

## **Black Iron 361**

### Chapter 361: Sweep the Mansion

On the top of the cabinet was a pile of golden checks which were placed in the clips of the cabinet.

Zhang Tie took out a gold checks clip and found each gold check was worth 1000 gold coins; there were thirty gold checks in each clip.

'I'm rich.' Zhang Tie finally knew why some people liked to rob. Because this was a really fast way to make money; additionally, there were always surprises waiting for you.

On the top layer of the cabinet, there were eight gold checks clips, which included five clips of gold checks worth 1000 gold coins, making a subtotal of 150,000 gold coins. There were two clips of gold checks worth 5000 gold coins, making a subtotal of 210,000 gold coins, and a clip of gold checks worth 10000 gold coins, making a subtotal 260,000 gold coins. The overall value of all the gold checks was 620,000 gold coins.

It was Zhang Tie's first time seeing so many gold checks in clips. The fund provided by Long Wind Business Group to build his castle on Yunju Mountain didn't go through Zhang Tie at all.

Being extremely excited, Zhang Tie moved all the gold check clips into Castle of Black Iron.

On the second layer of the cabinet were a large number of bonds and stock certificates. Zhang Tie took them out and found those bonds were three year investment bonds delivered by Long Wind Bank in Huaiyuan Prefecture with an annual interest of 5.8%. Those bonds almost occupied the greater part of the second layer of the cabinet.

Zhang Tie didn't count how many bonds there were as he directly moved all of them into Castle of Black Iron.

The five piles of stock certificates were non-tangible stock purchase certificates of various business groups, companies and industrial groups publicly offered by Yiyang Securities Exchange Center. Zhang Tie skimmed them over and found the issuers of the stock certificates were all industries and groups under the name of Zhang Clan of Huaiyuan Palace, such as Deep Sea Fisheries, Yiyang Harbor, Huaiyuan Machinery Company, and Airship Navigation Company.

As it was Zhang Tie's first time seeing bonds, he didn't know about their value and how to turn them into cash; he estimated that since they were placed here, they would be at least worth 100,000 gold coins.

Without any hesitation, Zhang Tie swept them all into Castle of Black Iron too.

On the third layer of the cabinet was a nice box made of gold. Considering the material of the box, Zhang Tie realized the value of the item inside it. He then opened it and found a palm-sized porcelain vessel inside. The most attractive part on the vessel was an abstract symbol composed of some triangles being connected with each other.

Zhang Tie didn't know what this symbol meant when he was in Blackhot City; however, after staying in Huaiyuan Palace for a long time, Zhang Tie knew what it referred to — dangerous Chemical and Biological Weapon before the Catastrophe. Whereas, in this age, after a slight change, it had become a warning of universal poisonous materials.

The item in this vessel was definitely a poison. From the back of the vessel, Zhang Tie got its name — Poison of Black Sand.

Although Zhang Tie had not heard about this poison, he still put it in the Castle of Black Iron under the excuse that everything had its value, a locust also had meat.

At the bottom of the cabinet was an eccentric device composed of crystal and metal. After looking at that device carefully, Zhang Tie recognized its function. This was a crystal-driven remote sensing communication equipment, which was very expensive. It was the transmitter in this age. The only difference between this equipment and transmitter before Catastrophe was that this device could only realize remote-sensing communication through twin mirror crystals.

Although this item was very expensive, it was useless for Zhang Tie. Firstly, he didn't know how to use it; secondly, he didn't need this at all. This item might be used as a communication tool between the Zhen Clan Mansion and the home of the Zhen Clan in Heavens Cold City.

Zhang Tie intended to throw this item into the Pool of Chaos so as to allow Castle of Black Iron to grow one more special mineral; however, after thinking for a short while, Zhang Tie gave up this idea. He just let it lie there.

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When he left that hidden room, Zhang Tie really felt full. What a worthwhile journey!

Those bonds and stock certificates might be the property of Zhen Clan Mansion after so many years' accumulation in investment and business. Zhang Tie didn't know about their value; however, the total value of the gold checks was more than 600,000 gold coins, which was an astronomical figure in any place.

'It's an unrivaled enjoyment to turn the enemy's property into my own,' Zhang Tie sighed with feeling, 'It's not due to how many items can you plunder, but how cool it feels when you trample on your enemy and plunder them at your will.'

Such a cool feeling was like making love, as it would make you feel like an immortal being. You would feel a part of your body, or even your whole body, burning with fire.

After returning to the study room, Zhang Tie didn't move the bookcase back; instead, he kept it exposed so that everybody could see the secrets in this room.

Zhang Tie then passed by the bloody conference room and went downstairs to the first floor.

There were some warehouses and basements on the first floor which Zhang Tie would never let go. At this moment, Zhang Tie had realized that plundering an enemy's property was incredibly enjoyable.

Zhang Tie visited the warehouses on the first floor at first with the help of force and keys.

All the items in the warehouses were sealed in crates. The moment he entered there, Zhang Tie had already smelt a fragrance.

After opening the crates, Zhang Tie saw piles of tea leaves. At the sight of these tea leaves, Zhang Tie burst out laughing. 'These items must be transported from the Eastern Continent. These tea leaves are definitely more expensive than gold in Blackhot City. It's really out my imagination that Zhen Clan of Heavens Cold City are in this line of worth.'

Looking at those crates of tea leaves, Zhang Tie started the space teleportation function of the Castle of Black Iron. The moment he touched any crate, the crate would be transferred into the Castle of Black Iron in a split second. Zhang Tie's efficiency was even many times higher than that of ten skilled carriers. It only took Zhang Tie a few minutes to move away all the 200-odd crates of tea leaves in one warehouse.

Besides tea leaves, Zhang Tie saw some dyes, shark hides, and many mechanical parts in other warehouses. As Zhang Tie was not interested in these items, he didn't waste his time on them.

After cleaning up the warehouses on the first floor, Zhang Tie came to the basement of the Mansion.

The entrance of the basement was beside the lobby on the first floor. After entering the basement, Zhang Tie saw so many weapons. He then realized that the basement was where the Clan members practiced their fighting skills and placed their weapons. All the weapons here were from the weapon manufacturers under the affiliation of Huaiyuan Palace. There were various weapons here including sabers, swords, and bows, each of which was very well manufactured.

At the sight of them, Zhang Tie instantly transferred all the crates into the Castle of Black Iron without even counting them.

He took away more than fifty crates of weapons produced by Huaiyuan Palace.

Besides weapons, there were also crates of high class wine, which, similarly to tea leaves, were transported here from the Western Continent through ocean trade with symbols on the crates.

Zhang Tie teleported all the 100-odd crates of wine into the Castle of Black Iron without any hesitation.

After sweeping the basement, Zhang Tie found that nothing valuable was left and he was finally satisfied.

After exiting the basement, Zhang Tie fetched a piece of cloth and bound it onto an iron stick. After that, Zhang Tie found a barrel of dye. With the two items, Zhang Tie left the main building of the mansion.

It was already late into the night.

The four walls of the courtyard outside the main building of the mansion were snowwhite. Zhang Tie came to one wall; he then opened the barrel of dye and put his iron stick into it. After that, he left lines of scrawls on the wall.

— Zhen Clan of Heavens Cold City colluded with demons; they deserved to die!

— Idiots of Huaiyuan Palace. Zhen's woman married Zhang Taibai! How come you are still confused? What a tragedy!

He then left his name below the two lines — Law Executer in the Dark.

Previously, Zhang Tie planned to write those words only once; however, after painting one wall, he couldn't help but write on the other three walls. As a result, everyone could see them clearly.

After painting the inner walls, he was still excited; seeing nobody on the streets, he silently moved to the outside of the mansion and wrote a dazzling word "Dead". After that, he scrawled the above words "Zhen Clan of Heavens Cold City colluded with demons; they deserved to die!" all over the exterior walls.

After doing all of this, Zhang Tie dropped his tools and disappeared into the night...

Zhang Tie knew that Stars Viewing City would be a mess the next morning.

Zhang Tie didn't care about the outcome of his deed. As a trivial figure, he could only do what he needed to do on the premise of surviving, as he'd done in Blackhot City. For what the Zhang Clan would face and what the Zhen Clan would do, Zhang Tie didn't care. An eye for an eye! Zhang felt not regretful about doing that.

Several minutes later, Zhang Tie flew off the external wall like a huge bird and returned to his own chartered room in the hotel as agile as a cat. Noticing that nobody had been there, Zhang Tie changed his clothes and put away his face mask. He then drank a cup of alcohol and walked out of there.

When he left his chartered room, Zhang Tie glanced at his watch — 02:17 am.

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"Sir, are you leaving? Plus the alcohol for your favorite car, your bill is 1 gold coin and 67 silver coins in total!"

'Your favorite car.' Hearing that, Zhang Tie's hair quivered all over. It was as awkward as someone saying 'your favorite shoes' or 'your favorite clothes' to him.

Feeling pretty good, Zhang Tie slightly grinned as he took out two gold coins and threw them to the waiter, saying, "Keep the change!"

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At 5:11 am, Zhang Tie returned to Jinhai City...

At a bit past 6:00 am, when the sun was about to rise, Zhang Tie walked out of the underground hidden room in Jinwu Castle. He then returned to his own bedroom, throwing himself onto the bed and fell asleep at once...

When Zhang Tie fell asleep, numerous big figures in Huaiyuan Palace were really startled by the same news.

The event was exposed an hour earlier than Zhang Tie had predicted. Before dawn, a bin man on the road outside the Zhen Clan Mansion of Heavens Cold City was stunned by the word "Dead" and those "slogans" on the external walls. In a few minutes, the armored vehicles of the Hurricane Army in Stars Viewing City arrived and surrounded the whole mansion...

Chapter 362: Gathering of the Elites

Sometimes, Hidden Dragon Island was too isolated a place as Zhang Tie didn't hear any news about Stars Viewing City in the whole day. Therefore, he enjoyed a tranquil day and just recovered in Jinwu Castle.

All-purpose medicament was effective to both interior and exterior wounds; however, it was a bit inferior compared preliminary recovery medicament which was more focused on healing wounds. Two vials of all-purpose medicament would be a bit more effective than one vial of preliminary recovery medicament.

However, all-purpose medicament had one advantage over the other kinds of medicament — it had no side effects no matter how much you drank. In contrast, if you drank too much of other kinds of medicament, you might suffer from an 'adverse drug reaction'.

In the same day, Zhang Tie had drunk more than twenty vials of all-purpose medicament like drinking water. Benefiting from so much all-purpose medicament and his preliminary recovery body, Zhang Tie's interior wounds were almost completely healed in one day.

It was tranquil as usual on Hidden Dragon Island on July 5th as no news came from Stars Viewing City. Zhang Tie became a bit amazed, 'It should have been revealed by now, how can it still be so tranquil here?'

If not afraid of arising others' doubts, Zhang Tie really wanted to go to Stars Viewing City to see what was going on there.

For Zhang Tie, it was like not hearing the explosion after igniting the fuse of a bomb, causing Zhang Tie to be anxious.

'Could it be that another batch of Zhen Clan members came to that Mansion after I left there and rapidly cleaned the evidence? Or, are those people lurking in Huaiyuan Palace much more powerful than I imagined and they have covered up this event after it broke out? Or Huaiyuan Palace is waiting for something...'

Zhang Tie thought too much during the daytime of July 6th...

On the evening of July 6th, after coming back from the wharf after setting free sand scales, Zhang Tie circled around Jinwu Castle to check the defense situation in Jinwu Castle. Lan Yunxi had pointed out many loopholes in the defense and patrols of Jinwu Castle for Zhang Tie. If he wanted to make Jinwu Castle impregnable, he had to fix all the loopholes. Besides raising the strength of the Spirits soldiers to a higher level in a short period, he had another shortcut — to buy another batch of slaves to be guards.

Enough people could fix the shortage in fighting strength and experience. For instance, if there were three shifts of guards on the walls of the castle around the clock, even a fly entering the castle would be noticed, let alone a person.

Zhang Tie estimated that he only needed to purchase 100 LV 2 slaves as guards at most to fix the defense loophole of the castle basically. When at war, at least 1000 guards would be used to defend a castle. Jinwu castle could at least hold another 100 to 200 guards easily.

When the sun set, Zhang Tie stood on a flat roof of the castle. Drinking alcohol, he watched the sunset glow on the horizon and mumbled inside, 'If there's still no news tomorrow, I will go to Stars Viewing City in the name of buying slaves.' With this doubt, Zhang Tie always felt a bit uncomfortable.

"Lord, supper is ready!" called Sonia, the docile and able head of female servants in the internal castle of Jinwu Castle as she appeared behind Zhang Tie.

Although this batch of female servants were not superior, they were better than average. At the moment, all the female servants wore new clothes, styled like those of the Blapei women, and looked pretty good and enchanting. Especially Sonia, who looked more mature and attractive.

"Fine!" said Zhang Tie as he peered at Sonia's plump breasts. Within a split second, he'd started to imagine like any other man, except for apologists and ascetics.

Zhang Tie then scanned his eyes over Sonia's body from her breasts to her waist and bottom. At the same time, the image of Hanna and Linda with tight buttocks and sexy legs instantly flashed across Zhang Tie's mind.

'Perhaps, I should prepare that kind of working uniform for each of them.' An evil thought appeared in Zhang Tie's mind, "even if I just watch them walking in front of me with tight buttocks, it would still be very comforting.'

Under Zhang Tie's unscrupulous gaze, Sonia's face slightly blushed. She then lowered down her head bashfully and said in a quivering voice like a buzzing mosquito, "If... if Lord needs, I can arrange two people to serve you in the evening!"

'Serve me?' Zhang Tie cried as he found the coy head of female servants being very funny. Therefore, he directly patted onto her plump buttocks and smiled, "No need! Is this suit of clothes suitable? I thought about another proper suit of working uniform for you!"

"It's very suitable. Now, each of us have three suits; we're already very happy!" Sonia said.

"Never mind, the tailors on Hidden Dragon Island are not very good; when you come to a couture on the continent, you can choose another beautiful suit of working uniform for them. Oh, and cosmetics. I don't know much about cosmetics, but it seems that all of you girls like that. You can buy some proper cosmetics tomorrow and deliver them to all the girls. If you need anything else, just tell me..."

"Thanks, Lord!" Sonia replied happily with her shiny face.

"Haha... no need for thanks; the more beautiful you look, the happier I will be!" Zhang Tie put it straight as he waved his hand casually.

When Zhang Tie prepared to leave the flat roof of the internal castle together with Sonia, a blue smoke suddenly exploded in the air. After that, it turned into a blue arrow which hung in the air for a long time. Along with this pattern were seven crisp bell chimes from the Hidden Dragon Palace at the top of the mountain.

At the sight of this, Zhang Tie was shocked inside. 'This is the urgent order to summon all the students of Hidden Dragon Island to go back to Hidden Dragon Palace. Since Zhang Tie came to Hidden Dragon

Island, he had not seen this used at all. He was told that only when big event happened would Hidden Dragon Palace use this method to summon students.

"I will go to the Hidden Dragon Palace now. No time for supper!" After saying this, Zhang Tie darted outside of the castle.

Zhang Tie didn't know what happened. He only felt that it must be a big event.

Before leaving Jinwu Castle, Zhang Tie called Lenox, the head of guards in Jinwu Castle and delivered an order, "Ignite the main defense boiler of the castle and prepare for the coming emergency!"

On the way from Yunju Mountain to Hidden Dragon Palace, Zhang Tie met so many students rushing towards Hidden Dragon Palace. They asked what happened from each other; yet nobody knew.

"Zhang Tie, you're here..." When he was close to Hidden Dragon Palace, Zhang Tie met Yang Yuankang. After greeting each other, they rushed forward together.

"What happened?"

"No idea. The blue arrow order has not appeared for many years! I was in White Dragon Town just now; at the sight of the blue arrow signal, I instantly rushed towards here." Yang Yuankang frowned as the two of them kept running forward.

When they arrived at the front of the decorated archway below the Hidden Dragon Castle, two rows of fully-armored soldiers were standing over there. The whole Hidden Dragon Palace looked pretty solemn, ready for an incoming enemy. A robust military officer was standing under the decorated archway with his hand on the long sword on his waist and his gleaming eyes gazing at those arriving students.

When he went through the decorated archway of the Hidden Dragon Palace and came to the lower fort, Zhang Tie raised his head and looked at the position of the main air-defense artillery on the blockhouse of this castle. This time, Zhang Tie was shocked again as the cover of the main air-defense artillery had been opened, revealing a shiny muzzle of the steam-driven ballista tilting towards the sky like a sword pointing at the heavens.

After showing their clan plates, everybody entered Hidden Dragon Palace.

The moment Zhang Tie entered Hidden Dragon Palace, Zhang Tie saw the girls and fellows like Zhang Kelian leaving Zhixing Department with weird looks and walking towards the Middle Castle.

"Senior brother Zhang..."

"Senior brother Zhang is coming..."

"Senior brother..."

"Zhang Tie..."

At the sight of Zhang Tie, a great number of students in Zhixing Department, male and female, greeted him, which surprised the other students walking along with Zhang Tie. They glanced at Zhang Tie several times, curious as to why he was so popular in Zhixing Department.

"Where are you going?" Zhang Tie asked.

"I don't know. When we were eating supper just now, some personnel from Hidden Dragon Palace told us to gather in the Middle Fort and stay there tonight, yet they didn't tell us why," Zhang Hongsheng explained.

"Senior brother, do you know what happened?" Li Yurou asked Zhang Tie. Hearing this, all the other junior sisters fixed their eyes on Zhang Tie. After the party with Zhang Tie in Jinwu Castle the day before yesterday, these girls had become more intimate to Zhang Tie. This time, their eyes were full of reliance, respect, and kindness.

Of course, someone among them were bashful. Every time she thought about how she kissed this douchebag that night and threw him into the swimming pool, Lyu Shasha would feel a fever on her face. Therefore, she silently moved to hide behind a girl next to her. Although that was a crazy night, she was very relaxed as she had released all the stress that had been accumulated in the half year since she came to Hidden Dragon Palace.

Zhang Tie glanced over those girls who were looking at him with different expressions. Two girls among them were silent; yet their looks made Zhang Tie's heart pound — Du Yuhan, being usually open, was a bit bashful now, while Qu Liangying, who was usually shy, looked a bit open now.

"I don't know what happened either. Just wait for their orders. If war happens, we'd better stay in the fort, it's much safer than Zhixing Department!"

Of course, forts and castles were much safer than open courtyards like the Zhixing Department.

"You're right, senior brother!"

"You'd better practice hard so as to form your battle qis as soon as possible. The more powerful you are, the more chance you will survive in front of enemies. Perhaps, we will know the importance of this very soon!" Zhang Tie said in a solemn way.

The holy war was coming. Glancing over these young faces, Zhang Tie wondered how many among them could still stand in front of him, alive, in one or two decades.

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Entering Breaking Heavens Department, Zhang Tie found that, not only students in Zhixing Department, even all the students in Breaking Heavens Department had moved. Zhang Tie saw many strange students one after another. All of the 700-odd students were gathering in the Fight Performance Hall of Breaking Heavens Department.

Liu Xu, Zhang Feng, Ma Aiyun, Gu Caidie all arrived. At the sight of Zhang Tie and Yang Yuankang, they all gathered there.

Besides those friends, Zhang Tie caught sight of two familiar people — Zhang Haige and Zhang Haixin, who had been doing tasks since they lost 900 gold coins to Zhang Tie. It was really out of Zhang Tie's expectations to see them back.

At the sight of Zhang Tie, Zhang Haixin looked a bit ill-affected; he even responded with a cold harrumph; in contrast, Zhang Haige was much more mature than half a year ago as he nodded towards Zhang Tie. Zhang Tie also greeted him by nodding his head.



Besides the two guys, Zhang Tie saw another two guys — Zhang Qingguo, who was beaten so ferociously by Zhang Tie after he insulted Zhang Tie's dad and Gu Bai, who was taunted by Zhang Tie. What was out of Zhang Tie's imagination was that these two guys got along well with each other.

At the sight of Zhang Tie, Gu Bai looked a bit stiff while Zhang Qingguo lowered his head. They both took a detour around the crowd and disappeared from Zhang Tie's vision.

Seeing this, Zhang Tie slightly frowned his forehead as his heart slightly pounded.

"Argh, here comes senior brother Yu Xiaotian," one girl exclaimed. Zhang Tie then looked at the entrance of the Fight Performance Hall and found a twenty-or-so year old, handsome guy walk inside. He was born to be attractive. The moment he entered the Fight Performance Hall, a lot of girls peered at him with a fascinating look.

Seeing Ma Aiyun and the familiar girls were all looking over there, Zhang Tie slightly asked Liu Xu, "Who's that guy?"

"Yu Xiaotian (TL: 嘯天 means soaring towards the heavens), whose nickname is Xiaotian Sword, ranks third on the Hidden Dragon Clan Fighting Strength Rank and second on the Hidden Dragon Clan Contribution Rank. He's the Mr. Right in Breaking Heavens Department. It's said that he's already LV 9. How haven't you heard about such a famous person?" Liu Xu asked out of curiosity.

Zhang Tie thought for a while and finally remembered him.

"Argh, here's senior brother Zhang Wumu!" It was Yang Yuankang's turn to yell.

A guy who was almost two times the weight and 1.5 times the height of Zhang Tie walked inside. Bare chested, he was carrying a huge and terrifying war bow and a huge and terrifying war ax which was longer than two meters. Like an armored vehicle, he walked in step by step, causing a quake on the floor. Some guys standing outside the entrance were affected and were sent flying through the air due to carelessness.

Seeing such a guy in, everybody hurriedly moved three meters away from him.

That guy called Zhang Wumu walked in the Fight Performance Hall; then, he placed his war ax onto the ground, causing a loud noise, "bang"; at the same time, the cracks on the bluestone-made floor started to radiate like a spider web.

After putting down the war ax, Zhang Wumu crossed his arms and stood there like a wall with his eyes closed.

At the sight of his war ax, Zhang Tie's pupils slightly contracted. Based on the experience of using the "Man's Certificate", Zhang Tie instantly identified that the war ax weighed at least 600 kg.

'F\*ck! There's such a freak in Hidden Dragon Palace!"

"The nickname of senior brother Zhang Wumu is Fiery-Flame King Kong. He ranks second on the Hidden Dragon Clan Fighting Strength Rank and third on the Hidden Dragon Clan Contribution Rank. He's a brave warrior. His father is the master of Fubo City!" Knowing that Zhang Tie was not familiar with these people, Liu Xu decided to introduce them to Zhang Tie.

Hearing this, Zhang Tie nodded. 'These guys ranking top on Hidden Dragon Ranks are truly special; these guys are the elites of elites.'

"Why haven't I seen them before?"

"These senior brothers all possess high levelled fighting skills. They are always cultivating by themselves or executing clan tasks outside the island. Therefore, we cannot see them easily! Although senior brother Zhang Wumu is still on Hidden Dragon Palace, he has long been settled on by Hurricane Army; as soon as he leaves Hidden Dragon Palace, he will become a head in a division. He has a bright future!" Liu Xu said with an admirable tone.

Zhang Tie smacked his lips as he sighed with feeling inside, 'If not for that small tree, I would not even be a fart in front of these guys...'

In the following minutes, more and more people crowded in the Fight Performance Hall. Figures on the Hidden Dragon Ranks arrived one by another, causing bustling sounds one time by another. A greater part of the top ten guys had arrived.

"Here comes senior sister Xi..." As someone exclaimed outside the entrance, everybody became quiet in the Fight Performance Hall...

#### Chapter 363: Action

Lan Yunxi had a powerful qi field. Regardless of her docile performance when she and Zhang Tie were alone, in the public, such as Hidden Dragon Palace, this woman was like a queen. The moment she arrived, all the great figures in Hidden Dragon Palace were defeated.

The reason that most people in Hidden Dragon Palace called Lan Yunxi "senior sister Xi" instead of "senior sister Yun or senior sister Yunxi" mostly lay in that everybody respected her. In their eyes, Lan Yunxi was as glamorous as the sun in the early morning, who didn't feel being oppressive at all. Therefore, they call her senior sister Xi.

At this moment, Lan Yunxi didn't wear a skirt; instead, she was wearing an amaranth armor.

On the back of her armor was a long bow of the same color while a whip-like weapon was circling her waist. It was Zhang Tie's first time seeing Lan Yunxi's weapons and armor. She looked pretty heroic. Together with her amaranth armor, snow-white, tender skin, and black hair, she looked pretty beautiful.

Zhang Tie recalled that he almost occupied the shortcut towards her soul and that raptured kiss on the flat roof of Jinwu Castle, which formed a sharp contrast to the present Lan Yunxi, Zhang Tie's saliva almost flew out.

Lan Yunxi did not enter alone as she was followed by a great number of fully-armored soldiers and officials of Hidden Dragon Palace. Because some elites in Hidden Dragon Palace had been involved in various affairs of Zhang Clan in different degrees, it was not strange that Lan Yunxi came here with a batch of people.

Seeing her enter, all those in front of her gave a way to her. At sight of Lan Yunxi, Yu Xiaotian revealed a smile as he slightly nodded towards Lan Yunxi.

Zhang Wumu, whose eyes were always closed and arms crossed, also opened his eyes when he heard the arrival of Lan Yunxi. At this moment, his eyes were gleaming like flames. For the other members, especially the men of Hidden Dragon Palace, were all revealing adoring gazes at the sight of Lan Yunxi.

After glancing over the Fight Performance Hall casually, Zhang Tie felt pretty stressed as his rivals in love spread over there. Additionally, none of those guys were average. Except for some guys, almost half of those male guys who ranked earlier on the Hidden Dragon Ranks had adoringly gazed at Lan Yunxi.

Not only males, even females had different looks at sight of Lan Yunxi. Ma Aiyun and Gu Caidie beside Zhang Tie were totally worshipping and admiring her; in contrast, some girls looked jealous and envious — females always got jealous.

Two women standing not far from Zhang Tie slightly raised their jaws and thrusting their breasts the moment they saw Lan Yunxi coming in. They both came in two minutes ahead of Lan Yunxi. It was said they both ranked highly on the Hidden Dragon Ranks and were well-known in Breaking Heavens Department. When they arrived just now, they even aroused some chaos. However, the moment Lan Yunxi arrived, they became dwarfed at once.

Lan Yunxi directly walked onto the high platform in Fight Performance Hall with her eyes looking steadily forward. Zhang Tie kept his eyes fixed on her. Although Lan Yunxi had caught sight of him, she moved her eyes again instantly, causing Zhang Tie to be a bit disappointed.

"Senior sister Xi is really the ideal role model for all the girls in Hidden Dragon Palace. I will become as beautiful and powerful as her in the future!" Ma Aiyun mumbled while the other girls beside her forcefully nodded their heads.

Hearing this, Zhang Tie just rubbed his face with a bitter smile.

The moment Lan Yunxi stood on the high platform, she looked like a general more than a woman. After glancing over those people at present with a solemn look, she ceased those noises and disturbance instantly.

"Gu Bai, out of ranks!" Lan Yunxi's solemn voice sounded in the Fight Performance Hall.

Hearing Lan Yunxi call Gu Bai, not only Zhang Tie, many people were surprised as they didn't even know whom Gu Bai was. As a result, they just looked around.

"Senior sister Xi, what do you look me for?"

Gu Bai walked out of the crowd with a stiff smile.

Seeing Gu Bai walking out, Lan Yunxi slightly narrowed her eyes as she ordered, "Take him away!"

Receiving this order, the two officials who looked serious instantly charged towards Gu Bai; before Gu Bai responded, they had already searched him all over including his jaw, shoulders, elbows, wrists, palms, fingers, waists, knees, and ankles by patting, twisting, pulling, or tearing. Under Zhang Tie's dumbfounded gaze, Gu Bai's bones and joints had been dislocated all over like a dismantled toy. At the same time, various vials and a dagger were discovered at once.

'Powerhouses,' a thought flashed across Zhang Tie's mind. It was Zhang Tie's first time seeing people dislocate a person so rapidly.

As a result, Gu Bai instantly collapsed onto the ground like a sea snake whose bones had been taken out.

Everybody was startled. After Gu Bai realized what happened, he shouted loudly out of fear, "Senior sister Xi, what are you doing?" Although his jaw had been dislocated, he could still speak.

Lan Yunxi didn't look at him at all; instead, she looked at the entrance of the Fight Performance Hall. Two officials of Hidden Dragon Palace then hurriedly walked in with two items.

"We found this set of crystal remote-sensing communication machine and this code book underground Gu Bai's courtyard in Blue Dragon Town!"

Watching the two items, everybody in Fight Performance Hall widened their eyes, "How come Gu Bai had this?"

However, at sight of the two items, Gu Bai's face turned really pale, "I... I can... can... can explain!"

Lan Yunxi gazed at him with an icy look. "Explain? Do you want to explain how you exposed the intelligence of Hidden Dragon Island and Hidden Dragon Palace to the outside? Do you know how many losses Huaiyuan Palace has suffered because of you? Do you know how many people your actions have killed? What do you want to explain? Drag him away..."

Gu Bai then was pulled out of Hidden Dragon Palace by two officials directly.

"I want to say something... I want to say something!" Gu Bai shouted loudly as he was pulled away.

"Gu Bai, student of Hidden Dragon Palace colluded with demons and sold intelligence of the Zhang Clan and Hidden Dragon Palace. On the order of the Seniors Association of the Zhang Clan, we are here to arrest Gu Bai. According to the regulations of Huaiyuan Palace, anyone who colludes with demons will be face death penalty together with all of their family members!" An official beside Lan Yunxi stood forward as he read the decree loudly.

Hearing this decree, Gu Bai almost passed out while everybody else at present was shocked inside; most people didn't know what happened, except for Zhang Tie, 'The event in Stars Viewing City finally broke out.'

After the exceptionally tranquil past two days, Huaiyuan Palace's response was completely out of Zhang Tie's imagination. Gu Bai was dug out, which meant that those big figures in Huaiyuan Palace were searching for the mole according to the clues over the past two days. Gu Bai was probably the very person who leaked Zhang Tie's intelligence about the mass-production of all-purpose medicament in Hidden Dragon Palace to the outside.

Of course, Hidden Dragon Palace summoned everybody back hurriedly was not only to arrest a rebel in the public. Zhang Tie speculated that something amazing would happen later on.

Zhang Tie was right.

"From now on, all the LV 6 junior brothers and sisters from Breaking Heavens Department have to stay in Fight Performance Hall tonight. All the students above LV 7 have the right to join a military operation organized by the Zhang Clan tonight. Anyone who'd like to join this action will gain 200 clan contribution points. If you don't want to join it, you have to stay in the Fight Performance Hall tonight too!" Lan Yunxi declared.

"Senior sister Xi, what military action it is?" the handsome Yu Xiaotian asked on behalf of everybody else at present.

"Zhen Clan in Heavens Cold City, Langye Prefecture colludes with demons. They are remnants of the Three-Eye Association of demons. According to the decision of the Seniors Association of Huaiyuan Palace, we will start a clan war tonight and crush Zhen Clan to pieces! Not only Hidden Dragon Island, even the whole Huaiyuan Prefecture has been cordoned off inside tonight. Students who join the action tonight will attack Heavens Cold City with the other elites of the Zhang Clan by airships. As this action involves demons, you might meet unprecedented dangers. Therefore, only the students above LV 7 can join it voluntarily!"

The moment Lan Yunxi finished her words, Zhang Wumu had stomped onto the floor of Fight Performance Hall, causing an earthquake at once. Then, that terrifying man laughed like thunders, "Fine, count me in. I finally get a chance to kill those sons of bitches. Previously, I thought that I could not do that until I was in Hurricane Plateau. It's really out of my imagination that Zhen Clan of Heavens Cold City were the remnants of Three-Eye Association of Demons. I will definitely join the massacre tonight!"

"Students who want to join this action tonight can select weapons in the armory of Fight Performance Hall now. You have ten minutes to prepare. In ten minutes' time, we will leave Hidden Dragon Island in batches. This action is very important and dangerous. Don't be reluctant. Your fates are in your own hands!"

After saying this, the gate of the armory connected to the Fight Performance Hall was opened. Lan Yunxi walked inside first. Seeing this, a great number of people also walked in the armory without any hesitation, including most of those guys who ranked earlier on the Hidden Dragon Ranks.

After exchanging glances with each other, Zhang Tie and his friends' hearts started to pound.

What was war? This was.

"Go or not?" Zhang Tie asked Liu Xu and Yang Yuankang.

"Of course, everybody should kill those b\*stards of Three-Eye Association like Zhen Clan of Heavens Cold City. This time, with elites there, we can definitely destroy them. If we did not go there, it would be a pity!" Liu Xu's eyes radiated gleaming light.

"Of course, we should kill those demons' lackeys!" Yang Yuankang also raised his head and said proudly.

"What about you?" Liu Xu asked Zhang Tie.

Zhang Tie touched his nose. To be honest, he had killed so many guys from the Zhen Clan, Zhang Tie felt that he had committed to his responsibilities. He was not interested in these righteous affairs or honors; however, as Lan Yunxi had joined, of course he could not just hide on Hidden Dragon Island and wait for his woman to fight outside.

"Then, I will accompany you righteous men!" Zhang Tie revealed a pale smile. Yang Yuankang and Liu Xu exchanged glances with each other before bursting out laughing.

"I will be there too!" Ma Aiyun and the other girls looked very excited.

Hearing those girls' intention, Zhang Tie stared at them seriously, "You should think carefully, battle is not like competing fighting skills in Breaking Heavens Department. On battle field, blood and flesh would spread over everywhere. Can you really stand it? Someone would spit for several days after only one glance."

"Since senior sister Xi is going there, we will also go there!" Face turning a bit pale, Yuan Ziyi asked, "Aren't you going there as well?"

"Don't you know what my nickname is?" Zhang Tie smiled, "I was called flesh grinder on battle field. I killed several dozens of military officers and numerous average soldiers in a few days. I have been adapted to these scenes!"

"You are bragging!" Ma Aiyun smiled.

"This is not the time to joke. Women should not join wars!" Zhang Tie replied seriously.

Ma Aiyun and the other girls then exchanged glances with each other and became a bit hesitant.

"Zhang Tie, you go select equipment in the armory first, Liu Xu and I will go notify Zhang Zao and Meiling. We will gather outside," Yang Yunkang told Zhang Tie before left with Liu Xu.

At this moment, many lovers were bidding farewell to each other. Some lovers even entered the armory in pairs. As Liu Xu and Yang Yuankang's girlfriends were only LV 6, they were not qualified to join the action; before they left, they hurriedly went to notify them.

Seeing that Ma Aiyun and the other girls were still hesitating, Zhang Tie directly walked into the armory of the Fight Performance Hall.

The armory had two gates. After entering the gate from the Fight Performance Hall, they chose their equipment and weapons before left from the other gate. After that, they gathered outside the armory and prepared to board the airships. As Lan Yunxi only left them ten minutes to prepare, they quickly selected their equipment and weapons.

The armory covering over 3,000 square meters was full of armor and weapons. It was enough to arm a troop of thousands of people. Of course, it could easily arm these students from Breaking Heavens Department.

Considering his sufficient physique, Zhang Tie chose an attractive, heavy, protective plate armor, which boasted super powerful defense ability and flexibility. However, it weighed more than 150 kilograms. The alloy steel on his chest, on his back, and his helmet was thicker than twenty millimeters. The armor extended to his feet. It was definitely like a humanoid tank. Anyone in such a heavy, protective plate armor was freakily muscular guy.

Having experienced fighting in wars, Zhang Tie clearly knew that individual moving ability was definitely more important than defensive capability; the average person would definitely not choose such terrifying armor. However, it was a waste if Zhang Tie, who had freak huge strength, didn't choose such armor with high protective capabilities. Additionally, Zhang Tie felt that it would not be a bad thing in the fight with the Zhen Clan which was involved with demons. Because, Zhen Clan might have its trump card which could be very destructive.

After putting on the equipment, Zhang Tie only exposed his eyes to the public through the grim ox-horn like helmet.

The moment Zhang Tie prepared to choose a heavy sword which was similar to his "Man's Certificate", he caught sight of Ma Aiyun and the other girls entering armory, heads raising. Zhang Tie then sighed inside and just chose a 1.7 m high heavy spiked shield which weighed over 100 kg.

After that, he chose a set of heavy metal container with nine javelins inside and carried them on his back. He then walked towards Ma Aiyun and the other girls, causing a loud sound.

When those girls were putting on female tight armors, they caught sight of such a monster walking towards them. They were really startled by Zhang Tie's equipment.

"When you land and fight them, remember my current look and follow me up. With the heavy shield, I can protect you when necessary!" Zhang Tie's voice drifted out of the air holes on the helmet in a low, muffled way.

"Zhang Tie?" Those girls' eyes almost popped out of their heads.

"Hmm!" Zhang Tie nodded, "As your fighting strength is limited, try some agile weapons and equipment; additionally, you six should not separate, try to stay in a group of three. As it's your first time on the battlefield, you should remember that when you see any enemy with their head still attached, stab one more time, regardless of the wounds and blood stains on them. Pay special attention to those who have crossbows, javelins, or put one hand behind their body."

Zhang Tie gained this knowledge on battlefields at the cost of blood and lives. After saying that, Zhang Tie turned around and left, causing a muffled sound, "Kengchi, kengchi". After exchanging glances with each other, those girls then watched the back of Zhang Tie's terrifying armor and felt warm inside.

After leaving the armory, Zhang Tie received one vial of medium recovery medicament and one vial of medium antidote potion at the entrance. He then thought inside, 'This is really a generous treatment from big clans like Huaiyuan Palace!'

Standing outside, Lan Yunxi fixed her eyes on the entrance of the armory. Having not seen Zhang Tie, she felt a bit reassured and a bit disappointed.

Right then, one guy who looked like an iron tortoise walked out of the entrance of the armory. At the beginning, Lan Yunxi didn't pay special attention to him; not until this guy passed by Lan Yunxi did she slightly quiver all over.

"I will beat your buttocks when I come back!" Zhang Tie murmured.

Lan Yuni glared at him initially. Then, she revealed a wisp of smile on her tense face — b\*stard.

Several minutes later, with the arrival of some big war airships, all the students who'd joined the operation boarded on in batches. After that, those airships directly flew away from Hidden Dragon Island towards the north in the dim twilight...

Chapter 364: A Destructive Strike

Through the porthole beside him, Zhang Tie saw airships covering the sky, causing a colossal dark shadow; he felt shocked at the scale of the operation.

These actions further displayed Huaiyuan Palace's power to Zhang Tie.

After forming a matrix in the air, two groups of airships covered thousands square meters in the air.

Thankfully, it was evening. If such a swarm of airships passed by in the daytime, the wide area of black shadow would bring an extreme sense of fear to people on the ground.

They boarded the war airships which were built for Huaiyuan Prefecture's troop last year. They were as long as 400 m and weighed more than 300 tons. They could navigate 4500 km at a speed of 160 km/h one time. Therefore, they were qualified to be known as the kings of the skies.

Being different from the cigar-shaped airships that Zhang Tie took before, the triangular shape of the war airships looked extremely like a ray in the sea while its huge body afforded it a super large capacity.

At this moment, sitting in the airship, Zhang Tie was watching the elites of Huaiyuan Palace on the other side of the passenger compartment. He felt as if he were sitting in the passenger cabin of a giant passenger liner.

In flight, it was so stable that passengers couldn't feel it was flying rapidly at all.

Soon after Zhang Tie boarded, all the students of Hidden Dragon Palace had found out the cause of this action and the details of action. Zhang Tie's puzzlement finally was clarified.

The whole action benefited from the environmental sanitation worker in Stars Viewing City who had discovered what happened to Zhen Clan Mansion of Heavens Cold City before dawn, allowing big figures in Huaiyuan Palace to make necessary preparations before this event was exposed to the public.

For Huaiyuan Palace, the alleged remedy was to cover what happened in Zhen Clan Mansion in a short period so as to spare time for Huaiyuan Palace to implement the action and let the sleeping dogs lie.

Before dawn, those earth-shattering words on the exterior wall and the gate of Zhen Clan Mansion had been cleaned up. All the personnel who knew what happened in the Mansion had been isolated temporarily in case they leaked the news; those who had established partnerships with the Mansion had also been controlled as soon as possible. Since the morning after the event in the Zhen Clan Mansion, some elites of Huaiyuan Palace had stood outside the gate of the Mansion in the uniform of guards of the Mansion after changing their appearance.

Looking from outside, everything inside Zhen Clan Mansion was as normal as usual. Even those business partners of the Zhen Clan accessed the Mansion and dealt with their daily deliveries as usual.

Nobody across Stars Viewing City had noticed the abnormal situation in Zhen Clan Mansion during the next day after the event happened; in the same day, elites of Huaiyuan Palace had figured out the Zhen Clan's arrangements with Huaiyuan Palace and the Long Wind Business Group according to the clues left in the Mansion and the words left by Zhang Tie.

When he found that weird statue being worshipped in the hidden room of the Mansion, Zhang Tie didn't know what it represented, he only felt it was related to demons; however, that statue had caused a great earthquake in Huaiyuan Palace.



This was the first time that the Three-Eye Association of demons had reappeared since the second holy war between human beings and demons. It was much more severe than what Zhang Tie had imagined. Historically, any country or clan found to be involved with demons would be cleaned, causing the death of hundreds of millions of living beings.

Huaiyuan Palace as a whole started to jump like a barbarous ox whose bottom had been slashed.

Zhang Taibai's wife had been arrested and interrogated secretly last night.

The Zhen Clan's moles in Huaiyuan Palace and Long Wind Business Group had also been arrested when the students from Breaking Heavens Department left Hidden Dragon Island this morning.

Until the students were up in the air, this action was still an operation that was only known by a minority. Only after the clan elites boarded on the airships and had lost contact with outside could they gain details about this action.

The same thing happened in Hidden Dragon Palace, all the students who knew that the Zhang Clan was going to raid Heavens Cold City tonight were in airships or forbidden from leaving Heavens Breaking Department. The clan did this to ensure their safety and the secrecy of the operation.

As this action was related to demons, the clan should be very careful about it. The Seniors Association of Huanyuan Palace were not sure whether demons or demons' lackeys were hiding in Huaiyuan Prefecture and whether the action would arise other chain reactions or not. If a powerhouse above LV 15 was hiding on Hidden Dragon Island and started a war, it would be a devastating blow for the future of Hidden Dragon Palace.

Therefore, after most of the students from Breaking Heavens Palace left Hidden Dragon Island by airships, a senior from Seniors Association of the Zhang Clan had already brought a batch of powerhouses to Hidden Dragon Island.

After covering up what happened in the Zhen Clan Mansion in Stars Viewing City for two days, Huaiyuan Palace chose to raid the nest of the Zhen Clan in Heavens Cold City with its clan elites after travelling a thousand miles and determined to destroy it.

By then Zhang Tie understood how smart those big figures in Huaiyuan Palace were. Their tactic was always as swift and ferocious as a lightning bolt.

In the airship, a strange senior military officer of Huaiyuan Prefecture was talking about the situation in Zhen Clan of Heavens Cold City and the operation.

"As the Zhen Clan has settled in Heavens Cold City for over 100 years, it is a local power in Langye Prefecture. Its deep-rooted power has already spread throughout most of Heavens Cold City. After more than 100 years' development, the total population of the Zhen Clan, including its direct line of descent, branch families, and various relatives, has reached 110,000 people. The city guard army of Heavens Cold City includes over 45,000 people, among which, almost all the military officers are part of the direct lines and branch families of the Zhen Clan. Besides the city guard army of Heavens Cold City, Zhen Clan has another clan army composed of about 3,000 clan elites — Black Armor Army. Our task is to destroy a fort base of Black Armor Army outside Heavens Cold City!"

When the senior military officer mentioned Black Armor Army, he pointed at the Bluestone Pass Fort to the northeast of Heavens Cold City on the map with his pen.

"Bluestone Pass Fort is a station of Black Armor Army and the portal of Heavens Cold City in the northeast. It's precipitous on terrain. About 1,500 members of Black Armor Army defend here. They are very powerful. After clearing out the guards there, we will control the northeast portal of Heavens Cold City! Thereafter, the Zhen Clan will have no way to retreat. With the help of our airship and mobile enforcement troop, we can destroy and occupy the Zhen Clan's other forts and passes. We need to eliminate them all. No member of the Zhen Clan is allowed to escape!"

"Sir, what if someone in the forts surrenders, will... we take them as prisoners?" a girl who'd joined the operation asked. She then felt the others all looking at her; therefore, her voice gradually slowed down.

After gazing at that girl for a while, the military officer slowly said, "Black Armor Army is an armed force composed of the students of Zhen Clan. As we've confirmed that Zhen Clan is colluding with demons and is a member of demons' Three-Eye Association, we will deal with them according to the order of Seniors Association and the universal rule of human race on this kind of clan. None of them should be kept alive; even if they surrender, keep killing them to eliminate any further dangers!"

Hearing this, not only the girl who asked this question, even the faces of Ma Aiyun and the other girls beside Zhang Tie turned slightly pale.

"The only troop that we can allow to surrender are those average soldiers of the city guard army of Heavens Cold City who have put down their weapons and surrendered at their own discretion. For others, we should kill them all, including the direct lines and branch families of the Zhen Clan and those who dare to attack us!" that military officer continued to explain icily.

Then, he slowly glanced over all the members in the airship, "There's one point that you should understand that this is a war between demons and their lackeys. If you are merciful and pitiful to any one of them, you might cause hundreds, even thousands, of innocent people to die. If you leave the lackeys of demons alive, anyone among you might die in the future. The decree of the existence of Three-Eye Association is to coordinate demons to eliminate human race or turn them into docile slaves! If we kill them, we are saving innocent people and striving for our right to live freely."

The airship then became silent...

The only pitiful thing for Zhang Tie was that he was not assigned in the same group with Lan Yunxi. At this moment, Lan Yunxi was in another airship. According to the operation's plan, Lan Yunxi was not going to raid the other fort bases of the Zhen Clan like Zhang Tie's group but probably be assigned to destroy the nest of the Zhen Clan.

Zhang Tie patted Ma Aiyun's shoulder to comfort her. Then, he closed his eyes. He imagined two abacuses in his mind and started to practice mental arithmetic by abacus so as to slowly enhance and recover his spiritual energy.

After sweeping away the Zhen Clan Mansion that night, as he predicted, he gained another Fruit of Brilliance which increased his spiritual energy by more than forty times. It was a big harvest. After eating that fruit, Zhang Tie obviously sensed that his mental arithmetic by abacus had reached a limit as he

touched an invisible film. Zhang Tie really expected to tear off the film and checked what was behind it. Faintly, Zhang Tie felt it was a very important bottleneck for his cultivation.

...

Six hours after they boarded the airships, they ate some rations to supplement their physical strength, followed by another long boring wait.

After almost a full night's flight, the airships finally parted and headed for their own tasks. At this moment, everybody had been woken up to prepare for the upcoming war.

The contour of a city with sparse lamplights faintly appeared below the clouds.

Zhang Tie's airship directly sped up towards the northeast of this city...

Several minutes later, a war airship floating above the thin clouds dropped the first white phosphorous gel combustion bomb of 500 kg into a fort in the mountain range...

Then, the 2nd, the 3rd, the 4th...

As a result, white light flashed one by another in the fort; white light flashed across the other places almost at the same time, causing great chaos across the land.

Flames started to spread across the land, making it bright all over. In a split second, the forts below became a sea of flames...

#### Chapter 365: Unrivaled Fighter

It was pretty a long time to wait until the flames in Bluestone Pass Fort were put out. Although it was only a little over twenty minutes, it felt as long as the period from Hidden Dragon Island to here by airships for them, especially those who had not joined any real wars.

For castles and forts which were mainly made of stones, steel bars, or cement, white phosphorous gel combustion bombs were not used for the purpose of destroying the targeted building structures but to kill live people and destroy some facilities on land.

After being detonated, white phosphorous gel combustion bombs could hardly be put out; additionally, they would stick to the surfaces of objects in large areas and continued to burn. Their burning temperature was as high as 1000 degrees Celsius, under which temperature, as long as it's stuck with gel, most of steam-driven defense facilities would be destroyed.

It's needless to say what would happen if they were stuck to human bodies or something combustible.

From the beginning to the end, the air-defense turret in Bluestone Pass Fort only launched their ballista two times before being ineffective in front of white phosphorous gel combustion bombs. Additionally, the two bolts lost their power when they were still far away from the bottom of the airship. As a result, they just fell off after drawing a parabola in the air.

Soon after being attacked by white phosphorous gel combustion bombs, the steam pipes of the castle or fort would be damaged or meet mechanical obstacles. As a result, the pressure on the turret would drop off, causing the air-defense ballista an adornment.

In this age, the most effective weapon against an airship was another airship. Pitifully, even after the airships of Huaiyuan Palace completed the first round of attack, the airships of Zhen Clan still didn't start a counterattack yet.

This was the advantage of raiding — it never spared any chance for the opponent to counterattack.

After the flames below gradually put out and the air-defense armed force of the fort was disarmed, Zhang Tie's airship started to descend and hovered over a hundred meters above Bluestone Fort. At the same time, they started to fire the ballistas on the airship so as to clean off as many obstacles as possible for the students before they landed.

The small-caliber rapid fire steam-driven ballista was pretty powerful when shooting downwards. After being shot out, the bolts carried a great inertia which could easily penetrate through two men in armor. Any bolt could easily break one's foot or hand.

The terrifying war airship was like an eagle hunting its prey. It constantly launched attacks towards the targets below; as a result, some soldiers who had reluctantly gathered under the attack of combustion bombs were soon shot over by the steam bolts.

"Open airborne hatch cover No.1 to No...."

"Put down the wire cable..."

"Prepare for fire suppression and cover..."

"Fighters ready for airborne landing..."

The commanders on the airships were shouting loudly. In only a few seconds, fighters had readied themselves for airborne landing. Because of the low height and requirements on high speed and efficiency, no parachutes were used; instead, a wire cable was used to slide down. By pulling the speed control pulley, everybody could slide onto land in a few seconds.

They then stood at the entrance of the airborne landing cabin; meanwhile, a chilly wind blew in from the entrance of the airborne landing cabin and constant clear sounds of 'Ding, ding, dang, dang' drifted from the armor plate at the bottom of the airships while being struck by bolts. Although the guards in the forts below had suffered a blow, they still maintained some fighting strength.

At this moment, only about 1000 guards were left alive below. Some were moving in all directions; some were reorganizing themselves to launch counterattack. With only air attack, unless dropping powerful alchemical bombs, they could not completely destroy the fort.

The senior military officer who was interpreting about this action just now glanced over them and asked, "Who will go first?"

The one going down first would definitely be the main target of the guards below. The first one would face a great danger even on the wire cable.

However, the reason that Seniors Association of Zhang Clan allowed clan students of Hidden Dragon Palace to join this war was hoping that most clan students of Hidden Dragon Palace could experience a war by themselves as a very important force of Hidden Dragon Palace.

Huaiyuan Palace had not carried out such a large-scale operation for over two decades.

Hearing that military officer's words, before the others stood out, Zhang Tie, whose blood had been boiling, had jumped out and grabbed the speed control pulley on the wire cable.

The moment he grabbed the speed control pulley by his left hand and jumped out of the cabin, Zhang Tie had figured out the situation below; at this moment, the first rays of the morning sun had just radiated from the skyline.

Zhang Tie then pulled out one javelin from his back and instantly penetrated through one guy who was aiming at the airship with a crossbow.

Zhang Tie moved very fast, so was the speed control pulley on the wire cable. He dropped more than ten meters every second. Before he touched the ground, he had already thrown away all nine javelins in the heavy metal container.

After Zhang Tie cleaned his javelin container, the sounds clashing the bottom of the airship also became sparse. Those being more careful would hear the sonic boom after Zhang Tie threw out each javelin.

With nine consecutive sonic booms, the nine guys who posed greatest threats to their airborne landing had been cleaned by Zhang Tie. Watching Zhang Tie's back, a bright light flashed across the senior military officer in the airship.

"One team down every three seconds, come on!" that military officer shouted. Watching Zhang Tie jumping down, the other male students of Huaiyuan Palace all became very dauntless. In a split second, six more people had jumped down the wire cable.

After killing nine dangerous bowmen, Zhang Tie had become the very target of the other bowmen. Thankfully, he descended very fast while the airship was moving above the Bluestone Fort. As a result, most bolts had passed by Zhang Tie's side, except for one bolt which directly flew towards Zhang Tie's forehead and was blocked by Zhang Tie's heavy spike shield.

Although the bolt was blocked, it still made Zhang Tie's arm numb.

Zhang Tie took a chance to peer downwards and saw a long-face military officer who was more than 30 years old in black armor aiming at him with a crossbow. That man's glare then collided with Zhang Tie's from a hundred meters away.

A great number of soldiers in black armor, long spears in hands, were rushing towards the estimated arrival place of Zhang Tie while someone shouted, "Kill him, kill him. If you kill one enemy tonight, you will gain one rank higher and a hundred gold coins!"

That long-face military officer in the far kept shooting at him. However, out of everybody's imagination, Zhang Tie forcefully swayed the wire cable and loosened his grip when he was still 30-odd m away from land; he then jumped straight down like a meteor.

Nobody could've imagined that Zhang Tie would dare to jump off from such a height in heavy armor, including those military officers and the succeeding students from Hidden Dragon Palace.

If not for the iron-body fruits that he'd eaten and the deep sea pressure that had granted him such a high endurance, Zhang Tie wouldn't have dared to jump off with the equipment of several hundred kilograms from such a height either. This was already his limit of endurance.

Not having imagined that Zhang Tie would jump off from that height, the long-face military officer's second bolt flew past Zhang Tie, 33.3 cm above his head. Seeing this, those soldiers who had been rushing towards Zhang Tie's estimated arrival place also turned around in a flurried way.

Zhang Tie had triggered his rapid moving skill in air.

With a sound of "Bang", Zhang Tie pounded onto land like a shell. At the same time, he waved his shield, causing five soldiers of Black Armor Army to be heavily injured and fly back through the air while sprouting blood.

Soon after that, Zhang Tie sprang up like a lightning bolt once again and rushed towards that long-face military officer. During this process, twenty or so soldiers of Black Armor Army who were rushing towards Zhang Tie were smashed by Zhang Tie's shield and sent flying in the air.

Looking from upside down, Zhang Tie was a madly darting ox while those soldiers of Black Armor Army were as weak as scarecrows and were overwhelmed.

With great physical strength and the bliss of God's rune's effect, Zhang Tie's speed was still amazing even though he was in heavy armor.

Seeing Zhang Tie being that terrifying and directly rushing towards him, that long-face military officer finally became flurried as he shot out the third bolt towards Zhang Tie.

Zhang Tie threw out his shield. The rotating heavy spike shield of over a hundred kilograms then cut some soldiers of Black Armor Army into halves before collided with the third bolt shot out by that long-faced military officer.

After throwing out the shield, Zhang Tie sped up once again. Before the long-faced military officer shot out the forth bolt, Zhang Tie had already charged towards him.

"Kill!" Zhang Tie's voice thundered as he shot out his punch.

Zhang Tie's voice was as loud as a thunder that all the other battle cries were covered. As a result, some soldiers of Black Armor Army who were a bit closer to Zhang Tie felt their heads humming as they slowed down.

At the same time, many people in the fort looked towards Zhang Tie.

That long-face officer faced Zhang Tie's punch with his own punch...

However, with only one punch...

That long-face military's body had been broken into pieces like a porcelain dropping off from dozens of floors high and turned into a rain of blood.

"Argh, battalion commander was killed..." Many soldiers of Black Armor Army became flurried...

Behind Zhang Tie, a hundred meter high battle qi totem of a huge centipede rose up from the burning bloody waves at once and looked down at those soldiers in the fort, full of killing intent. It was like a monster who was going to eat as it covered the whole fort at once. At the sight of Zhang Tie's terrifying performance and immortal battle qi totem, many people were startled. As a result, the remaining soldiers of Black Armor Army across the fort were dwarfed...

"Unrivaled fighter, unrivaled fighter..." Standing in the airship, at the sight of Zhang Tie's excellent performance, that senior military officer was so excited that he shouted loudly, "Who is he? Who is he? Why I've not heard about him before?"

Seeing Zhang Tie in his steel and iron armor, Ma Aiyun and the other students who knew Zhang Tie felt their minds go blank; Zhang Tie was simply a killing machine on the battle field, so ferocious that he seemed like a stranger to them...

Chapter 366: Invitation

As more and more students landed from the airships, the Black Armor Army finally started to collapse.

The first batch of people, who followed after Zhang Tie, were all powerful fighters above LV 7 from Hidden Dragon Palace.

The soldiers of Black Armor Army were elites among the guards in Heavens Cold City; their ability almost matched that of the Iron-Blood Camp's in Norman Empire in Zhang Tie's opinion. However, except for only a minority of military officers who could fight the powerhouses from Hidden Dragon Palace for a while, the average soldiers were all easily defeated by the elites of Hidden Dragon Palace.

In Zhang Tie's eyes, the only thing praiseworthy about the soldiers of Black Armor Army was their desperate fighting spirit. For this troop composed of clan members who would never surrender unless their clan ordered them to put down their weapons. This was also the reason why all the clan forces in this age were reliable — nobody would betray their own clan and family.

...

After all the male students from Hidden Dragon Palace had landed, the elites of the regular army of the Zhang Clan also started to slide down in batches. The female students from Hidden Dragon Palace were at the end of the line.

Although Zhang Tie only fought a bit longer than twenty minutes, his heavy chain protective plate armor that radiated metallic luster before had been covered with blood stains like being scooped out of a blood pond. The color of the outside of the armor had become terrifying crimson. Even Zhang Tie had lost count of how many people he had killed. Finally, he could see no enemies around him at all; even if there were enemies, they tried to stay away from him.

...

As more and more reinforcements came down from the airship, Zhang Tie slowed down his killing speed. Instead, he just wandered around the fort and collected his heavy javelins from the bodies of those who'd been nailed to the ground by him.

In a short while, Zhang Tie had collected seven of the nine heavy javelins.

When Zhang Tie came to the eighth javelin, a red-eyed military officer in black armor jumped out of the cloister in the fort and slashed towards Zhang Tie's neck ferociously and swiftly.

"Who are you?"

This military officer was very young; he was only about twenty years old, a bit elder than Zhang Tie. With a handsome face, his fighting strength was between LV 6 and LV 7. He was also very brave. When he attacked Zhang Tie, a battle qi totem of huge black spider appeared behind him, displaying his fighting strength.

If given more time, this young military officer might have a bright future and would rise to LV 7 soon. If he met someone else, he might have killed that one, however, he'd met Zhang Tie which meant everything would come to an end.

Zhang Tie had exerted the power of the Iron-Blood Fist, which ranked first among the secret fighting skills of the royal household of the Norman Empire in the Waii Sub-Continent, to a terrifying extent.

Zhang Tie didn't even glance at him, instead, he just kicked out sharply, ferociously, and directly. His assailant shot him over twenty meters away like a bolt, causing him hit onto the hard wall of the fort. As a result, he was broken into pieces and turned into a pool of blood and flesh before he could even utter a miserable shriek.

Zhang Tie didn't feel pity for any of the Zhen Clan members at all. He had sworn to uproot the Zhen Clan. Of course, he would not let this man live.

After killing him, Zhang Tie pulled out the eighth heavy javelin from a corpse that had been using a heavy crossbow and wiped off the blood stains on his clothes. He then walked towards Ma Aiyun and the other girls.

The six female students had also killed some average soldiers of Black Armor Army. However, in Zhang Tie's eyes, perhaps due to being influenced by the miserable, bloody atmosphere or because it was their first time in a war of such a scale, those senior sisters could only exert half of their fighting strength at most.

The six female students were divided into two groups, three in each group as suggested by Zhang Tie. They were fighting more than ten soldiers about five to six meters apart.

At the sight of their pale faces due to fear and exhaustion, Zhang Tie slightly shook his head; war was really not suitable for women!

Carrying his heavy shield and javelin container, Zhang Tie leisurely picked up a long spear and a grim flail of more than 100 kg from two dead bodies and walked at a steady pace.



Seeing that Gu Caidie and the other two girls were a bit tense while fighting three guys in black armor, Zhang Tie instantly threw out the long spear and penetrated through the 3 guys like a kebab, sending them flying back at the same time. Benefitting from that, those girls breathed a sigh of relief.

Zhang Tie waved the heavy, three-headed flail and caused a weird ripple in the air. After being accelerated, the spiked steel heads of the flail had a terrifying impact force which could even match that of a steam punching machine. Simply by waving it horizontally, Zhang Tie had easily broken the helmets and armors of four soldiers of Black Armor Army, causing their necks to sprout out blood along with their brains and pieces of flesh.

With another horizontal sweep, together with the sounds of broken armors and bones as well as miserable shrieks, another three guys twisted with their weapons and fell down like cornstalks being destroyed by hurricane.

In less than two seconds after Zhang Tie came close to those girls, all their enemies had been cleared away. Seeing this, the girls became startled.

Zhang Tie then walked towards the remaining soldiers of Black Armor Army who were besieging the group of Gu Caidie. Seeing Zhang Tie walking towards them, those guys then shouted loudly with frightened looks; they turned around to escape. However, after running a few steps, they were caught up by a fighter of the elite troop of Hidden Dragon Palace. One slash, one down; in a wink, they all became corpses.

Seeing that the remaining opponents had been surrounded and the situation would be resolved in a short while, Zhang Tie stopped.

From when the first combustion bomb was dropped down until the end of the war, the warfare in Bluestone Pass Fort only lasted less than one hour.

Seeing Zhang Tie walking towards them in bloody armor, although knowing who was inside, those girls were all scared as they moved back subconsciously and fixed their eyes onto Zhang Tie.

Zhang Tie revealed a bitter smile as he picked off his helmet. After seeing Zhang Tie's familiar face, those girls looked a bit better. At the same time, the group of Ma Aiyun hurriedly moved close to him. Considering the thick blood stains on the ground, they became very cautious as they drew close to Zhang Tie.

"Sen... senior brother!" They even stammered at sight of Zhang Tie.

"Are you all right, senior sisters?"

"Fine!" Ma Aiyun tried to recover his composure. As she was holding her sword too forcefully, her fingers had even become blue, the same to the other girls.

"Zhang Tie, you're injured?!" Yuan Ziyi pointed at a location on Zhang Tie's shoulder and shouted out of surprise.

"Argh? Where?" Zhang Tie started to check himself.

"It's... it's on your shoulder!"

Zhang Tie then touched it and picked off a piece of organ from the connection between his left shoulder and his left arm and casually threw it onto the ground, "I'm not injured, it might be a piece of flesh from one of my opponents!"

A piece of flesh? Hearing this and seeing said piece of flesh lying on the ground, one girl couldn't stand it at once as she turned around and started to vomit. The rest of girls all looked worse for wear. They couldn't stomach looking at it any more.

Zhang Tie knew the reason that those big figures allowed these girls to join this action — they would probably face more cruel battles in the future, as they were more powerful than average women, they should at least witness and adapt to this bloody environment even though the clan didn't expect them to be the main fighting force on battlefields.

"Zhang Tie..." Liu Xu and Yang Yuankang both walked over with their weapons dripping with blood. Seeing the blood stains all over Zhang Tie's armor, they looked at Zhang Tie in a way which was a bit different than usual.

"Thank god, we're all right!" Zhang Tie smiled, "Don't look at me that way, I've told you that I became accustomed to life on the battlefield when I was in the Iron-Blood Camp of the Norman Empire before!"

"You were in the Iron-Blood Camp of Norman Empire? Are you interested in joining our Breaking-Sun Army after leaving Hidden Dragon Palace?" Saying that, the senior military officer who was explaining and assigning tasks for them on the airship was walking towards them with some elites of the regular troop of Hidden Dragon Palace; he fixed his eagle-like sharp, gleaming eyes onto Zhang Tie like discovering a gold ingot.

He was wearing a violet golden, flowing cloud armor which was usually worn by lieutenant generals in Jinyun Country. However, there was no military rank and badge of any troop. They only knew that this guy must be a high military officer in Zhang Clan; however, they didn't know which position he held.

"Sir!"

Seeing him walking towards them, those students, including Zhang Tie, hurriedly bowed towards him as a military etiquette.

"How about that?" continued the officer, with his eyes fixed on Zhang Tie.

Chapter 367: Zhang Tie's Ambition

Liu Xu and Yang Yuankang were admiring Zhang Tie so much as many elite students in Hidden Dragon Palace with high talents or fighting strength were selected by agencies or departments under the affiliation of the Zhang Clan when they were still in Hidden Dragon Palace.

This was not rarely seen in Hidden Dragon Palace, yet not everybody could enjoy such a good treatment. Most of the guys selected by agencies or departments under the affiliation of the Zhang Clan were elite students above LV 8 who were going to leave Hidden Dragon Palace. Few students were selected at LV 7 like Zhang Tie.

It was really out of his friends' imaginations that Zhang Tie would be selected by a senior military officer of Breaking-Sun Army on the battle in Bluestone Pass Fort.

Compared to Hurricane Army, which was mainly composed of slaves, Breaking-Sun Army was the real powerful armed force composed of excellent students and Zhang descendants of Huaiyuan Palace. It was many students' dream to be a military officer of Breaking-Sun Army.

Zhang Tie's heart pounded; however, he recovered composure at once, "Mr... may I know your position in Breaking-Sun Army?"

That senior military officer was not angered by Zhang Tie's hesitation and question; instead, he glanced at Zhang Tie with admiration before introducing himself. "I'm Yang Shaoguang, the major general of Division 306, an air assault troop of Breaking-Sun Army!" After glancing at Zhang Tie, he added, "If you want, I can appoint you as a regimental commander!"

Regimental commander? According to the military establishment of Jinyun Country, this position could lead at least 2000 soldiers. Its military rank was lieutenant colonel which was only two ranks lower than general.

Many students from Hidden Dragon Palace might not be able to be a military officer in the army even if they reached LV 9. Even though they were appointed as military officers, most of them could only start from major. Due to the specialty of its establishment and fighting tasks, the position of division commander, that could be said to be equal to a colonel in other places, was equivalent to a major general in the Breaking-Sun Army. Many people dreamed about being a lieutenant colonel in the air assault army; most didn't have a chance at all.

To be honest, if Zhang Tie was still like before, he might have accepted this position; however, Zhang Tie had just got out of the shackle of the system of Huaiyuan Palace, how could he go back to the past condition so easily and follow others' orders? He would not even accept being a division commander, let alone a regimental commander.

'The holy war between the human race and demons is coming, lackeys of demons such as the Zhen Clan have exposed themselves, indicating the coming chaotic world. I must rely on myself instead of others.

'But how can I improve my fighting strength? It comes from that small tree in Castle of Black Iron and my master whose nickname is Alchemist Lord and is known across Eastern Continent. If I have to follow others' orders at LV 9, I don't feel it is an interesting life! I don't dream of being a senior fighter! Regimental commander? As long as I have money, this father can buy thousands of slaves and also be a regimental commander!'

The above thoughts flashed across Zhang Tie's mind. After some consideration, Zhang Tie told Yang Shaoguang sincerely, "I appreciate that you like me; but I don't plan to join any troop temporarily. When I am qualified to leave Hidden Dragon Island after reaching LV 9, I will have a lot of things to deal with. My dream is to be an alchemist; LV 9 is just the minimal threshold in the world of alchemists. I will not easily give up on my dream!"

"You hope to become an alchemist?" Yang Shaoguang widened his eyes at once with a bit amazement and pity.

"Yes! I set this target before I entered Hidden Dragon Palace!" Zhang Tie nodded.

Hearing Zhang Tie's ambition, Zhang Tie's friends all stared at Zhang Tie with amazed looks. This was Zhang Tie's first time telling others about his lifelong goal. Of course, this target sounded like a poor brat in a mountain village dreaming to be a king. It was too distant and unrealistic.

Alchemists were the top professionals in the Black Iron Age and also the most terrifying. Many people didn't even have a chance to meet an alchemist in their whole lives.

If they had an alchemist backing them, this battle would have ended in a completely different way; as long as they dropped a destructive alchemical bomb from an airship, what left for them was only to clean the battle field!

After gazing at Zhang Tie for several seconds, Yang Shaoguang realized that Zhang Tie's determination was as firm as steel and iron.

"I also came from Hidden Dragon Palace. According to my knowledge, there are always some students who dream to be alchemist after leaving Hidden Dragon Palace each year. However, none of them have realized their dream in the past past. Young man, I hope you can realize your dream!"

Knowing Zhang Tie's choice, although feeling a bit pitiful, Yang Shaoguang didn't push the matter; instead, he encouraged Zhang Tie before leaving to guide his soldiers who were cleaning the battlefield. After walking two steps, he turned around, "You are Zhang Tie, right? If you change your mind, you can come to me at any time. Breaking-Sun Army will welcome you forever!"

Zhang Tie nodded.

"You just gave it up?" Yang Yuankang stared at Zhang Tie out of amazement, "Do you know what does it means to enter Breaking-Sun Army?"

Zhang Tie shrugged as he replied casually, "I have my own ambition. Compared to becoming a military officer or a general, don't you think that becoming an alchemist would be much cooler?"

"Alchemist is a d\*mn cool profession, however, the chances of becoming an alchemist are almost as likely winning the lottery. Many people do not realize this dream even in their whole lives. Some senior brothers in Hidden Dragon Palace also had such thoughts before; however, none of them succeed! I was told that it was very difficult to enter the threshold of this profession." Liu Xu also shook his head.

Zhang Tie touched his nose, "I will try my best. If I don't have such a talent, at least I will not regret not trying!"

"I believe you can. If you truly succeed one day, many people will rely on you!" Yang Yuankang burst out laughing.

...

After the battle, the morning sun had just risen up from the horizon in the far and driven away the last wisp of darkness over the land.

Now, people had already started to clean the battle field in Bluestone Pass Fort. Of course, Zhang Tie didn't need to worry about that. Looking at the smoking Heavens Cold City in the far, Zhang Tie became slightly worried about Lan Yunxi's safety, "How about Heavens Cold City now?"

"They might have finished as well! It's said that super powerhouses of Zhang Clan are assigned there. Additionally, our people have the advantages of numbers and fighting strength!" Liu Xu answered.

"But there are tens of thousands of people in Heavens Cold City. It's hard to suppress them with only a few powerhouses." Zhang Tie slightly frowned.

Having experience in an army, Zhang Tie knew very clearly that as long as a troop's morale was plucked up, a couple of super powerhouses could hardly suppress them. Although Huaiyuan Palace assigned over 4,000 clan soldiers there, Zhang Tie was still worried about them.

"Big figures should have considered such a big event. I wonder about their strategy in Heavens Cold City!" Yang Yuankang said.

'I hope they've made arrangements.' Zhang Tie comforted himself inside. Not being a big figure of the Zhang Clan, Zhang Tie could hardly find out all the details of this operation; however, Zhang Tie was still a bit worried.

This assault towards Bluestone Pass Fort was really successful, but was not challenging at all. However, when Zhang Tie thought about those killers and the LV 10 guys from the Zhen Clan whom he encountered in Dragon Cave, he knew that the Zhen Clan of Heavens Cold City would not be easily destroyed. What was more, this clan colluded with demons. They should have trump cards and preparations to counterattack.

...

At this moment, battle calls and black smokes spread throughout Heavens Cold City.

Above the two great battalions of City Guard Army in Heavens Cold City, some huge war airships locked the exit of the battalions and built a barrier with a fire wall around the battalions; meanwhile, they shot down batches of soldiers rushing out of the battalions with steam bolts in a terrifying fast speed from the airships.

Some of the air-defenses of the city had long been destroyed. A batch of elites of Huaiyuan Palace occupied the gates in the south and the west of Heavens Cold City. A great number of clan powerhouses and elites were charging towards the inner city of Heavens Cold City, where the Zhen Clan's nest was located.

...

"The Zhen Clan of Heavens Cold City colluded with demons. They are the remnants of the demons' Three-Eye Association. By the order of Count Changfeng of Jinyun Country, the Zhang Clan of Huaiyuan Palace are here to exterminate the Zhen Clan!

"Attention! All soldiers and citizens in Heavens Cold City that collude with Zhen Clan and fight us will be seen as enemies of the human race and will be killed. Except for members of the Zhen Clan, anyone who

puts down their weapons and doesn't resist will be seen as innocent and your lives and property will be preserved...

"All those stir up trouble at this time will be killed!"

...

A loud sound rolled over the city from an airship above the highest place of Heavens Cold City. Following which, more than one million soldiers and citizens in the city were shocked so much that their faces even turned pale...

#### Chapter 368: A Sudden Change at Dawn

Heavens Cold City suffered a sudden assault. As a result, all the common households had closed their doors tightly. Even stores had been closed. Some brave guys peaked outside through windows; however, at the sight of those war airships firing downwards, they all hid back while drawing in their breath.

At this moment, those who were still on the streets were all elites from Huaiyuan Palace or Zhen Clan of Heavens Cold City.

Fights could be seen everywhere in the city. However, the most ferocious place was in the inner city of Heavens Cold City where the nest of Zhen Clan was located in.

The inner city of Heavens Cold City covered 1 square km, which was like an imperial palace being surrounded by courtyard walls and prohibitions. It was guarded by the Zhen Clan's elite troops. Besides a portion of their forces that were arranged in Bluestone Pass Fort, most of the strength of the Black Armor Army was gathered here.

At the beginning of the assault, Huaiyuan Palace's war airships had destroyed the air-defense battery and the peripheral inner city walls.

Huaiyuan Palace assigned 4000 people to Heavens Cold City, including its elite troop and some elite students from Hidden Dragon Palace. They completed airborne landing in the shortest period. After that, they broke through two inner city walls in an overwhelming manner and drew close to the core of the inner city of the Zhen Clan.

The core of Zhen's inner city was the shrine of Zhen Clan, the residence of the central and branch figures of Zhen Clan and the center of authority from where the Zhen Clan ruled Heavens Cold City. This architectural complex occupied about 135000 square meters. After the elite students from Hidden Dragon Palace completed the assault in Bluestone Pass Fort, the elite troop of Huaiyuan Palace also rushed towards the nest of Zhen Clan.

...

Lan Yunxi who ranked first on Hidden Dragon Fighting Strength List really displayed her terrifying power as the "No. 1 Senior Sister" in Hidden Dragon Palace. In amaranth war armor, Lan Yunxi held a exotic long whip. As a result, no enemy could draw within 15 m of her.

Before Lan Yunxi broke through the last defensive line, a row of soldiers in black armor on the high wall aimed their crossbows towards Lan Yunxi who rushed ahead at the order of a military officer.

Seeing this, Lan Yunxi sharply slashed her long whip in the air like a flame, cutting 5 soldiers in black armor in half.

Facing the rain of bolts, Lan Yunxi contracted her long whip. She then swayed it in front of her and formed a defensive circle. Even a drop of water couldn't break in, let alone those bolts, which were finally shattered and dropped to the ground.

Lan Yunxi flashed forward like a lightning bolt and reached the foot of the wall in a split second. She slashed her long whip over the row of bowmen on the high wall like cutting wheat straws by sickle, leaving terrifying wounds on them. Finally, they all fell off the wall and died.

Even though Zhang Tie was here at that moment, at sight of Lan Yunxi's ferocious move, he also took a deep breath.

Lan Yunxi then flew onto the wall. Shortly after, the soldiers in black armor uttered miserable shrieks and fell off the wall. In a few seconds, the top of the wall which had a length of dozens meters had been cleared by Lan Yunxi...

On the other side, the elite troop of Huaiyuan Palace also faced a rain of bolts when they drew close to the same wall of the core area of the Zhen Clen.

Seeing the bolts rain, Zhang Wumu, who was holding a huge ax was driven furious. After waving his huge axe to chop off all the bolts, he put down his huge ax and undid his terrifying crossbow from his back.

"B\*stards, you dare to play archery in front of this grandpa..." Zhang Wumu shouted loudly like roaring tiger.

Soon after his roar, he had triggered his bolts with a speed equivalent to a strike of lightning. 4 bolts each time, he triggered 6 times in 1 second, namely 24 bolts. Almost nobody could clearly see how he moved. In a split second, before the 3 rows of bowmen triggered their 2nd bolt from dozens of meters away, they had been shot by shell-like bolts. With shrill shrieks, they covered the terrifying bloody holes on their bodies and were sent flying backwards in the air.

Zhang Wumu's bolts were so powerful that all those who stood in a line had been penetrated through by 1 bolt like a sugarcoated haws on a stick. As long as the bolt touched their bodies, it would make a bloody hole like the rim of a bowl.

In the blink of an eye, Zhang Wumu had collapsed the crossbow matrix on the high wall. In contrast, Yu Xiaotian in white had flashed onto the high wall not far from him...

In a twinkling, a sword light appeared on the high wall which looked like a bright crescent. Along with fresh air, the bright crescent just flew across the high wall, causing enemies fall down one after the other while covering their throats. Anyone, common soldiers or military officers, attacking or defending would be killed instantly by Yu Xiaotian's sword...

Seeing Yu Xiaotian jumping onto the high wall first, Zhang Wumu swore inside. After putting his powerful crossbow on his back, Zhang Wumu then lifted his huge ax and rushed towards a gate under the high wall. Being still not there yet, he had raised high his huge ax and threw his terrifying huge ax towards that gate after swirling it in the air, breaking the wind and causing a weird roar.

Despite being covered with copper nails, the thick gate with delicate adornments was shattered in a split second, causing miserable wails from behind. Zhang Wumu rushed through the gate first...

A large number of soldiers from Huaiyuan Palace followed him in...

In a split second, the last barrier of the core area of Zhen's inner city was broken through.

"Those who are not Zhen's clansmen can survive when you kneel down on the ground!" Someone shouted loudly.

...

A senior, some military officers and a batch of powerful fighters were observing the proceeding of the warfare below through that huge crystal optical imaging equipment at the bottom of the airship above the inner city of Heavens Cold City.

"These clan students who ranked high on Hidden Dragon Fighting Strength List are really superb. After being further guided, they could definitely lead an army in the future!" A senior military officer in the same amaranth flowing-cloud armor nodded as he watched the proceedings below.

"How many fighters above LV 10 in the Zhen clan?" The senior asked a military officer on his side as he watched the proceeding below.

"According to our intelligence and the testimony of some Zhen clan moles in Huaiyuan Prefecture, the Zhen Clan have about 12-15 fighters above LV 10. Zhen Quan, the former master of Zhen Clan might have become a knight!" That military officer replied seriously.

"Zhen Quan? I know him. When he was young, he was also an excellent figure in Jinyun Country. It's really out of my imagination that he is a member of Three-Year Association. Hopefully, he is a knight so that I could fight him." The senior waved his hand and let out a sigh. After that, he recovered composure, "Zhang Yi, you can go down now. If those fighters above LV 10 in the Zhen Clan are still hiding there, they would have no chance to come out anymore. Don't let those babies suffer any losses. They are the pillars of our clan in the future. It's already enough for them!"

"Yes, sir!" A tough man cringed. He then waved his hand and jumped off the airship followed by 10 more powerful fighters.

They just jumped off from hundreds meters high like meteors. When they were close to the land, they started to release their battle qis which swayed like dragons dancing in the air. After that, they struck against the land while in the air to buffer their descending speed before landed safely.

...

When they landed, they saw Zhang Wumu was beat forcefully and sent flying back in the air by a person who suddenly appeared in front of him; at the same time, all the figures ranking earlier on Hidden



Dragon Fighting Strength List including Lan Yunxi and Yu Xiaotian were held back by a powerhouse in black clothes and gloomy face respectively.

The moment these powerhouses appeared, those elite students from Hidden Dragon Palace were dwarfed.

Yu Xiaotian stabbed towards that person's chest with his longsword. However, that person didn't even care about it, instead, he directly rushed forward and slashed towards Yu Xiaotian.

Yu Xiaotian then abandoned his sword and flew backward. Whereas that person kept chasing after him although being stabbed by Yu Xiaotian's longsword. Amazingly, that person didn't bleed at all.

By comparison, that person who held back Lan Yunxi was more powerful. After 3 rounds of fight, that person had already forced Lan Yunxi 10 m away. After 2 more moves, he had already broken through the long whip's defense of Lan Yunxi; meanwhile, he stretched out his weird pitch-dark palm towards Lan Yunxi's breasts.

"Watch out, senior sister Xi. These guys are all powerful fighters and don't feel pain!" A student from Hidden Dragon Palace looking pretty awkward shouted loudly towards her from several meters away.

After slightly clashing against his punch, Lan Yunxi had flashed 10 m away along with his attacking force in a split second. Meanwhile, her long whip automatically returned and twisted around her waist like an intelligent animal. Lan Yunxi then undid her amaranth mimi crossbow from her back.

The crossbow was so small that it looked like a prop for kids. It was only as long as 22 cm. At sight of it, anyone else would doubt about its destructive power.

Lan Yunxi then pulled open her bow and aimed at that person as fast as a lightning bolt...

That man then rushed towards Lan Yunxi. In a wink, he had been 3 m away from her when she had just pulled out her bow.

The moment he found that he was aimed, his face had changed. He then started to retreat in a strange way by flashing left and right so as to evade from Lan Yunxi's attack. In a twinkling, he had been more than 40 meters away.

At this moment, Lan Yunxi triggered her mini crossbow...

Almost when Lan Yunxi triggered her mini bow, that person had already uttered a miserable shriek. All of a sudden, he had become a ball of flame and been burned into ashes in a second.

This shocked everybody else. However, Lan Yunxi didn't stop, instead, she pulled open her mini bow again and shot out for the second time...

That man in black clothes chasing after Yu Xiaotian also turned into a humanoid torch and became ashes in a second. Yu Xiaotian turned around and glanced at Lan Yunxi. He found Lan Yunxi looked pale as she was shooting out her third bolt. As a result, that man in black clothes chasing after Zhang Wumu turned into the third torch and became a pile of ashes in a second.

"Nice shot!" Zhang Yi sighed with feeling as he and the other powerhouses from Huaiyuan Palace blocked all the powerhouses above LV 10 of the Zhen Clan and took the advantage at once.

After shooting out three bolts, Lan Yunxi's face had turned pretty pale as she swaggered all over. Not only Yu Xiaotian and Zhang Wumu who hurriedly rushed towards her, all those famous figures on the Hidden Dragon Fighting Strength List were trying to protect her.

The moment Yu Xiaotian supported her using his hand, Lan Yunxi glanced at him without any feeling. He then moved his hand back as he sighed inside.

"Senior sister Xi, are you okay?" One person asked.

Lan Yunxi took a deep breath as she tried to stand still and waved her head, "I'm okay..."

At this moment, all the students from Hidden Dragon Palace were looking at Lan Yunxi with admiring and awful expressions. The real fighting strength that Lan Yunxi displayed just now made everybody else give up their ambition to rank top on Hidden Dragon Fighting Strength List.

Zhang Wumu just fixed his eyes on Lan Yunxi with mixed feelings inside. 'Is this the power of the "Breaking-Sun" bolt, the most powerful ancestral bloodline in the Zhang Clan? Although my "Penetrating Through Cloud" bolt is also one of the most excellent ancestral bloodlines in archery, it is much weaker than the "Breaking-Sun" bolt...Why, why such a top ancestral blood line favors a woman, instead of me?'

In front of the others, Lan Yunxi took out of that vial of all-purpose medicament marked with "Manjusaka" and bottomed it up.

After drinking it, she only took a short rest, then, her face looked a bit better. Everybody realized that the three bolts had consumed her a lot of physical strength. Although she had recovered, her fighting strength had declined. Therefore, some elite students from Hidden Dragon Palace stayed beside her voluntarily as her guards.

Holding that vial of medicament, Lan Yunxi gradually recovered her vitality. When she thought of Zhang Tie, she felt especially warm inside.

...

As the last powerhouse above LV 10 in the Zhen Clan was killed, this battle in the core area of the inner city of Heavens Cold City had been settled. As a result, the inner city of Heavens Cold City was surrounded by the elites and powerhouses of Huaiyuan Palace, leaving the remnants of the Zhen Clan inside around the shrine of the Zhen Clan.

The inside the Zhen Shrine was filled with a terrifying atmosphere. Therefore, nobody dared to launch an attack. Instead, they all stopped 50 m away from the shrine.

...

"Forefather, if you don't counterattack, the Zhen Clan will be eliminated today!" A Middle-aged man was forcefully kowtowing and shouting exhaustively outside the gate of the Zhen Shrine while the other remnants were crying surround the round stages outside the shrine.

"Even if I counterattack, the Zhen Clan will still be eliminated today!"

Along with this powerful, aging voice, the shrine's gate was opened from inside. An old man with silver hair walked out of there. After glancing over his descendants kneeling down outside, he raised his head and watched the airship above the inner city. "I wonder which senior of Huaiyuan Palace comes, can we have a talk?"

"After departing from each other in Xiajing City 4 decades ago, I've not imagined that I could meet you again, brother Zhen. Alas, what a pity!"

A voice sounded around the Zhen Shrine from the airship above. It was so normal that everybody could hear it clearly like he was beside each other them.

Along with this voice, a person walked out of the airship in the air and walked downstairs one step by another like there were truly stairs.

All the members of Huaiyuan Palace had their spirits raised as they watched the clan senior walking downstairs from the airship. By contrast, all the remnants of the Zhen Clan turned pale, some of which even quiver all over.

Although they dared to face Huaiyuan Palace, when they faced the powerful oppression of the senior of Huaiyuan Palace, all the people in Zhen Clan were scared.

"It's brother Muen!" At sight of that senior of Huaiyuan Palace, Zhen Quan also sighed, "The 100-year undertaking of the Zhen Clan in Heavens Cold City will be destroyed today. What a pity!"

"If you've long known about this? Why did you do that?" Zhang Muen watched Zhenquan and said calmly.

"Losers are always in the wrong! As the third Holy War between humans and demons is coming, everything became chaotic. Of course, we want to have a try. Pitifully, the Zhen Clan is unlucky and lost the battle! Huaiyuan Palace has four knights, why can't the Zhen Clan have 9 knights in the future!" Zhen Quan revealed a smile even at this moment.

"As you are just lackeys of demons. It's meaningless for the Zhen Clan to have 9 knights!"

"I don't agree with you, brother Muen. Before the Catastrophe, humans were ruled by demons. In that age, many people knew the existence of demons, even many Chinese were cooperating with demons and became the agents of demons and ruled the Chinese for countless treasures and great honors. It's nothing bad even if we live like that before the Catastrophe! To be honest, no matter how this world changes, there would always be poor and rich, masters and slaves, rulers and servants. All the rules remain unchanged."

"The Chinese still exist now and are very honorable. Some noble Chinese clans have lasted for over 1000 years and become the leaders of human race. What about those Chinese traitors who cooperate with demons? Where are their clan now?" Zhang Muen asked.

After being silent for a while, Zhen Quan said, "After death, I will not care about others!"

"That's why the Zhen Clan has to die today!"

"There are still tens of thousands soldiers in Heavens Cold City. I can gift them to Huaiyuan Palace together with Heavens Cold City for the lives of these remnants. I guarantee, after we Zhen Clan leave Heavens Cold City, we will definitely change our names in a remote area and live in seclusion forever!"

Zhang Muen shook his head. "If you commit a suicide now, I promise that I will keep your bodies complete and bury you all. As the Zhen Clan colluded with demons and went against Huaiyuan Palace, you should have long been eliminated! If I wanted to forgive you, Huaiyuan Palace wouldn't. If Huaiyuan Palace wanted to forgive you, the gold wouldn't..."

"The Zhen Clan has tens of thousands soldiers in Heavens Cold City, we could still fight you. Do you think you can easily destroy the troop of tens of thousands soldiers with these people, even if they are all powerhouses?"

Zhang Muen revealed a smile, "We've already occupied Overcloud Pass and Bluestone Pass. Two city gates of Heavens Cold City are also in my hand. I'm afraid that the 40,000 elite cavalries of Taishi Clan in Langye Prefecture might have passed Overcloud Pass and entered Heavens Cold City at this moment. Zhen Clan's troop in Heavens City could be solved sooner or later. I was told that brother Zhen Quan had been promoted to be a knight. I wonder if you have enlightened the 3-in-1 power. If brother Zhen Quan wants a fight, I want to face him!"

"It turns out that Huaiyuan Palace has already occupied Heavens Cold City and cooperated with the Taishi Clan. What a good plan! What a good strategy!" Zhen Quan let out a deep sigh as he looked in the sky.

"Thanks, whether you want to commit a suicide or have the last fight, brother Zhen Quan?"

"I've already known your real fighting strength, brother Muen. Even if I want to fight to death, I still have no chance to win. I have the last question. How does Huaiyuan Palace find our arrangement in Huaiyuan Prefecture? If I don't find out, I will be regretful even after death!"

Hearing this question, the senior of Huaiyuan Palace became a bit hesitant. 'If not for that that "Dark Law Executer", I'm afraid that Huaiyuan Palace would still be in the dark. However, who on earth is the "Dark Law Executer"? Is he one person or a group of people? Huaiyuan Palace is still confused about this even now. What Huaiyuan Palace only confirms about the Dark Law Executer is that this man or one of these people have formed Iron-Blood Battle Qi.'

Huaiyuan Palace was still looking for the "Dark Law Executer".

Of course, as a senior of Huaiyuan Palace, he would not tell Zhen Quan about this fact. Therefore, Zhang Muen became silent.

Seeing this, Zhen Quan thought of another reason.

"I know, but Heavens Cold City belongs to the Zhen Clan. It's built by the Zhen Clan after generations. Nobody can take it away. Even though the Zhen Clan is going to die today, Heavens Cold City should be buried together with us. How come it be taken away by others!" Saying this, Zhen Quan revealed a wisp of a grim and crazy smile.

Hearing this, Zhang Muen became vigilant as his face slightly turned, "What do you mean?"

Looking gradually made, Zhen Quan took out of a twisting pitch-dark silkworm from his sleeve. Being as wide as a kid's arm, it was dozens times bigger than common silkworms

The moment he took it out of his sleeve, that silkworm had started to twist, uttering a very harsh sound. It was as sharp as drawing a piece of glass on the wall, causing people to be irritated instantly.

The moment the senior caught sight of that twisting and screaming worm, Zhang Muen's face had completely changed. Being driven furious at once, he roared, "All the members from Huaiyuan Palace withdraw from Heavens Cold City right now!"

"Let the Heavens Cold City of the Zhen Clan be the gift to welcome the demons' army into Waii Sub-Continent! Hahaha..." With crazy laughs, he broke the worm by hand.

The moment the worm was broken, all the remnants of Zhen Clan popped out their eyes as they started to roll on the ground, uttering miserable shrieks. At the same time, numerous miserable shrieks could be heard everywhere across Heavens Cold City, making it a hell-like execution platform.

With a growl, Zhang Muen rushed towards Zhen Quan. With just a punch which radiating red light, Zhen Shrine and those remnants of the Zhen Clan who were rolling over the ground miserably had been broken in pieces.

Zhen Quan jumped up and evaded Zhang Muen's terrifying smack. At the same time, he pulled out his longsword and started a fight with Zhang Muen...

...

After Zhang Muen delivered the order, none of the elite powerhouses of Huaiyuan Palace in the inner city of Heavens Cold City asked why. Instead, they directly left the inner city of Heavens Cold City as soon as possible. Nobody dared to delay.

Followed by the other elite students from Hidden Dragon Palace, Lan Yunxi also left there rapidly. Few people knew what that worm was, but everybody knew that the senior of Zhang Clan would never deliver such an order if not facing an extreme situation.

Soon after the powerhouses of Huaiyuan Palace left that core area, the powerful qi had spread from the location of the Zhen Shrine to all directions, causing an earthquake. As a result, the houses and all buildings behind them started to collapse consecutively. All those with a slower response had been injured.

The fight between two knights was really destructive. When they rushed out of the inner city of Heavens Cold City, the complete core area of inner city had been totally ruined, closely followed by constantly booming sounds.

...

Zhang Tie, who was in Bluestone Pass Fort had also noticed the abnormal situation in Heavens Cold City. Even though it was dozens of miles away, Zhang Tie could still see the two battle qis rising into the sky like two columns of light reaching towards the sky...

Chapter 369: The Event in Heavens Cold City

For years to come, people would still consider what the Zhen Clan in Heavens Cold City, Jinyun Country of Waii Sub-Continent did on July 7th, 890 of Black Iron Calendar as the symbolic event of the arrival of the Third Holy War between humans and demons by many people.

The arrival of the previous 2 holy wars between humans and demons were both symbolized by human cities being destroyed or occupied by demons. However, the event in Heavens Cold City was not launched by the demons themselves, but Heavens Cold City still collapsed. Although it was demons' lackeys and remnants of Three-Eye Association, this event still started the Third Holy War.

According to the public information, before the event in Heavens Cold City, there were in total, a population of over 1.3 million in Heavens Cold City. After that event, although with the efforts and rescue from all parties, less than 30,000 people survived. From then on, Heavens Cold City had deteriorated into a ghost city.

The event in Heavens Cold City was a tragedy of the human race. If you wanted to find something positive from this tragedy of 1 million casualties, you might find that those who were still puzzled about holy war became clear-minded at once after that.

This event was like thunder on a sunny day as it woke up many people who were still not well prepared for the coming holy war. After the information that was only known by a minority of people was released to the public, most of average people had more time to prepare for the coming drastic change.

It wasn't only commoners who were stunned. Even those who had prepared for the coming holy war had been shocked by this event. especially for the later. After knowing the details of the event in Heavens Cold City, everybody knew that the Third Holy War would be unprecedented.

The reason that big figures made this judgment was that worm in Zhen Clan which caused the event in Heavens Cold City.

The worm being broken was not common. It was the terrifying living being of the demons——puppet worm.

This kind of worm appeared late into the Second Holy War. Because of its appearance, the Second Holy War lasted another 15 years. Billions of people died directly or indirectly because of this kind of worm. Some human historians even asserted that if puppet worm appeared five decades earlier or if the demons realized mass-production of puppet worms, the human race might have disappeared today.

Puppet worms didn't have powerful fighting strength or lethality but they were terrifying due to the following 2 reasons.

First, a mature puppet worm was like a terrifying queen ant or queen bee as it could lay hundreds of thousands of eggs a day. Their eggs were very small as they were only several times larger than common colibacillosis, namely 15-30 microns. People couldn't see them with the naked eye. We could only see them through a microscope.

Additionally, eggs of puppet worms had super terrifying survival capability and environmental adaptability like some powerful bacteria——Under -50 °C, their eggs could survive for half a year; under

120°C, their eggs could survive longer than 48 hours. Most common pesticides and sterilization drugs were ineffective against their eggs.

Once the egg entered the human body, it could reach people's brain through blood circulation. After that, it started to grow and incubate in people's brain. When it matured in people's brain, its host would die. As a result, the host's body would become a walking dead under the control of that parent puppet worm. The host would then have no self-awareness, sense of pain or feelings, and liked to kill and swallow the blood and flesh of all the living beings, even more ferocious than wild beasts.

Even wild beasts had spirituality. The one acting as the host of eggs of a puppet worm was not even a man at all. It was only a zombie with people's skin, blood and flesh.

Towards the end of the Second Holy War, demons had built tens of millions of puppet armies in only a few years through a few puppet worms which brought a huge catastrophe to the whole human world.

It could be said that each puppet worm cultivated by demons had killed many people.

For the human race, the puppet worm was an almost unrivaled living being. After paying a great price for that, people started to know the properties of this terrifying living being.

Eggs of puppet worm were very powerful, they were hardly discovered and eliminated. However, they had a weakness—all the eggs relied on the existence of the parent puppet worm very much. Since their birth, each puppet worm had established a mysterious, permanent contact with the parent puppet worm.

Although puppet worms could survive many harsh conditions, even after incubation, as long as they left the parent puppet worm about 200 km or longer, they would die without exception. All the eggs relied on the parent puppet worm.

Although the parent puppet worm could control numerous brains hosted by its eggs, it could not protect itself as it was very weak and needed other puppet worms' protection, without which, even a dog could kill it by eating it, let alone a person.

Furthermore, it took eggs 4 years to turn a host into a zombie. During this period, if the parent puppet worm suddenly died, all the eggs would complete incubation in an extremely short period. Eggs that complete incubation in this way would be out of the control of the parent puppet worm. Instead, they started to attack and destroy any living beings, including those who were hosted by eggs from a different parent puppet worm.

This destructive attack was like revenge for the death of the parent puppet worm. They were driven mad and became irresistible within the effective distance from the place where the parent puppet worm died.

Although Zhang Quan just broke a parent puppet worm, actually, he killed all the people who were being hosted by the eggs of that parent puppet worm.

According to the survey and analysis of this event, when the Zhen Clan ruled Heavens Cold City, the Zhen Clan threw the eggs of the parent puppet worm into the running water supply system in Heavens Cold City, letting them easily enter mouths of about 1 million people, including soldiers and common citizens and find their own hosts. Knowing such a grim means they used, everybody was shocked.

What made someone more frightened and surprised was not puppet worms themselves, but the fact that puppet worm was in the Zhen Clan's hand.

A puppet worm was not a cheap cabbage as it was extremely precious for the demons. In the Second Holy War, only very few demon armies were provided with one puppet worm, which could only be managed by the colonel of the army. However, the Zhen Clan had one. What did this mean?

The Zhen Clan was a member of Three-Eye Association, the remnants of demons while Three-Eye Association was the peripheral force of demons among the human race. However, the extremely precious puppet worm appeared in the hand of the peripheral force of demons. What about demons themselves? How many puppet worms did they truly have? Whether demons had cultivated more powerful puppet worms? How many remnants of Three-Eye Association like the Zhen Clan were hiding across the Waii Sub-Continent?

These were the most important questions.

For smart guys who knew the details of this event, now that demons' lackeys had started to throw the eggs of a parent puppet worm in Heavens Cold City, the Third Holy War would break out in less than 4 years based on the time that eggs of parent puppet worms need to incubate.

Actually, it should be faster as people didn't know how long ago the Zhen Clan threw the eggs of the parent puppet worm into Heavens Cold City. If the Zhen Clan had just thrown them into the water supply system of Heavens Cold City yesterday, the Third Holy War would break out in 4 years. But if they had thrown them inside 1 year or 2 years ago, less time was left.

If not the arrival of Third Holy War, the Zhen Clan would never dare to change so many people into zombies controlled by a parent puppet worm. If they dared to do that, the Zhen Clan would become the public enemy of the human race and be eliminated at once.

Only at the beginning of the holy war or after it started did Zhen Clan dare to do such a merciless thing in Heavens Cold City with demons as its reliance.

Therefore, when those eggs in Heavens Cold City would complete their incubation if their parent puppet worm was not killed was very important.

Certainly, as the participant and witness of the event in Heavens Cold City, Zhang Tie gradually knew about the above information. However, after receiving the first order, all the clan fighters and elites of Huaiyuan Palace in Bluestone Pass Fort felt strange.

The order was delivered from the airship——all the elites of Huaiyuan Palace in Bluestone Pass Fort should chop off all the heads of the Zhen clan's soldiers as fast as possible. What a bloody yet puzzling order!

When they executed this order, many people were confused, including Zhang Tie. But when the greater part of the corpses' heads were chopped off and the rest corpses whose heads had not been chopped off started to stand up by twisting their bodies, all the girls present were scared and started to cry...

Chapter 370: Demon-Killing Javelin Lord



In the following days, Zhang Tie felt like he was entering a dark, disgusting nightmare realm. What torture!

After July 7th, the elites of the Zhang Clan from Huaiyuan Prefecture and the Unrivaled Cavalries of the Taishi Clan from Langye Prefecture withdrew 15 km away from Heavens Cold City and surrounded Heavens Cold City firmly. Any demonized people running out of Heavens Cold City would be struck down by the troops.

Those demonized people included males, females, the young and the old. Most of them were commoners before the event, therefore, their fighting strength was limited. Even though some of them had fighting skills, they couldn't match the troops of the Zhang Clan and the Taishi Clan at all.

Before killing these demonized people, Zhang Tie was struggling inside. The first wave of demonized people came rushing towards him from inside Heavens Cold City and were wearing commoners' clothes.

However, these people's eyes...They looked pretty grim while uttering a strange and meaningless sound. With various weapons in hands such as wooden sticks and kitchen knives, more than 400 demonized people rushed out of Heavens Cold City.

"These residents in Heavens Cold City had been killed by demons and the Zhen Clan. They weren't human anymore. They are just demonized creatures and zombies. They had been controlled by puppet worms in their heads!"

A military officer of Huaiyuan Palace shouted hoarsely. After that, he shot out one bolt and broke the head of a demonized zombie rushing out of Heavens Cold City.

When that demonized zombie's head was broken, his brains sprayed in all directions. Zhang Tie then found a disgusting half-palm sized, pink, smooth demon which looked like an octopus with many tentacles.

When it dropped onto the ground, it started to creep like an octopus going ashore.

Seeing this, Zhang Tie grit his teeth out of fury and started his massacre from then on.

For girls from Hidden Dragon Palace, more than 90% of them could only persist for several hours. They then withdrew from this place, leaving male students here.

For most of them, they would not hesitate at all no matter how cruel the fight was and how ferocious the enemy were. However, facing those commoner's bodies which had been controlled by puppet worms, many of them could hardly accept it.

Zhang Tie didn't know how had he carried on these days. When he chopped off the head of a 7-year old girl, Zhang Tie seemed to hear something break in his heart.

From then on, Zhang Tie became as firm as iron inside and totally turned himself into a machine that reaped the lives of demonized zombies.

On July 8th, some columns of black smoke rose into the sky outside Heavens Cold City. They were collecting the corpses of the demonized zombies and burning them. From then on, the black smoke columns didn't disappear for a long time.

On July 9th, the airships and clan members of the Lan Clan, Ou Clan, Dantai(澹台, a Chinese surname), Wang Clan and Li Clan arrived at Heavens Cold City consecutively. They were 5 of the 6 clans that ruled Jinyun Country.

After they arrived at Heavens Cold City, they encamped 15 km away from Heavens Cold City and joined the clean-up of the zombies running out of Heavens Cold City.

On July 10th, more airships arrived at Heavens Cold City. By then, the sky nearby Heavens Cold City was covered with airships of various countries and powers on the continent. They were here to get first-hand information about the event in Heavens Cold City.

On the same day, although big figures didn't want to release the news of the coming Holy War, the event in Heavens Cold City finally spread out and shocked the whole Eastern Continent.

On July 11th, after knowing about the event in Heavens Cold City, more and more people arrived at Heavens Cold City, including representatives from small clans, wandering warriors, journalists from some famous media outlets, tipsters and those who wanted to make money here.

For some, Heavens Cold City was a dangerous dead city. However, the wealth in this city still existed. All the wealth in Zhen Clan or those powerful households were still in Heavens Cold City. As long as one was fearless enough, he could go in there and find them.

Although many people came here for wealth, nobody was brave enough to go inside. At this moment, there were at least 1 million zombies in Heavens Cold City. Meanwhile, tens of thousands elites from 6 influential clans of Jinyun Country and 40,000 unrivaled cavalries were surrounding the city firmly. Nobody was courageous enough to enter.

At this time, Heavens Cold City was like an alluring prey. Before those ferocious lions ate their fill and left, no wolfhounds dared to draw close. Instead, they could only wander around the prey. Those left by lions might be a grand feast for the wolfhounds.

...

On July 13th...

On the 6th morning since he came to Heavens Cold City, Zhang Tie woke up after a nice sleep last night. He had not slept for consecutive 3 days. After pulling open his sleeping bag, Zhang Tie walked out of the tent.

As Zhang Tie slept in clothes last night, he got up directly.

As the sun had just come out, the moment he walked out of the tent, Zhang Tie could see the columns of black smoke in the distance. Although he was far away from, as he was on a plain, Zhang Tie could still smell the slightly scorched odor from those burning corpses in the breeze.

After cleaning up at the riverside, Zhang Tie then started to gnaw his compressed high-heat dried meat and drank water. His mind then gradually recovered from the numbness due to the 3-day endless massacre.

All the provisions for elites and soldiers of Huaiyuan Palace were transported from Huaiyuan Prefecture by Huaiyuan Palace's airships, because all the food close to Heavens Cold City made people scared.

Although based on the experience in the Second Holy War, after the death of the parent puppet worm, except for the eggs that had been incubated in a host's brain, all the other eggs that had no hosts would die. However, after hundreds of years, nobody could guarantee this remained unchanged just like nobody could have imagined that the Zhen Clan had a parent puppet worm one week ago.

The refugee camp of Heavens Cold City was at the riverside, which occupied hundreds of thousands square meters. Now, the riverside had been covered with new tents.

From July 7th to now, there were still live people escaping the city. The number of live people escaping Heavens Cold City together with the troops of the Zhang Clan and the Taishi Clan was the most. In the following days, although they were still trying their best to rescue the living and had assigned small batches of elite troops inside the city to search for people as well as cleaned out the demonized zombies near the city gates several times, the number of living being rescued decreased gradually.

Yesterday, Zhang Tie fought throughout the day near the north gate and killed those demonized near the north gate of Heavens Cold City. However, he only saved 5 live people. Gradually, it became increasingly hopeless for people to survive inside.

...

Those in the refugee camp looked numb and dull. Although it was morning, the refugee camp reminded you of the dawn. There was no joy in the refugee camp. It was filled with low sobs and nightmare like screams. Although they had escaped from Heavens Cold City, they had not recovered. Even while they slept, they would still always wake up with a start due to small sounds.

"Argh, stay away from me, stay away from me, don't eat me..."

The door of a tent in front was suddenly opened while the dishevelled man ran out of it. He directly rushed towards Zhang Tie madly followed by some people, "Stop him, he got sick again!"

When he ran in front of Zhang Tie, Zhang Tie stretched out his hand and lifted him up like he was grabbing a chicken. After that, he lightly patted the back of that man's neck, causing him pass out.

Those people chasing after that man were in doctors' working uniform. They were assigned from Huaiyuan Prefecture and Langye Prefecture to cure people in the refugee camp.

At the sight of Zhang Tie, those doctors became a bit scared as Zhang Tie was in a field combat suit covered with an invisible iron-blood killing qi after several days of killing.

After these days of killing, Zhang Tie didn't remember how many demonized people he had killed, at least 2000. Like those soldiers who had experienced fights many times, Zhang Tie's killing qi due to committing massacres was also an invisible threat to others.

"Argh, thanks, thanks!" Those doctors hurriedly appreciated Zhang Tie.

"It was a pleasure!" Zhang Tie replied calmly.

Realizing that Zhang Tie was easy-going, those doctors let out a deep sigh. Two male doctors directly took the man from Zhang Tie's hands. An elder doctor rapidly checked whether that man was still live. At that moment, even if Zhang Tie killed him, nobody would blame Zhang Tie.

After checking that man's situation, the doctor found that he just passed out. He then became reassured as he ordered the other two younger doctors. "This man has been stimulated too much spiritually, feed him more vermilion soul-easing powders today. Carry him back into the tent first!"

"Yes, sir!" The other two younger doctors then carried the man back into the tent.

"Alas, what a pitiful man..." The elder doctor sighed deeply as he followed them back into the tent.

Similar things happened numerous times in the refugee camp these days. Although many people had escaped Heavens Cold City, they were stimulated severely spiritually and were driven mad. Furthermore, some people who could not accept the fact that all of their relatives had died chose to commit suicide. One or two refugees would commit suicide in the refugee camp everyday.

Walking in the refugee camp and glancing over those refugees who looked numb and rueful, Zhang Tie was filled with mixed feelings inside.

These days, as long as he was free, Zhang Tie would come to have a look in the refugee camp. After glancing over those numb and resentful faces, he then walked towards the battlefield and killed every demonized person he saw.

Even Zhang Tie didn't know how could he become like this. Perhaps, he did this for a bit of comfort and to search for something meaningful.

Zhang Tie gave all the warm dried beef and rations that he received today to some kids who were gazing at him and desiring his food with fearful looks.

At this time, most of female students from Hidden Dragon Palace were doing various jobs in the refugee camp so as to normally run the refugee camp.

Zhang Tie caught sight of Yuan Ziyi. She was very lively in Hidden Dragon Island, however she now looked a bit haggard and sad due to the affairs in the refugee camp these days. She was delivering dried rations and disinfectant to those people in the refugee camp. A lot of people were lining up in front of her for the items looking like they had lost their souls.

"Only so little today? We've got some dried meat yesterday, where's it today? How could this make us full?" One guy shouted loudly with the dried rations in hand, arising the others' attention at once.

"Latest materials are still under collection in Langye Prefecture. They are on the way now. The road near Overcloud Pass is not convenient for the transport vehicles to pass. These items were transported by airships, therefore, they are limited in quantity!" Yuan Ziyi explained patiently. Having experienced so much these days, this fiery girl also became patient.

"I don't care, I want two packs!" Saying that, he directly took one more item away in front of Yuan Ziyi.

"One pack for one person!" Yuan Ziyi grabbed that man's hand and continued to explain patiently.

"If not for you, how could Heavens Cold City become like this? Heavens Cold City was good before; however, after your arrival, it was ruined; therefore, you need to be responsible for what happened in Heavens Cold City!"

Given that Yuan Ziyi was a young girl, that man became rude instantly as he pointed at Yuan Ziyi's nose and swore. "Little girl, I tell you, this father had numerous wealth in Heavens Cold City. I dressed and ate well every day. If not for you, how could I lose everything? Do you think that you could drive me away with such little things? No way! You should compensate every copper coin that I lost in Heavens Cold City! This father has determined to take two packs today. You owe me! Let go, if not, I will teach you how to do..."

Yuan Ziyi was so angry that she quivered all over. Working so hard in refugee camp everyday, she was still sworn in this way, Yuan Ziyi had never suffered this since she was born. Therefore, tears started to fill her eyes.

With a cold look, Zhang Tie then walked over there. He patted the man's shoulder first. When that guy looked around, Zhang Tie slapped his face directly, causing some of his teeth to go flying out at once along with a clear sound "Pah".

"Argh, help, they're killing me..." That man shouted loudly.

Zhang Tie then smacked him with the back of his hand, causing another tooth to come flying out. The man wanted to continue to scream, however, at sight of Zhang Tie's distant look and killing qi all over, he forcefully swallowed his words back.

Zhang Tie then stared at his hand. Seeing this, that man hurriedly put down the other pack. However, seeing Zhang Tie's eyes were still fixed on his hand, the man hurriedly put down his own pack.

"Senior sister, keep working, no need to shed tears for such a person. There are so many bastards like him in this world. No everybody in the refugee camp is pitiful. I heard this man wanted us to compensate his wealth to him, I will send him back to Heavens Cold City and return his wealth back to him right now!" After saying this, Zhang Tie smiled at Yuan Ziyi before directly holding the man's neck and dragged him out of the refugee camp like dragging a dog. The surrounding people gave way to Zhang Tie automatically.

The refugee camp was next to the station and defense line of the troops that surrounded Heavens Cold City. Zhang Tie dragged the man and walked towards Heavens Cold City after passing by the defense line easily. With his neck being held, the man could do nothing but pant. Seeing Zhang Tie dragging a person, nobody asked him what for, no matter the Zhang's troop or Taishi's unrivaled cavalries. Neither did they glance at that guy at all. After these days, Zhang Tie's performance in Heavens Cold City had won many people's respect.

Even though they didn't know Zhang Tie's name, many of them had remembered Zhang Tie's face and knew that the master of this face had killed and saved the most people in Heavens Cold City these days.

On the battlefield, those who were powerful and liked to save others at the risk of their own lives would certainly gain the respect from their comrades in arms. Since Zhang Tie's javelin throwing skill was too attractive and shocking, he became unique among all the Zhang Clan's powerhouses who excelled at using crossbows. Therefore, Zhang Tie, as a young powerhouse in Hidden Dragon Palace was pretty well-known among the Taishi Clan's unrivaled cavalries. He started to be considered on the same level as Zhang Wumu and became the most powerful man next to Lan Yunxi.

Like that of the Zhen Clan in Heavens Cold City, the Taishi Clan in Langye Prefecture also had tens of thousands soldiers and was a local power. Of course, young elites like Zhang Tie who would probably become an influential figure in Zhang Clan were more important in the Taishi Clan's eyes. Although the Zhang Clan only had 8 cities, the comprehensive strength of Yiyang City alone was at least more powerful than the sum of 10 common cities. Therefore, a clan's power could not be simply judged by the number of cities it owned.

The comprehensive strength of a clan with 4 knights was at least 100 times greater than that of a local power which only occupied a remote city. Therefore, only after a few days, not only common soldiers, even the greater part of military officers in the unrivaled cavalries of Taishi Clan had been able to recognize Zhang Tie.

After passing by the defense line of the Zhang Clan and Taishi Clan, although being still 10 more km away from Heavens Cold City on the plain in the daytime, they could still see a couple demonized people wandering in the wild. The closer they were to Heavens Cold City, the more demonized people they would see.

Seeing those demonized people in the distance, the man's face turned completely pale.

Right then, a team of 100 unrivaled cavalries of Taishi Clan rushed out of their station. It seemed that they were going to complete their daily task—cleaning the wandering demonized people in the wild. When they passed by Zhang Tie, the head glanced at Zhang Tie. With a voice "Yi?", he raised his head while all the other unrivaled cavalries stopped several meters away from Zhang Tie, indicating their excellent riding skills and fighting strength.

Zhang Tie looked at them. Although being several meters away from him, the warhorses in armor which were pacing in their places seemed being startled by something. With a low neigh in unison, they moved several steps back at the same time, almost causing the cavalries to fall down. The military officer was stunned inside, 'What a heavy killing qi! Even the warhorses are scared. How many demonized people has he killed to form such a heavy killing qi.'

"Zhang Tie..." That military officer directly called his name. He then peered at that person in Zhang Tie's hand and pointed at him, "Who's he..."

Zhang Tie then revealed a smile, 'This military officer looks familiar. I have seen him several days ago. We even fought together and killed many demonized people.'

"This guy wants us to compensate him for his numerous wealth in Heavens Cold City. He even said that we arouse the event in Heavens Cold City and blamed us. I'm taking him into Heavens Cold City and gathering his numerous wealth for him. Now that elder brothers are going to execute your task there, as you are riding horses, you would be faster. Just take him into Heavens Cold City for me and show him whether his numerous wealth was still there or not. By the way, take him to have a look at the running water supply system for our innocence!" Zhang Tie smiled.

Hearing these words, a gleaming light flashed by his eyes as he also smiled, "We should do that!"

"Sorry to trouble you, elder brothers!" Saying this, Zhang Tie casually threw that person of more than 100 kg towards that military officer.

After taking over the man, the military officer directly smacked that person and let him pass out. He then put that guy onto his war horse and laughed out loudly, "Brother Zhang Tie is really straightforward. As you've called me elder brother, just tell me if you need my help from then on; I will never hesitate!" After saying this, that military officer shouted towards the other cavalries behind him, "Brothers, this man called us elder brothers is the most excellent young powerhouse in Huaiyuan Palace, the very demon-killing javelin lord we have mentioned and heard these days. As he called us elder brothers, dare you pull out of your sabers for him?"

"We do!"

"We do!"

"We Do!"

All the cavalries pulled out of their sabers and raised them above heads.

Feeling this guy was not average, Zhang Tie stared at this 30-odd military officer deeply and clenched one hand into the other in front of his chest before asked solemnly, "What should I call you, elder brother?"

"I'm Taishi Ci!" That man replied in a righteous way.

"I will invite elder brother Taishi and the other elder brothers for a drink tonight, how about that?"

"Fine!" Taishi Ci also pulled out of his saber and waved above his head, "Brothers, go forward and kill our enemies now, after coming back at night, we will drink with brother Zhang, hahaha, jia[1]..."

100 cavalries then waved their sabers and passed by Zhang Tie. They then rushed towards Heavens Cold City. Zhang Tie could still hear them singing forcefully, "enemies' heads, brothers' drink, sexy women and galloping horse..."

'That's what heroes do!' Zhang Tie nodded inside.

Not until Taishi Ci[2] and his cavalries disappeared from Zhang Tie's vision did Zhang Tie return to the refugee camp. Zhang Tie didn't even asked the name of that guy who was destined to not come back alive. Anyone who dared to say that Huaiyuan Palace aroused the event in Heavens Cold City and puzzled the others might easily lead to a chaos, which was a death penalty. As more than 1 million people had died in Heavens Cold City, why would such a person still be live? Why would he still be live?

Even Zhang Tie had not discovered that what he did now was totally different from that before. If it was before, he would never make decision on one's fate so easily.

Through numb killings these days, at the cost of the lives of over 1 million innocent people in Heavens Cold City, Zhang Tie gradually figured out that there was only one way to ensure the survival of himself, his relatives, and friends in this world while fighting with the demons and their lackeys—you have to be more powerful and more merciless than demons.

What was the Holy War? It was a war on who was more powerful and merciless!

When Zhang Tie came back to the refugee camp, he saw some senior brothers from Hidden Dragon Palace who were patrolling and maintaining order in the refugee camp caught some guys who sneaked in the camp. They bound those guys and were escorting them out of the camp.

At sight of one of those guys being bound, Zhang Tie became stunned as he rubbed his eyes, "Zerom? What the hell!"

Mouth being clogged by a piece of cloth, Zerom looked pretty embarrassed. When he caught sight of Zhang Tie, he widened his eyes at once and started to twist all over...