

Black Iron 1371

Chapter 1371: Near Weishui River

Heavy smoke rushed dozens of meters high in the sky from the burning woods. Being blown by the wind, it instantly covered dozens of square miles. Under 1,000 degree Celcius, moisture in plants vaporized rapidly, even though autumn was soon coming. The batch of ox-horn demons that rushed into the woods were devoured by the burning woods only after a short while.

LV 9 demon fighters were unable to withstand over 1,000 degree Celsius flames. Even battle spirits who had formed their protective battle qis couldn't stand too long in the fierce flames.

Those flames that were caused by ox-horn demons from time to time looked very eye-catching for those demon knights in the sky, which ruined their mood more or less.

There were hundreds of millions of demons; however, spider demons and ox-horn demons had been constantly devoured by flames without any resistance. Before they approached humans, they had already suffered casualties.

The eye light of the demon knight sitting on the throne being made of human skulls flicked like elf fire. At the same time, it looked at the two humble human knights while uttering a muffled yet icy voice from its mask, causing an air vibration. The two human knights couldn't stand quivering their bodies.

"What's happening?"

"It's...it's incendiary mine, new weaponry of Taixia Country..." A human knight replied in a low voice as he moved one step forward.

That human knight was Gao Zeping, the son of Gao Tianzhao and one of the backbones of Heavens Reaching Church on the Rankings of Criminals Being Wanted by Supreme Court of Taixia Country. Although being an earth knight, he dared not even breath smoothly in front of these heavenly and sage-level demon knights.

In the past 2 years, although Heavenly Reaching Church was causing more and more troubles in Taixia Country, its overall strength had been greatly weakened. After Han Zhengfang and his two sons disappeared, Heavenly Reaching Church had already lost their heads. Gao Tianzhao's disappearance meant that no more shadow knight could be found in the entire Heavenly Reaching Church. All the earth knights in this church were considering their own interests and ruling Heavenly Reaching Church by scheming against each other. Although Heavenly Reaching Church had established a Heavenly Reaching Empire in the areas occupied by demons, there were only 7-8 earth knights and some black iron knights over there. Actually, they had completely deteriorated to the vassals and puppets of demons and gradually lost their right of speech in front of demons.

Although nobody knew why Han Zhengfang, Gao Tianzhao and the others disappeared, everybody was clear that these people might have already been dead; otherwise, if they were still in cultivation, they should at least send a message by remote-sensing crystal. If they couldn't send a message at this moment as knights, it meant that they would not send any message to us ever again.

The consecutive disappearance of the powers of Heavenly Reaching Church had already become the largest pending criminal cases, which caused those lackeys of Heavenly Reaching Church flurried and gun-shy.

“Incendiary mines...” The demon general muttered as it threw a cold and seemingly furious glance at Gao Zeping and added, “Why didn’t you tell me about that in advance...”

After swallowing his saliva, Gao Zeping said timidly, “It’s produced in the last year after Taixia Country started to produce Fiery Oil. The Taixia armies have just been matched with them, we...we had just received the news from Taixia Country...”

“Could Heavens Reaching Empire produce Fiery Oil and incendiary mines now?” The demon general asked calmly which carried overwhelming, surging stress.

“We...we’re acquiring secrets about Fiery Oil production from Taixia Country...However...however, as many forces of Heavenly Reaching Church have been destroyed in Taixia country over the past 2 years, we couldn’t get them for the time being. We...we still need some time...” Gao Zeping replied as he gazed at the floor. He dared not look up at the demon general at all.

“You should know the meaning of the existence of Heavens Reaching Empire. You have 1 year. Hopefully, Heavens Reaching Church could produce the same things and match our troops with them by the same time next year. I will also have Taixia army become burning balls while marching on the ground...” The demon general watched the Hua knight with flickering eye light, “Don’t let me down. You know the result of letting me down...”

Gao Zeping’s forehead had been covered with fine sweat drops. However, at this moment, he could only grit his teeth while bowing down and saying, “Yes, sir...”

The demon general waved his hand. Gao Zeping then moved back to his original location while bowing down.

Those nearby demon heavenly knights watched him with an indifferent even scornful expression——As for both demons and humans, anyone who betrayed their own race could barely gain the real respect of the opposite whenever and wherever it was. Heavens Reaching Church was useful for demons. If Han Zhengfang was still alive, demons might treat members of Heavens Reaching Church a bit politely; however, with the disappearance of Han Zhengfang and the loss of Bloody Soul Sutra, a top secret method of Heavens Reaching Church, the value of Heavens Reaching Church had been greatly discounted. The remnants of Heavens Reaching Church were like toilet bowls and brush brooms in toilets; although they were useful, they could barely gain the real identification and respect from demons; neither would they gain a high position among demons.

Flames would break out every second on the ground, which meant that at least 1 demon fighter was killed and burned into ashes per second. However, it didn’t stagnate the marching frequency of demons. When ordinary demon fighters saw the complexity of Xuanyuan Fortress on the bank of billowy Weishui River, the demon general raised one arm. Closely after that, a demon knight subordinate took out a bizarre horn being covered with black runes. The horn was like a horn of a powerful ox-horn demon knight. The moment it was blown, its sound had reverberated across the sky while a strange wave spread over the sky at a speed much faster than the speed of sound...

When the vanguards of demon corps were about 120 miles away from the bank of Weishui River, the over 6,000 miles long frontline stopped at the same time.

Chapter 1372: A Rule on the Battlefield

The demon army stopped at once. At the same time, the demon general flew off its throne from the demon battlefortress in the air all the way towards Xuanyuan Fortress under the gaze of over 100 million demon fighters. At the same time, a human knight flew off Xuanyuan Fortress towards the demon army. They both flew as fast as lightning bolts. After flying over 60 miles away forward, they encountered in the air.

The demon commander and the human knight stopped 1,000 m away as they looked straight into each other's eyes.

That human knight who flew off Xuanyuan Fortress was Zuoqiu Mingyue, the commander-in-chief of Taixia Country.

The demon commander was followed by 100,000 demon knights and hundreds of millions of demon fighters.

Zuoqiu Mingyue was also followed by 100,000 human knights, the complex of Xuanyuan Fortress and hundreds of millions of demon fighters. They were in the east of abyss of billowy Weishui River.

At this moment, the air seemingly became frozen while numerous human and demon knights were gazing at the sky.

"I'm Sagus, the Monarch Abyss of the Realm of Darkness of demons and the conqueror of Hua people. Who're you?" The demon commander uttered its voice as if it was reflected from the heavens instead of its body and throat. The moment it opened its mouth, its voice had shocked the territory within 6,000 miles like thunders. Everybody within this territory could hear it clearly. It seemed that even the billows of the broad Weishui River had started to quiver.

What a great power!

The moment the demon commander opened its mouth, many human knights nearby Xuanyuan Fortress had changed their face. As for common knights, the power of sage-level knight was out of their imaginations and reach.

After hearing the sound, hundreds of millions of demons cheered up as their morale rose rapidly.

"Zuoqiu Mingyue, the commander-in-chief of Taixia Country!" Zuoqiu Mingyue opened his mouth while his voice was also reflected from the heavens which covered the voice of Sagus at once. It indicated that Zuoqiu Mingyue's power was no weaker than that of Sagus the Monarch Abyss of demons. The moment Zuoqiu Mingyue opened his mouth, those Hua knights near Xuanyuan Fortress had been in an uproar. Because Zuoqiu Mingyue had just manifested his power as a sage-level knight instead of a heavenly knight. It was his first time to display his power as a sage-level knight in the public. Zuoqiu Mingyue continued, "Over the past hundreds of millions of years, numerous powers had dreamed about conquering Hua people. In the early two holy wars, the demon armies that intended to submerge Taixia

Country was like water drops in the ocean and dust over the ground. Taixia Country had been lasting and leading people for hundreds of millions of years in the Eastern Continent. All the powers and armies that once thought about conquering Taixia Country have been ashes in the history. Do you think that you're an exception?"

"Taixia!" "Taixia!" "Taixia!"...

Hua fighters held high their weapons while their overwhelming sound drifted from the east bank of Weishui River. Their rising morale was not lower than that of demons.

"If so, let knights and warriors witness the end of this history at the cost of their lives and blood..." Sagus the Monarch Abyss said calmly.

"Hua people would never be exterminated. We could last among steel, blood and flames..." Zuoqiu Mingyue's voice remained as calm as before.

"Knights' battlefield and honor are in the sky. The halos of the Demon God would never decline!" Sagus the Monarch Abyss said with its arm on its own chest.

"Knights' battlefield and honor are in the sky. Almighty Hua people would last as long as the sun and the moons!" Zuoqiu Mingyue said as he raised his head out of pride.

After exchanging a glance with each other, the two people flew back to their own battlefortress in the air...

...

Among the knights in Xuanyuan Fortress, Zhang Tie watched Zuoqiu Mingyue flying back as he scratched his head and looked around. Feeling a bit puzzled, he asked Feng Cangwu on his side in a secret manner, "What were they doing?"

"They were negotiating. Even bosses of two street gangs would give an opening speech before scrawling. In such a case, if commander-in-chief of Taixia Country and Monarch Abyss of demons didn't talk with each other in advance, it would not even match a street brawl!" Feng Cangwu said while the latter half of his words evidently carried his amazement and admiration, "I've not imagined that Zuoqiu Mingyue has already promoted to a sage-level knight. He was already a heavenly knight in the last holy war. After so many years, he promoted to a sage-level knight..."

"Of course I know it's a negotiation. I wonder about the meaning of their last words. It sounds weird!"

"My God. As Weiji General of the Western Theater of Operations, how could you not know about that?" Feng Cangwu turned around as he looked at Zhang Tie with extremely weird eye light. In a split second, his amazement had turned into understanding, "I see. You were not born in Taixia Country. In Waii Subcontinent, I'm afraid that no war could be involved with over 100 human knights and demon knights. It's reasonable that you don't know about it!"

"Can you put it in details?"

"According to their last words, they've made an agreement. In the frontline battlefield, knights versus knights. If not break down the opposite knights, a party's air force couldn't interfere with the fight

against the opposite ground forces on the premise that it was not attacked by the opposite ground troops. Otherwise, it would not be glorious for knights.”

“Ahh, is there such an agreement? Does it mean that we could only fight demon knights and wing demons for the time being?” Zhang Tie became shocked. Previously, Zhang Tie thought that it would be a super chaotic war; he had not imagined that the commanders of both parties could make such a fair agreement on the battlefield.

“Of course, soldiers versus soldiers; generals versus generals. It’s been a tradition for tens of thousands of years. Generally, knights would not be restricted in using their battle strength; however, in such a high-level battle, they should comply with some necessary rules. As for commoners, urban gangsters would not spray concentrated sulfuric acid over the face of the opponent; neither would they call the police nor have judicial agencies involved in it. Before the Catastrophe, armies were forbidden to hurt civilians; additionally, no biochemical weapons or nuclear weapons were allowed on the battlefield. The sentence that Military God said just now, “Knights’ battlefield and honor are in the sky” serves as the rule in this case. Unless we could kill all the demon knights in front of us, if a knight fought those who were inferior to him in the frontline battlefield instead of fighting those on the same level with them, it would not be a glorious deed for a powerhouse. Therefore, it should be forbidden. This is the rule that both parties had widely accepted by far. Demons might be brutal and vicious; undeniably, they have sense of honor and belief too...”

Chapter 1373: The Original Intention of Zhang Tie

Zhang Tie had just returned to Xuanyuan Fortress for less than one day.

2 months ago, when the No. 1 corps of Fire-Dragon Corps arrived at the east bank of Weishui River, Zhang Tie had left Xuanyuan Fortress and deepened into the areas occupied by demons alone so as to seek for chances to promote to a shadow knight.

As the demon army gradually approached Xuanyuan Fortress, fights between human knights and demon knights increased on an increasingly larger scale. Therefore, it became more and more difficult for Zhang Tie to capture demon knights or refine water elements from them alone.

In the past 2 months, Zhang Tie almost met a team of over 100 demon knights in the areas occupied by demons. Generally, he had no chance to launch an attack at all. In such a case, he could barely make any achievement. With his powerful secret methods and Castle of Black Iron, Zhang Tie only caught 2 earth demon knights and 6 black iron demon knights.

After refining the water elements of two earth demon knights who had just promoted to an earth knight, Zhang Tie formed 7 more scales on his water chakra.

After that, Zhang Tie performed bloody sacrifice using those demon knights in Castle of Black Iron and fix Gao Tianzhao’s water chakra once again. After absorbing Gao Tianzhao’s water chakra, he lit 26 more scales on his water chakra.

After 2 months, Zhang Tie finally lit 357 scales on his water chakra, only 3 scales left than promoting to a shadow knight. He could almost touch the realm of a shadow knight.

After refining the water elements of another earth demon knight, he would be able to promote to a shadow knight. Even if he couldn't capture an earth demon knight, it would take him only a couple of months to promote to a shadow knight only by absorbing water elements from the elements realm.

However, the situation on the battlefield was changing from time to time. Demons didn't spare a chance to Zhang Tie. Over the past 2 months, the demon army which had gathered and finally approached the line of defense near Helan Mountain Range and Weishui River. As the large-scale battle was about to break out soon, Zhang Tie instantly chose to return to Xuanyuan Fortress as he would like to fight demons together with Fire-Dragon Corps and the other human knights of Taixia Country.

Only after arriving at Xuanyuan Fortress for less than 24 hours, the demon army had arrived in an overwhelming manner.

This was Zhang Tie's experience in the past 2 months...

At this moment, Zhang Tie witnessed how Zuoqiu Mingyue talked with Sagus for the first time in terms of a large battle formation with all the other human knights of Taixia Country in the sky above Xuanyuan Fortress in the theater of operations ...

Zuoqiu Mingyue flew back to Xuanyuan Fortress while Sagus flew back to the battle fortress of demons in the air.

"Ready for the fight..." Zuoqiu Mingyue's voice sounded in the ears of all the human knights of Taixia Country.

Zhang Tie's blood boiled with indignation as if he had returned to Selnes Theater of Operations...

Only after Sagus returned to its floating battlefortress for less than 1 minute, the demon army had started their action.

Almost 20,000 demon knights charged towards Xuanyuan Fortress from its flanks. The moment they moved, over 20,000 battle qi smokes and tornadoes rushed into the sky in different colors such as black, blue, purple and brown, which cut the sky into pieces, making it a cage being woven by battle qi smokes and tornadoes.

The 20,000 demon knights were led by two heavenly demon knights, who directly manifested their virtual images, a 9-headed fierce dragon as long as 1,000 m and a cyclops as high as 1,000 m.

Such an offense could even match that of the demon army which marched forward just now.

On the ground, two corps of 200,000 iron-armored demons rushed out of the formation of the demon army, surpassing ox-head demons and spider demons and surging towards Weishui River with a distance of 60 miles between each other.

Sagus was sitting on the throne made of human skulls decently and watching the demon knights surging towards Taixia's base. Over 80,000 demon knights around the floating demon battlefortress and most of the demon corps on the ground remained still.

It was just a beginning. Demons didn't exert their full efforts. Sagus the Monarch Abyss didn't even launch a strike himself.

Zuoqiu Mingyue immediately issued his order to Xuanyuan Fortress while 20,000 human knights in the flanks of Xuanyuan Fortress rushed forward towards the demon's air force.

At this moment, the two parties didn't choose to collide with each other in terms of large-scale formation directly. As for demons, they had an advantage in attack. However, it would be too stupid if they gathered all of their knights to collide with the most powerful point in Taixia's line of defense. Additionally, Taixia's Xuanyuan Fortress had an evident advantage over the large formation of demon knights.

As for Taixia Country, as long as all the human knights gathered into a large formation, too many gaps would be left in the line of defense along Weishui River. As long as the large formation of human knights were dragged by demons, the wing demons would easily break through the natural chasm of Weishui River from the air. As a result, Taixia corps in the east bank of Weishui River would be very passive facing the wing demons in the sky. Even though there were airplanes and air cavalries in the theater of operations, it was hard to say whether they could completely defeat wing demons. What was more, in the current stage, there were only about 2 million air cavalries and airplanes in the theater of operations in total, which was outnumbered by wing demons.

In this case, the party which used the large formation of demons would be idiot. Although the large formation of knights had great power, it would not play any positive role if it was used in the wrong place. For instance, although armored vehicles corps could be very destructive on plains, they would become as useless as scrap iron in swamps and mountain areas. If both parties determined to fight at their full efforts in terms of large formation of knights, take when humans and demons scrambled for the ore in Tiwei Mountain in the Earth-elements Realm as an instance, when one party outnumbered the other, it could crack down the opponent completely at the lowest cost; however, when two parties had almost the same battle strength; especially in the battle of attack and defense with a long line of defense, the effect of large formations would be very limited.

...

Zhang Tie and Feng Cangwu were among the 10,000 human knights in the left flank of Xuanyuan Fortress under the leadership of Ye Qingcheng.

Ye Qingcheng shot out first while releasing his virtual image——a huge sword. As long as hundreds of meters, that huge sword flew out of an open lotus flower and lashed towards the 9-head fierce dragon. On the other side, the first heavenly human knight of Taixia Country shot towards the cyclops in shape of a huge fiery ape as high as 1,000 m.

"Hahaha, let's have a competition. The one who kills more demon knights would win a jar of liquor..." Zhang Tie burst out into laughter as he rushed towards over 10,000 demon knights on the other side in the left flank.

"That's a deal!" Feng Cangwu instantly released his battle qi smoke. The favorable apprentice of Heavens Fortune Sect recovered his arrogance as he added, "I will kill black iron demon knights. You kill earth demon knights. If you kill a black iron demon knight, it doesn't count. Hopefully, it's a fair competition..."

“Hahah...no problem. I will kill earth demon knights more than black iron demon knights that you will kill!” Zhang Tie burst out into laughter as he accelerated at once, lagging Feng Cangwu behind immediately. Feng Cangwu swore inside as he hurriedly sped up to catch up with Zhang Tie.

Seeing so many battle qi smokes and tornadoes of demon knights in front of him, Zhang Tie was completely hyper...

As a member of Taixia Country, he would not feel pitiful if he could kill demons for the sake of the country on the battlefield of holy war at the cost of his life.

Additionally, Zhang Tie was clear that he would not die easily. After staying with Yan Feiqing in the tower of time for 6 decades, even if he didn't use the ability of divine dominator, he could still survive a heavenly demon knight's hunt.

At this moment, halos covered Zhang Tie, which meant that he benefited from the aiding strength of Ye Qingcheng, who was giving out a golden light. All the Hua knights rushing towards the demon army benefited from Ye Qingcheng's aiding strength.

Such aiding strength brought Zhang Tie his favorite speed, strength and the immunity to the influence of the dark aiding strength of the opposite camp below a heavenly knight. Therefore, Zhang Tie's battle strength surged immediately.

At the same time, all the demon knights on the other side were covered with the halos of dark aiding strength as they accelerated their speed instantly.

Facing those demon knights in the air, Zhang Tie found back the long-awaited feeling of being alone. Zhang Tie immediately realized that he had not been a real corps leader, a general or an owner of a bounty territory since he left Blackhot City. He was just Zhang Tie, a son of a common family, a commoner who had his dreams, a Hua teenager who hoped his family members and friends could live better and a former second lieutenant in Iron-Blood Camp...

Perhaps over 120 miles was a long distance for commoners; however, as for knights who were rushing forward, they soon saw clearly the grim faces of demon knights in the blink of an eye.

The 2 heavenly demon knights and 2 heavenly human knights collided over 50,000 m high in the air, shielding the light of the sun and the two moons at once while a multitude of thunders happened in the sky. n--0ve**ll**In

Below the battlefield of the 4 heavenly knights, when the 20,000 human knights were still 1,000 m away from the 20,000 demon knights, they had already launched their battle qi strikes towards the opponent. In a split second, tens of thousands of brilliant fireworks broke out in the sky in the west of Weishui River, forming a beautiful firework belt over hundreds of miles long in the skyline...

That was the most brilliant moment for a knight in his whole life.

A fierce strike flew by closely along Zhang Tie's body. After missing his strike, a 2.5 m tall earth knight was rushing towards Zhang Tie with a flier while brandishing a huge wolf-fang mace which was thicker than Zhang Tie's waist...

“After experiencing so many frustrations, my original intention still lies there, namely, I will be a vanguard to chop off demon’s head by sword...”

At this moment, Zhang Tie felt warm and clear inside as he recited some lines of a poem. Soon after he finished his word “sword”, a bizarre huge sword which was longer than the body of the earth ox-head demon knight had appeared in his hand. When they passed by each other, sword light flickered. After Zhang Tie passed the earth demon knight over 100 m away, the earth ox-head demon knight’s body froze in the air for a second before blowing up and turning into the bloody mist...

On the battlefield of the holy war, it was the first earth demon knight that Zhang Tie had killed by sword...

Chapter 1374: Being the Vanguard

The huge sword in Zhang Tie’s hand was called Devouring Dragon, the largest and heaviest silver secret item that Zhang Tie gained from the Weapons Mountain except for Thor’s Hammer.

Devouring Dragon was 3.46 m in length, as wide as a threshold and as thick as 20 cm. After being manifested, it weighed 2,700 kg and could easily cut gold, jade and iron. Additionally, the sword carried two powerful striking effects: super great sharpness and blade storm. This sword was another version of the “man’s certificate” that Zhang Tie used before. It was definitely a rarity even among silver secret items.

It was his first time to use this sword since he gained it. This time, Zhang Tie used the blood of an earth demon knight to activate it...

During the 6 decades in the tower of time, through so many times’ combat simulation with Yan Feiqing, Zhang Tie’s kinetic strike skill had long entered an immortal realm. With Devouring Dragon in hand, he could kill earth demon knights easily like chopping melons and vegetables.

As Devouring Dragon was lighter than Thor’s Hammer, the energy of kinetic energy carried by Devouring Dragon was less than half of that of Thor’s Hammer. However, on the battlefield; especially in large-scale chaotic battle, Devouring Dragon was more destructive than Thor’s Hammer.

Why?

Because Thor’s Hammer attacked its enemy using its flat side; however, Devouring Dragon attacked the opponent using its sharp blade. The force area of Thor’s Hammer was many times that of the blade of Devouring Dragon. In this case, even the energy of kinetic strike carried by Devouring Dragon was less than a half of that of Thor’s Hammer, its blade would cause greater stress and destruction to the opponent’s protective battle qi and body within a unit area. Plus its super great sharpness effect, how could the protective battle qi of an earth knight resist Zhang Tie’s marvelous “inch strength” skill in close combat?

When the Devouring Dragon split open its protective battle qi and cut off its body, the earth demon knight had already been shattered into pieces by the blade storm effect of Devouring Dragon. It didn’t know what had happened until it died.

Being a bit late than Zhang Tie, soon after Feng Cangwu dodged away from a battle qi strike of a demon knight and was approaching a black iron demon knight had he seen how Zhang Tie got such a terrifying huge sword out of the void and shattered an earth demon knight into pieces in a split second. Feng Cangwu was really startled by what he saw. 'F*ck, is that a motherf*cking man? Did that demon knight make any preparation or it's just a coincidence...'

Since he had a fight with Zhang Tie in the trouble-reappearance ball in the incarnation of a demon fighter, Feng Cangwu had known that there was a difference between him and Zhang Tie on battle strength. However, he had not imagined that this difference was so irreparable. 'What the hell! That's impossible...'

After killing that earth ox-head demon knight at such a transient moment, Zhang Tie's battle intention surged at once. By killing demons, he would save humans. To kill one demon knight meant to save tens of thousands of people. Zhang Tie felt that he had returned to the former Iron-Blood Camp as he was fighting demonized puppets by the "man's certificate" together with his brothers.

"Go die..." Zhang Tie roared as he flashed and slashed his longsword towards the head of a black iron iron-armored demon knight. In a split second, the iron-armored demon knight's protective battle qi was cut open while its head was sent flying off. At the same time, Zhang Tie activated the effect of blade storm and shattered the entire iron-armored demon knight together with its armor.

In less than one minute, Zhang Tie had already killed two demon knights. After noticing that at the corner of his eyes, Feng Cangwu immediately gave up contending with Zhang Tie. 'What the hell! What a man...'

With Devouring Sword in hand, Zhang Tie roared as he flashed into the demon knights which were as thick as huckleberries in terms of a sharp sword light. Singing a song loudly, he started to slash demons...

"What is more frustrating and dismal is the departure, not to mention that northeast and southwest is so far away from each other. When the moss has just put forth in spring, the autumn wind has risen. Therefore, people leaving their hometown would feel desolate..."

The familiar lyrics flew out of Zhang Tie's mouth, which couldn't be covered by the battle calls on the battlefield. Being different than that when he sang it for his junior sister apprentices in Hidden Dragon Island at the beginning, this time, this song was filled with dismal and sad feeling. At this moment, even though the lyrics remained unchanged, they sounded especially heroic, imposing, frank and heart-wrenching...

After the word "dismal", Zhang Tie's Devouring Dragon had turned into a sword qi hurricane which involved 4 black iron wing demon knights inside, though they were hundreds of meters away from him. After the word "desolate", the four black iron wing demon knights had been shattered into pieces by Zhang Tie's sword qi, leaving blood mist in the air...

"Go die..." An earth demon knight brandished its huge black saber towards Zhang Tie with an air-splitting killing saber intent.

This earth demon knight was an iron-armored demon knight, whose battle strength was indeed much greater than the first earth ox-head demon knight that Zhang Tie had just killed.

“The wuthering wind sounds different than usual. The undulating clouds presented a bizarre color. Ships stagnate near the bank. Vehicles became hesitate beside mountain path. How could oars be pushed forward? Horses are neighing forlornly.”

In the song, Zhang Tie’s Devouring Dragon vibrated and rang. Zhang Tie combined with his sword and broke the strong saber qi face to face. He split the saber qi into halves using his sword while resisting the cutting of the opposite saber qi. In a split second, he had pushed to the front of the earth demon knight.

“The sunbeams on the wall gradually disappear. The clear and bright moonlight spray over the corridor. The red orchid holds autumn dew. The green catalpa is covered with thin frost...”

After the word “disappear”, the hug saber in the hand of the earth demon knight had been broken by Zhang Tie’s Devouring Dragon. Closely after the word “Corridor”, blood had spurted out of the place between its thumb and index finger while half of its handle flew out of its hand. Soon after the word “dew”, one arm of the earth demon knight had been broken by Zhang Tie. The earth demon knight was so scared that it wanted to escape; however, after Zhang Tie finished the word “frost”, the former fierce earth demon knight had turned into blood mist as it diffused like frost...

It was the 2nd earth demon knight that Zhang Tie had killed on this battlefield...

‘Parents travel across the old rooms and close the doors. They stroke the brocade curtain and feel cold and dismal. After their sons leave home, they often dream about their sons lingering around them and guess that their sons’ souls are wandering after departure.’

At this moment, a 3-in-1 formation of 3 earth demon knights besieged Zhang Tie while Zhang Tie’s sword light flashed in a confident and elusive way...

When Zhang Tie killed the second earth demon knight, all the 100,000 more human and demon knights from Xuanyuan Fortress and demon battlefortress moved their eyes onto him at the same time...

On the battlefield, Zhang Tie’s sword light and song were like a bright moon in the evening and a morning huge sun which lit up the bank of Weishui River, the main battlefield of the holy war...

Chapter 1375: Sword Singer Shocking the Battlefield

“Thus, departure feels different in different situations. Tall, handsome horse matches silver-inlaid saddle; red vehicle matches colorfully-painted wheels; I built a tent outside the gate of capital and bade farewell to my old friends in Golden Valley Park. Strings of harp, flute and drums produce music; sad songs of Yan State and Zhao State make beauties weep; pearls and jades are brilliant in the late autumn; silks and brocades are fascinating in the early spring. Being shocked by the song, horses raise their heads and chew; fish jumps out of the deep water. When in departure, with tears in eyes, I feel lonely and gloomy.”

Zhang Tie used his sword with all heart as he combined his spirit with the sword. As a result, his state of mind had entered an impervious bizarre realm. Although being besieged by three earth demon knights in the 3-in-1 formation, Zhang Tie’s sword light kept flashing around like as free as a lotus flower in the mud. In his song, his sword moved like flying dragons and galloping horses in the abyss. His sword light presented warm spring or dismal autumn from time to time. His sword sound carried the music of

zither, yuqing, vertical bamboo flute and drum. His sword intention held tears and sadness. Flashing around, the sword light was as dazzling as that in a dream. Although being in the army of 10,000 demon knights, he felt pretty lonely as he was just accompanied by the starry sky...

Under such marvelous battle skills and sword light, the 3-in-1 battle formation of earth demons was soon about to collapse as if a rotten net bounded a dragon after Zhang Tie's one line of lyrics.

However, the 3-in-1 battle formation of earth demon knights didn't collapse; instead, it grew firmer. After rushing into the army of demon knights, Zhang Tie was immediately besieged by 6 more earth demon knights and 9 more black iron demon knights. The 6 earth demon knights formed 2 more 3-in-1 battle formation and integrated with the first 3-in-1 battle formation of earth demon knights. The 9 black iron demon knights formed three 3-in-1 battle formations, which further integrated into one unity. Finally, the 9 earth demon knights and the 9 black iron demon knights trapped Zhang Tie like two powerful shackles and two rotating huge mills...

Such a battle formation was more like against a shadow knight than an earth knight.

Facing such a battle formation, even steel and gold would be shattered...

At the sight of this scene, many people above Xuanyuan Fortress felt heart-wrenching as they sighed inside, 'What a pity! Qianji Hermit has an amazing talent; however, he made a mistake of despising the enemy in such a large-scale battle formation. From ancient times to now, many valiant knights and powerhouses had made a mistake of despising the enemy and were finally killed by the opponent...

Even though an earth knight was powerful enough, how could he resist the battle formation composed of 10 times more enemies?

Watching Zhang Tie to be in a dilemma, Bai Suxian was going to give him a hand; however, Bai Runcheng stopped her by gripping her wrist.

"Second uncle..." Bai Suxian turned around as she watched Bai Runcheng with tears rolling down her eyes out of fury. All the other valiant knights from Lord Guangnan's Mansion were also ready for saving Zhang Tie as they looked at Bai Runcheng. As long as Bai Runcheng nodded, all of them would set off to do that.

Bai Runcheng kept his eyes close on Zhang Tie who had been tightly besieged by the demon's battle formation. He shook his head resolutely as he stopped his subordinates and Bai Suxian, "Hold on..."

Bai Suxian was stopped by Bai Runcheng; however, a scarlet figure flew out of the tens of thousands of knights directly towards the place where Zhang Tie fought those demons...

That was Guo Hongyi.

Feng Cangwu had already reached 9 change realm of a black iron knight and would promote to an earth knight soon. With the silver secret item weapon gifted by Zhang Tie in hand, Feng Cangwu's battle strength definitely ranked top among black iron knights.

At this moment, Feng Cangwu had just killed a black iron demon knight. After noticing that Zhang Tie was in a dilemma, he instantly rushed towards Zhang Tie. However, an iron-armored demon knight had stopped Feng Cangwu by slashing towards his head by a guillotine-shaped weapon...

Standing above Xuanyuan Fortress, Zuoqiu Mingyue watched Zhang Tie who was being besieged with a calm look. However, when he saw someone flying out of the large formation regardless of his order, Zuoqiu Mingyue slightly frowned...

"Who's that female knight?"

"She's Guo Hongyi from Youzhou Province!" A subordinate knight on one side of Zuoqiu Mingyue threw a glance at her before answering. After a few seconds, he added in low voice, "Her master is Yan Feiqing..."

After hearing that, Zuoqiu Mingyue frowned more deeply. A few days ago, Yan Feiqing suddenly promoted to a heavenly knight and defeated Zhu Qianqian, one of the 4 elders of Taiyi Fantasy Sect easily. From then on, Fantasy Women Palace of Cloudydream Mountain was renowned across the country once again and almost became the No.1 female sect in Taixia Country. Even Zuoqiu Mingyue was afraid of such a woman who was self-centered, bilious and didn't respect men. It was one reason that Zuoqiu Mingyue frowned. As for the other reason, Zuoqiu Mingyue didn't know when did Zhang Tie get acquainted with the disciple of Fantasy Women Palace. 'Zhang Tie is too dauntless. But I've not seen him get acquainted with a disciple of Fantasy Women Palace since he came to the theater of operations. Is it only the one-sided wish of the disciple of Fantasy Women Palace...'

"There are swordsmen who feel ashamed for not appreciating their masters and young righteous men who targeted their masters, such as Nie Zheng who assassinated Xia Lei, the prime minister of Han State; Yu Rang who intended to assassinate Zhao Xiangzi in the toilet of the imperial palace; Zhuan Zhu who assassinated the emperor of Wu State; Jing Ke who assassinated the first emperor of Qin Dynasty. All of them abandoned the warmth of their mother and wife. They left their homeland and bade farewell to their family members. Before leaving, they wiped off their tears and blood and gazed at each other. After riding on the battle horse, they didn't look back anymore, leaving dust on the way. They paid gratitude to their masters at the cost of their own lives. When bells rang, cowards turned faces while their parents and wives wailed to death."

Being besieged by the 18 demon knights, Zhang Tie didn't know that Guo Hongyi was heading for him. At this moment, Zhang Tie was immersed in a bizarre realm while his sword light was changing alongside his song...

In Zhang Tie's eyes, over 10,000 demon knights were nothing with the huge sword. It seemed that the whole world centered on him and his sword. He danced and sang in the air while the sword paid him with the wuthering wind. His shadow flashed along with his sword, drawing flowers in the sky.

In the song, he felt like marching forward with his sword on the back. He reached the greatest depth of Liaoshui River and ascended to the peak of Yanshan Mountain to visit clouds. He saw the sun rising and spreading its brilliance over all the living beings; he saw rain and dew falling and rising. He felt like traveling across the world and sensing the feeling of departure, laughter, sadness, crankiness, affection, hatred with his sword at the same time...

'Although people are affectionate, they are always hurt by mercilessness!'

'Although sword is not affectionate, it is always accompanied by affectionate people!'

'Who's leaving? Who's hurt? Who's happy?'

'Even though being far away, people who could share this feeling with me are still my partners and are still close to me in my heart...'

"Daoist who cultivates in the stony room of Huashan Mountain expects to be an immortal by taking medicinal pills. Although he's already grasped profound skills, he's still in cultivation. Although he's reached the realm of "silence", he's not got the true feelings. He exerts his full efforts in making pills instead of caring about secular affairs. He even wants to ride a yellow crane or a phoenix to go straight to the heavens. He hopes to travel 10,000 miles a day in the heavens. A small period in the heavens is equal to 1,000 years in the secular world. Only ordinary people values departure. Although being an immortal being, he still feels reluctant to bid farewell to the secular world..."

In the song, a sword light rushed into the sky accompanied by a rising cauldron, a dancing phoenix and a crane as if it was a dreamland...

At the same time, all the swords of humans and demons within 6,000 miles vibrated, causing a sound which was as loud as thunder. All the longswords felt like freeing themselves and flying towards the place where the sword light rose.

Ordinary longswords only trembled and roared. By contrast, those silver secret longswords would like to slip the leash of their owner and fly towards the place where Zhang Tie was manifesting their virtual images...

Sagus the Monarch sitting on the throne of human skulls immediately sprung up as it kept its eyes close on that place where the sword light rose.

"Sword singer. He's a sword singer. I've not imagined that I could witness a sword singer on the battlefield in my life..." Zuoqiu Mingyue sighed with emotions as his eyes gave out golden light, "From today on, green lotus would not be alone in Taixia Country, the God blesses our country..."

The 2 battle formations which were akin to two huge "shackles" mills and were composed of 9 earth demon knights and 9 black iron demon knights were shattered and diffused by the overwhelming sword light in a split second...

"Kill him..." Sagus issued an order while gritting his teeth and watching the sword light crossing the entire battlefield of knights.

Zhang Tie was immersed in the wholly new realm. He felt the whole world had changed. Each action of those grim demon knights looked so stupid, hilarious and full of loopholes; especially those who used sword whose movements were really coarse...

The Devouring Dragon was not Zhang Tie's hand anymore; instead, it manifested its virtual image of a silver sturdy dragon, baring its fangs and brandishing its claws. It could almost shatter everything. It was not the ability of divine dominator; instead, it was the manifestation of qi and fortunes and the most powerful, spiritual swordsmanship. Zhang Tie didn't hold the Devouring Dragon; however, his sword light spurted out of his limbs, joints, waist, back and hair ends in an overwhelming manner.

Many abnormal phenomena appeared in his sword light and song, making it more shocking.

"There's a secular love poem called *peony* and a love song called *beauty*. Sentimental maids in Sangzhong city, Wei State; beautiful Chun'e in Shanggong, Chen State. Spring grasses are verdant.

Ripples are on spring water. How sad and sentimental it is to see you off to Nanpu city! Frost and dew in deep autumn are like pearls; bright moons in autumn nights are like jades. Clear and bright moonlight; pearl-like frost and dew; time went and came. After departing with you, I miss you so much.”

Therefore, although it’s uncertain that someone would leave due to different reasons, departure would definitely lead to whines. Whines would lead to loss of mind and great mental and spiritual trauma and shock. Despite the excellent proses of Wang Bao and Yang Xiong, the narrations of Yan An and Xu Le, those talents before Golden Horse Gate, those literatus in Central Archives Center whose proses were as imposing as that of Sima Xiangru and essays as delicate as that of Zou Shi, who else could describe the scene and feeling of departure?

One step for one line of the lyric; one line of the lyric for one movement; one movement for one life. After moving 28 steps in the air, Zhang Tie launched his strike 28 times. As a result, 4 earth demon knights and 24 black iron demon knights were killed and turned into ashes by Zhang Tie’s sword light...

What a chivalrous hero!

After the word “departure”, Zhang Tie found that he had already penetrated through the army of 10,000 demon knights and appeared on their back...

Chapter 1376: The Ongoing Battle

After penetrating through the army of demons, Zhang Tie looked back as he saw a tunnel whose length, width and height were over 500 m respectively. There wasn’t even one demon knight throughout the tunnel. All the ordinary earth demon knights and black iron knights near that tunnel unconsciously stayed far away from Zhang Tie.

Demon knights were valiant; however, they were not idiots. Neither would they seek for death when they were clear that they were destined to die. With his sword and song, Zhang Tie had scared those demon knights so much that very few of them dared confront with Zhang Tie’s blade anymore.

The fact that he himself scared the army of demon knights really made Zhang Tie arrogant.

Besides Zhang Tie, the other human knights and demon knights were in a fierce battle while colorful battle qis flickered in the sky and collided with each other alongside sabers and swords. Most of the knights had not ended their first fight in such a short period. Many knights launched battle qi strikes towards the opponent collectively. Some of them had not even found their opponents. The 4 heavenly knights in higher altitude were still fighting. However, those knights below them couldn’t involve in their fight. Occasionally, some aftermaths of the battle between heavenly knights would escape downwards...

“What..why is she here?” Zhang Tie noticed Guo Hongyi when he looked back as he was a bit shocked.

“Go die...” A destructive wind approached from far. Zhang Tie slightly moved aside rapidly to dodge away from a fierce battle qi strike. Although it passed by Zhang Tie, it rubbed against Zhang Tie’s protective battle qi ferociously. Based on its destructive ability, the battle qi strike was definitely from a shadow knight.

The moment Zhang Tie raised his head, he had seen a dark, purple shadow wing demon knight charging at him with a grim look.

This shadow wing demon knight was a fat piece of meat for Zhang Tie. If it were underground, Zhang Tie would definitely catch it alive; however, in this case, as he had already attracted the attention of the public by his “sword song”. If he killed this shadow demon knight at this moment, even the Monarch Abyss and those heavenly demon knights would be shocked, which would not be good for him.

Additionally, shadow demon knights’ protective ability and knight’s consciousness were a level higher than that of earth demon knight. If Zhang Tie wanted to kill this shadow demon knight, he could only use kinetic strike skills. Even if he used the most implicit “inch strength” strike, if he couldn’t kill that shadow knight instantly, the shadow demon knight would know his secret for sure. By then, his ability as a divine dominator would be exposed to the public.

It was not opportune for Zhang Tie to reveal his trump card to the world. At least a shadow demon knight didn’t deserve him to do that.

‘However, this shadow demon knight is a good training partner. As I’ve just got the insight of “Sword Song” and top swordsmanship, I urgently need a training partner. Given the power of “Sword Song” and the top swordsmanship, it’s okay for me to use them to challenge a shadow demon knight...’

‘Alright, I will play with it then.’

As the shadow demon knight was flying towards him, Zhang Tie determined his mind in a split second.

Zhang Tie continuously moved towards the shadow wing demon knight while extending his sword light. Closely after that, they wrestled with each other. On the battlefield beside Weishui River and under the gaze of so many human knights and demon knights, the legendary fight between an earth knight and a shadow knight rose the morale of all the onlooking human knights as it was absolutely impossible for an earth knight to defeat a shadow knight...

In this case, even though Zhang Tie didn’t use his ability as a divine dominator, he still didn’t think that a shadow demon knight’s strike was terrifying and irresistible. With a sword in hand, he was not afraid of the strike of shadow demon knight at all. Not only that, even a powerful shadow demon knight had to treat the “Sword Song” and the top swordsmanship meticulously.

However, shadow demon knights might have already received the order of Sagus the Monarch Abyss of demons and were requested to kill Zhang Tie. Only after this shadow wing demon knight fought Zhang Tie for a short while, another shadow iron-armored demon knight had approached as it wanted to join hands with the first shadow wing demon knight to kill Zhang Tie.

In such a large-scale battle in the sky, it was normal for two shadow demon knights to kill an earth human knight.

“Aren’t you shameless? Do two shadow knights fight an earth knight? Do you think that there’s nobody in Taixia Country...” Before the shadow iron-armored demon knight joined the fight, a growl had sounded while the shadow human knight whom Zhang Tie had seen many times on Ye Qingcheng’s side accelerated towards them with a pair of golden sword breakers, eyes widely opened. After slashing his

golden sword breakers, he instantly launched two surging battle qi strikes, blocking the second shadow demon knight.

No matter what, shadow knights were not as cheap as white cabbage. As demons had one more shadow knight than humans, the surplus shadow demon knight just fought Zhang Tie while the other shadow demon knights were fighting the shadow human knight. Zhang Tie then started to practice his new swordsmanship...

In the distance, Sagus the Monarch Abyss of demons was watching Zhang Tie with flickering eyes. He had wanted his heavenly demon knights to fight Zhang Tie for a few times; however, every time he looked up, he would sense the clear and cold eye light of Zuoqiu Mingyue. Even from hundreds of miles away, Zuoqiu Mingyue was still paying attention to its movement. If Monarch Abyss assigned powerhouses, Taixia Country would definitely make a response to it. In this way, they wouldn't be able to kill that earth human knight; instead, more and more knights would be involved in.

'Would all of my knights join in the battle?'

'No.' Sagus vetoed this idea. Although this idea was alluring, it was not facing second- or third-rate human knights on the battlefield; instead, it was facing the entire Hua empire that had been confronted with demons for almost 1,000 years. Given the battlefield and line of defense which was preset by the opponent, it was not favorable for demons to throw the helve after the hatchet...

'Perhaps, the opponent is waiting for me to do that. That eye-catching earth human knight might be a loop preset by the opponent...'

Sagus the Monarch Abyss of demons calmed down slowly.

"Who's that Hua knight?"

As of now, Sagus was convinced that those representatives of Heavens Reaching Church on its side had already known that special Hua knight's identity. Now that he could be so attractive at the beginning, he was definitely not a commoner in Taixia Country. Members of Heavens Reaching Church must know his identity.

"He's Zhang Tie, the Weiwei General of Taixia Country. He invented Fiery Oil and all-purpose medicament..." The lackey of Heavens Reaching Church knew Zhang Tie's identity as fast as possible.

No other human knights could be so powerful at such a young age. Zhang Tie's look almost became his signboard.

'He's the very one who invented Fiery Oil and all-purpose medicament, solved the problem of grain supply facing the rear end of the western theater of operations and established the air cavalry troops for Taixia Country?'

Sagus the Monarch Abyss did not expect it while the whim that it had just abandoned hung over its mind once again.

'I will make a decision after figuring out the deployment that humans make on the ground...'

Sagus the Monarch Abyss stared at Zhang Tie fiercely who was fighting that shadow wing demon knight. After bearing Zhang Tie's look in mind completely, it moved its eyes onto the ground.

The other human knights and demon knights had been in a fight in the sky. However, the two corps of 200,000 iron-armored demons that rushed out of the camp of demons were galloping on the ground towards the bank of Weishui River like entering an unpopulated region...

On the ground in the west of Weishui River, there was not a fighter of Taixia Country at all. Therefore, the iron-armored demons didn't encounter any opponent. However, it didn't mean that the corps of 200,000 iron-armored demons could rush to the bank of Weishui River smoothly. Conversely, they faced fatal traps in each step forward...

The ground leading all the way to the bank of Weishui River was covered with incendiary landmines. Each step forward would cause the death of some LV 9 iron-armored demon fighters.

Flames spurted out of the ground one after another. Each flame indicated that at least one demon fighter became a burning torch. After a short while, the demon fighters had been burned into ashes.

In sprint, the iron-armored demons had learned how to reduce their casualties to minimum by changing their formation—they enlarged their gap so that an incendiary mine would not kill more than 2 iron-armored demon fighters. Additionally, their formation constantly shrank in the flames. By narrowing the width of the vanguard, the later teams of iron-armored demons would suffer fewer casualties...

However, even so, the corps of iron-armored demons still couldn't avoid from being damaged by incendiary mines while those iron-armored demons in front were becoming wailing biological fuel by batches in the flames of incendiary mines...

The closer they were to Weishui River, the greater the density of incendiary mines under the earth would be. Later on, the quantity and density of incendiary mines on the bank of Weishui River became so abnormal that those demon fighters fell down in rows instead of one by one... n/(o-.v)-(!//b()l(-n

Such a scene made Sagus crumb the handle of his throne which was made of human skulls...

Chapter 1377: Great Casualties Facing Demons

After over 120 miles' gallop, fewer than 100,000 of over 200,000 iron-armored demons finally survived the west bank of Weishui River...

Such great casualties shocked Sagus the Monarch Abyss of demons greatly.

Since the demon's army appeared in the periphery of the Realm of Disaster, they had been taking cities and seizing territory over the past 2 years. The demon knights and wing demons might suffer a bit loss; however, the ground forces had always been carrying all before one while Taixia's army had been evacuating. Actually, the two parties rarely had any positive contact. In Wuzhou Province, Zhuzhou Province and Yinzhou Province, ground forces of humans and demons rarely collided with each other. Even if they did, they must be small-scale. Additionally, all the human forces that confronted with demon corps on the ground were easily shattered by the latter.

Purely given the battle strength, the demon corps being composed of LV 9 demons had already completely surpassed any existing corps of Taixia Country. Even the corps among the top 4 armies of Taixia country couldn't establish such a powerful troop.

Therefore, Sagus the Monarch Abyss of demons had been full of ambition on the way here. In its eyes, besides knights, no other forces in Taixia Country could prevent the attack of the demon army. Additionally, as long as the demon army could gain an absolute advantage on the ground, even though human knights could defend the attack of demon army for the time being, their threat would finally diffuse with the failure of ground forces, loss of a great amount of population and cities.

As knights derived from the large population of Taixia Country. The reason why Taixia feared demons was not because of its existing battle strength, but its constant war potential, which came from its large population.

As long as demon's ground forces balanced Taixia's advantage on population, the knights in Taixia Country would finally lose its root and couldn't provide constant war potential anymore. Finally, the entire Taixia Country would be destroyed by demons in this holy war. By then, the wholly new world that demons had been expecting for would come.

It was the strategy that demon powers adopted for dealing with Taixia Country and the importance of the existence of the LV 9 demon corps, namely, balancing Taixia's advantage in population as fast as possible so as to completely destroy the foundation for producing human knights.

Before this holy war, the demon powers had made a conclusion through a precise reckoning. As long as demons could reduce the population of Taixia Country to its half, the speed of the appearance of new human knights would not catch up with the consumption speed of human knights on the battlefield. By then, the entire country would gradually decline as its the number of human knights would gradually decrease. Finally, the entire country would be exterminated by demons.

The situation facing Yezhou Province, Wuzhou Province, Zhuzhou Province and Yinzhou Province had fully verified the speculation of demon powers about this holy war. As long as demon knights could counterbalance human knights in Taixia Country, the demon corps of LV 9 demons would accomplish its attack and occupation about the population and cities in Taixia Country. As demons had plundered a large number of Hua people and cities, the Heavens Reaching Empire was soon established on the Eastern Continent in such a short period since demons launched a strike towards Taixia Country and gradually had the power to oppose the imperial court of Taixia Country as a part of demon forces.

Sagus thought that demon's ground forces could absolutely become irresistible in this holy war. However, it was out of its imagination that the demon's ground force was severely damaged by Taixia's ground force near the bank of Weishui River after the demon army occupied the 4 provinces of Taixia Country.

In about 120 miles, half of the unrivaled corps of 200,000 iron-armored demons fell down when they didn't even see their enemy at all.

Before the holy war, the demon powers had already assessed the influence that the industrial strength and new weapons of Taixia country might pose to this holy war. At that time, all the demon powers thought that the biggest threat that Taixia Country posed to the demon's ground forces based on their industrial strength was white phosphorous gel combustible bomb. In the fights between demons and humans, Taixia Country had already put portable white phosphorous gel bombs into use. In the future, Taixia Country might match its troops with such portable weapons on a large scale.

However, the so-called “large scale” was just relative to the former use of white phosphorous gel bombs. In the last holy war, the white phosphorous gel bombs produced by Taixia Country were mainly for airships. Ground forces barely used it. After making a serious assessment about the production procedures of white phosphorous gel bombs and the small amount of portable white phosphorous gel bombs that they acquired from earth elements realm, they all thought that Taixia’s ground forces couldn’t be matched with such a portable weapon on a large scale being limited to the manufacturing technologies, raw materials and cost. Only officials of Taixia’s ground forces could be matched with such portable weapons. Given the scale of Taixia troops, each official above LV 6 of Taixia ground forces could at most be matched with 2 portable white phosphorous gel bombs.

The white phosphorous gel bombs would bring troubles to demon’s ground forces; however, it was nothing serious compared to such a large corps of LV 9 demon knights.

As Fiery Oil appeared after the holy war broke out, the demon powers and elites had not imagined that the new Fiery Oil weapons could cause such a heavy loss to their ground forces.

Watching the flames that spurted out of the ground from time to time, Sagus instantly understand that these new weapons of Taixia Country were far more destructive than they had imagined. Additionally, it seemed that Taixia troops could be easily matched with such new weapons on a large scale.

Being driven mad, Sagus crumbled the handle of his throne...

If Sagus knew how many incendiary mines had the engineering corps of millions of members buried on two banks of Weishui River and in Helan Mountain Range, he might be more shocked... *noVe)l&.In*

The fight in the sky and on the ground continued as the first positive collision between demons and Taixia army would not stop so fast. After surviving the “explosions and flames”, those iron-armored demons immediately dove into the icy river and swam towards the opposite bank.

Iron-armored demons were ambitious who had an exceptional battle strength on the ground and a nice watermanship. Although being wide, Weishui River couldn’t block the army of iron-armored demons...

‘Is that the only trump card of Taixia Country?’

The small frustration facing the ground troops didn’t scare the demon general away. Under his pitch-dark metal mask, Sagus’ gloomy eye light jumped while over 20,000 wing demon fighters flew towards Weishui River from the demon army like a cloud...

Chapter 1378: Fiery Battle Flames

Weishui River was billowy and turbulent. The narrowest place across the river course was almost 6 miles. The remaining iron-armored demons that rushed to the riverside instantly dove into the river by batches like migrating herds on the prairie, causing a wealth of ripples and waves.

Iron-armored demons didn’t wear armor or helmet. Their skin and shell were smooth and streamlined, which helped them move swiftly in water. Those iron-armored demons bit their weapons as they pushed forward by limbs like how those amphibious animals in the water. It was really terrifying to see such dense demon fighters rushing forward...

The wing demons in the sky also accelerated towards the riverside.

Thousands of meters away from the place where the iron-armored demons entered the river in the upper reach, dozens of iron warships were loafing in the river.

Since the first iron-armored demon entered the river, the dozens of warships had rung jarring alarms at the same time. The sailors awaiting on the warships while holding their breath hurriedly accomplished the preparation for the coming battle faster than they could in daily training.

“The target has already entered water...”

“Distance 4800...”

“Direction 3...”

“Water speed 7...”

“Fixed depth 5...”

Some sound from sentry posts were transmitted into the command room of the fleet rapidly through sound-transmission pipes.

In the command room of the fleet, a resolute captain at his 50s put down his telescope as he sent the order, “Let go the torpedoes...” while a killing intent flashed across his eyes.

Closely after his order, dozens of warships released black wax-gourd shaped objects with some tentacles on their surface into the water in the frequency of one batch per two seconds.

There was a distance between each warship. Those torpedoes were released into the water at a fixed tempo. Along with water, they gloomily flowed towards the lower reach of the river.

Although there were so many torpedoes over the river, they didn’t touch each other. They just flew towards the lower reach like a huge net...

When iron-armored demons entered the river, they would inevitably encounter those floating torpedoes. If there was only one torpedo, iron-armored demons could dodge away from it. However, due to the large quantity of iron-armored demons, too many torpedoes were laid into the water. Therefore, they would collapse unavoidably.

Brighter flames rose on water while the entire water level of Weishui River turned into a sea of fire in a split second. Iron-armored demons were struggling in the sea of fire while many of them were being scorched.

Smarter iron-armored demons dove deeper to avoid from the first wave of collisions. However, closely after that, the ear-splitting sound of high-pressure steam centrifugal ballista drifted from the fleet in the distance while dense shells fell into the region where iron-armored demons were in. As a result, on the burning water level, many iron-armored demons were penetrated through by the shells of the steam centrifugal ballista, covering the river with blood. What was more important, the rainlike shells from steam centrifugal ballista detonated those dense incendiary torpedoes over the river, expanding the area of the fire sea by more than 10 times...

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Over 20,000 wing demons flew over here, facing over 20,000 air cavalry I airplanes that set off from the east bank of Weishui River.

Over 20,000 wing demons flapping their wings were like a cloud; over 20,000 air cavalry I airplanes were also like a cloud. Additionally, the buzz of the engines and propellers of airplanes reverberated in the sky...

“Brothers, follow me and let’s kill the enemy...” The battalion chief in professional goggles and leather coat of the air cavalry I airplanes in the front airplane made a pose when he saw wing demons flying towards them. Closely after that, he pressed down his operation lever and led his battalion towards those wing demons.

“Aim and fire when we’re about 100 m away from them. We have to find our Wuzhou Army’s face back and tell the other provincial armires and top 4 armies that our Wuzhou Army is not sh*t...” The battalion chief told the shooter while gritting his teeth...

“Yes, sir...” The shooter in the back seat answered calmly as he kept his eyes close on the approaching wing demons.

They were the first batch of air cavalry I airplanes that were selected from the Wuzhou Army which evacuated from Wuzhou Province last year. Last year, these people were chased after and beaten brutally and lost their territory. Therefore, all the fighters of Wuzhou Army were irate about that. As the first batch of air cavalries, they finally got a chance to avenge the death of their comrades-in-arms and the loss of territory.

However, the human airplanes didn’t scare off those wing demons; instead, they cried as they darted with weapons in hand, narrowing their distance to about 100 m in a split second.

At this moment, the shooters of air cavalry I airplanes triggered their steam ballista, firing those incendiary bolts one after another. In the blink of an eye, thousands of flames had appeared in the sky like fiery firecrackers.

The incendiary bolts that were fired from airplanes adopted mixed fuses too. When incendiary bolts touched the targets, they would burn up at once. Even though they didn’t touch the targets, when the power of the incendiary bolts started to decline, the time delayed fuse would also be activated.

Only after the first blow, hundreds of wing demons had fallen off the sky while whining in terms of fireballs. Some wing demons were directly hit by incendiary bolts; some were not hit; however, they were involved when they entered the effective region of incendiary bolts and finally faced the same consequence.

Due to strong wind, the power of incendiary bolts intensified while those wing demons being involved and struck instantly turned into fireballs.

After avoiding from the first wave of the strike, those wing demons broke into the formation of air cavalry I airplanes. Almost at the same time, some airplanes had been hit down while emitting black smoke and twisting their wrecks...

It was the first official battle between air cavalries of Taixia Country and wing demons. Almost the moment the battle started, it had become white-hot. The tidy formation of air cavalry I airplanes was scattered while 20,000 wing demons and 20,000 air cavalries entered a chaotic battle within 6,000 miles in the sky...

Chapter 1379: Spraying Blood Over the Sky

Wing demons were very flexible in the sky. They could fly and slide rapidly like birds. When in need, they would hover in the sky while flapping their wings like dragonflies. They could even turn around and fly backward. Actually, they could fly in any direction at any time. Such great flexibility could barely be matched by any bird in the sky. Although Zhang Tie's thunder hawk could easily fly faster than wing demons and could also hover in the sky for a short period, it couldn't fly backward like wing demons.

As air cavalry I airplane had a pair of fixed wings and relied on mechanical strength, its flexibility couldn't match that of wing demons. Even so, air cavalry I airplane still had an advantage—speed. Air cavalry I airplane could even fly faster than battle spirit wing demons, not to mention LV 9 wing demons. If speed was regarded as the only reference, air cavalry I airplane was much more powerful than wing demons.

An air cavalry I airplane was matched with a steam crossbow and many incendiary bolts. Incendiary bolt's effective range was over 100 m. However, LV 9 wing demons could only realize melee attack. Even though wing demons above LV 10 could realize battle qi strike, the effective range of their battle qi strike was limited to 100 m.

Given the effective range of the strike, air cavalry I airplane had an advantage. With this advantage, bolts shot from an airplane could reach wing demons while wing demon's battle qi strike couldn't reach the plane. However, whenever an airplane set off, it could only carry a limited number of incendiary bolts due to objective reasons such as take-off weight, capacity, spatial layout and pneumatic efficiency. Take air cavalry I airplane on the battlefield as an instance, each air cavalry I airplane could only have 35 incendiary bolts at most. That was to say, after shooting out 35 incendiary bolts, the steam crossbow would be useless. Unless the airplane could return to the base for replenishment, it would lose its battle strength in the sky.

By contrast, wing demons' melee attack times was not limited. As long as a wing demon was alive, it would almost exercise limitless strikes.

Although airplane could exert its role in a long distance, its crossbow's effect was limited when in close combat; especially on its wings and under its belly where were dead angles. As long as wing demon approached these dead angles, the steam crossbow would be ineffective. Whereas, wing demons didn't have striking dead angles. The closer wing demon was to the airplane, the better it would exert its battle strength in the air.

Additionally, wing demons were more sensitive than air cavalry I airplanes in the sky. An air cavalry I airplane was matched with 2 fighters, one for driving, the other for shooting. Two people should coordinate with each other. A wing demon versus an air cavalry I airplane was actually equal to 1 wing demon versus 2 human fighters plus a battle machine.

Wing demons could fly longer than air cavalry I airplanes. Whenever and wherever in need, wing demons would set off. Additionally, wing demons could land almost anywhere on land, wilderness, mountains or deep woods. Only by taking something casually or having a short nap would they recover their battle strength. It was nothing serious even if they were slightly injured. By contrast, as long as airplanes ran out of its Fiery Oil, it had to land at an airport or a plain, open land. Without being filled with Fiery Oil, it could not set off once again. Additionally, the components of the airplane had to be repaired and maintained routinely.

In some sense, the wrestle between air cavalry I airplane and wing demon was about speed and flexibility, striking range and striking ability, individual and teamwork. It was actually a holistic confrontation on the feathers and strengths of races between demons and humans.

In such a confrontation, airplanes and wing demons both had their own advantages and shortcomings. Neither of them was overwhelming in the sky. They were on even. Therefore, from the beginning, the battle between wing demons and air cavalries had entered a chaotic and extremely fierce state.

In each second, fireballs would fall off while wuthering planes emitting black smoke would crash onto the ground and explode. Some planes were directly shattered by the battle qi strike of high-level wing demons as they flipped over and fell off.

At the critical moment, pilots would jump off the planes by a rotachute. It's a necessary skill for air cavalries to use rotachutes. However, not all the air cavalries could have a chance to escape by rotachute; neither would all the air cavalries survive themselves by rotachute.

Some air cavalries were killed in the seats by wing demons using their weapons when the latter approached. After that, the airplane would lose its control and crash onto the ground, arousing a huge fireball while the components of the plane flew in all directions. Some air cavalries were brutally killed by wing demons in the air before they landed.

After shooting off all the incendiary bolts in the airplane, some airplanes didn't leave as they saw how wing demons killed their brothers who had jumped off their airplanes by rotachute. They were looking for a chance to perish together with the wing demons...

Given the great speed of airplanes, the number of wing demons and the chaotic state, as long as there was a chance, an airplane could absolutely crash against a wing demon; especially the propeller in the front of the airplane, which was like sharp blades when in high-speed rotation. As long as it crashed against a wing demon's body or wing, it would badly mutilate the latter or ruin the latter's flight ability. However, the airplane would also be damaged. Additionally, wing demon might escape away while giving a fatal blow to the plane or the air cavalries in the plane by hand. In such an air fight, the most perilous movement for an air cavalry was to approach a wing demon.

"Do you fear about the crash?" "Are you afraid of death?" "Will we do it?" "Will we risk doing it?"

Many pilots would ask the shooter in the back seat the similar questions before their last struggle.

"F*ck them off!" n.-O..v).e).I()b-(1-.n

"Why would I be here if I were afraid of death?"

"Cut the motherf*cking crap, I'm not a b*stard..."

“Even if you don’t fear what this father is afraid of...”

“As our brothers came here together, we have to return together or die together here...”

“Whatever, we’ve killed one and won’t live in vain. If we kill one more, we will win...”

None of the shooters in the back seats were timid at this moment.

Thus, many air cavalry I airplanes and wing demons flipped over and fell off...

...

An air cavalry I airplane’s tail unit was broken by a wing demon as it flipped over and fell off. The two air cavalries almost popped out of the cockpit and the shooting module at the same time. However, the moment they opened their rotachute, the wing demon which had just broken the tail unit of the airplane had flown towards them once again. Only by one strike, it had shattered the skull of the shooter using the spine in its hand.

“Old Gao...” The former pilot widely opened its eyes out of fury as he whined and saw his comrade-in-arms loosen his grip and fall off.

Old Gao’s blood and brain sprayed over the LV 9 wing demon’s head, making the wing demon pretty grim. Closely after that, the wing demon sped up towards the former pilot. When its spine approached the former pilot’s body, the air cavalry roared as he suddenly loosened his rotachute and charged at the spine. Undoubtedly, the spine penetrated through the air cavalry’s chest; however, the air cavalry put his arms around the wing demon.

“F*ck you...” The air cavalry swore while gritting his teeth, blood filling his mouth. Under the dumbfounded look of the wing demon, he instantly triggered the fuse of his portable incendiary grenade.

In the flame, this air cavalry and that wing demon flipped over and fell off at the same time...

The first combat between the air cavalries and the wing demons in this holy war opened the brilliant historical chapter in such a fierce way.

When in Selnes Theater of Operations, Zhang Tie became the first human air cavalry.

As of now, the human air cavalry troop which was almost founded by Zhang Tie alone appeared on the stage of Black Iron Age for the first time on the bank of Weishui River of Taixia Country.

So many hot-blooded human fighters were spraying their blood over the sky like how Zhang Tie did in Selnes Theater of Operations. However, being different than that in Selnes Theater of Operations, the air cavalry troop of Taixia Country was not waiting to be slaughtered by wing demons anymore; instead, they formed an iron great wall in the sky and uttered the loudest sound under the heavens...

The air fight continued. On the ground, the first batch of iron-armored demons finally tided over Weishui River and reached the east bank of Weishui River.

Chapter 1380: Endless Annoyance

Even though incendiary torpedoes were combustible in water, their destructive power was much weaker than that on land.

As for the 100,000 iron-armored demons that jumped into Weishui River, besides the first batch which suffered a loss and some were killed by centrifugal ballista on the warships of Taixia Country, most of the iron-armored demons directly dove deep in water when encountering dangers. Although this method was nothing ingenious, it reduced the loss of iron-armored demons greatly.

Almost 90,000 iron-armored demons finally arrived at the east bank of Weishui River. Taixia troop only reduced a bit more than 10% of the total amount of iron-armored demons in the river, which figure was much smaller than the loss of iron-armored demons on the west bank of Weishui River.

Of course, it owed to iron-armored demon's good swimming skill. If it was ox-head demons or spider demons that tided over Weishui River, those incendiary torpedoes would definitely have killed more demons. Given this point, it was indeed a smart decision for Sagus the Monarch Abyss to assign iron-armored demons to be the vanguard.

The air fight finally affected the ground troops.

Some wing demons wanted to attack the warships of Taixia Country over the river; however, the warships gathered up in an air-defense formation and shot at those wing demons in a dense manner the moment those wing demons approached. As a result, some wing demons were hit down without causing any damage to the warships.

Besides shotting traditional bolts, the steam ballista on warships could also shoot more powerful incendiary bolts. The incendiary bolts being matched for these warships were different than those on air cavalry I airplanes in specifications as the former were longer, thicker with the evidently bigger caliber and more powerful. The moment these bolts exploded in the sky, they would cause a fireball whose diameter was over 10 m. Additionally, their land-to-air range could reach higher than 400 m. No wing demon could gain any advantage facing such a powerful air-defense strike.

Additionally, before those iron-armored demons which had reached the opposite bank gathered up, two wuthering and smoking air cavalry I airplanes had precisely hit the region on the east bank where there were most iron-armored demons. The moment the airplanes crashed onto the ground, they had exploded while their flames and flying metal parts devoured some more iron-armored demons.

After receiving the order, the iron-armored demons continued to march on.

To respond to this order, iron-armored demons which had embarked on immediately roared and rushed towards the east.

There was once a wood in the east bank of Weishui River. However, at this moment, the entire wood had been weeded out by Taixia troops. As a result, it was bald and full of undulating yellow ground and hills within hundreds of miles. Besides some short weeds, shrubs and some patches of stumps, no plant higher than 1.7 m could be seen. In that case, even a troop of over 1,000 people could barely hide there, not to mention large-scale troops.

In the last year, the troops of hundreds of millions fighters and the engineering corps of tens of millions of engineers had already well renovated the entire east bank of Weishui River. As a result, demons embarking on the east bank could barely take advantage of resources and topographical strengths.

The east riverside was absolutely a battlefield preset by Taixia troops.

However, not a single human could be seen over the east bank, except for undulating hills. The warships' shells reached the east bank; even though, the iron-armored demons embarking on the east bank continued to surge forward.

At this moment, flames rose from the ground, devouring those surging iron-armored demons one after another. The flames were caused by incendiary mines. Compared to that on the west bank, more incendiary mines were buried in the undulating hills, hillsides, gullies, shrubs and plain, open area. As a result, each step forward would mean the loss of many lives.

The entire east bank was covered with mines, where iron-armored demons couldn't see those human fighters but flames rising from the ground and those of their same kind whining and turning into charcoals in flames...

Iron-armored demons roared as they became hopeless. All the iron-armored demons above LV 10 started to launch battle qi strikes towards the ground in front while running.

However, iron-armored demons above LV 10 were not like Zhang Tie who was cultivating an emperor-level secret method and had constant battle qi in his qi sea. As for most of the iron-armored demons above LV 10, off-hand battle qi strike was an advanced battle skill, which required them to convert their battle qi into aggressive energy. This battle skill was powerful; however, it consumed a lot of battle qi.

An ordinary LV 10 iron-armored demon could release its off-hand battle qi strike 6-10 times within one day. Some elites could make it over 10 times. As long as an iron-armored demon ran out of its battle qi in a short period, its battle strength would decline rapidly. Before the battle qi in his qi sea recovered, it would not launch a battle qi strike anymore.

This law suited to LV 10 iron-armored demons and those above LV 10. However, more advanced iron-armored demons could release off-hand battle qi strike a few more times within one day. Ordinary LV 11 iron-armored demons could release off-hand battle qi strike 12 to 20 times; LV 12 iron-armored demons could make 18 to 40 times; LV 13 iron-armored demons could make 35-60 times... The higher level the iron-armored demon was, the more off-hand battle qi strikes would it exercise. However, it was not limitless. Additionally, as for high-level fighters, as long as they ran out of their battle qi in their qi sea, they might not even able to release their protective battle qi.

The east bank was filled with battle qi booms, brilliant and surging flames which looked pretty boisterous. Advanced demon fighters' off-hand battle qi strikes indeed worked as incendiary mines were constantly detonated. However, if someone made calculations cautiously, they would find that an advanced demon fighter could strike the ground 7-10 times for detonating one incendiary mine on average.

As incendiary mines were buried under the ground, iron-armored demons above the ground couldn't see them. As a result, they couldn't make tentative strikes. Therefore, it was a matter of probability to detonate incendiary mines using off-hand battle qi strikes.

This probability had been counted before these incendiary mines were buried. The probability was determined by the density of mines per square km, which was closely related to war cost.

Over 60 miles away from the east bank of Weishui River, Liu Xing and some officers of Fiery-Dragon Corps were standing on a hillside and observing the flickering battle qi and flames that rose among those iron-armored demons rushing towards Taixia corps from time to time by telescope.

The vanguard of iron-armored demons was almost 1.2 miles in width. Only a bit more than 1,000 of over 90,000 iron-armored demons were above LV 10. Although over 1,000 iron-armored demons exerted their full efforts to detonate some incendiary mines using their battle qi, more incendiary mines were detonated by the foot of their kind. Meanwhile, as they constantly released their battle qi strikes, an increasing number of iron-armored demons above LV 10 gradually ran out of their battle qi and couldn't release off-hand battle qi strike any longer. Therefore, although they were surging forward, the quantity of battle qi lusters among demon corps gradually decreased...

"The cost of an incendiary mine is less than one silver coin. One silver coin for the life of one LV 9 demon. On average, we could paralyze a LV 10 iron-armored demon at the cost of 10 silver coins by having it lose its long-distance striking ability or consuming the greater part of battle qi of a battle master-level or a great battle master-level demon. That was to say, a gold coin could afford 100 mines on the battlefield. It would take them hundreds or 1,000 times' off-hand battle qi strikes to weed out these mines. A battle spirit-level demon could never clean up 100 mines by off-hand battle qi strikes even if it ran out of its battle qi. That's really economical..." Zhao Bing said while shaking his head after putting his telescope.

"That illustrates the strength of gold coins as was mentioned by our master. If we just keep going like this, we will not fear about demons regardless of their population. Money could really kill demons..." Wu Yinhui nodded.

"Besides our master, who else among humans could kill demons using gold coins?"

"Guess whether these demons could reach us or not..."

"If the airship troop didn't set off, it's possible; however..." Liu Xing replied as he put down his telescope. At this moment, a huge shadow covered the hillside. Needless to look up, they had known that airships had been dispatched.

The iron-armored demons surging forward among the flames of incendiary mines finally became dismayed. After moving over 20 miles forward, over 90,000 iron-armored demons didn't even see a single human fighter; instead, they saw endless wires in front of them which looked like a cage and a huge formation composed of wires.

Although wires couldn't block iron-armored demons, they could slow down iron-armored demons' speed. Additionally, many incendiary mines were buried between wires too.

When the iron-armored demons slowed down, a row of airships of Taixia Country appeared above them while a string of black points fell off the airships. When they were over 20 m high above the ground, those black points exploded and turned into a fierce fire sea before falling onto the heads of iron-armored demons...

