Black Iron 1941

Chapter 1941: Loss And Gain

On the battlefield, Zhang Tie really felt like a dragon getting stranded or a tiger leaving its hill and descending to the plains at this moment.

No matter how powerful he was, Zhang Tie could only stay in the deserted inn for the time being and ponder about his next plan.

If he could enter Castle of Black Iron now, everything would become simple. No matter what, as long as he could stay in Castle of Black Iron for three years, after the "frail" period caused by the use of the secret skill "arrival" of *Infinite King Roc Sutra*, he would recover his battle force. By then, nobody in this world could defeat him, neither humans nor demons. He could even end the holy war in a short period of time.

However, he couldn't access to Castle of Black Iron now; neither had he recovered his battle force. Therefore, all the problems became complex.

The key was to live on. As a man, he should be able to take temporary setbacks. As long as he passed this "frail" period of three years successfully, nothing else was serious.

Although the projection of demon overlord in the chaotic space failed to prevent him from coming back and couldn't position the egg of King Roc that Zhang Tie had created in the secret skill "arrival" of *Infinite King Roc Sutra*, the demon overlord probably knew the sequel of this secret skill of *Infinite King Roc Sutra* and Zhang Tie's current condition. Although the demon overlord couldn't descend to this world, as an undying creature, it could definitely pass its own awareness to the top figures among demons. Those top figures among demons might have already known that Zhang Tie was back. They might be looking for Zhang Tie everywhere and determined to kill Zhang Tie at any price.

Taiyi Fantasy Sect, Heavens Holding Pavilion and Qionglou Pavilion never wanted to see Zhang Tie coming back alive, either.

Therefore, Zhang Tie shouldn't expose his own identity for the time being...

At this moment, the situation facing Taixia Country was very bad. In the following three years, Zhang Tie didn't know how many Hua fighters would die on the battlefields and whether the situation facing Xuanyuan Hill could maintain steady or not.

When they knew that Zhang Tie was already back, would demons attack Jinwu Palace in order to force Zhang Tie to show up?

Zhang Tie became anxious more or less...

Although he could only come back in this way, when he was back, he gradually realized the importance of the battle force.

...

In a room on the second floor of the deserted inn, Zhang Tie considered his current situation while cultivating and recovering his own battle force.

Just now, Zhang Tie was surprised by his current "frail" state. However, unexpectedly, when he recovered his composure, he found that his battle force was recovering at an amazing speed. In less than half an hour, after he changed his clothes and took a short rest, his spiritual energy in mind sea and battle qi in qi sea had been "refilled".

Although the "refilled" state was relative, Zhang Tie was also shocked by it. Previously, Zhang Tie thought that it would take him a few hours to reach this state, even the next morning; however, he had not imagined that he could recover so fast. Such a recovering speed was even 10 times greater than that Zhang Tie had predicted.

'Incredible!'

Zhang Tie hurriedly looked inside.

Closely after that, he became dumbfounded...

He didn't have any problem but the Infinite Immortal Prison in his shrine surging point...

At this moment, Zhang Tie found that the Infinite Immortal Prison in his shrine surging point was giving out bright light. The entrance at the first floor of Infinite Immortal Prison was widely opened as colorful energy was pouring out of the entrance like flood.

After flowing out of Infinite Immortal Prison, the colorful energy instantly split into two halves; one was rushing into his mind sea like a reversal brilliant Milky Way from bottom to top and converting into the purest spiritual energy in his mind sea; the other was flowing into his qi sea; meanwhile, battle qi was surging out of the colorful energy at a speed greater than ever before.

Zhang Tie became dumbfounded. He didn't know why Infinite Immortal Prison could have such a great change; however, he felt familiar with the colorful energy that was flowing out of Infinite Immortal Prison...

'Wait...' Zhang Tie suddenly recalled something...

It was the first time for the projection of the demon overlord to destroy the space tunnel connecting Motian Realm with this world. At that time, the virtual image of King Roc was looking for the entrance for returning to Taixia Country among endless chaos and space mezzanines. Zhang Tie remembered that it was over 10 years ago. When the projection of demon overlord appeared in the chaos and space mezzanines for the second time, Zhang Tie entered a bizarre space crack by mistake while avoiding from the chase of the projection of demon overlord. When he entered the endless black fog and the large, bizarre space behind that space crack, he saw a vast, brilliant ocean.

At that time, he knew nothing about the place hiding in the chaos and the mezzanine; because it was just like a huge bubble in the chaos and the mezzanine. Zhang Tie didn't know what was in the colorful ocean. When he dove into it, the virtual image of King Roc was almost suffocated and shattered into pieces by the brilliant ocean. When he bore it hardly, his Infinite Immortal Prison suddenly flew out of his shrine surging point and hovered above the brilliant ocean. Closely after that, it turned into a mountain-like huge tower as high as 600 miles and opened the entrance on the first floor before

absorbing all the brilliant energy like how a magical dragon absorbed water. As a result, Zhang Tie was saved.

After the Infinite Immortal Prison dried up the brilliant ocean, it returned to Zhang Tie's shrine surging point. That huge bubble suddenly broke up. Closely after that, the virtual image of King Roc was carried to somewhere else unknown by the space storm aroused by the broken bubble.

This event had happened for so long. Additionally, after Infinite Immortal Prison dried up the brilliant ocean, it didn't have any special response; neither did Zhang Tie have any special response. Therefore, he didn't pay attention to this event anymore. He thought that thing in the brilliant ocean was just something common in the chaos and the mezzanines which he didn't know and could be absorbed by Infinite Immortal Prison. Therefore, Zhang Tie had completely forgotten about it.

After Zhang Tie came back, the empty state facing his mind sea and qi sea coincidentally satisfied one condition. As a result, Infinite Immortal Prison poured out of the brilliant energy.

When he saw Infinite Immortal Prison pouring out that rainbow-like colorful energy, Zhang Tie finally realized that he was wrong. That brilliant ocean was never commonly seen in chaos and space mezzanines.

At this moment, the wisp of energy that entered his mind sea became his spiritual energy; the wisp of energy that entered his qi sea became his battle qi.

Zhang Tie had never imagined that something in this world could turn into spiritual energy and battle qi at the same time. It was out of Zhang Tie's cognitive scope.

When he remembered the vast ocean being absorbed by Infinite Immortal Prison, Zhang Tie almost blacked out. Compared to that vast ocean, the capacity of his mind sea and qi sea was just like that of a small pool, although he was a sage-level knight.

'What is this energy!?'

When Zhang Tie became greatly shocked, something even more shocking happened. After his mind sea and qi sea was filled by his spiritual energy and battle qi respectively, the energy which was more brilliant than the rainbow was still flowing out of the Infinite Immortal Prison and inputting the two energies into his qi sea and mind sea. As a result, his mind sea and qi sea felt like being blown up by a strong force. It was like a balloon being connected to a steamingly high-pressure pump...

However, Zhang Tie's qi sea and mind sea couldn't be blown up because of his Magical King Kong Body of Manjusaka Narayana Fearless King Roc.

Zhang Tie gradually found that the fresh spiritual energy and battle qi were being condensed constantly by the powerful rainbow-like energy. After that, the spiritual energy in his mind sea and the battle qi in his qi sea both became the same colorful energy...

Chapter 1942: Zhang Tie's Choice

The change of his spiritual energy and battle qi in his mind sea and qi sea was too abrupt. Zhang Tie had never imagined that his spiritual energy and battle qi could turn into the same energy one day...

The change was ongoing. After his battle qi and spiritual energy both turned into the brilliant energy, the same energy was still pouring into the hot sun in his qi sea and the bright moon and stars in his mind sea. When Zhang Tie felt that the hot sun in his qi sea and the bright moon and stars in his mind sea were going to be blown up, Zhang Tie's mind sea and qi sea rocked at the same time. Closely after that, the brilliance that the hot sun in his qi sea and the bright moon and stars gave out turned colorful at the same time.

The entrance of Infinite Immortal Prison in his shrine surging point was still open. The colorful energy was still surging out of the entrance. Gradually, the energy overflew his mind sea and qi sea. Then, it started to flow across his body like water that flew out of a water vat. As a result, his body as a whole was filled with that colorful energy.

When Zhang Tie was worried about whether the energy would blow up his body or not, the entrance of Infinite Immortal Prison suddenly closed like a sluice gate. Then, his body quivered once as all the energy inside his body faded away like an ebb tide and entered his surging points. Zhang Tie's body recovered in an instant.

After standing there still for a short while, Zhang Tie discovered that his mind sea had already been connected to his qi sea by two tunnels like how two ponds were connected. In those tunnels, the colorful energy was circulating. The energy could flow into the mind sea from his qi sea, vice versa.

'Incredible!'

Zhang Tie tried to regulate the energy in his qi sea to release a layer of protective battle qi outside his body.

There was no problem for him to do this. His battle qi could be regulated as same as before. However, this time he could release his protective battle qi the moment he regulated the energy in his qi sea. Additionally, Zhang Tie found that the protective battle qi that he had just formed appeared to be a bit different than that before. It was not an evident change. However, Zhang Tie felt that his protective battle qi had reached a new level. His protective battle qi appeared to be more powerful with greater defensive power and tenacity. After sensing it slightly, Zhang Tie found that the tenacity and strength of his protective battle qi had enhanced by 40% or so.

It was great progress!

'Is that colorful energy something more advanced than battle qi? How could it have such a strange effect?'

The protective battle qi was constantly consuming the colorful energy in his qi sea; meanwhile, the energy in his mind sea and the energy in his qi sea started to circulate so as to fix the missing energy in the qi sea at a higher speed.

Now, the spiritual energy in his mind sea and the battle qi in his qi sea could recover respectively. Although this resilience couldn't match that in his heyday, once the two spaces were connected, the energy could flow into his qi sea from his mind sea to fix the missing spiritual energy, vice versa. It indicated that Zhang Tie's resilience had increased by two times. In battles, it was equal to that Zhang Tie had two qi seas or two mind seas no matter whether he fought in the pattern of a divine dominator or a common knight...

Zhang Tie then stopped releasing his protective battle qi. Then, he ran his spiritual energy and started to form a master-level hiding rune in his mind sea with the colorful energy. This process was as same as before. At this moment, the colorful energy appeared to be his spiritual energy again. With the consumption of the colorful energy in his mind sea, an unprecedented master-level hiding rune came into being in his mind sea.

Compared to the other golden runes, this master-level hiding rune was colorful. Giving out a special brilliance in Zhang Tie's mind sea, it looked outstanding. n)(0velbIn

Additionally, when the energy in his mind sea was being consumed, the energy in his qi sea started to flow into his mind sea in order to fix the missing energy in his mind sea.

'That's true!'

Watching the colorful master-level hiding rune, Zhang Tie gritted his teeth as he activated another one regardless of the loss of his energy.

The effect of the fresh master-level hiding rune instantly covered the effect of the former one.

As he had experienced the effect of invisible Shen bead, Zhang Tie instantly felt that the effect of the fresh master-level hiding rune was about 40% greater than that of the former one, which was on the same level of his protective battle qi.

Zhang Tie became ecstatic in an instant!

Previously, Tang Mei said that with the increasing number of immortal chakras, the spiritual energy and battle qi of powerhouses above immortal emperor would gradually combine into one energy just like the colorful energy that he felt now. However, Zhang tie was not sure whether this energy was left by powerhouses above immortal emperors. He had sensed Tang Mei's battle qi, which appeared to be not that pure and variable. Additionally, the ocean of energy that he had discovered in the space bubble contained too much energy. Even though Zhang Tie had promoted to an immortal emperor, 10,000 Zhang Tie still couldn't produce so much energy. Therefore, Zhang Tie was not sure about the colorful energy and didn't know why he could discover that energy in that chaotic space. However, it didn't matter. What counted most was that Zhang Tie found that energy was available to him.

Zhang Tie was crystal clear that his overall battle force would increase by 40% than that before leaving Motian Realm once he passed his "frail" period and completely recovered. By then, he would definitely be at the peak stage of the sage-level knight, which meant that he would almost enhance half realm.

He really got good out of misfortune!

Additionally, he didn't have to pass the "frail" period of three years in the real world. He could actually make it shorter if he stayed in a tower of time!

As for the towers of time that he knew, there was one under Ice and Snow Wilderness; however, that tower of time's cycle was 60 years. It was not available for the time being.

There were many towers of time in the Dongtian of Great Wilderness Sect; however, he was not sure whether there was a tower of time available inside it. Those towers of time must have played a great role in Jinwu Palace's prosperity over these years facing the hard times in Taixia Country. Yan Feiqing

and Zhang Tie's elder brother would never waste those towers of time. If Zhang Tie went back to Jinwu Palace now, he would definitely arouse the attention of the enemies. That might be what his enemies were craving for.

So was the tower of time where Zhang Tie and Yan Feiqing once stayed in. It was less possible for that tower of time to be vacant. Additionally, the location of that tower of time was completely in the control region of demons.

The best way was to find a tower of time in the Western Continent. Only by staying inside it for a few days would he recover completely.

It was already difficult for him to find a tower of time in the Western Continent, not to mention that he had to cover his identity from someone...

'Oh!'

'Ockham!'

A name instantly occurred to Zhang Tie...

When he read the memory of that low-level officer of the No. 6 royal corps of Aoto Empire, Zhang Tie got a message that officer heard from someone else in the camp a few months ago——there were two corps of Holy Light Empire among the forces in the Hicks Peninsula Theater of Operations. The two Holy Light Grand Priests of Holy Light Empire might also be supervising their soldiers in the East Line of Western Continent...

The low-level officer of the No. 6 Royal Corps of the Aoto Empire couldn't touch too much high-level information of the allied human forces, therefore Zhang Tie was not sure whether Ockham was supervising his soldiers in the East Line or not. However, there were only 3 Holy Light Grand Priests in the Holy Light Empire in total, two of them were in the East Line; therefore, Ockham probably also be in the East Line.

When he recalled Ockham, Zhang Tie observed the bloody seal produced by that god's baptism rune floating somewhere in his mind sea. The bloody seal was still there, which meant that Ockham was still alive and had not betrayed him; neither did he expose the relationship between him and Zhang Tie to the public. As Ockham and Zhang Tie were still connected with each other by the strong bond of the god's baptism rune, Ockham must know that Zhang Tie was still alive...

Unexpectedly, this piece that Zhang Tie casually set in the Western Continent still worked now. Zhang Tie then revealed a faint smile as he instantly felt bright in the future.

However, before meeting Ockham, he must deal with something and make some preparation...

At least he should not feel hungry. He had not eaten anything for a few years inside that huge egg.

After taking a look at the city which was full of battle flames, Zhang Tie activated his invisible Shen bead again as he floated out of the window...

Even a camel that was going to die due to starvation was bigger than a cat. Even though his current battle force was less than 1/100 of that in his peak, as long as he didn't expose his identity to the public and his spiritual energy and battle qi became full, he could recover his vitality at once...

It was actually very easy for him to find food; especially on the battlefield. The troop where the low-level officers of the No. 6 royal corps of Aoto Empire were in had set many secrets, temporary, free supply points in Coldwater City, which had a stockpile of food. Although those military field food were not yummy, they carried great heat. After taking them, people could recover their strength rapidly.

After being starved in the huge egg for a few years, Zhang Tie felt that he could eat up a whole ox.

Chapter 1943: Whose Holy War

The rain stopped at midnight. In the next early morning, soon after daybreak, the air zone of Coldwater City had become the battlefield of warplanes of both parties again, despite being cold in the air. The fiery-oil inflammable bombs that those warplanes dropped caused heavy flames to rise into the sky from the ground in Coldwater City. The large ground forces of both parties which fought fiercely in the city last night had already retreated to the safety areas. At this moment, only small units were carrying out street battles occasionally. Besides burning sounds caused by fiery-oil inflammable bombs and loud sounds caused by collapsing buildings, only low battle calls and growls were drifted out of the nearby ruins. However, closely after that, everything recovered silence. If one unit which was composed of more than 10 people were exposed outside those buildings, their location would turn into a sea of fire by one or several fiery-oil gel bombs after a short while...

It was only a part of the most brutal battle. The party which couldn't bear such a loss would retreat. By then, the other party would naturally become the last winner of Coldwater City, which could choose to chase after the opponent or not; however, the other party must retreat...

In the daytime, the air supremacy became the focus that warplanes of both parties scrambled for in the air zone of Coldwater City; the air cavalries of allied human forces and Sacred Alliance Empire became the main forces on the battlefield. Zhang Tie wondered whether he should feel glorious or helpless about this situation. As of now, even demons' puppet countries had got warplanes; additionally, all the pilots had inherited the appellation that Zhang Tie acquired in Selnes Theater of Operations——air cavalry!

Zhang Tie was the first air cavalry in this holy war. Additionally, he invented fiery oil and manufactured the dual drive engine. He drove the first plane and flew into the sky. Furthermore, he created the most classical theory about air battle and founded the first air cavalries training college. Therefore, Zhang Tie was undoubtedly the father of air cavalries among both humans and demons.

There was one different point: Zhang Tie was certainly a human hero and a powerful knight among humans; however, he also became the hero of demons, at least demon puppets in the Sacred Alliance Empire in the Western Continent. Those puppets became the pious followers of their god. According to the latter's propagation, the allied human forces killed their hero and had someone disguise as Zhang Tie so as to enhance troop morale and intended to subvert their belief and country...

From the perspective of the God, perhaps all the information about Zhang Tie in Sacred Alliance Empire were the most stupid lies as for allied human forces; however, such lies were accepted by all the fighters of Sacred Alliance Empire. In an enclosed totalitarian and religious system, if a person was born with lies, he would be strictly brainwashed. When he grew up, he would lose the basic judgment.

Last night, after being full, Zhang Tie didn't waste time; instead, he killed some demon soldiers in Coldwater City so as to kill time. From those soldiers' memories, Zhang Tie learned well the means that demons and Three-eye Association used to control these puppet countries and brainwash their followers. After knowing all these, Zhang Tie shuddered with fear.

In Sacred Alliance Empire, everyone was deeply marked as a demon since birth.

There was a simple animal controlling skill that even idiots could master. It was called imprinting. This animal controlling skill originated from a biological behavior and instinct that some birds and mammals were born with. That instinctive behavior was called imprinting. To put it simply, some birds and mammals would treat the first moving object that they saw after birth as their parents. If one wanted to control a bird, the simplest way was to let the bird see you when it came to this world. Additionally, as long as that bird lived with you for a period of time, it would definitely become your most pious follower. Humans also had the same instinct.

Similarly, each human in Sacred Alliance Empire would see demons the moment they came to this world. These kids couldn't live with their natural parents until 7 years old; instead, they all lived with demons. After 7 years, when they completed the most period of brainwashing, they would return to the side of their real parents. By then, the terrifying and utterly different body of demons would be the most perfect, intimate and sacred symbol in their eyes...

Across the territory of Sacred Alliance Empire, demon was the most dignified and sacred symbol.

After 7 years, those kids would continue to be brainwashed systematically. They would have their own language and treat everything that was marked with different words as dirty and profanatory items and everyone who spoke different languages as dirty and blasphemous people. They would confess no matter what they heard or saw. As for the former, they would burn and destroy them; as for the latter, if the opponents were men, they would be slaughtered and buried; if the opponents were women, their tongues would be cut off as they would become their tools for reproduction. As long as these women lost the ability to reproduce, they would also be slaughtered and buried...

When the fighters of Sacred Alliance Empire rushed into the battlefields, many people carried great feelings. They wanted to save all the humans by drawing those of their same kind being brainwashed by lies and dark into the arms and brilliance of their real god. Finally, they intended to create a perfect world.

That was the real thought of many fighters of Sacred Alliance Empire who were called "b*stards" by the fighters of allied human forces. Many of them were like martyrs who defied death and treated it as their greatest glory by killing fighters of allied human forces and fighting to death. $n \nu \mathcal{V}_e L \mathbf{B}$)In

After the holy war broke out 4 decades, demons had already turned a part of people into the most terrifying enemies of the other humans, who wanted to exterminate all the humans.

It took Zhang Tie one night to read the memories of over 20 fighters and low-level officers of Sacred Alliance Empire who invaded Coldwater City. Besides mastering the language in these puppet countries, Zhang Tie also verified a conjecture——Ockham, as one of the three holy light bishops of Holy Light Empire, was indeed in the East Line of Western Continent.

One low-level officer of Sacred Alliance Officer heard about the name of Ockham in a military conference.

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Those warplanes were chasing after each other in the air above Coldwater City and the neighborhoods. All the warplanes that both parties inputted on the battlefield were light multi-purpose warplanes. Each warplane could hold two air cavalries. Besides air combats, each warplane even carried two fiery-oil inflammable bombs. Soon after the air battle broke out, some warplanes had been hit and got burnt. They then fell to the ground with wuthering sounds and heavy black smoke.

When the sun rose, a warplane of Sacred Alliance Empire which had just come to the battle field above Coldwater City had dove down like a javelin. Coincidentally, it hit the deserted building where Zhang Tie's huge egg fell to yesterday.

Under the loud booms, the deserted building collapsed at once, covering the huge pit created by Zhang Tie's huge egg in an instant. As a result, the flame of fiery-oil inflammable bomb rose higher than 50 m and heavily burned the ground over hundreds of square meters in the surroundings...

The only clue that Zhang Tie left was then covered in the ruins of Coldwater City.

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After doing all these, Zhang Tie rested all day long as he watched the air battle above Coldwater City.

In the following one week, Zhang Tie slowly recovered in Coldwater City as he formed his first body-separation rune with the brilliant energy in his mind sea.

The former body-separation rune had long been consumed in the chaos and the space mezzanines before he turned into a huge egg.

With body-separation rune, Zhang Tie became a bit more confident.

On the evening of the 8th day, Zhang Tie finally activated the bloody pledge of his god's baptism rune and summoned Ockham from a mountain over 60 miles away from Coldwater City...

Chapter 1944: The Realization of the Truth

After activating the bloody seal of the rune god's baptism, Zhang Tie immediately activated his invisible Shen bead. Then, he quietly waited in a mountain cave where some brown bears once lived.

Since the night had just fallen, Coldwater City in the distance looked tranquil. However, the battles between human allied forces and the Sacred Alliance Empire in Coldwater City in the evening had just come to a start. In the ruins, both parties had inputted a large number of troops. Bloody and cold fights were undergoing continuously. As it was dark, the air cavalries of both parties couldn't identify the situation on the ground. Therefore, the squads of special forces of human allied forces completely mixed with the army of the Sacred Alliance Empire like pine nuts in bread.

Some wing demons flew by Coldwater City every once in a while. They always hid in clouds and would come out to investigate the situation in Coldwater City every now and then or observe the action of the base of human corps in the south of Coldwater City. Even though some wing demons flew at a low altitude, they dared never enter the air zone within 300 m above the ground; because human allied forces' heavy crossbows could pose a fatal threat to wing demons within this distance.

Before fiery-oil was invented, ground weapons especially crossbows didn't pose great threat to wing demons. However, after the invention of fiery-oil, especially a myriad of fiery-oil weapons, inflammable bolts that could turn into fireballs in the air became fatal to wing demons. Wing demons could barely defend them. Ordinary wing demons that couldn't move as fast as bolts might be shot down by the latter. When bolts exploded in the air, they would produce heavy fire rains. Those flames could barely be extinguished the moment they touched wing demons. Therefore, wing demons were afraid of them the most.

Inflammable crossbows on airplanes could turn wing demons into fireballs in the sky. The air-defense armored vehicles on the ground were also fatal to wing demons. Additionally, there were human snipers who especially targeted at wing demons at high altitude. These snipers were all equipped with special crossbows.

The air cavalries of Sacred Alliance Empire didn't take the upper hand in the air zone of Coldwater City at all. Without the coordination of wing demons, the air zone of Coldwater City might have long been occupied by the air cavalries of human allied forces.

It was a large camp of human allied forces not far from the foot of this mountain where Zhang Tie was.

There was even an air-defense regiment of human allied forces on this mountain. Some air-defense battlefields being filled with air-defense armored vehicles were set on the mountain, which was used to protect those field airports behind the mountain.

High spruces, red pines and shrubs could be seen everywhere over the mountain. After Coldwater City turned into a battlefield, many plants on the mountain had been cut down and made into various armaments and materials; even though the greater part of the mountain was still covered with plants.

The bloody seal of the rune god's baptism was similar to those seals in the Great Wilderness Sutra. After all, the rune god's baptism originated from the animal controlling secret skills of Great Wilderness Sect. Through the bloody pledge of the rune god's baptism, Zhang Tie could summon Ockham; however, he couldn't realize remote communication with Ockham through the bloody pledge.

When he waited for the arrival of Ockham, Zhang Tie compared the rune god's baptism with the Golden-Soul Rune Virus and got some new realization. The two secret skills were both used to control knights with their own strong points. To be precise, Golden-Soul Rune Virus was more profound. To be honest, Golden-Soul Rune Virus had been the standard configuration of ambitious men.

When Zhang Tie learned the rune god's baptism, he had already doubted the identity of the one who created this secret skill. Now, Zhang Tie had already confirmed it.

If this god's baptism was really created by the pope of Sacred Light Church, the pope of Sacred Light Church must be Taiyi Old Man.

Even Zhang Tie had not imagined that Taiyi Fantasy Sect could control the Sacred Light Empire and create a puppet religious regime in the Western Continent. Who would believe in that...

However, that was the fact. Many truths always made people dumbfounded once being unveiled to the public.

Take those energies that Zhang Tie sensed in the world of thoughts in this mountain cave as an instance, as it was in the theater of operations, those energies in the world of thoughts were very powerful. What on earth are those energies in the world of thoughts? They were all negative energies like kill, fear, enmity, greed, fury, grief, distress and despair. These energies came from each soldier on the battlefield. These energies were the most favorite food of the demon overlord. They were the source of the power of demon overlord. In front of demon overlord or those powerhouses who had already formed immortal chakras, the entire battlefield was actually a huge juicer. Those being thrown into this juicer were all soldiers of both parties. The juice was composed of these negative energies released by the minds of those soldiers on the battlefield.

The so-called world of thoughts was actually the odd realm where these energies existed. The thoughts that flashed by each one's mind per second carried different attributes of energies. Ordinary people couldn't see or sense those energies and their attributes in their minds. However, what these energies to someone were like what water to fish and what grasses to ox and sheep... n-(o-v-E/L/-B)/1(-n)

At this moment, those negative thoughts and energies being extruded from the theater of operations in the East Line of the Western Continent were disappearing right in front of Zhang Tie. Even though Zhang Tie couldn't see demon overlord, he could sense that those thoughts and energies in the world of thoughts were being engulfed by many invisible huge mouths.

Some truths, once being figured out, could really overturn your recognition about everything in this world, even enable you to reconstruct your opinions about values.

Those negative thoughts in one's mind didn't only exist on the battlefields; however, they would be more active on battlefields. Even in normal times, everyone would have a myriad of thoughts per second. Different thoughts represented different energies. However, when one felt stressful, painful, dangerous, fearful or being tortured by diseases, the energies of those thoughts would be regarded as yummy food in someone's eyes...

What was the meaning of the Three-Eye Association? Previously, Zhang Tie thought that he had already understood it. Actually, he didn't. When he came back, observed and realized it from a higher angle of view, Zhang Tie completely realized and learned the core logic that Three-Eye Association used to rule and control humans...

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Chapter 1945: Meeting Ockham Again

It was deep night and tranquil. The deep place of the pitch-dark mountain cave reverberated with the sound of water dripping off stalactites that hung upside down from the top of the mountain cave. A

salamander was silently creeping on the bank of a pond and capturing fleas in water in the gloomiest and most humid environment.

As they had been used to such a dark environment, these salamanders' visual sense had completely degenerated; however, their olfactory sense was still very sensitive.

All of a sudden, that salamander suddenly stopped catching fleas as it instantly fled into crannies of the rocks and dared not expose his head as if it had seen something dangerous.

Not knowing why, a cluster of mist had already appeared in this mountain cave. When the mist faded away, a person showed up like a specter.

He was thin and tall. His entire body was covered with a black cloak. In a golden mask, he looked mysterious and terrifying. Under the golden mask, there was a pair of glittering eyes, which were observing the environment here meticulously with alert.

His hands were inside the black robe. He was ready for the fight. Before a drop of water fell onto his body from the top of the mountain, it had been bounced off by a layer of invisible protective battle qi.

Besides alert and prudence, his eyes also contained a bit of shock and doubt.

"Long time no see, Ockham..." A voice suddenly entered his ears. He quivered once as he instantly turned around and looked ahead.

10 m ahead, Zhang Tie slowly exited the "invisible" state.

There was no invisible Shen bead in this world. Therefore, when he saw Zhang Tie's body becoming real from transparent, undoubtedly, he was greatly shocked.

After several decades, Zhang Tie's looks still remained as same as before. However, his qi turned more unfathomable. $n-(\mathbf{o}-v-E/(L)-\mathbf{B}/1(-n))$

He slightly quivered with fear and shock. After a few seconds, he instantly recalled something as he hurriedly knelt down by one knee in front of Zhang Tie and lowered his head. Meanwhile, he picked off his golden mask and greeted in a hoarse tone, "My respect to you, owner, I'm Ockahm..."

"Unexpectedly, you're already in the 7 change realm of shadow knight. You've made great progress too..." Zhang Tie sighed while continuing, "You don't have to kneel down there. Get up. I will not eat you..."

When he saw Zhang Tie, this holy light bishop of the Holy Light Empire felt weak all over and even lost his bravery to revolt just like how a new-born mouse caught sight of a cat. When Zhang Tie took him in, Zhang Tie was only an earth knight. Zhang Tie became world-renowned at the bank of Weishui River and slaughtered demons as if they were dogs. Later on, he "died" with a sage-level knight of Taixia Country at Yinhai Desert. From then on, Zhang Tie's name had been a legend over the past decades.

Over the past years, all the others thought that Zhang Tie was already dead; except Ockham. If Zhang Tie was dead, the effect of the god's baptism rune on him would be relieved. However, the effect of the rune was not relieved yet; despite that he couldn't sense Zhang Tie's existence.

When he saw Zhang Tie again, Ockham's head buzzed with confusion. Before coming here, he was worried and doubted that it might be a trap. However, he dared not disobey Zhang Tie's order. When he came here and saw Zhang Tie again, Ockham knew that it was not a trap. Therefore, his shock was beyond words.

Ockham had confirmed two things in the shortest period of time. This Zhang Tie was real. He appeared to be more powerful than before. Not knowing whether Zhang Tie had promoted to a heavenly knight or a semi-sage knight, even though Zhang Tie didn't make any progress in his cultivation base, he could also easily kill Ockham given the bond between them because of the god's baptism rune.

Although he still had a lot of questions, Ockham had figured out his own role in the shortest period of time.

"It's so nice to see you back, owner..." After standing up, the holy light bishop instantly "choked". Closely after that, his eyes turned red as he dropped off tears. Meanwhile, he watched Zhang Tie with excitement as he behaved like a humble slave...

As long as a person promoted to a knight, it was too easy for him to control his tear gland. Zhang Tie didn't want to learn whether Ockham's tears were real or not; because it was meaningless. He only needed Ockham to be loyal to him. Ockham's performance didn't let Zhang Tie down either.

After being "excited" for a short while, Ockham stopped dropping off tears. Zhang Tie then spoke in a serious way, "After falling in the space crack, I almost couldn't come back. When I came back, I found I was in Coldwater City. Additionally, I lost many things and couldn't contact my family for the time being. Therefore, I called you here to ask you some questions!"

"Owner, do you need me to contact Jinwu Palace?" Ockham asked Zhang Tie carefully. Being not a fool, Ockham didn't ask Zhang Tie why he didn't go back to Taixia Country and found his family; because he was crystal clear about Zhang Tie's enemies. Each of the three major sects of Taixia Country was a huge mountain that couldn't be rocked. Now that Zhang Tie had come back, the sage-level knight which disappeared together with Zhang Tie at Yinhai Desert might not come back. As for a knight and a clan, it was as troublesome as facing demons for them to offend such an enemy.

"I don't want to contact my clan for the time being. I want to know the situation facing my clan over these years. Have they met any accident?"

This was indeed the question that Zhang Tie was concerned about the most. Over these days, although Zhang Tie had read the memories of dozens of people in Coldwater City, he didn't learn too much about the affairs of top powers as all the dozens of people were low-level roles, especially those lackeys being brainwashed by demons. He only learned some empty things and a couple of major events. Of course, Zhang Tie couldn't gather too much information from those people's brains.

After hearing Zhang Tie's question, Ockham hurriedly told Zhang Tie about all the information of Jinwu Palace that he knew.

Ockham paid closer attention to the information about Taixia Country and Jinwu Palace because of Zhang Tie; therefore, he knew more than ordinary people. Therefore, he poured out all the relevant information that he knew at this moment.

Over the past 30-odd years, Jinwu Palace didn't decline; instead, it developed into a super major clan being well-known across both Eastern Continent and the Western Continent.

Jinwu Palace's enemies in Taixia Country were Taiyi Fantasy Sect, Heavens Holding Pavilion and Qionglou Pavilion. Over the past 30-odd years, the three sects were totally incompatible with Jinwu Palace; however, they could do nothing to Jinwu Palace's rise.

After Elder Heavenly Chaos, also the owner of Heavens Holding Pavilion died in the battle at Yinhai Desert, Heavens Holding Pavilion's power declined heavily. As those grand elders of Heavens Holding Pavilion didn't reach an agreement about the next owner of Heavens Holding Pavilion, Heavens Holding Pavilion had been troubled with internal disputes over the past three decades. 6 years later after the battle between Zhang Tie and Elder Heavenly Chaos at Yinhai Desert, although the new owner of Heavens Holding Pavilion was selected with the interference of Old Man Taiyi and Elder Shenkong, he couldn't completely conquer the other two grand elders who were also semi-level sages.

On this occasion, that grand elder who ascended to the position of the owner of Heavens Holding Pavilion with the support of Old Man Taiyi and Elder Shenkong was killed by Yun Zhongzi, the sage-level elder of the Great Wilderness Sect. In that battle, Heavens Holding Pavilion suffered heavy losses.

Therefore, there was still no owner of Heavens Holding Pavilion even now. The other two grand elders who always wanted to scramble for the position of the owner of Heavens Holding Pavilion finally stopped; instead, they both developed their own force in Heavens Holding Pavilion. As a result, Heavens Holding Pavilion's reputation declined greatly. It almost dropped out of the top 6 sects in Taixia Country.

In this situation, nobody in Heavens Holding Pavilion felt like offending Jinwu Palace which was in the heyday.

By contrast, Taiyi Fantasy Sect and Qionglou Pavilion were both tired of coping with Yun Zhongzi, the elder of Great Wilderness Sect who treated them as his top enemies over the past three decades.

Over 30 years ago, on the day of the battle at Yinhai Desert, Yun Zhongzi had raided the headquarters of Taiyi Fantasy Sect, inflicting a heavy loss to the latter. In the following a few years, he raided some branches of Qionglou Pavilion consecutively and killed many elders and knights of Qionglou Pavilion. Those elders and knights of Taiyi Fantasy Sect and Qionglou Pavilion who went out to carry out tasks also became the preys of Yun Zhongzi. They would die for sure once they fell in the hands of Yun Zhongzi.

By now, Taiyi Fantasy Sect and Qionglou Pavilion finally knew that people in barefoot was not afraid of those in shoes. The two major sects were afraid of Yun Zhongzi so much that everyone felt insecure.

In the two major sects, besides sage-level knights like Taiyi Old Man and Elder Shenkong, almost nobody else could defeat Yun Zhongzi. The two major sects both had their bases; however, Yun Zhongzi, being such powerful, was alone. His trace was uncertain. Therefore, he always carried out guerrillas with the two major sects. Of course, the two major sects wouldn't be in danger every day.

Additionally, Yun Zhongzi's animal controlling skill was amazing. Old Man Taiyi and Elder Shenkong set two traps in vain because Yun Zongzi used his animal controlling skill. As for the second time, Yun Zongzi even met trick with a trick. He induced Old Man Taiyi out of Taiyi Fantasy Sect's headquarters and raided

their headquarters for the second time. As a result, a lot of knights in the headquarters were heavily injured. Even the palace of the sect was destroyed again...

Chapter 1946: The Rise of Jinwu Palace

When the three major sects of Taixia Country were heavily disturbed by Yun Zhongzi who used to take action secretly and had terrifying battle force, Jinwu Palace which established connections with the royal households of Taixia Country through marriage had been rising in an irresistible way based on businesses of fiery-oil and all-purpose medicament...

As the holy war turned white-hot, the demand for fiery-oil and all-purpose medicament was increasing. In this situation, Jinwu Palace's position in Taixia Country became more and more important. It could be said that Jinwu Palace was as rich as a country. Besides fiery-oil, starting from the second year after the battle at Yinhai Desert, Jinwu Palace had already determined to produce all-purpose medicament together with royal households and some major sects through cooperation...

Zhang Tie was the son-in-law of Lord Guangnan's Mansion. Zhang Tie's sons were royal prince's son-in-law, son-in-law of Zuoqiu Ming, son-in-law of Guang Clan. Additionally, Zhang Clan had established close relations with Heavenly Fortune Sect, Gold and Power Law, Taixia military and local major sects across Taixia Country. Furthermore, almost all the air cavalries across Taixia Country were the disciples or disciples' disciples in Fiery-Dragon Bounty Territory.

Over the past 30-odd years since Zhang Tie left Taixia Country, Zhang Chenglei, Zhang Chengting and Zhang Chengpei had long promoted to earth knights. Soon after getting married, they had given birth to grandsons for Zhang Tie. Even many grandsons of Zhang Tie's, also the fourth generation of Jinwu Palace had been promoting to knights one after another. Jinwu Palace was full of talents. Additionally, many powerhouses were joining Jinwu Palace from all directions.

Yan Feiqing lived up to her identity as Zhang Tie's No. 1 wife. After the battle at Yinhai Desert finished for 14 years, Yan Feiqing had formed her fire chakra and promoted to a semi-sage knight. Bai Suxian and Guo Hongyi had promoted to shadow knights...

After the battle at Yinhai Desert, Jinwu Palace suffered the largest crisis. On the 914th year of Black Iron Calendar, a semi-sage wing demon knight assaulted Fiery-Dragon Bounty Territory. However, the final result was that the semi-sage wing demon knight was killed by golden sage and silver sage. Not until then did people across Taixia Country know that Jinwu Palace and Iron Dragon Sect had two super magical beasts on their back. Both magical beasts were close to semi-sage knights. However, their overall battle force was greater than that of a semi-sage level knight. Nobody could hurt them, except sage-level knights.

As for Ice and Snow Wilderness, O'Laura became the empress dowager of Sacred Iceland Kingdom. Andre, the son between Zhang Tie and O'Laura, officially ascended to the throne at 18 and had become the Tsar of Ice and Snow Wilderness. He had long promoted to an earth knight and had a lot of children.

Alexander, the son of Zhang Tie and Ms. Olina was called the king of islands. He owned 10,000 warships and had a big influence on the sea...

Additionally, Anatori, Victor, Igor, Oreg, Nigolas and Lev, the six sons between Zhang Tie and the six women of Spencer Clan, cleared all the obstacles in Fadiland, Western Continent where Zhang Tie once promised to gift them and founded a new kingdom called the Sacred Eschyle Kingdom.

Anatori, the son of Zhang Tie and Matia, became the first king of Sacred Eschyle Kingdom. All the other five sons became the princes of Sacred Eschyle Kingdom. The names of the six brothers had been spread over Sacred Eschyle Kingdom.

The first private city of Spencer Clan in Ice and Snow Wilderness was Eschyle City. Eschyle meant the land where their lord arrived in Ice and Snow Wilderness. Unimaginably, wise Spencer Clan finally turned this name into a country's name after dozens of years. The investment that Spencer Clan made in Zhang Tie at the beginning finally brought them a great harvest after dozens of years. Speaking of business and sagacity, Spencer Clan indeed ranked first in Ice and Snow Wilderness.

With the foundation of Sacred Eschyle Kingdom, the reputation of Spencer women also spread over the Western Continent.

Listening to the information about Jinwu Palace and his children from Ockham, Zhang Tie felt complex as he became silent for a while.

Zhang Tie was born as a grassroots in Blackhot City. However, he didn't imagine that even his sons could become kings one day. Over the past 30-odd years, even his grandsons had promoted to knights.

Zhang Tie was at a loss of whether to cry or laugh.

"What about Matveyev? I didn't hear any news about Matveyev." Zhang Tie suddenly asked Ockham after a short silence.

Matveyev was the son of Zhang Tie and Sabrina. Of course, he didn't forget about him.

Ockham replied with a bit flurried look, "Please forgive me, owner. I know very little about Matveyev. I only heard that Sacred Iceland Kingdom and Sacred Eschyle Kingdom both conferred Matveyev as a prince. Alexander even gifted a big island in Xiqin Waters to Matveyev. However, after promoting to a knight, Matveyev has not shown up in the public. I didn't hear any news about him over these years."

"What about Matveyev's mother Sabrina?"

"Ms. Sabrina's whereabouts is uncertain. 10 years ago, she traveled across the Western Continent. Later on, she was said to have been to Taixia Country. A few years ago, she was said to return to Wildbear City in Ice and Snow Wilderness. I've not received any news about her recently..." n-(o--v-/e--1.-B--1.)n

'Has Wildbear Tribe founded a city?' Zhang Tie slightly shook his head. Matveyev was born to be restless and explore just like his mother. Perhaps Matveyev was looking for the life that he wanted. If something had really happened to Matveyev, Sabrina would never travel everywhere given her personality.

Zhang Tie then asked about Olina and the other wives. According to Ockham, they were all good. Everyone knew that they were Zhang Tie's wives. Given Zhang Tie's prestige among humans and the Jinwu Palace's influential position in Taixia Country, of course, nobody dared cast greedy eyes on their beautiful looks. Additionally, they were not common as they had means and forces to protect themselves. All of their sons were freaks who had promoted to knights at about the age of 18.

Over the past dozens of years since the holy war broke out, humans and Taixia Country were swaying in the midst of a raging storm. However, Jinwu Palace and Zhang Tie's bloodline were developing prosperously. That was all the information that Zhang Tie had acquired from Ockham.

After knowing all these, Zhang Tie heaved a deep sigh.

There was the last problem to be solved.

"I need you to arrange a free tower of time for me now at any price. It had better be on the Western Continent!" Zhang Tie told Ockham straightforwardly.

"Owner, you need a tower of time?" Ockham asked with great shock, "It's said that Jinwu Palace has a lot of towers of time in the south border of Taixia Country..."

"Due to some reasons, I don't want to expose my identity. Neither do I want to contact my family for the time being..." Zhang Tie interrupted with Ockham.

"There're very few advanced towers of time which could enable a person to cultivate in for over 50 years in Western Continent," Ockham replied with an embarrassed look, "There're two advanced towers of time in Holy Light Empire; however, they couldn't be available without the consent of His Majesty Pope..."

"I don't need such an advanced tower of time. I only need to cultivate 3-5 years in a tower of time. Can you find it?" Zhang Tie asked Ockham with burning eyes.

"A tower of time which could be available for 3-5 years?"

"Yes, I don't need to cultivate for too long!"

Ockham then rolled his eyes as he started to consider it rapidly. Half a minute later, Ockham raised his eyebrows and replied, "Owner, if you don't mind changing your identity, I might... find it..."

"Might?"

"No, owner, as long as you don't mind changing your identity, I can definitely find it!" Ockham clenched his teeth and said when he saw Zhang Tie slightly knitting his brows.

"Tell me about your plan..."

"Here's my plan..."

Listening to Ockham's words, Zhang Tie slightly relieved his brows...

Chapter 1947: Finding His New Identity

On the evening of July 18th, the 932nd year of Black Iron Calendar, in the mountains 200 miles away in the east of Coldwater City, Hicks Peninsula...

With a wuthering sound, a bolt flew over a 50 m high red pine in a valley and struck the people in front of the team who were groping their way and advancing among the rocks on the hillside.

The bolt instantly penetrated through the soft armor in front of that man's chest at lightning speed. Closely after that, the bolt ejected flames that covered that man...

Once being hit by such an inflammable bolt, nobody could survive.

The flames looked very eye-catching in the dark. It brightly lit the space over thousands of square meters in the valley.

The team being raided only had four people. When the one in front of the team was struck, the remaining three people instantly made a response as they all charged at different directions so as to avoid being the second target. At the same time, one of the three people who was holding a metal crossbow had already triggered his string. With a buzz, three bolts instantly shot into the leaves of that red pine where the bolt came from in the shape of a triangle.

With a muffled sound, a black shadow fell to the ground heavily from the high red pine.

"Crewe..." With a low growl, seven fighters of Sacred Alliance Empire whose faces were covered with the tattoo of snake scales suddenly rushed out of bushes and darted towards the remaining three people whom they were ambushing.

Among the 7 people, at least 5 of them had released their battle qi and revealed their battle qi totems—two black spiders, one centipede, one king serpent and a huge bloody scorpion.

Crewe meant "kill" in the language of Sacred Alliance Empire.

"Holy Light remains forever..."

The three people who had just charged at different directions roared in unison. At the same time, they took out their weapons and released bloody battle qi. Closely after that, the three people rushed towards the seven people of the Sacred Alliance Empire at the same time.

The battle was short, fierce and bloody. It lasted less than two minutes. In the blood sprays, muffled sounds of being pierced through by sabers and swords and people's growls, the team of three people instantly reduced to one people. By contrast, the team of seven fighters of Sacred Alliance Empire reduced to three people in the short period of time...

Finally, the one who had just fired three bolts in the team of three people stabbed his long sword into the heart of the most powerful bloody scorpion fighter in the team of Sacred Alliance Empire while being pierced through by three long swords. Closely after that, the two people rolled down the hillside and fell into the pitch-dark valley, leaving no sound anymore.

As a result, the team of seven people of the Sacred Alliance Empire was reduced to two people. The remaining two fighters didn't waste time. They rapidly cut off the heads of two enemies. After that, they took a look at the deep valley and the steep cliff. After gabbling a few seconds, they soon disappeared in the dark, leaving blood and corpses on the hillside...

...

Ten minutes later, Zhang Tie, being invisible, arrived at the battlefield. After taking a look at those corpses and the blood stains on the ground, he flew into the deep valley along the steep hillside and cliff.

The two corpses in the valley had been badly mutilated and completely lost their qi. However, Zhang Tie could still identify the identities of the two people.

The fighter who perished together with that fighter of Sacred Alliance Empire was widening his eyes with fury until death. Meanwhile, his face was covered with bloodstains.

Zhang Tie reached out his hand and lightly helped him cover his eyes. After that, he put his hand on this fighter's head. It took him less than half a minute to read all the memory of this fighter since he was born.

According to the secret skill of Bloody Soul Sutra, one's memory could still be captured even if he had just died.

This fighter was indeed a LV 9member of Sword of Brilliance, the most elite legion in the Holy Light Empire. His name was Fred.

"From now on, I will live with your identity and name for a period of time as the return. I could help you get revenge. Let me bury you now..." Zhang Tie sighed as he took off the metal nameplate which was hung over the fighter's neck. Then, he waved his hand and silently made a 2 m deep pit beside that fighter of Holy Light Empire. Zhang Tie then put the corpse of that Holy Light Empire into the pit before covering him with soil and stones. After that, he exited the "invisible" state.

At this moment, Zhang Tie was already as same as that late fighter of Holy Light Empire.

With a pair of black field boots, a leather belt, a sharp top-quality long sword, a short saber, a soft armor being close to his skin, a field leather waist container being exclusive to the legion Sword of Brilliance of Holy Light Empire, a field camouflage uniform and a standard color-changing field cloak, Zhang Tie was absolutely a member of legion Sword of Brilliance of Holy Light Empire.

Zhang Tie hung that nameplate over his own neck. After that, his body as a whole undulated like a ripple. In the blink of an eye, Zhang Tie had copied the look of Fred—over 20 years old, beige hair, light green eyeballs, flat nose, thin lips, fair fingers, prominent bone joints on his palms and a 3 cm long faint scar.

Fred was neither handsome nor ugly. He was just a common youth on the Western Continent. As a member of the legion Sword of Brilliance, he had experienced many things that outsiders didn't know. Therefore, his face looked a bit grim and solemn.

Besides the face, Zhang Tie also imitated his secret method and level at the same time. n-(0Vel $\boldsymbol{\vartheta}$ In

When Zhang Tie turned into Fred, he suddenly heard trotting sounds approaching him from afar. The remaining two fighters of Sacred Alliance Empire had already come to the valley from another gentle slope. They were running towards here. Soon after they negotiated a huge rock in the valley, they had caught sight of Zhang Tie.

There were moonlight and starlight tonight. Although this valley looked a bit dark, they could still see clearly everything within dozens of meters.

At the sight of Zhang Tie, the two fighters of Sacred Alliance Empire instantly became stunned for a couple of seconds as if they had seen a ghost.

The enemy who was pierced through by three swords and rolled down with their captain was standing right in front of them safe and sound. By contrast, their captain's corpse was lying beside Zhang Tie.

As fighters had been familiar with many situations, they didn't think too much on this occasion. They found that Zhang Tie just stood there still. Therefore, after being temporarily stunned, they roared, "Crewe.." in a low tone before brandishing their long swords and rushing towards Zhang Tie.

Zhang Tie drew out the long sword from the sheath. Without using any powerful secret skill or battle skill, he charged at them like a tiger.

Zhang Tie waved his long sword, sending an enemy's head flying in the air immediately. After that, he slightly avoided the attack of the other enemy and prodded the long sword forward, piercing through the second enemy's chest. The battle soon came to an end.

After putting his long sword back into the sheath, Zhang Tie gropped over the two corpses for a short while. After taking two inflammable grenades, he took a glance at this place for the last time. Then, he jumped agilely and disappeared in the dense wood beside the valley...

After a few minutes, a pack of huge wolves appeared in the valley with green light in their eyes. After the pack of huge wolves left there, there were only some broken bones over there...

Chapter 1948: Leaving the Mountain Range

Translator: WQL n-(o-v-/e-l.-B--l.)n

Editor:Aleem

Zhang Tie didn't leave that mountain range until 10 days later.

During this period, Zhang Tie joined more than 10 battles and chopped off dozens of heads in the mountain range. After ambushing a team of fighters of Sacred Alliance Empire, Zhang Tie who disguised himself as Fred suddenly found that he could light all the other surging points except those on his spine. After that, Zhang Tie exited that mountain range and prepared to go back to the camp at the order of the Sword of Brilliance.

The battles in the 10 days could be ignored as they were far from risks. Given his realm as a sage-level knight, even being weak, he still didn't have any sense of fulfillment by disguising as a LV 9 fighter and fighting demon lackeys at LV 9 or below LV 9. It was far from being satisfying.

There was only a relatively "risky" battle: Zhang Tie discovered a LV 11 battle master of Sacred Alliance Emperor in the mountain. After thinking twice, Zhang Tie felt it was too eye-catching if he killed him with the gap of two levels, therefore, Zhang Tie chose to "dodge" the battle master's chase through jumping off the "cliff" with an "unyielding" will...

2 days later after that "survival", Zhang Tie found that he had gained some breakthrough——he could finally light the surging points except those on his spine. Therefore, he finished the 10 days' "outing in the spring" in the mountain range and came to the next step.

Feinan was about 160 miles away from Coldwater City. Protecting a flank of Coldwater City, it was completely under the control of allied human forces compared to the deserted Coldwater City. Feinan was like a human camp. If the forces of Sacred Alliance Emperor wanted to occupy Feinan, they could

only have two ways: pass the lofty mountains in the north of Feinan and come to the city gate of Feinan City or completely occupy Coldwater City and march eastward from Coldwater City so as to threaten Feinan.

As for the Sacred Alliance Emperor, each of the two ways was difficult. They had to pay a great loss whenever they marched one step forward.

Coldwater City had already become ruins; however, humans and demon lackeys were still scrambling for it. Additionally, the demon army couldn't move forward in the mountain range in the north of Feinan City as none of the heavy weapons could enter it. Therefore, that mountain range became another battlefield. Those who could fight in that region were all elites. They were mainly fighters above LV 6. Outside the mountain range, allied human forces were waiting for enemies in a series of defense line composed of battle fortresses. Even though the elites of Allied Sacred Emperor passed that mountain range, they would also be badly battered by the bloody forces in the steel battle fortresses.

...

"Stop..."

A gray-colored steel battle fortress was standing tall at a passageway in the south of that mountain range, controlling the main road leading to the mountain range. On the early morning of July 29, soon after the sun came out, Zhang Tie had caught the attention of the garrisons in the battle fortress. Some powerful steam crossbow cannons had already targeted at Zhang Tie silently. When Zhang Tie pulled off the hood of his field cape, revealing his bearded and experienced face, he caused the garrisons to be slightly relaxed. However, they were still gazing at Zhang Tie who was walking towards the battle fortress.

When Zhang Tie was about 70 m away from the battle fortress, he saw a red line on the ground. At this time, Zhang Tie heard a voice from the battle fortress, "Report the designation of your troop and your passcode!" from an officer in crimson military uniform hiding behind the arrow buttress.

"No. 76 squad, the 3rd brigade, designated corps in Hicks Peninsula, Sword of Brilliance Army Group, Sacred Light Empire. Passcode, Light in Mist..." Zhang Tie answered in a muffled voice.

After that, the officer went to check the passcode of No. 76 Squad. Within half a minute, the officer had finally responded in the battle fortress, "Correct designation and passcode. Permitted!"

After confirming Zhang Tie's identity, the crossbow cannon was moved upward, then changed to another direction. All the garrisons in the battle fortress were watching Zhang Tie with complex looks which was a sign of respect.

3 weeks ago, No. 76 squad entering this mountain range contained 6 people. 3 weeks later, only one of them survived back. Needless to say, the other 5 had died. Now that Fred could come back, he must be fortunate and competent.

In others' eyes, Zhang Tie was a survivor on the battlefield as he was wounded; besides, they could almost hear battle calls given Zhang Tie's look.

When Zhang Tie walked towards the battle fortress, no matter how poor he looked, he still stayed calm inside. As he walked, he squinted at those weapons in the battle fortress. Meanwhile, he sighed with emotions inside.

War was indeed the catalyzer of new technologies and achievements. Take this color-changing field cape being processed with mutated cuttlefish's body fluid as an instance. When he left this world, this equipment didn't exist among human troops, even troops in Taixia Country. Unexpectedly, more than 3 decades later, fighters of elite army groups in the frontier of the Western Continent had been equipped with it.

The weapons in the battle fortress were also much more powerful than that when he left. With the combination of new alloy materials and rune technologies, the pressure storage ability of the storage tanks of the steam weapons was one level higher than before, which meant a great improvement in destructive capability. With the invention of fiery oil, this battle fortress got a reserved dynamic system and some awe-stricken fiery-oil inflammable weapons.

If not take the air supremacy in advance, it would take demons or demon lackeys two times more lives than that needed over 3 decades ago to eliminate this battle fortress. However, if they took the air supremacy, they only needed a 1-ton heavy inflammable bomb to turn this battle fortress into a graveyard and the battalion of soldiers in the battle fortress into ashes.

Air cavalries gradually became more and more important in wars.

Zhang Tie looked up at the sky.

As was imagined, a formation of "battle eagles" was hovering in the sky. Besides protecting the battle fortress, they were also monitoring the situation facing the air territory above the mountain range...

Chapter 1949: Ockham's Plan

After passing the fortress, Zhang Tie found that the terrain in front suddenly became open. There were many well-paved broad roads leading to all directions. However, those broad roads were covered with black-green military vehicles and soldiers at this moment.

Fiery oil was an important strategical material, which could only be used at critical moments. In order to relieve stress facing fiery-oil supply, many military vehicles being responsible for communicating and freight were driven by steam engines like before. These steam engines were not picky. They could run with burning coal or firewoods and some water. They had very high adaptability and were convenient for maintenance. They were still useful on the battlefields.

Of course, some fiery-oil vehicles were also driving rapidly on the roads, leaving dust rising in the air. However, those fiery-oil vehicles were all exclusive to senior officers of troops. Zhang Tie met two fiery-oil vehicles on the way. All the officers in the fiery-oil vehicles were colonels.

The roadside fertile farmland had been deserted. If not war, the roadside farmland should be filled with gratifying maizes or wheat in July. At this moment, walking on the road, Zhang Tie found all the farmlands were filled with weeds. Many fields had been built into training grounds, camps or

temporarily field airports. It was busy all over. Air cavalries would fly over those fields by airplane towards Coldwater City every once in a while. Those field airports were most busy.

When Zhang Tie walked on the road alone, many passing-by vehicles and soldiers took a glance at him. After that, they would just pass by. After a few minutes, a truck parked beside Zhang Tie with a full load of vegetables and some twigs on the broken fishing net over the vehicle.

An uncle with a brandy nose and unkempt beard in flaxen military uniform which smelt like coal ash exposed half head out of the window and shouted at Zhang Tie, "GI, do you need a lift? I'm heading for Feinan City..."

Zhang Tie turned around and took a glance at that middle-aged man. Then, he nodded silently and came to the other side of the driver's cab. After opening the door, he entered it.

The middle-aged man was fat. He occupied two seats in the driver's cab alone, leaving only one position close to the door to Zhang Tie. However, even that seat was already occupied by a cage which contained a big white goose.

"Just put that white goose on the back seat. Those privileged figures don't forget to enjoy the taste of goose liver wherever they are, even on the battlefields!" the middle-aged man mumbled. Zhang Tie then put that cage on the back seat and closed the door. The driver then took another glance at Zhang Tie before pulling the brake and starting the truck, causing loud noises.

"You're from Holy Light Empire?"

"Yes!"

"Why are you alone..."

"The others are dead!"

"Erm..."

After being choked by Zhang Tie's reply, the driver took another look at Zhang Tie. Then, he mumbled some words and started to drive attentively.

Fred's personality was solemn and distant. Actually, all the fighters in the legion Sword of Brilliance were like him. Therefore, it was nothing strange for Zhang Tie to behave like that.

...

10 minutes later, the truck passed a crossroad outside Feinan City. That crossroad led to a town nearby. At this moment, Zhang Tie uttered, "Let me out." The driver then pulled over the truck. Zhang Tie then got off the vehicle and closed the door. He didn't even appreciate the driver; instead, he just slightly nodded towards the middle-aged man. He then walked inside the town.

This town was the encampment of the third military unit of Sword of Brilliance of Holy Light Empire in the Hicks Peninsula. All the aborigines in the town had gone, leaving all the houses empty. Even though over 2,000 fighters of Sword of Brilliance of Holy Light Empire were living inside, it still looked empty here. However, it was also for the sake of air defense. If they scattered over the town, even though this

town suffered the air attack of the air cavalries of Sacred Alliance Empire, they would also not suffer a great casualty.

After presenting his nameplate to the guards at the pass, Zhang Tie entered the town.

Compared to the other camps, this town that gathered the fighters of Sword of Brilliance of Holy Light Empire looked such tranquil; it was even a bit depressed. Besides some sounds from the training grounds, this town was as quiet as a remote area. All the fighters walking in the town were silent and barely communicated with each other. Those troops gathering around Feinan City were afraid of this town.

Zhang Tie didn't know what kind of church was in this town before. After the third unit arrived here, the mark of the former church on the roof had been replaced by the mark of Holy Light Church. After that, this church became the temporary headquarters of the third unit of Sword of Brilliance of Holy Light Empire.

After coming here silently, Zhang Tie introduced himself to those guards outside the headquarters. A guard then entered it to make a report. In less than half a minute, that guard had come out. After taking a look at Zhang Tie with admiration, he took him in.

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A grey-haired elder in noble red robe embroidered with the pattern of brilliant golden sun and golden priest's crown similar to a fish head observed Zhang Tie with exploratory eyes.

"My respect to you, Your Honor Saguli. I'm Fred, the captain of the No. 76 squad. Wish your holy light remains brilliant forever..."

Zhang Tie made a bow towards that elder politely before greeting him calmly.

This elder was responsible for the 3rd unit of the legion Sword of Brilliance of Holy Light Empire in Hicks Peninsula, Fred's immediate superior and a brilliant priest of Holy Light Empire who had already promoted to a battle spirit. If this man could promote to a knight, he would become a truncheon chief priest, which meant that he would be one of the powers of the Holy Light Empire.

"You said you've sensed the god's favor?" Saguli asked Zhang Tie calmly.

"Yea, therefore, I return to the encampment in advance!"

"Prove it!" Saguli didn't test Zhang Tie's words himself; instead, he just implied a retinue to give a piece of red crystal in front of Saguli to Zhang Tie.

After taking that piece of red crystal, Zhang Tie inputted a wisp of battle qi into it. Closely after that, that piece of crystal gave out dim redlight.

After the retinue took away the piece of crystal, Saguli nodded. However, he still didn't reveal any smile on his stuffy face. He spoke reservedly, "Not bad, it seems that you've indeed got the God's favor. From now on, you don't need to execute tasks anymore. Take a rest in the encampment for a few days. Someone will pick you here!"

"Thanks, Your Honor!"

The brilliant priest then waved his hand, having people take Zhang Tie out of the room...

Saguli didn't ask Zhang Tie about his pals at all as if it had nothing to do with him...

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After leaving the church for a few minutes on foot, Zhang Tie came to his rest place in his encampment. It was a two-storey common civilian building with a small courtyard covering over 30 square meters. Some firewoods were left in the courtyard by the former owner. There were some rooms in the house, which were previously the "dorms" of Fred and his pals. However, at this moment, only Zhang Tie lived in this house. Therefore, it looked deserted here.

After closing the gate of the civilian building, Zhang Tie came to the front of a room on the second floor near the staircase. He then took out a key through the chink on the doorframe. He then opened the door and entered it. After closing the door, Zhang Tie shook his head with a bitter smile.

There was no curtain in the room. The window was directly covered with a piece of wood. Only some slim sunlight penetrated through the chink on the wood. A simplified military sleeping bag was lying on the floor on the left of the door. Besides, nothing else could be seen inside the room.

After taking off his cloak, leather belt, luggage and long sword and hanging them over a hook, he took out a piece of remote-sensing crystal from a portable space-teleportation finger ring. After that, he sent a very simple message to Ockham——Fred.

Soon after receiving Zhang Tie's message, Ockham had replied—owner, please wait for a few days patiently. I've already arranged it well. Everything will go well... n-(o-v-e-l.-B-l.)n

After taking his remote-sensing finger ring, Zhang Tie sat on the ground with crossed legs and started to recover himself.

In the eyes of outsiders, the legion Sword of Brilliance of Holy Light Empire was an frightening force; because all the members of this legion were above LV 6. Most of them were LV 7, LV 8 and LV 9. Although this legion couldn't match that of a demon legion which was completely composed of LV 9 fighters, it was already powerful enough among human forces.

The fundamental reason that Holy Light Empire could have such a legion lay in that all the fighters of this legion were accelerated to be "mature" with an odd medicine by Holy Light Empire.

Previously, Fred was just a LV 5 soldier, which was even a bit distance from fighter. However, after bathing the favor of the God of Brilliance, he promoted to a LV 9 fighter in only half a year.

At that time, 50 common soldiers of the Holy Light Empire bathed the favor of the God of Brilliance with Fred. However, only 6 of them survived in the end. All the other 44 soldiers were summoned back to the heavenly kingdom by God after bathing the favor of the God of Brilliance.

Even though some of them could survive it. Most of them couldn't light any more surging point for the rest of their lives. They could at most promote to LV 9 fighters. Additionally, their life expectancy was very short. They could barely live longer than 70 years old...

However, there were very few exceptions among them. About one of 700-800 people could continue to light their surging points for further cultivation; additionally, they would make a spurt of progress in

cultivation. Those exceptions would be taken care of by Holy Light Empire in special and be dispatched out of the legion Sword of Brilliance. As lucky dogs, they would own different destinies.

Very few people knew that one of the most important targets for the Holy Light Empire to dispatch Sword of Brilliance to the frontline was to select people like Zhang Tie besides fulfilling the obligation of defending demons.

As long as this defense line was not collapsed, fighters like real Fred would enter this encampment constantly and serve as fresh cannon fodder on the battlefields...

According to Ockham's plan, Zhang Tie would disguise himself as such a special person being favored by the God of Brilliance. Then, he would be dispatched out of Sword of Brilliance and get a new identity that could have a chance to touch the tower of time. Later on, it would be easy to deal with...

This plan was simple and effective. It could cover Zhang Tie's real identity well. Therefore, Zhang Tie agreed.

Chapter 1950: The Change of Zhang Tie's Identity

Sometimes, small figures had their strong points, namely, nobody would remember them; neither would they meet any big trouble. Given their poor abilities, little responsibilities and small targets, they could barely catch the eyes of big figures. During these couple of days in the encampment, everything was calm. The 3rd unit of the legion of Sword of Brilliance in Hicks Peninsula appeared to forget about him. Zhang Tie also enjoyed leisure time. Besides taking food at two fixed periods per day, he just sat in the room with crossed legs and slowly recovered his battle force. Additionally, he would wash his clothes and clean up himself...

Almost all the fighters of the 3rd unit of the legion of Sword of Brilliance in Hicks Peninsula were dispatched from the other places across Holy Light Empire. Most of them were unfamiliar with each other. As more and more people fought to the death, fresh men constantly entered this unit. As a result, there were increasing fewer familiar people in the unit. Those comrades-in-arms whom Fred knew had already sacrificed in the mountain woods or were still executing tasks. Additionally, there were many strict regulations and commands in Sword of Brilliance such as members of Sword of Brilliance were forced to drink, act as pimps, gamble or gather up in a group of more than 3 people. It was desolate everywhere in the encampment. Zhang Tie just stayed in the small house alone. Nobody disturbed him at all.

On the 6th morning after Fred's return, a bodyguard of Sagula came to Zhang Tie's house and asked him to tidy up well and register at the gate of the headquarters.

After tidying himself up and his luggage as fast as he could, Zhang Tie followed the bodyguard of Sagula to the gate of the headquarters.

Sagula and a black colonel in regular uniform of Holy Light Empire whom Zhang Tie had not seen before were already waiting for him there.

"My respects to you, Lord Sagula!" Zhang Tie greeted Saguli. Closely after that, he made a salute to the two people.

In the armies of the Holy Light Empire, they always called clergies like priests lord. Those pure officers who assumed positions in the armies were called sir. There was no general in the armies of the Holy Light Empire. The highest rank in the armies of the Holy Light Empire was colonel; because those who could assume the position of general were all knights. If they became knights, they would promote to truncheon chief priest in the Holy Light Empire automatically.

"You're Fred?" the colonel asked as he took a look at Zhang Tie.

"Yes, sir!"

"Do you know why I'm here?"

"Yes, I do!"

"Hmm, get in the car!" The black colonel sent order as he pointed at a military SUV next to him.

Zhang Tie then sat on the front seat.

This vehicle was driven by dual-engine and fiery oil. In the theater of operations, it was the symbol of high identity.

After talking with Saguli for a short while, the black colonel made a salute to Saguli. After that, he got on the vehicle and started the car. Then, they left the encampment.

The black colonel was a bit reticent. He didn't introduce anything to Zhang Tie; neither did Zhang Tie ask any question.

They came straight to an expanded military airport in Feinan City. A large transport airplane with the symbol of the Holy Light Empire was waiting there. The hatch door of the warehouse at the stern of transport airplane was open. The SUV then directly drove into the warehouse of the transport airplane through the hatch door.

When the black colonel opened the door of the SUV, some fighters on the transport airplane had already fixed the wheels of the SUV onto the parking place with steel wire and metal buttons. Meanwhile, the hatch door at the stern of the transport airplane was slowly closing up.

"Sit here!" the black colonel said as he pointed at a seat inside the airplane. After that, he entered the cockpit, leaving Zhang Tie in this warehouse alone.

Disguising as such a small figure, Zhang Tie didn't mind it. Therefore, he walked to the front of the seat and sat down there before buckling up his seat belt. In less than one minute, the four engines of the transport airport had been started. With the earsplitting noises of engines, the transport airport slowly moved. After making a vertical turn, it started to accelerate on the runway. Finally, after moving over 1,000 m forward, Zhang Tie felt that the nose of the airport suddenly raised as the transport airport took off.

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After over 8 hours' flight, the transport airport finally landed at the airport outside a big city which was 10 times larger than that of Coldwater City. After running for a while on the ground, it finally parked.

The black colonel then returned to the warehouse and asked Zhang Tie to get on the SUV. Then, he opened the warehouse and backed out. After that, he drove out of the airport at high speed. After driving dozens of miles, he took Zhang Tie to another camp with the banner of Holy Light Empire...

Everything was in the plane. Step by step...

It was Garby City, the capital of Sterland Republic and the encampment of the headquarters of allied human forces in the East Line of Western Continent.

Ockham was in this city. However, Zhang Tie was not here to meet Ockham. Given his current level, even though he was not cannon fodder anymore, he was still not qualified to meet the holy light chief priest of Holy Light Empire at his will.

Zhang Tie was here to acquire another identity.

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Two days later, Zhang Tie changed a set of uniform with the military rank of fire lieutenant in the camp. After that, he was taken into a large tent inside the camp and stood well among two teams of high-level fighters whose level ranged from LV 10 to LV 13.

Given his low level, Zhang Tie could only stand close to the gate. Among the two teams of fighters, there were only 4 LV 9 officers like him. n-(o-v-/e-l.-B-l.)n

All the fighters here were highly spirited. Chesting out, they were waiting for something. So was Zhang Tie.

Ten minutes later, two truncheon chief priests were welcomed in the large tent respectfully by some officers and guards.

One of the two truncheon chief priests looked gray-haired, the other looked in the prime of his life.

"Your Excellency Bordili, these people are all excellent officers in the encampment of Garby City. Please select them at your will. It's the God of Brilliance's favor for them to have an opportunity to be your personal attendant and follow your orders..." The gray-haired truncheon chief priest then pointed at the two rows of officers standing in the large tent and said in a passionate and ingratiating manner.

The young truncheon chief priest then nodded reservedly. After that, he slowly passed by the two rows of officers and scanned their faces one after another.

When this young truncheon chief priest passed by, all the officers held their breath as they all tried to display their best side.

The personal attendant of Bordili had already sacrificed in the battle in Fengzi City 3 months ago. In the same battle, Bordili killed a knight of Sacred Alliance Empire and won his fame immediately. He then became an elite among all the truncheon chief priests of Holy Light Empire in the frontline. It was said that he was even received by a holy light chief priest. His future would be unpredictable.

This time, Bordili would like to select a personal attendant from these people. It was a very rare opportunity for these officers and fighters who were still far away from promoting to knights to be a truncheon chief priest's personal attendant in the Holy Light Empire.

Under the silent gaze of everyone else, the proud truncheon chief priest stopped in front of Zhang Tie. He then glanced over Zhang Tie from his head to toe with sharp eyes as if he wanted to see through Zhang Tie.

"You are from Sword of Brilliance?" Bordili asked Zhang Tie in a low voice; however, it didn't feel oppressive. He appeared to have recognized Zhang Tie's identity given the latter's qi.

"Yes, Lord!"

"What's your name?"

"Fred!"

"How many people have you killed on the battlefields?"

"27!"

"How many on the same level?"

"3!"

"Not bad!" Bordili then nodded as he pointed at Zhang Tie and said, "I will choose you. Come over here."

"Yes, Lord!" Under the admiring, jealous and hateful eyes of all the others, Zhang Tie took one step back and stood on Bordili's side.

"Your Excellency Rooney, now that Fred comes from Sword of Brilliance, I think he could work as a good example for all the fighters of Sword of Brilliance on my side. Is there any problem?" Bordili told the old truncheon chief priest.

"No problem. Of course, no problem. All the members of Sword of Brilliance here will follow my arrangement. Even though Your Excellency Bordili doesn't favor anyone of them, they still couldn't go to the battlefield without receiving hard training. Of course, it would be better for any one of them with Your Excellency's guidance and supervision..." The truncheon chief priest called Rooney with a smile. Closely after that, he turned around and fixated onto Zhang Tie with a serious look, "Now that Your Excellency Bordili has selected you as his personal attendant, I hope you live up to the expectation of His Excellency Bordili and bear your responsibility in mind all the time!"

"Yes, Lord!"

"Your Excellency Rooney, I got get going!"

After saying these words, Bordili took a glance at him and walked out of the large tent, followed by Zhang Tie.

A pitch-dark limousine was parked somewhere not far from the large tent. An officer of the Holy Light Empire was standing beside the door of the vehicle. When he saw Bordili coming here, he instantly opened the door for Bordili with full respect and had Bordili sit on the back seat. After that, he closed the door. Zhang Tie came to the door near the co-pilot seat. As the personal attendant of the truncheon chief priest, he could only sit in front.

"Fred, come to the back seat. I've got something to talk to you."

After hearing the truncheon chief priest's words, Zhang Tie sat on the back seat.

After Zhang Tie closed the door, the black limousine had started and left for Garby City outside the encampment. The glass between the front row and the back row of the vehicle had risen up. As a result, the backspace of the vehicle was completely isolated. No matter what the two people talked about in the back, the driver and outsiders could never hear or see it.

Licking his lips, Bordili watched Zhang Tie with deep curiosity. Zhang Tie then didn't behave meticulously and humbly anymore. He didn't even look at Bordili; instead, he took out a bottle of Brandy and two glasses in the car. He made two glasses of liquor, one for himself, the other for Bordili.

In this process, Bordili remained silent as he still gazed at Zhang Tie as if there were some rarities on Zhang Tie.

After being hesitant for half a minute, Bordili took the glass frankly.

After sipping a mouthful of liquor, Zhang Tie closed his eyes and sighed satisfactorily. "I've not drunk such a pure cherry Brandy for long. What a memorable taste!"

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