of rune instrument masters didn’t like alcohol; because alcohol would make them less responsive and cause their spiritual energy wave. If they always drank, they would even be afflicted by shaking hands, which was considered taboo for rune instrument masters. As lemon wine’s proof was as low as that of soda drinks and champagne, it was the favorite drink of rune instrument masters here.

“Hahaha, Old Tie, you still dream about promoting to a knight. If you could really do it, I promise to send you a big gift on your rotating chakra ceremony...” The straightforward rune instrument master burst out into laughter as he beat Zhang Tie’s shoulder for a couple of times forcefully.

Of course, Zhang Tie was just telling a lie. Because Zhang Tie’s current status was just a LV 10 strong fighter who had just grasped the ability to release his battle qi as of far like most of rune instrument masters. Few people who had the talent and made a great achievement in this line could make a great breakthrough on their cultivation base. Over 99% of rune instrument masters above the level of rune craftsman could barely promote to a knight in their whole lives. This was the objective law for the development and growth of things just like how a great athlete couldn’t be a successful pianist. It was already something for a qualified person to make a great achievement in a line in his whole life. Few people could make great achievements in more than 2 areas.

Alchemist monster Zhao Yuan was both a superb alchemist master and a powerful heavenly knight. Very few people could match Zhao Yuan across Taixia Country.

Zhang Tie was also something as he was both a knight, a rune alchemist master and a powerful animal controller. However, Zhang Tie had to rely on Castle of Black Iron and the fruits of plunder. Without fruits of plunder, he could never become a major craftsman in rune instruments manufacturing.

The two rune instruments masters who shared the same table with Zhang Tie were Zhang Tie's new friends. They were both major craftsmen. The strong and unkempt one was called Lin Xiuxian, one of the local tyrants in this city who had stayed in this city for over 5 decades. According to him, he could do everything in the city.

The other guy who looked delicate and gentle was called Zhu Daqian, who was born in a major clan. According to him, he was sent here from his family with great hope. He couldn't go back home to be a leading role unless he promoted to a "craftsman master". In the beginning, Zhang Tie believed in his words until when Zhu Daqian revealed the truth after being drunk—he was exiled to this city by his clan head due to a woman.

He could become drunk by drinking lemon wine; the key was that he got a heroic name. What a weirdo! Each time Zhang Tie saw Lin Xiuxian who didn't take a bath for a couple of weeks and Zhu Daqian who changed a set of clothes per day and cleaned his aspirator with dust-free runes, Zhang Tie would feel that they should exchange their names with each other.

"Have you brought my thing?" Zhang Tie asked as he moved his eyes onto a 0.5 m long lead barrel beside Lin Xiuxian...

Chapter 1335: Road

Lin Xiuxian smirked as he said, "It's difficult to get this thing. A knight found a few of it from Earth-element Realm a few days ago, after coming back, he deposited it in my friend's store for sale. Take a look at it, whether it's enough?"

Lin Xiuxian said as he passed the lead barrel to Zhang Tie.

After taking that lead barrel, Zhang Tie opened it. Closely after that, a punch-sized golden crystal escaped out of it like a balloon as it flew all the way towards the ceiling. Zhang Tie instantly caught that crystal by hand. After that, he closed the lead barrel.

"Watch out, I also don't know what to do if you let it go..." Lin Xiuxian hurriedly reminded Zhang Tie.

Zhang Tie nodded as he pinched that punch-sized crystal and watched it carefully.

The punch-sized crystal was like a combination of gold and crystal. It possessed the metallic luster and was semi-transparent. What was more marvelous was that as long as you opened the lead barrel, this thing would escape away. Even though Zhang Tie was holding it, he could still feel it struggling to escape away from his hand.

This was also the most expensive and mysterious metal in the world, the raw material of the core components of airboats—air floating gold.

It was Zhang Tie's first time to see the look of the raw ore of air floating gold.

“How many are there in the lead barrel?”

“7 more of the same size!”

“Okay, thanks...” Zhang Tie said as he opened the lead barrel and foisted that air floating gold into it. Closely after that, he put the lead barrel into his space-teleportation finger ring. What was strange was that the air floating gold immediately became calm soon after it was put into the lead barrel.

After that, Zhang Tie took out 14 earth element crystals from his portable space-teleportation finger ring and pushed them to the front of Lin Xiuxian.

Lin Xiuxian and Zhu Daqian watched how Zhang Tie took earth crystals out of his portable space-teleportation finger ring and put the lead barrel into his portable space-teleportation finger ring like performing magic with an amazed look.

Even knights treasured space-teleportation equipment, not to mention these runed instrument masters. The two people had been shocked when Zhang Tie showed this space-teleportation finger ring to them at the beginning.

“F*ck, when this father makes a fortune and promotes to a craftsman master, I will also fetch a portable space-teleportation equipment...” Lin Xiuxian said as he hurriedly put those earth crystals into his portable storage bag one after another. Compared to space-teleportation finger ring, these earth element crystals were also very eye-catching.

“Come on, don’t dream anymore. We’d better stock enough earth element crystals and buy some secret item pearls to try our luck in Taiyi City!” Zhu Daqian said after throwing a glance at Zhang Tie’s finger ring for a couple of times greedily.

“Your finger ring is too attractive. It’s safe in Heavenly Craftsmanship City; however, you’d better take care of yourself outside the city. Even knights would envy you at the sight of it. You’re just a LV 10 strong fighter, a knight could kill you and make you disappear without blinking his eyes. If people were possessed by devils, they would be as cruel and cold as demons. Your space-teleportation equipment could easily make people be possessed by devils!” Lin Xiuxian reminded Zhang Tie after putting away his earth element crystals.

“Thanks for your warning, Brother Lin, I see. I also know a bit of disguising skill, I will protect myself outside the city!” Zhang Tie said with a faint smile, “Brother Lin, do you have other methods to get air floating gold? I don’t care about the price!”

“Air floating gold is a product in Earth-element Realm. The largest mine of air floating gold is under the control of imperial households of Taixia Country. Nobody else could acquire a large amount of air floating gold. Even this bit of air floating gold is got by a knight in a mine of the Earth-element Realm by fortune. Additionally, air floating gold was useless to commoners as the manufacturing method of airboat using air floating gold is grasped by the imperial households of Taixia country!” Lin Xiuxian threw a serious glance at Zhang Tie as he continued, “As for our rune instrument masters, this rune of air floating gold has poor compatibility. It couldn’t combine with other metals. Even though you could make a set of equipment using air floating gold, you couldn’t use it at all as it was as unstable as flying a kite. You couldn’t even determine the direction. Previously, a rune instrument master in this city made a pair

of wings using air floating gold, which looked pretty dignified. However, as he failed to control his direction in the air, he almost killed himself. What do you want it for..."

"I'm designing a set of the wholly new steam centrifugal ballista. As the bearing of the principal axis of steam centrifugal ballista that we use now is facing issues such as overheat and poor durability when running at a high speed. I prepare to collect some air floating gold and make a set of suspension bearing which is featured by zero wear and high durability..." Zhang Tie said as he started to draw it on the table by hand.

As this bar was especially for rune instrument masters, it was common for rune instrument masters to discuss weapons, equipment and their design drawings. Therefore, the surface of each table here was magnetic rune plotting platform. Anyone could draw something on it for the sake of discussion whenever they got the inspiration.

Zhang Tie just drew the drawing of the illusory steam centrifugal ballista on the table.

As a rune instrument master, it was his basic skill to draw. Zhang Tie's drawing was as same as the blueprints drawn by other designers by rulers and compasses. His lines were so straight and his rounds were perfect. It took Zhang Tie less than 1 minute to finish drawing the sketch of the steam centrifugal ballista together with the approximate parameters.

Lin Xiuxian and Zhu Daqian watched the sketch seriously as they winked and considered about it. After a while, Zhu Daqian stroked his jaw as he asked Zhang Tie, "Your design is a bit interesting. The main turntable of your steam centrifugal ballista is akin to the traditional energy storage flywheel. Such a design requires the flywheel to run in a vacuum so as to reduce the energy loss. Additionally, with the non-contact suspension main bearing, the flywheel could reach its maximal speed; as a result, the ammo would gain a much greater initial velocity. However, it requires many times higher cost; especially that the suspension main bearing should be made of air floating gold. Given the input and the output, it's not economical. You could make over 10 ordinary steam centrifugal ballistas and could gain a few times greater effect when you spend time making one of it. Do you want to attend the annual competition on the range of steam centrifugal ballistas held by Rune Instrument Masters Union..." Zhu Daqian asked as he threw a couple of times more glance at Zhang Tie. After that, he shook his head too as he said, "That's impossible. That match is specially set for rune instrument masters below rune craftsmen. Old Tie, you don't need to join in the fun..."

"No..." Lin Xiuxian's eyes shone at once as he said, "Old Tie, there's something else that you've not presented to us, here..." Lin Xiuxian said as he pointed at the sketch on the table, "Old Tie, something should be here..."

Zhang Tie let out a sigh inside, 'What an experienced man! After staying in Heavenly Craftsmanship City for a few decades, this guy really has an unusual insight. He found an interface for a reserved function module from the sketch.'

Now that Lin Xiuxian had already noticed it, Zhang Tie didn't need to hide it anymore. Therefore, he added something with an ordinary symbol that was widely accepted by rune instrument masters on the place where Lin Xiuxian pointed at.

“High-speed vacuum flywheel’s centrifugal disk made of air floating gold plus an explosive high-pressure steam propulsion valve. Even though it requires a high cost, it’s enough to kill a battle spirit. However, it seems to be a bit wasteful by killing battle spirits using this device...” Lin Xiuxian suddenly watched Zhang Tie with widely opened eyes as he said, “Old Tie, do you also want to make steam centrifugal ballistas that could kill knights?”

Zhang Tie kneaded his face as he answered, “What do you mean by ‘also’?”

“Because I’ve seen the similar design decades of years ago. It was designed by my master; however, he failed in the end!” Lin Xiuxian let out a sigh as he started to improve the sketch, “My master was already a major craftsman when I was young. He was also ambitious about designing equipment or weapon to kill knights. Finally, he chose steam centrifugal ballista as a breakthrough. My master also chose the steam centrifugal ballista with flywheel structure. He thought that the highest speed of revolution of flywheel could reach 200,000 rpm; if a flywheel whose diameter was hundreds of meters, the linear velocity of the edge of the flywheel might reach a terrifying level when its speed of revolution could reach 200,000 rpm. Anything being tossed out at such a terrifying speed would carry great kinetic energy which would kill knights. However...”

“However, did your master find that the greatest linear velocity of the edge of any flywheel could never reach the speed of sound? The theoretical speed of 200,000 rpm of a flywheel is just limited to a small-diameter of the flywheel in a vacuum. As long as the size of the flywheel was magnified, it would meet its physical upper limit!” Zhang Tie replied with a bitter smile.

“Right, therefore, my master thought about giving the ammo an impetus the moment it left the turntable, namely, adding an explosive high-pressure steam propulsion valve at the exit. Even so, my master could at most make the initial speed of the ammo 1,700 m/s after 2 decades’ effort, which was only equal to 5 times that of the speed of sound. With such a speed, he could kill battle spirit by steam centrifugal ballista; however, he still couldn’t kill knights using it...”

“Then?”

Lin Xiuxian pursed his lips with red eyes, “That old thing didn’t admit defeat; he abandoned the design of explosive high-pressure steam propulsion valve and would like to increase initial speed using pure alchemist’s bomb. After a few experiments, he was exploded to death due to an accident, leaving me alone in Heavenly Craftsmanship City!” Lin Xiuxian watched Zhang Tie as he said seriously, “Old Tie, I know you don’t lack money; however, many top rune instrument masters wanted to break through it and carve themselves a place in history and reach their heyday; however, none of them succeeded...”

Zhang Tie knew that Lin Xiuxian was telling the truth, because what he said rightly verified what Zhang Tie got in his lab and Castle of Black Iron over the past 2 months. The maximal linear speed of the edge of the flywheel of steam centrifugal ballista could only approach 340 m/s infinitely. In terms of explosive high-pressure steam propulsion valve, the upper initial speed limit of the ammo could not reach 2,000 m/s.

“I still want to have a try; there might be some other method!”

“There’re two methods. First, to have the linear speed of the flywheel break the speed of sound; second, to add a greater impetus to the steam centrifugal ammo; however, we’ve already seen the

upper limit of that. Alchemist bomb doesn't work at all. Because of its overreaction, it would kill yourself ahead of the enemy..."

"Steam and alchemist bombs are not the mere methods!"

"You're right. Before my master passed away, he suddenly became greatly discerning and apprehending. He said someone might be able to increase the initial speed of ammo or break through the maximal linear speed of the edge of the flywheel in terms of runes array. However, only god-level craftsmen could grasp the knowledge of runes array. Less than 10 god-level craftsmen could be found in Taixia Country. Importantly, none of the runes adopted by modern runes instrument masters could increase speed for lifeless objects. The Rune Instrument Masters Union spent a lot of money and time in seeking for such a far-ancient rune from the Earth-element Realm annually. However, they always failed. I even doubt that there was not even such a rune even in far-ancient times. Old Tie, the road that you chose would be very very difficult..."

"I know it would be very very difficult; however, at least I have two methods to go. If not try them, I would feel regretful for the rest of my life. I will do my best and leave the rest to Heaven!" Zhang Tie also let out a sigh.

Over the past 2 months, after so many attempts and failures, Zhang Tie maintained his belief. He was more aware of the road facing him. If it was an easy way to go, it might have long been occupied by others numerous times.

"If so, wish you good luck. I will have to leave Heavenly Craftsmanship City in a couple of days. Hongsheng Palace, Yunzhou City is going to build a Class A city, as I acquaint with an elder of Meng Clan, he invited me to preside over the establishment of the city-defense system of the city with the compensation of 1 billion gold coins. Just go to make some pocket money. Therefore, I want to bid a farewell to you two here..."

Zhu Daqian replied with a bitter smile, "You also have a part-time job? I might go to Military City in a couple of days!"

"What's up?"

"As I invented a mini nitrogen separator previously, I know something about separating nitrogen from the air. I didn't think it was useful; I've not imagined that an official of the Wei General's Mansion found me yesterday and invited me to attend the design of a weapon program in a military arsenal of Huanzhou Province..."

'I've not imagined that Zhu Daqian's schedule is related to me.' Zhang Tie sighed with feelings that it was such a small world. Of course, the one who came here for Zhu Daqian was not arranged by Zhang Tie himself. Zhang Tie estimated that it was a subordinate of Lu Yanyu. In this case, Zhang Tie didn't know what to say.

"What weapon program?"

"A Fiery-Oil driven flaming tank. I'm responsible for the liquefying nitrogen device in the tank!"

"Flaming tank?" Lin Xiuxian was stunned evidently; however, Zhang Tie remained calm because it was within his expectation. When he took out those Fiery-Oil weapons from Fiery-Dragon Bounty Territory,

he had guessed that Taixia Country would make more destructive weapons based on their overall strength. Zhang Tie's invention was just a beginning.

"Of course, look at the provinces in the theater of operations. They're all busy building Fiery-Oil bases. All the farmlands have been covered with Qianji Hermit's fermentors of earth pulp and earthworms rearing pools. This scene is even more boisterous than when in peacetime. Qianji Hermit really has unpredictable abilities. Previously, the 4 provinces were filled with negative emotions; only after he served as Wei'ji General for a few months, all the disappointed emotions have been dispersed while all the commoners, major clans, officials became active and many factories in this city started to study Fiery-Oil weapons. No wonder he was appointed as Wei'ji General by the commander-in-chief!" Zhu Daqian said with full of admiration.

"Ahem, ahem, Qianji Hermit might only be a bit fortunate. It's said that he's still young and knows nothing at all!" Zhang Tie pretended to cough twice before saying.

"Hahaha, Old Tie, we all know that you're ambitious; however, Qianji Hermit is indeed an affectionate and righteous man. His military exploits and meritorious deeds could never be matched by us. It's said that he's the founder of Iron-Dragon Sect in Youzhou Province. Last year, Old Zhu and I were talking about seeking refuge in Iron-Dragon Sect after we were bored of this city. Based on our abilities, we might not be refused..." Lin Xiuxian said while bursting out into laughter.

"Based on two elder brothers' talents, if you go to Iron-Dragon Sect, Qianji Hermit would definitely open a palace for each of you!" Zhang Tie replied with a smile.

"Hahaha, thanks for your auspicious words. Oh, how long will you stay in Heavenly Craftsmanship City? If you plan to stay here for a longer time, I will introduce you to some friends..."

"I would leave soon too. After coming here for over 2 months, I've made a great achievement. I've realized that something could only be done step by step. As it's growing more and more chaotic, if that thing couldn't be invented for the time being, I'd like to cultivate for a period seriously first. Hopefully, I would promote to a higher level as soon as possible. It's not bad whatsoever!"

After coming to this city for 2 months, Zhang Tie's greatest achievement was that he understood what difficulties and obstacles he would overcome in order to make his dream come true. It couldn't be reached in one day. It couldn't even be done by himself based on his current rune instrument manufacturing level. After realizing this point, Zhang Tie had determined to leave as it would be meaningless for him to further stay here.

He didn't need to care about the rear end because he had made arrangements properly in all aspects. As long as they proceeded it orderly, there would not be any big trouble. Therefore, Zhang Tie would like to deepen into the theater of operations alone only for promoting to a shadow knight first. The so-called Wei'ji General was unrealistic in Zhang Tie's eyes because the title could be conferred and canceled whenever the commander-in-chief wanted. The vanity meant nothing for Zhang Tie. Additionally, Meng Shidao was observing him in Xuanyuan Hill maliciously; Zhang Tie didn't want to be involved in the officialdom of Taixia Country too much as it was not necessarily a good thing for him.

As for a knight, battle strength and rank were their largest dependence. After deepening into the theater of operations, he could at least kill some demon knights or give demons and Heavens Reaching

Church a hard time so as to make the rear end less stressed. Over the past 2 months, although Taixia Country didn't face that urgent situation anymore; it was still not facing an optimistic prospect. As a knight, Zhang Tie really couldn't waste time at this critical moment...

Chapter 1336: Leaving Heavenly Craftsmanship City

3 days later, Zhang Tie was sitting on the opposite of an old man with grey eyebrows and beard while drinking tea and talking about runes knowledge and universal laws with him in an elegant and tranquil courtyard of Heavenly Craftsmanship City...

"What's the definition of runes?" Zhang Tie asked.

"Runes are the shuji of good luck, bridge of two realms, immortal essence of six senses!" The old man replied.

"What do you mean by shuji? What's the bridge? What's the immortal essence?" Zhang Tie continued.

"Shuji refers to the law of changes. It's born in the original chaos in the universe. There's no rune in the original chaos. After the chaos was divided into heavens and the earth, runes were born too..." The old man replied to Zhang Tie as he sipped the tea water leisurely, "The two realms refer to the elements realm and the material realm. The rules of runes connect the two realms in a fantastic and mysterious way. The bridge is manifested in the material realm with the strength of the elements realm. The six senses refer to eyes, ears, nose, tongue, body and mind. As runes are born in nature, people could only get them accidentally. If people's six senses could observe the universal laws, it would be no different than picking fruits from the tree..."

"How?"

"Your body is the shuji, two realms and 6 senses. If you ask me, who will I ask?"

Zhang Tie picked up his teacup which was covered with enshrouding steam with eyes closed. After a few seconds, he emptied the teacup before cupping his hands towards the old man and saying, "Thanks!"

"Could this old man's words solve general's puzzle?" The old man asked with a smile.

Zhang Tie's eyes shone at once as he asked, "How do you know me?"

"In recent years, this old man has got some gnosis using the laws of runes. Last night, I dreamed about a brilliant immortal bird flying into my courtyard with a pair of huge feather wings. This morning, I practiced divination and knew that a Class III major official would come here from the theater of operations. After finding that you're a stranger who has stayed in this city for over 2 months, I suddenly recalled a person. He's also a well-known Class III major official of Taixia Country in the theater of operations and was born with the body-changing immortal bloodline. It's said that that person has also left Kangzhou Province for over 2 months and always moved secretly; therefore, this old man has known who you're..." The old man said nonchalantly.

Zhang Tie became silent. The laws of divination practice were too fantastic. He had not imagined that this old man could see through his real identity after staying in this city for over 2 months. Zhang Tie had experienced the similar thing in Ice and Snow Wilderness. Therefore, he was not too shocked this time.

According to Elzida, someone could indeed predict the future. However, the immortal bird mentioned by this old man reminded Zhang Tie of the *King Roc Sutra* that he was cultivating.

‘Whether this person has known something or is suggesting something to me?’

A whim occurred to Zhang Tie’s mind together with slight killing intent. However, closely after that, his killing intent disappeared completely at the sight of a kind and wise eyes of the old man.

‘Am I thinking too much? It’s just a dream.’ Zhang Tie then revealed a self-mocking smile. ‘Even if he knows my real identity, so what? If everyone in the world finds out my real identity, will I have to kill everyone in the world?’

After promoting to the 9 change realm of earth knight, Zhang Tie would soon become a shadow knight; therefore, Zhang Tie’s mentality gradually changed unconsciously. Previously, he was worried that his secret of cultivating King Roc Sutra would be exposed to others; however, now, although Zhang Tie wouldn’t write the secret that he was cultivating an emperor-level classics onto his forehead and let everybody know it, he had seen through it. Even if this secret was exposed to the public, so what? Even if Emperor Xuanyuan and the imperial households of Taixia Country were cultivating the complete secret method “Xuanyuan God Sutra” was exposed to the public, so what? Who would dare harm them? In the final analysis, in this world, forces counted most.

This was the mentality of powerful ones.

“Now that the master has known that I’ve stayed in Heavenly Craftsmanship City for over 2 months, you must also know why I’m here. Please give me some instructions.” Zhang Tie asked calmly.

“What general wants to do is as hard as climbing up to the sky. Your ability is far greater than this old man’s ability. This old man is just an ordinary person who knows something about runes instrument manufacturing skills. How could I give any instructions to general? You could only try it and think about it yourself. All the others couldn’t give you any favor. What I said just now could only serve as a reference to general...”

Zhang Tie let out a long sigh before asking, “Really?”

“The strength of flywheel and steam have already reached their limits. If you want to make a further breakthrough, you might not make it unless general could discover a rune that could increase the speed of the lifeless object and make a runes array with this rune!”

The same words had been talked about by Lin Xiuxian 3 days ago. Zhang Tie realized that it must be the last possibility as it was right what he had concluded in the end.

“Do you mean that we could only expect that someone discovered some relics from Earth-element Realm?”

The runes that rune instrument masters used now were all excavated from those mysterious relics in Earth-element Realm. People could only discover 2 rune relics in the Earth-element Realm over the past 900-odd years since the Catastrophe. The 2 rune relics well developed the profession of human rune instrument masters. It’s as difficult and impossible as looking for a needle in the bottle of hay if people expected to discover any new rune relics in the Earth-element Realm, not to mention discovering some runes that could increase the speed of a lifeless object among the rune relics.

Zhang Tie's words sounded a bit disappointing.

"It is possible. But..."

"But what?"

"We don't know whether someone could invent such a rune which could increase the speed of the lifeless object."

"Could really someone make it?"

'Inventing a rune? That sounds a bit exaggerating. ' Although Zhang Tie had seen the world, he also felt that it was impossible.

"The runes that we got today were all acquired by far-ancient immortals through observing the marvels in the universe. This old man doesn't have such an ability to invent it. However, there're so many talents in the word. Some top knowledgeable sages might be able to create the magnificence of human rune instrument masters by evolving new runes from the changes in the universe..."

Zhang Tie revealed a bitter smile. After appreciating the old man once again, he left the teahouse.

The old man stood up and saw Zhang Tie off.

It was a courtyard outside the teahouse, which was filled with peach blossoms. In March, peach blossoms were in full bloom. These peach blossoms reminded Zhang Tie of those peach trees in Xuanyuan Hill. The old man's disciples were waiting outside the teahouse. Watching the old man seeing Zhang Tie off himself in such a kind and respectful way, the two disciples watched Zhang Tie with their eyes widely opened as if they were watching a monster. Because their master had a lofty status in Heavenly Craftsmanship City, over these years, the old man only saw the other visitors off the teahouse politely at most; instead of entering the courtyard. However, today, the old man saw Zhang Tie all the way off the courtyard.

After recovering their composure, the two disciples hurriedly showed the way.

Many people were waiting to visit the old man outside the courtyard below the stages. They were at least mysterious rune instrument masters. After the gate of the small courtyard was opened, all the others were dumbfounded when they watched the old man and his two disciples seeing Zhang Tie off.

"Ahh, who's that one? How come Mr. Jinlong saw him off himself?"

"I have no idea. Could he be the new disciple of Mr. Jinlong?"

"No, I don't think so. Additionally, Mr. Jinlong has already taken his last disciple a few years ago!"

Those people who were waiting outside whispered to each other as they watched Zhang Tie with jealous, admiring and abhorrent looks. The reason that they were abhorrent was that they blamed Zhang Tie for being that presumptuous to be seen off by Mr. Jinlong himself.

"Please go back!" Zhang Tie turned around and told the old man.

"See you!" The old man said with a smile.

Zhang Tie nodded. Closely after that, he threw a glance at those onlookers outside the courtyard before going downstairs and leaving the lane.

Not until the old man saw Zhang Tie disappear at the end of the lane did he return to his courtyard. By then, all the onlookers recovered their composure as they hurriedly rushed towards him.

“My master won’t receive any more guest today. Please leave your letters for paying a visit and go back!” One of the old man’s disciples opened his mouth to stop all of them.

After hearing his words, those people could only present their letters for paying a visit to the two disciples of the old man. Whenever the two disciples received a letter for paying a visit, they would give a metal plate to the very person which was marked with time. The latest time on the plate was June 21, which means 3 months later.

Mr. Jinlong was a venerable rune instrument master in Heavenly Craftsmanship City; especially in the study of runes. Additionally, Mr. Jinlong was glad to give instructions to those junior rune instrument masters. Therefore, a lot of rune instrument masters would come here for him every day. Zhang Tie presented the letter for paying a visit to the old man over 2 months ago and was received by him today...

...

After leaving the small courtyard, Zhang Tie wandered in the city alone. After meeting Mr. Jinlong, Zhang Tie was all clear-minded.

‘It’s time to leave!’

Zhang Tie muttered to himself inside.

Soon after he made the decision, reverberating exclamations had entered his ears. Everybody in the street looked up at the sky.

So did Zhang Tie. He then saw 7 air-cavalry I airplanes flying over the sky, leaving 7 wisps of colorful smoke...

It was sunny; therefore, the 7 airplanes were especially clear; especially the 7 wisps of colorful smoke behind the airplanes which drew an eye-catching rainbow in the sky.

Many people in Heavenly Craftsmanship City might have been used to airships, even airboats; however, it might be their first time to see airplanes. Therefore, the entire city became boisterous.

They were air-cavalry I airplanes assembled by the factories in Heavenly Craftsmanship City according to the blueprints. Fiery Oil was transported from afar. The pilots must come from the Thunder Hawk Instructions Squad of Fiery-Dragon Corps.

This trial flight was the best advertisement and the most thrilling encouragement...

When they saw airplanes drawing rainbows in the sky, kids and juveniles chased after it on earth; all the adults moved their heads out of the balcony and windows to watch them. At this moment, those fighters who were patrolling in the city seemingly had forgotten about their duties as they all stopped and watched the 7 airplanes in the sky with bizarre eye light. The driver of the trolley moved half of his

body outside the window and looked up at the sky. Many drivers on the street were looking up at the sky from inside the vehicles...

“Bang...” Some vehicles tailgated one after another. However, the drivers didn’t quarrel with each other; instead, they directly parked their vehicles and walked out of their cabs before looking up at the sky.

Many people even ran onto the roof and watched the airplanes by telescope seriously.

Those workers in the city who participated in making airplanes and providing components also ran out of their workshops under the leadership of their heads and managers. Watching the airplanes and the brilliant rainbows in the sky, they all felt pretty proud because those airplanes were assembled by them.

...

“They are airplanes, Fiery-Oil airplanes brought by Qianji Hermit. With them, we could f*ck those demon b*tards ferociously. We will never be afraid of demons no matter what their population is...” Someone cried on the street.

“Fiery Oil? What’s that?”

“You will know it in a couple of months. We’ve got a Fiery Oil base outside Heavenly Craftsmanship City. When corns are ripe, we will be able to produce Fiery Oil...”

“Could we defeat demons with it?”

“Of course, even airships can’t defeat these airplanes in the sky!”

...

At this moment, many colorful pieces of paper were thrown off the airplanes from the sky like snowflakes. The moment these pieces of paper fell onto the ground, the onlookers had started to grab them.

...

“We’re protecting Taixia Country by producing Fiery Oil!”

“We’re fighting demons by producing airplanes!”

“Males would become heroes by joining the unrivaled air cavalries of Taixia country!”

“We extend our thanks to all the workers in Heavenly Craftsmanship City who are participating in the major airplanes manufacturing projects in the western theater of operations!”

“Taixia Country will win the holy war for sure; Hua people will win the holy war for sure!”

All the colorful pieces of paper were marked with thrilling words.

The people started to cheer up increasingly loudlier. Gradually their cheers covered the entire city like a tsunami.

...

When a red piece of paper reached in front of Zhang Tie, Zhang Tie caught it at once. At the sight of the content on the slogan, Zhang Tie revealed a smile as he said inside, 'Those sons of b*tches are really good at capturing opportunities!'

Things were unpredictable. Over the past 2 more months, although he didn't know when he could develop his high-power steam centrifugal ballista to kill knights, the airplanes had been developed.

'What I sowed finally sprout. All the dauntless fighters in Selnes Theater of Operations could finally close their eyes at this moment.'

'Whatsoever, I will not feel regretful.' Zhang Tie let out a sigh inside before putting away the piece of paper.

In the cheers of people in Heavenly Craftsmanship City, Zhang Tie silently left this city...

...

Soon after Zhang Tie left that small courtyard, Mr. Jinlong had already stood under a peach tree in his courtyard. Watching the gradually thinner rainbow in the sky quietly and hearing the increasingly louder cheers from his neighbors, Mr. Jinlong muttered, "That's the remarkable military exploits of people who're good at fighting..."

Except for Mr. Jinlong, nobody else across this city knew that the one who brought all these marvels had visited his courtyard today. Perhaps, that person had already left the city at this moment.

...

In the sky, tens of thousands of meters high, Zhang Tie flashed as fast as a lightning bolt while he had already recovered his original look.

After leaving Heavenly Craftsmanship City for hundreds of miles, Zhang Tie felt a strong gold wind blowing towards his face while his thunder hawk had caught up with him from behind.

Zhang Tie instantly mounted the thunder hawk as he patted the thunder hawk's head and ordered heroically, "Let's go to Yezhou Province to kill demons, slaughter traitors, eat fruits and promote to a shadow knight..."

The thunder hawk replied with a long yowl as if it had understood what Zhang Tie said. Closely after that, its speed broke the sound barrier as it flew towards the west...

Chapter 1337: Returning to the Theater of Operations

With two moons and sparse stars in the sky, a squad of over 100 wing demon knights flew by like specters. They had circled around this mountain area twice only in 2 hours.

Right on a vigorous old pine that grew out of the cliff in the mountain area, a little black beetle was squatting on some pine needles and looking at the sky.

Of course, it was Zhang Tie's incarnation.

This place was within Xiangshan Prefecture, Wuzhou Province where Zhang Tie once killed demon knights after coming out of the underground space. With the help of bright moonlight, Zhang Tie could even see the Xiangshan City in the far.

Everything here had been changed only after a few months.

By the end of January, all the soldiers and civilians in Wuzhou Province, Zhuzhou Province and Yinzhou Province had been evacuated except for those in the areas occupied by demons. Only human knights still stuck to the region in the west of Helan Mountain Range.

The collisions between humans and demons in the theater of operations in Peacewest Military Region grew increasingly fiercer and turned white-hot. This could be speculated according to the number of scouts and vanguards of demons.

When Zhang Tie just arrived at the western theater of operations, demons only assigned one demon knight as a scout or vanguard.

3 months ago, the number of scouts and vanguards assigned by demons had reached the scale of the squad while fewer and fewer demon knights executed their tasks alone.

Zhang Tie flew all the way from Military Province. After flying by Helan Mountain Range, with the assistance of lotus-flower eyes, he found the number of teams of demon scouts and vanguards was decreasing sharply as he only met 2 teams in total. By contrast, the population of demon knights in each team was increasing sharply. Take this team of demon knights as an instance, there were over 100 wing demon knights in this team, which included over 10 earth knights and over 80 black iron knights. What a great star-studded cast!

Such a situation could never be predicted 3 months ago.

What did this mean? It meant that both parties had inputted more and more knights into the battlefield. The atmosphere of a large-scale war between human knights and demon knights was growing more and more intense while the battles between human knights and demon knights were growing fiercer. As more and more knights attended the war, the small-scale team of knights would be at great stake when executing tasks alone.

In the battlefield, when knights started to gather, it indicated that the real large-scale war was coming.

After flying by Helan Mountain Range, Zhang Tie had already had the thunder hawk leave because he didn't want his baby thunder hawk to suffer any harm in the theater of operations. Although it could fly very fast, it would also face dangers in the sky. If it met a heavenly demon knight, the thunder hawk might encounter some dangers. Therefore, after having the thunder hawk leave the perilous area, Zhang Tie continued to move westwards alone.

Lotus-flower eyes with which he could see clearly what happened over 600 miles away, master-level hiding rune effect with which he could completely hide his qi and shape; plus his superb flight ability as a divine dominator, all the 3 tricks enabled Zhang Tie to feel like entering an unpopulated zone in the theater of operations. As a result, human knights' or demon knights' patrol unit could not find Zhang Tie or had been avoided by Zhang Tie in advance.

In this case, Zhang Tie felt like being the most powerful and stealthy jet-fighter that was invented by humans before the Catastrophe.

Previously, Zhang Tie had been ready for making a spree killing on the way; however, after meeting 2 squads of demon knights, he instantly realized that the demon knights in the theater of operations could not be easily killed like that a couple of months ago.

Even Zhang Tie felt helpless facing such a patrol or scout squad which contained over 100 demon knights.

If it was just 1 vs 1 battle, Zhang Tie would not be afraid at all. However, facing such a squad of demon knights, even though Zhang Tie could kill some of them, it was meaningless. Because he couldn't teleport those demon knights that he captured into Castle of Black Iron right under the gaze of so many demon knights.

Additionally, when there were too many demon knights at present, it would almost be impossible for him to break through it. When these demon knights gradually formed larger 3-in-1 formations, it would be too hard for Zhang Tie to break them than kill one demon knight. Even an ordinary shadow knight might have to detour around a squad of over 100 demon knights in case of trouble.

A fundamental 3-in-1 formation required 3 knights; 2 secondary 3-in-1 formations required 9 knights; a third-level 3-in-1 formation required 27 knights and the like. Besides being 3 squared, 3-in-1 formations on different levels could also combine with each other flexibly in various forms. For instance, the large-scale collisions between tens of human knights and demon knights that Zhang Tie saw in the Earth-element Realm. It was also profound learning on how to combine knights' formations, which manifested the experience and ability of the knight general who led these knights. Frankly, Zhang Tie didn't have any experience in this aspect.

Xiangshan City was in the far. After those wing demon knights flew over, Zhang Tie flew towards Xiangshan City once again in the incarnation of the little black beetle being driven by an unspoken strength.

Xiangshan City, which was empty all over 3 months ago, had been completely different. The entire city, both inside and outside, was covered with the tents of demon fighters which lasted for dozens of miles. The dark scene brought people a strong sense of constriction.

Those demons on the ground were not limited to wing demons, but included iron-armored demons, ox-head demons and spider demons.

The residence of spider demons was in the periphery of the camp of demon corps. Spider demons were demon fighters that didn't require tents; when they took rest, they only needed to lie on all fours like spiders...

The clear and bright moonlight was thrown onto the wilderness outside Xiangshan City, reflecting the pitch-dark round bodies of spider demons. From the sky, Zhang Tie saw dense, round balls all over the ground as if the earth was a grain-sunning ground being covered with black soybeans. Even Zhang Tie felt goosebumps all over...

Chapter 1338: Quick Retribution

Only after a casual look, Zhang Tie had known that there were definitely more than 2 million demons over Xiangshan City. They were at least LV 9 fighters. By contrast, the corps of 100,000 demons that appeared in Waii Subcontinent were well dwarfed.

The camp of the demon corps was in Xiangshan City. Looking from afar, Zhang Tie could see a lot of demon knights rising and falling in an area of Xiangshan City. In the periphery of this demon corps, the squad of over 100 demon knights that Zhang Tie saw just now was patrolling in the sky. The inside of the camp was also guarded by demon knights. Those spider demons were moving rapidly in the periphery on earth like scouts. The entire encampment of demons was covered with demon scouts and knights within hundreds of miles' territory. Even human knights could barely break into the encampment of the demon corps all of a sudden.

Except for the little black beetle which could freely access to such a place which was crowded with demons.

With the effect of a master-level hiding rune, the little black beetle almost integrated with the nightscape by hiding both its sound and qi. Even in knight's consciousness, it was also like a speck of lifeless dust.

Zhang Tie directly flew 100 m above those demon fighters and their tents towards Xiangshan City.

Not knowing why, when he saw Xiangshan City once again, Zhang Tie couldn't stand taking a look at the old man who didn't feel like leaving the city.

Only after a short while, Zhang Tie had reached the street where the only ancient well was left open. Many houses in this block had been destroyed while a great number of iron-armored demons were stationed in the city. Zhang Tie arrived at the small courtyard where the old man was living in. However, the small courtyard had long been burned into ashes along with the neighboring houses and courtyards.

Although Zhang Tie knew that the old man had determined his mind to stay in Xiangshan City, Zhang Tie still felt a bit sad when he imagined how the old man burned down his own home when the demons arrived.

As for some, this war was just about changing figures, namely, how many cities Taixia lost, how many fighters sacrificed and how many civilians died. However, it was numerous commoners' blood and tears behind these changing figures.

A strong killing intent rose from Zhang Tie's heart.

With a sound "boom...", when Zhang Tie was loitering above that scorched ruins, a boom drifted into his ears from behind which attracted Zhang Tie's attention at once.

The sound drifted from the direction of that ancient well. Zhang Tie turned around and flew over there.

Under the guidance of an iron-armored demon official, a team of iron-armored demons was pushing down a building beside the ancient well. After that, they carried a 2-m higher rockery out of the ruins and threw it into the ancient well to cover it.

Instead of being buried by the army of Taixia Country, this ancient well was finally buried by demons.

The demon official issued its orders in gibberish.

Honestly, Zhang Tie didn't understand demons' language very well. He just learned it on occasions after promoting to a knight. Therefore, he could only understand a few words, though he couldn't understand coherent sentences.

Zhang Tie could only understand some words such as "only", "problem" "forbid drinking" and "new pool..."

Compared to that it was very difficult for humans to learn demons' language, it was much simpler for demons to learn humans' language, namely, by taking human brains. By taking human brains, a demon knight could grasp that human's gift of tongues. That was terrible! Given this point, all the demon knights who could speak human language must have eaten human brains.

Although Zhang Tie didn't completely understand what this demon official was talking about, he could almost figure it out by combining with what it said with what he saw——after finding that this was the only ancient well available in Xiangshan City, the demon corps was worried that the human corps had poisoned it; therefore, they directly buried it and forbade demon fighters to get water from here. As over 2 million demon fighters were in Xiangshan City, they had to drink water; therefore, they could only open new wells for water.

Zhang Tie instantly remembered that he saw some demon fighters safeguarding some water pools on the way here. Those water pools were completely caused by knights' strikes. The powerful battle qi strikes caused many big pits whose depth varied from 10 m to 20 m. After that, those demon knights casually dug and dealt with them. This was the most convenient way for demon corps to get water on the premise that they had demon knights.

'Water pool!'

In a split second, the strong killing intent disappeared because Zhang Tie had thought of a method.

'It's feasible as long as demons could drink water.'

Because Zhang Tie had Heller raise 4 fat and strong double-headed parent puppet worms in Castle of Black Iron, which were acquired from Pingsha Valley, Longxi Prefecture, Zhongzhou Province. Since he got them, Zhang Tie had not put them in use. The astronomical worm eggs that the 4 double-headed parent puppet worms laid every day were all preserved by Heller for study.

As long as he stealthily put those worm eggs into those water pools and had them take it themselves could Zhang Tie easily kill a lot of demon fighters.

Of course, it was almost impossible for others to do it; however, with the incarnation of little black beetle and Castle of Black Iron, Zhang Tie could do it easily. Those who only grasped the secret method of the incarnation of "Great Wilderness Sutra" couldn't do it; neither could the one with only Castle of Black Iron do it. Only by combining the two abilities could one do it.

When Zhang Tie thought about it, he directly flew to the nearest water pool.

That water pool was over 200 m away. The strong battle qi strike caused a big pit whose diameter was over 30 m and depth over 10 m. They only paved some stone plates at the bottom of the pit.

There were burning torches around that water pool. Over 10 iron-armored demons were on sentry duty around the water pool with their backs against it. Nobody irrelevant could approach the water pool for free. Perhaps, demons were afraid that they were poisoned by humans; therefore, they assigned exclusive people to keep an eye on these water pools in the encampment.

An end of a water pipe which was once used by humans was deep in the water pool. Some demon fighters were rocking a common manual pumping unit and extracting water from the water pool into a water tank constantly.

Teams of demon fighters were queuing up to get water around the water tank. There were 2 fish in the water tank, which was the easiest way of testing the quality of water being always adopted in the war. If the water quality was fine, the fish would not die.

Although the fish in water tank could react to poison, they couldn't react to the eggs of parent puppet worms. Even demons might have not imagined that they could be trapped by eggs of parent puppet worms.

Soon after Zhang Tie arrived there, some demon fighters had started to roar and fight each other for water, causing a bit of turmoil. A demon official instantly rushed forward. After blaming them loudly in gibberish, he whipped them forcefully, causing bloody wounds on those iron-armored demons. The turmoil soon stopped. Closely after that, those demon fighters continued to get water.

Even demons couldn't imagine that someone would give them an unforgettable lesson tonight.

The little black beetle declined and reached the bottom of the water pool directly.

The moment the little black beetle touched the bottom of the water pool, its body had become a tunnel that connected Castle of Black Iron while it started to release a transparent, glutinous liquid into the water.

The transparent, glutinous liquid contained the eggs of the double-headed parent puppet worms. Each drop of liquid would contain tens of thousands of tiny eggs.

In less than 1 minute, Zhang Tie had left numerous eggs of double-headed parent puppet worms into the water. Closely after that, he flew out of the water toward another water pool.

None of the demon fighters at present had noticed anything abnormal, those who were rocking manual pump or those who were safeguarding the water pool. When the water was extracted into the water tank, the two fish were still swimming happily as if they were not influenced by the change at all. Teams of iron-armored demons were still queuing up for water. After whipping those demon fighters, the official immediately drank some water to his heart's content as he didn't realize anything was wrong at all. When this official finished drinking, the little black beetle had already reached the bottom of the second water pool. Like what he did before, he released a lot of eggs of parent puppet worms into the water...

The 3rd, the 4th, the 5th, the 6th...

Parent puppet worm was a special tool that demons usually used in wars. This item was not used on humans until the last holy war came to an end. Soon after this holy war broke out for a few years, demons and Three-eye Association had already caused so many disasters and terrors in continents and

subcontinents using parent puppet worms. Demons might not imagine that they could be attacked by parent puppet worms. To be honest, demons had not made any preparation and defense against such a strike...

That was quick retribution!

Chapter 1339: Accidents

There were total 184 water pools in the encampment of the demon corps in Xiangshan City. Additionally, some spider demons were stationed outside the city, who got water directly from a river near Xiangshan City.

It took the little black beetle almost 5 hours to “feed” all the 184 water pools with eggs of parent puppet worms.

During this period, demon fighters constantly got water from these water pools.

Zhang Tie arrived at Xiangshan City at about 10 pm. 5 hours later, namely 3 am, the entire city was in deep dark peace. Except for those patrolling demon fighters and knights, even the demon corps became quiet in the camp.

Like humans, demons also needed to sleep and rest according to the law of yin and yang in the universe.

After finishing the process of “feeding”, Zhang Tie became relaxed at once. He was confident to give an unforgettable lesson to this demon corps in Xiangshan City.

When double-headed parent puppet worms laid eggs rapidly, they could also maintain their control towards puppet worms. Only 100,000 demon fighters were under the control of double-headed parent puppet worms and could cause great damage to this camp which contained millions of demons. Undoubtedly, 100,000 demon fighters could at least die together with 2 times more demon fighters after losing their mind.

Zhang Tie estimated that at least 100,000 demon fighters would get water from the 184 water pools.

In the evening, especially after 12 pm, few demons came for water; 1 or 2 hours later, more and more demons would come for water when double-headed parent puppet worm would become more destructive.

Now that he had finished “feeding” those water pools with eggs of parent puppet worms, he only needed to wait.

After circling around the camp for a while, Zhang Tie was thinking about taking rest and waiting for the demons to get up; however, seeing so many demon knights still rising and falling in Xiangshan City, Zhang Tie directly flew towards there.

Without the effect of a master-level hiding rune, it was a bit risky for Zhang Tie to do that within the vision of so many demon knights. However, with the effect of a master-level hiding rune, Zhang Tie had much fewer concerns.

Zhang Tie soon arrived at the urban square of Xiangshan City.

Those demon knights set a huge black tent which was dozens of meters high and almost 1,000 m long and wide in the square, making it the core of the demon corps in Xiangshan City.

There were torches and bonfires over there, brightly lighting the entire square. Teams of grim demon fighters were patrolling in the periphery of the square. Some demon knights would come back or set off in the air occasionally...

The little black beetle easily fell on the top of the huge black tent without arousing the attention of anyone.

The moment he rested there, Zhang Tie had heard the wails under the tent. Zhang Tie then drilled inside the tent through the narrow transoms as he saw what was happening down there at once.

What he saw made Zhang Tie so annoyed that his eyes almost popped out of his eye sockets.

Some demon knights were mistreating some naked Hua women whose ages ranged from younger than 10 to over 50 years old. All the Hua women were covered with wounds. Being fastened by iron shackles over their limbs and necks, they were suffering a ravage.

As knights were too powerful, some Hua women were directly killed with a big, tearing hole between their legs, which were still bleeding heavily. Additionally, their corpses were covered with wounds. The entire tent was covered with blood and snow-white colors. It was like a slaughterhouse of humans. As for those Hua women in the tent, it was more like a hell...

Right below Zhang Tie, a dead Hua woman's guts and intestines had been pulled out. Lying on the ground, facing the top of the tent where the little black beetle was, it was widely opening its eyes with a painful look quietly.

Right then...

An iron-armored demon knight roared as a Hua woman whom it was ravaging suddenly exerted her full strength to bite this iron-armored demon's penis...

The iron-armored demon's body was too hard that even the most fragile part of his body couldn't be easily harmed by an ordinary woman. Watching that, the iron-armored demon was driven furious as it directly broke the Hua woman's neck and pulled her head out of her body together with a part of the badly mutilated spine.

The iron-armored demon knight widely opened its mouth as it raised its head and the head in its hand. After drinking up her blood, it threw away her head...

...

"Mom..." Right beside that Hua woman who had been brutally killed by that iron-armored demon, another 15-year old Hua girl woke up. As she saw what her mother experienced, she uttered a heart-wrenching roar which reverberated around the tent while struggling forcefully...

After throwing away the woman's head, the iron-armored demon burst out into laughter as it stretched its huge hand towards that Hua girl...

...

'Fuck...'

At the sight of this scene, Zhang Tie's head "hummed" while being filled with extreme fury and killing intent. Perhaps others could stand it at this moment; however, Zhang Tie couldn't. No matter how many demon knights were there outside the tent, he would definitely kill all the demon knights at present, regardless of any difference in battle strength or risk of exposing his trump cards.

'Go die!' Zhang Tie would never let go any one of the 20-odd demon knights.

However, the moment Zhang Tie wanted to recover his original body, he sensed a colder qi declining from the sky. After breaking the top of the tent, a shadow flashed into the tent. In the surprised sounds of those "beasts", the figure instantly shocked the very iron-armored demon into pieces by one palm before it released its protective battle qi...

The one who declined from the sky as fast as a lightning bolt was like a fairy in white skirt. However, her beautiful eyes were burning as if she was the King of Death. This woman was the very Yan Feiqing the owner of Fantasywomen Palace, Cloudydream Mountain, Wuzhou Province that he met a few months ago.

At the same time, Yan Feiqing chopped off the head of an ox-head demon knight who was closest to her by a longsword in another hand.

In the blink of an eye, two demon knights were killed.

What a powerful woman!

Such an accident was completely out of Zhang Tie's imagination.

However, what happened next was more unexpected...

After doing that, Yan Feiqing pulled up that young girl; however, before Yan Feiqing said anything, that young girl suddenly revealed a weird smile as she opened her mouth and spat out a 1 cm-thick golden viper. As it was all of a sudden, Yan Feiqing was bitten immediately, leaving two fine bloody points on her wrist.

With furious eyelight, Yan Feiqing shook her wrist, shattering the golden viper together with that maid by her battle qi.

At the same time, it broke out an earthquake while another figure broke out of the soil and came to Yan Feiqing's side. Only by one punch, Yan Feiqing had been sent flying outside the big tent while spraying out a mouth of blood. The afterwinds of the punch shattered the big tent together with all the other alive Hua women.

The entire process lasted less than 1 second since Yan Feiqing broke into the tent.

The one who broke out of the soil had a such a great battle qi that even Zhang Tie was sent almost 100 m away when the big tent was shattered.

Thankfully, the little black beetle had a shell as hard as an iron sheet. Additionally, it was at the top of the tent; therefore, besides being a bit dizzy, it didn't suffer any injuries.

When Zhang Tie recovered his composure, Yan Feiqing had already been surrounded by a lot of demon knights in the sky above Xiangshan City. The figure who attacked Yan Feiqing just now was evidently an iron-armored heavenly knight who had a very aggressive qi...

Chapter 1340 Saving the Beauty

The demon camp inside and outside Xiangshan City had been fully chaotic. The earth was quaking slightly. A lot of demon fighters in the periphery of the camp were roaring weirdly while batches of powerful crossbows that had been pushed out of the city were targeting at Yan Feiqing in the air.

In the chaos, the little black beetle was almost stomped by a LV 9 demon fighter who was rushing towards here. Although the loss of an incarnation would not do any harm to Zhang Tie except for losing a bit essential energy, it would be too depressing to be stomped to death by a demon fighter. Additionally, Zhang Tie had already treated this little black beetle as his own friend; of course, he wanted to keep it alive.

Among the caligas of demon fighters, the little black beetle flew off. After penetrating through the bodies of those demon fighters, he moved all the way onto an eave of a ruined building in the far from where he started to gaze at the battle situation in the sky.

In the chaos, of course, none of the demon fighters across the city would pay attention to such an insect.

As it was in such an emergency, Zhang Tie could only observe it for the time being.

"It's a trap..." Yan Feiqing's sound drifted from the sky in a deep, icy pattern. Even being besieged by demons, she still didn't look frustrated at all; instead, she remained as powerful as before. Someone pretended to be powerful; however, this woman was powerful from inside.

Soon after the little black beetle rested on the eave of the ruined building, it had heard such a voice. Her voice didn't sound like that Yan Feiqing had ever been injured. The bizarre golden viper and the strike of the heavenly demon knight seemed to have acted on someone else.

"This is a trap, for you..." The heavenly demon knight burst out into laughter as it raised its head which sounded brutal and obscene. It spoke in orthodox Hua language, "Woman, you look nice. Lately, you've killed many knights of our 4 routes of armies. It seems that you hate us treating human women as a plaything. Pitifully, your preference is your death trap. We were waiting for you and here you're!"

"Really?"

The heavenly demon knight gazed at Yan Feiqing with greedy eyes as it said, "A friend of Heavens Reaching Church told us that you're Yan Feiqing. A very famous female Hua knight. Since the last holy war, I've fooled around many Hua women; but I've not tried a female Hua knight. After a short while, I will let you taste it!"

“B*stard!” Yan Feiqing rebuked it coldly as she started to launch a strike by her longsword. By drawing her long sword in the sky, a Milky Way-like sword light covered over 1 square mile. A green lotus flower slowly opened grandly in the sword light whose killing intent involved a lot of demons in...

The moment she launched a strike, Zhang Tie had known why she was so famous in Taixia Country. Even the elders of Heavenly Fortune Sect had to eat humble pie in front of her.

This was the most powerful swordsmanship that Zhang Tie had ever seen. Yan Feiqing was also the most powerful shadow knight that Zhang Tie had ever seen. With swaying white skirt, she was like a fairy in the moon. Her longsword rolled the Milky Way and shocked the earth while the sword light turned into green open lotus flowers in a picturesque and aggressive way. The vast sky above Xiangshan City became a 10,000-hectare pond being full of lotus flowers...

If her opponent was just a shadow knight or a battle formation composed of common demon knights, they could never stop her. Pitifully, her opponent was a heavenly demon knight while over 100 demon knights were fighting her in terms of a large battle formation. That was really a threatening battle strength for a shadow knight.

The heavenly demon knight didn't use a weapon at all. Its terrifying punch-shaped battle qi was like a black billow which swept over the horizon and cracked all the green lotus-flowers.

The huge battle formation composed of over 100 demon knights was like a huge net. Coordinated with that heavenly demon knight, it seemed that it was going to capture this fairy and was hard for her to break through.

Yan Feiqing tried several times to extend the battle onto the ground which would cause greater casualties to the demon corps on the ground; however, the huge net composed of those demon knights just blocked her from below. Meanwhile, the heavenly demon knight kept preventing her from doing that. Therefore, Yan Feiqing failed to do it.

Whatever, Yan Feiqing had been injured. In this case, no matter how powerful she performed, she was still influenced by her wounds. Only after 10 more minutes, under Zhang Tie's gaze, those green lotus flowers in the sky had started to turn dark. Even the sharp Milky Way-like sword light started to tremble faintly...

“Hahaha, catch her alive. This woman won't stand too long. The poison of Demon God's golden viper has started to take effect. I will let you all taste a Hua female knight today...” The heavenly demon knight's presumptuous sound reverberated in the sky. At the same time, he punched against Yan Feiqing's sword light, causing her to spurt out another mouth of blood while her protective battle qi started to wave all over...

Zhang Tie realized that he couldn't wait anymore; otherwise, Yan Feiqing would fall in the hand of that heavenly demon knight. However, even if he presented his skill as a divine dominator, he might not defeat that heavenly demon knight either.

Since the beginning, Yan Feiqing had not released her virtual knight's image although being in such a dilemma. It indicated that this woman still spared a trump card to resist. The best way by far was to create a chance to enable this woman to escape herself.

It was not the best time for Zhang Tie to activate those eggs of the parent puppet worm. If it could be a bit later, he would gain a better effect. However, what happened tonight was always out of one's expectation. That was how it always went on the battlefield, where things varied from minute to minute and were not always pleasing.

Once he had determined his mind, the little black beetle had flown into an empty house. Closely after that, it entered Castle of Black Iron. After putting on his Chaos, Zhang Tie immediately appeared in the house.

Zhang Tie instantly broke the head of the glutinous double-headed parent puppet worm by hand. Closely after that, he injected his spiritual energy into the merely head of that parent puppet worm. At the same time, a bizarre spiritual wave reflected Zhang Tie's forehead from the only head of that double-headed parent puppet worm. Through such an exchange spiritually, the parent puppet worm was activated. As long as Zhang Tie made the same spiritual exchange every 3 days, he would be able to control all the eggs of this double-headed parent puppet worm.

When they made such a spiritual exchange, Zhang Tie felt that all the eggs of the double-headed parent puppet worm were hatching rapidly. Additionally, he was aware of the quantity of all the eggs that started to hatch. Only after a few hours, eggs of that double-headed parent puppet worm had entered the brains of 324,716 demon fighters.

Zhang Tie then threw that parent puppet worm into Castle of Black Iron. Right then, over 300,000 demon fighters roared almost at the same time...

'Go kill all the demons beside you...'

A bizarre spiritual wave was released from Zhang Tie's forehead, which was similar to the principle of remote-sensing crystals. This bizarre spiritual wave soon spread over hundreds of square miles together with Zhang Tie's order.

At this moment, those demon knights who were fighting Yan Feiqing still didn't know what was happening.

It permitted of no delay. When Zhang Tie issued an order to all the eggs of that double-headed parent puppet worm, he shot into the sky. With Thor's Hammer in hand, like a lightning bolt, he caused a huge hole in the net composed of those demon knights...

As the huge net composed of demon knights was facing Yan Feiqing. The ground forces had the weakest defensive power. Nobody could imagine that some human knight could raid them from the ground. Therefore, the battle formation of demon knights was instantly broken through by Zhang Tie.

Zhang Tie had reached his maximal speed without using the flight ability as a divine dominator, which could definitely match that of a shadow knight; especially the Thor's Hammer. Even if Zhang Tie didn't use any kinetic strike, the energy carried by Thor's Hammer could not be withstood by an ordinary earth knight either.

Over the past 2 months, Zhang Tie had eaten over 1,400 fruits of redemption from the gratitude of golden uangs. Additionally, he had already entered 9 change realm of earth knight. His casual move would carry over 100 tons' strength. Such a terrifying strength had already surpassed the level of

shadow knights. After raiding the weakest part of that battle formation with his Thor's Hammer, Zhang Tie immediately cracked two black iron demon knights into pieces. At the same time, two 3-in-1 battle formations connected with the two black iron demon knights collapsed from the large formation, causing a transient stagnation and chaos...

When he broke through the battle formation of demon knights, Zhang Tie threw an ordinary spear towards that heavenly demon knight.

The heavenly demon knight slapped away that spear by one hand safe and sound. However, Zhang Tie had already created a rare chance for Yan Feiqing...

"Hurry up, go..." Zhang Tie roared towards Yan Feiqing.

As Yan Feiqing was such an experienced fighter, of course, she could catch such a precious chance. Almost the moment Zhang Tie finished his words, Yan Feiqing had arrived at his side and grabbed Zhang Tie's arm. At the same time, she released her virtual image of a shadow knight. Being wrapped by the virtual image, they then penetrated through the broken battle formation of demon knights as fast as a lightning bolt. After two flickers, they had already reached several times higher than the speed of sound and flew towards the northwest...

Right then, over 300,000 demonized puppets started to attack the demon fighters on their side, causing the entire camp of demons to be chaotic.

The iron-armored heavenly demon knight roared towards the other demon knights, "Go pacify the turmoil downside there, I will deal with the two human knights..."

After issuing such an order, the heavenly demon knight accelerated towards the direction where Zhang Tie and Yan Feiqing had disappeared. Its speed soon reached as great as that of the two people's.

...

Zhang Tie really had not imagined that Yan Feiqing could leave with him. Although he performed like a shadow knight, he had another plan. It was not too difficult for him to leave the battlefield. 'I'm afraid that because Yan Feiqing doesn't know my trump card; therefore, she leaves together with me in case that I fall into the hand of the heavenly demon knight.'

Given this point, this woman was still a bit compassionate although having a weird temperament.

"Can you put away your battle hammer? I want to fly a bit faster as the heavenly demon knight is catching up with us..."

When Zhang Tie was thinking about that, Yan Feiqing's voice drifted into Zhang Tie's ears secretly.

Because they had reached 3 times more than the speed of sound, namely over 1,000 m per second, they could only talk in secret means by battle qi.

After being reminded by Yan Feiqing, Zhang Tie realized that he had not put away his Thor's Hammer yet. Therefore, he instantly put it away. As a result, their speed soon reached almost 4 times the speed of sound...