

Black Iron 671

Chapter 671: The Unrivaled Power of Elder Muray

When Zhang Tie arrived at the camp, he saw Elder Muray standing still about 20 m in the air while releasing a powerful aggressive qi and looking down at the camp.

Zhang Tie flapped its wings and silently landed on a eucalyptus tree over 100 m away. After that, he held his breath and gazed at the scene over there.

The camp of Senel Clan was a bit disordered while numerous demonized puppets were flooding towards the camp.

At this moment, Koz and a knight being employed by Senel Clan walked out of the main tent. The moment Quentin caught sight of Elder Muray had he walked into the air one step after another like there were stairs in the air and gazed at Elder Muray from 50 m away.

Some bolts were shot towards Elder Muray right away from some heavy crossbows. However, Elder Muray just ignored them. Like chasing away flies, he casually waved his arm, causing the bolts fly back at a faster speed. After flying over 100 m, they exploded the two warriors of Senel Clan who were holding the heavy crossbows, followed by thunder-like sonic booms. From the beginning, Elder Muray didn't look aside. Elder Quentin was also glassy-eyed like having not seen Elder Muray killing people in front of him.

At the sight of this scene, Zhang Tie swallowed his saliva on a distant tree forcefully, "It's too powerful! The casual wave could cause bolts fly back as powerful as his javelins, which could kill any fighters below LV 12 immediately."

"You're Koz?" Elder Muray asked Quentin icily.

"I'm Quentin, the elder being employed by Senel Clan. Who are you?"

"Zhang Muray, Huaiyuan Palace!" Elder Muray replied with a calm, loud voice.

After hearing this answer, Koz who had just walked out of the main tent slightly changed his look; Elder Quentin's look also turned solemn at once.

"May you tell me about your intention here?" Quentin asked carefully and slowly. At this moment, Quentin expected to hear the words "pass by"; pitifully, Elder Muray's reply shattered his hope at once.

"Senel Clan once framed Zhang Tie, apprentice of Huaiyuan Palace. Of course, his elder would come here to revenge for him; otherwise, others would doubt that our Huaiyuan Palace is too weak to protect its own apprentices. I only need to take away Koz's head today. Why are you here?" Elder Muray asked calmly.

In the distance, a knight of Arthur Clan was flashing towards here as fast as a lightning bolt.

"Kill him..." Before Elder Quentin opened his mouth had Koz's voice spread across the military camp.

...

Before Zhang Tie recovered his composure from Elder Muray's shocking words had the terrifying, fierce battle started.

When Koz uttered "Kill", he had already started to move rapidly. As a result, Elder Muray instantly focused on him while narrowing his eyes...

Almost at the same time, a fiery battle qi totem rushed into the air like a signal bomb from Elder Quentin, which was extremely brilliant in such a deep night and could be seen clearly within 100 miles. This indicated that the knight being employed by Senel Clan had gone to all lengths at the beginning of the battle.

At the same time, numerous subordinates of Senel Clan inside and outside the camp triggered their long-distance weapons, some of which were powerful mobile beehive crossbows and drag and drop heavy mechanical ballistas towards Elder Muray.

The faces of the great batch of demonized puppets being closest to the camp who knew nothing about death and fear had turned grim...

...

Closely after the word "kill", Koz had already been 50 m away...

At this moment, Quentin had already formed a powerful Knight-level long-distance strike...

Numerous bolts had already been shot out...

Those demonized puppets being closest to the camp had already raised their steps and prepared to rush towards here...

A brilliant longbow had appeared in Elder Muray's hand, which was almost as high as that of Elder Muray. Even though Zhang Tie had been widely opening his eyes, he still failed to see how it appeared in Elder Muray's hand, not to mention the look of the longbow. In the evening, the longbow was emanating brilliance like a weapon composed of light. Elder Muray was striding forward and drawing the bow in the air...

At the sight of that longbow, Quentin changed his face at once while his battle qi totem quivered a while and almost collapsed...

...

Closely after the word "him", Koz had been more than 100 m away and disappeared in the numerous demonized puppets...

Quentin's powerful Knight-level battle qi finally came into being while a wolf-sized battle qi charged towards Elder Muray. Soon after launching this strike, Quentin rapidly retreated towards the other direction at the speed many times faster than that of Koz.

Numerous bolts were close to Elder Muray's body...

The long light bow in Elder Muray's hand was like a full moon. The moment he unstrung the bow had the camp of demonized puppets become bright like a sun rising in the dark. Zhang Tie felt white all over in front of his eyes...

All those bolts being close to Elder Muray were crushed completely. The wild wolf battle qi flowing off Quentin's hands was like a snowman falling into the magma, which was destroyed at once. At the same time, a beam of light flew off Elder Muray's longbow and caught up with Koz.

The tents and demonized puppets were all vaporized by this beam of light at once...

With still a dumbfounded and unbelievable look, Koz had disappeared in the beam of light.

At the sight of this scene, the aggressive knight of Arthur Clan in the distance instantly turned around and escaped right away...

...

When Zhang Tie recovered his composure, he found a great chaos in the demonized puppets camp.

After triggering his long crossbow, Elder Muray chased after Elder Quentin and disappeared from Zhang Tie's vision...

There was a 1,000 m long terrifying burning mark from where the longbow was triggered, causing half of the tents in the core of the camp of Senel Clan to disappear.

Koz disappeared, along with his sons, Battie and Houghs. Zhang Tie saw two heavily broken items on the ground where a lot of tents had been cleaned. Zhang Tie could barely identify their previous looks, one of them was Battie's ox-horn shaped helmet, the other was Houghs' long sword.

Zhang Tie recalled that the bolt triggered by Elder Muray rightly penetrated through the main tent, from where Koz and Quentin had just drilled out. When Elder Muray suddenly arrived, it seemed that Battie and Houghs were still in the tent. Koz might want to protect them by leaving them inside the main tent at the critical moment. However, everything happened so fast. Only in a few seconds, everything had come to an end. Battie and Houghs didn't even have time to respond to it.

Koz thought he was just facing a knight; however, he forgot that the knight came from Zhang Clan, Huaiyuan Palace...

Zhang Tie had not imagined that what he failed to do after following Senel Clan for more than 10 days was solved by only one bolt of Elder Muray in less than 30 seconds. After the Koz, the head of Senel Clan and the two excellent successors were killed, Senel Clan was exterminated.

What a knight!

'The grand dinner that the poor always dream about might only be the common food what the rich felt not like eating at all. What I couldn't do might just be a matter of choice for others.' Zhang Tie concluded.

Zhang Tie was deeply impressed by the brilliant longbow and the bolt that had been triggered. Until then did Zhang Tie realize why Elder Muray was bad-tempered as was said by everyone in Huaiyuan Palace. Whenever he launched an attack, he would cause a great casualty...

What made Zhang Tie feel more complex inside was Elder Muray's words "Senel Clan once framed Zhang Tie, apprentice of Huaiyuan Palace. Of course, his elder would come here to revenge for him".

At this moment, the estrangement between Zhang Tie and Huaiyuan Palace faded away in Zhang Tie's mind at once.

'What a Zhang Clan of Huaiyuan Palace!'

Zhang Tie took a deep breath before flying off the twig. Soon after he flew off the camp and came to a hidden place had he incarnated into the thunder hawk and rushed to the height of about 1,000 m by flapping his wings. At the same time, he darted towards the direction where Quentin left for at the speed ten times faster than that of the beetle according to his memory.

Quentin escaped towards the east.

Zhang Tie kept chasing after him until the daybreak. He didn't know where he had been. However, he didn't see Quentin and Elder Muray on the way at all. Finally, he stopped in front of a vast ocean where Zhang Tie knew he lost his target...

Chapter 672: A 1,000-Mile Misty Ocean

No matter how lucky he was, he could not encounter a dying knight every time. Therefore, it was not strange if he lost his target.

After adjusting his mood instantly, Zhang Tie flew along the coastline.

'Quentin might have turned when he flew eastward a while. However, I kept flying eastward; therefore, I lost my target.

'Will Elder Muray catch up with Quentin?' Zhang Tie didn't know about that. At least he had not seen battle traces between knights on the way here. The knight's realm was always covered with a mysterious veil for others. Quentin might have a way to protect his life.

Zhang Tie couldn't think through why a brilliant long bow suddenly appeared in the hands of Elder Muray last night, why Quentin suddenly changed his face after seeing the longbow and slipped away as timid as a rabbit after a hasty strike. It seemed that Quentin had long known that the longbow was an unrivaled weapon. As he knew that he could not defeat Elder Muray, he chose to retreat. So was the knight from Arthur Clan. After seeing Elder Muray killing Koz in the blink of an eye, the knight of Arthur Clan also hurriedly turned around and escaped.

Zhang Tie didn't know whether it was worth seeing such a shocking scene after following Senel Clan jubilantly for more than 10 days.

Zhang Tie had not gained any new fruit; neither did he kill anyone. However, the strike of Elder Muray opened a gate for Zhang Tie at once, allowing him to peep many things that he had not imagined through the gate.

In Zhang Tie's eyes, Koz was a powerful guy, who was very cunning and hard to deal with. Even Zhang Tie himself had fallen into his trap. Zhang Tie didn't know when he could kill such a powerful enemy.

However, Elder Muray made him disappear only with one punch. Therefore, Zhang Tie reached a conclusion——In the eyes of knights, all those below knights were ants.

'I have to be a knight like Elder Muray, even better than him.'

A hot blood and heroic spirit surged in Zhang Tie's mind, 'With Castle of Black Iron, small tree and "King Roc Sutra", I have no reason to be not as powerful as Elder Muray.'

'Although I didn't launch an attack, Senel Clan have been exterminated. What's my next destination then?' Zhang Tie considered inside.

'Go back to Huaiyuan Palace? No, Elder Muray must be here for me. If I went back to Huaiyuan Palace, I would definitely be confined as a stallion. I would never be as free as now. Even if I was not confined in a place, I would always be accompanied by an elder from Huaiyuan Palace as my bodyguard. If so, I could not enter Castle of Black Iron to eat fruits and would barely promote to a knight quickly. Therefore, I would never go back.' Zhang Tie thought.

After Koz was killed, the middle corps of demonized puppets would be in a chaos temporarily; however, it would not pose any rudimentary influence to the plan of demons. After rolling over the Symbian Republic, the vanguard of the army of demons would target Norman Empire directly.

'Will Norman Empire leave its empty cities to demons?' Zhang Tie didn't think so. 'Because Norman Empire has not evacuated all of its people. If Norman Empire didn't resist, after capturing those people in the territory of Norman Empire, the population of demonized puppets would expand to a terrifying scale. This would cause a disaster for the rest of humans. Therefore, Norman Empire would fight demonized puppets and demons to death even only for saving some more time for those civilians. Besides, if the military of Norman Empire just escaped away, the royal household of Norman Empire would lose their majesty. When they give up Norman Empire, they abandon their royal status and honors as well. Therefore, the royal household of Norman Empire would never just escape without fighting demons and demonized puppets. After demons broke the human defense line in Selnes Theater of Operations, the cruelest battle between humans and demons would start in Norman Empire.'

'I have no concerns in Norman Empire; based on Hanna's current status, they could easily leave Norman Empire by an airship. Reinhardt is a powerful fighter, who could determine his own fate with his current ability and battle force. Therefore, it is meaningless for me to go to Norman Empire at this moment.'

'The best choice is to digest the achievements that I've gained these days so as to further improve my battle force. After promoting to LV 12, I'd better find a chance to kill a batch of iron-armored demons so as to get a fruit of source of iron-armored demons. After that, I will go to Ice and Snow Wilderness.'

As soon as he made the determination had Zhang Tie felt relaxed.

Watching the vast ocean at the foot, Zhang Tie remembered that his Castle of Black Iron was running out of basic energy storage and his plan to build some "new houses" on the top of the immortal mountain in Castle of Black Iron. His heart raced at once, 'Before I promote to LV 12, I will greatly increase basic energy storage for Castle of Black Iron.'

Zhang Tie instantly flew towards the deep of the ocean...

After more than half an hour, Zhang Tie was almost 100 miles away from the coastline, from where he sniffed the special odor of sulfide in the sea wind coming from afar. An isle appeared in Zhang Tie's vision.

There was a volcano in the isle, which was fug-belching. At the same time, a lot of dark red magma flew out of the top of the volcano all the way to the ocean. The moment the scorching magma met the icy seawater had arisen a large area of vapor, which looked like a dense fog over the sea. The entire isle was covered by the misty dreamland. If not above the isle, Zhang Tie could never see the overall look of the isle.

Starting from this isle, more and more mist as wide as hundreds of square miles appeared on the sea. The mist gradually covered the sky. Therefore, Zhang Tie felt like entering a misty ocean.

In the misty ocean, Zhang Tie could faintly see glows on the sea, from where a wide area of vapor and water mist upsurged. Some scorching air flows even spurted as high as 100 m in the air.

After recalling the map on the sea area of the entire Blackson Humans Corridor for a few seconds, a term occurred to Zhang Tie's mind—A 1,000-mile Misty Ocean! 'I'm in a 1,000-mile Misty Ocean.'

This was a forsaken place in Blackson Humans Corridor. A lot of magma fractures led to the underground world beneath this ocean. The volcanic activity in this region was very frequent while the magma was spurting out of the seabed all the year round. After reaching the sea level, the magma heated up the sea water and formed a misty ocean as wide as 1,000 square miles. This was due to the epeirogeny of the continent. After tens of thousands of years, this sea area might become a vigorous land being bordered by the land of Blackson Humans Corridor. However, at this moment, it was just a forsaken place.

No ship would like to enter such a secluded misty ocean. The visibility in the misty ocean was very low. Dark eddies existed everywhere beneath the sea level. Additionally, more hidden reefs would form everyday after the magma cooled down. Furthermore, old reefs would enlarge everyday, which would even change their locations due to the flowing underground magma river. This passage changed in each second. Nobody could hold it. Therefore, all the ships of Blackson Humans Corridor would make a detour around this Misty Ocean.

As the seawater here cooled down too much magma, the sea water here became hot while carrying some substances in the magma. As a result, the sea water here displayed weak acidity, causing no fish or marine organism to live in this sea area.

This was a dangerous desert in the ocean. However, it was the best paradise for Zhang Tie at this moment.

After flying more than 2 hours in the misty ocean as a thunder hawk, Zhang Tie almost came to the center of the misty ocean. He then teleported the thunder hawk into Castle of Black Iron.

After the thunder hawk was teleported in Castle of Black Iron for one minute, Zhang Tie's naked body appeared out of void about 40 m above the sea. After that, he dove into the sea, causing no spray at all...

With the preliminary waterproof body, Zhang Tie felt as free as being in the sky when he returned to the ocean that he had not seen for a long time. The moment he entered the sea had he slightly moved and

dived towards the seabed after leaving some bubbles on the sea level. His speed and agility would dwarf any ocean organism if there was any.

This sea area was very deep. Besides, it was about 40 degree Celsius. After diving about 1,000 m in depth, Zhang Tie saw some fiery magma rivers in the seabed while the surrounding seawater was boiling and constantly transferring numerous bubbles and vapor upwards, causing the dense mist over the sea.

There were some crisscrossed oceanic trenches beside the magma rivers. With the surging magma, large water flows poured out of the deep earth's crust being linked to the oceanic trenches, making the ocean environment more complex...

Chapter 673: A Hidden Cultivation in the Misty Ocean

Zhang Tie attempted to touch the water flows pouring out of the oceanic trenches. The moment he was hit by one water flow had he been sent sliding over 50 m backward. Given his senses, Zhang Tie realized that it was fresh water. It seemed to be a turbulent fresh river in the oceanic trench. In farther places, Zhang Tie saw some volcanoes spurting magma from the seabed. There were volcanoes and estuaries of subterranean rivers at the seabed, arising Zhang Tie's praise about the marvel of the creator, the mother nature.

Because of the environment hereby, the seawater was covered with torrents, subterranean streams and whirlpools.

Zhang Tie was very satisfied with the environment.

"Heller, how about this place?"

"Nice, I could maximize the teleporting entrance so that Castle of Black Iron could absorb seawater at the fastest speed without causing any abnormal situations on the sea level!" Heller's voice sounded in Zhang Tie's mind. Heller was very satisfied with Zhang Tie's plan to increase basic energy storage for Castle of Black Iron.

"Hard work!"

With these words, Zhang Tie entered Castle of Black Iron.

When Zhang Tie put on his clothes in Castle of Black Iron, he felt the colorful cloud turning bright. Closely after that, a spillway opened in the sky while enormous seawater poured down directly into the Abyss of Chaos.

The Abyss of Chaos was surrounding the immortal mountain while enormous seawater was pouring into the Abyss of Chaos. In a split second, the entire immortal mountain was like being covered by a bizarre, round waterfall, which shocked Zhang Tie at once.

With the knight's consciousness, Zhang Tie still felt that the waterfall was flowing hundreds of times faster than that of a common waterfall. In Zhang Tie's eyes, the entire immortal mountain was not covered with liquid, but with an extremely thick, freezing crystal wall. If not the changing glistening light on the round water wall, Zhang Tie would never believe that it was a water flow pouring down from the sky.

The super high-speed waterfall fell into the Abyss of Chaos silently without causing any spray.

In the distance, those people whom Zhang Tie brought in Castle of Black Iron were so excited at the sight of such a wonderful scene on the immortal mountain that they all knelt down and prayed loudly on the ground. In the eyes of those people, the immortal mountain was a huge crystal cover manifested by their god. As it was flowing super fast silently, those people didn't know that it was water. They could only feel the breeze.

Watching Heller walking over here, Zhang Tie swallowed his saliva forcefully, "Can you tell me the runoff of this water?"

"1.17 million cubic meters per second!" Heller answered with a smile.

"Ah? You mean the Castle of Black Iron could engulf 1.17 million tons of seawater per second!"

"Right. This figure is 3.2 times that of the largest river in Blackson Humans Corridor. Now, Castle of Black Iron could convert 1.17 million tons of basic energy storage per second. Do you want to check it?" Heller waved his hand while a virtual image of counting card appeared in front of Zhang Tie. The figures in the front 7 digits were running so fast that Zhang Tie could only see a white line while the 8th digit was rolling rapidly like that of a water meter. The figure on the 9th digit changed twice per second.

The great convertible efficiency of basic energy storage reminded Zhang Tie of how he carried pack baskets of deserted ores from the mining caves into Castle of Black Iron. Zhang Tie felt speechless at once, 'What a great cheat!' He realized that he might not have utilized 1/10,000 of the ability of Castle of Black Iron to convert the material into basic energy till now.

"How fast is the water flow?" Zhang Tie asked out of curiosity.

"It could cut through granite plates!"

"Won't it hurt someone?"

"Castle Lord, trust me, everything in Castle of Black Iron is under my control!" Heller revealed a confident smile which made Zhang Tie reassured.

"What about outside?"

"Don't worry. Nobody would find it. The 1,000-mile misty ocean forms the best cover. If someone comes to this sea area by accident, arrives at such a depth by accident and is no less than 500 m away from this water, I will know that someone is coming through the subtle change of water flow that enters Castle of Black Iron. I will stop it right away. That person would never find it!"

"That'll be good!" Zhang Tie became reassured, 'It might be the god's will for me to arrive here. As for such a suitable environment for me to increase basic energy storage for Castle of Black Iron, I will make full use of it for sure.'

"How long will you stay in Castle of Black Iron, Castle Lord?"

"I won't leave out of here until I reach LV 12!" Zhang Tie had a sense of crisis after seeing the blow of Elder Muray last night. Even a LV 15 guy was nothing but a f*rt in front of the knight. Therefore, Zhang Tie realized that him, as a 5-star battle LV 11 battle master was too risky in front of the real

powerhouses. After promoting to LV 12, Zhang Tie would feel safer in front of crises. Additionally, Zhang Tie had already lit 125 surging points. He only needed to light another 19 surging points before promoting to a LV 12 great battle master...

Zhang Tie gained the ability to intensify his power twice when he promoted to LV 10 and LV 11 with the help of "King Roc Sutra". Based on the former two experiences, Zhang Tie knew that he would intensify his ability once more when he promoted to LV 12. He was desiring so much about what he could achieve.

"If it's real, before you leave Castle of Black Iron, you would definitely see a new round of change of Castle of Black Iron!"

"I hope so..." Zhang Tie said as he walked towards the small tree.

'It's time to eat fruits!'

From March 14th when he left Tokei City to April 16th, there were 6 new leakless fruits hanging on the small tree, 5 of which already became ripe, 1 was still raw.

Besides the 6 leakless fruits, Zhang Tie saw many more fruits, 1 of which was the fruit of brilliance, 4 trouble-reappearance fruits and 1 fruit of judgment.

The fruit of judgment granted Zhang Tie with a wholly-new rune skill—"preliminary tracing skill". As a very practical and powerful skill, it enabled Zhang Tie to release a hidden spiritual energy mark on someone or something which would stay effective very long. As long as that person or thing appeared less than 600 miles away from Zhang Tie, Zhang Tie would be able to sense it and find them precisely.

The 6 fruits came from the reward of killing 4 young elites of Elvis Clan in the rear corps.

Besides, the wing demons' fruit of source that Zhang Tie desired most also became ripe. It smelt extremely fragrant. The whole fruit was radiating a bizarre eye-catching brilliance. Compared to other fruits, this one took Zhang Tie the longest time to become ripe since he came to Selnes Theater of Operations last year.

Watching the complex pattern of source flower being composed of rounds on the surface of the fruit of source, Zhang Tie let out a deep sigh with satisfaction. 'No matter how many troubles have I experienced in the Selnes Theater of Operations, everything was worthwhile. With such perfect conditions, if I could not be a knight, I'd rather go die.'

Zhang Tie reached his hand out...

——Wing demons' fruit of source. Usage: Pick and direct eat it. Notice: The fruit cannot be taken out of the Castle of Black Iron. After twelve hours of having been picked off the tree, its energy and vitality will gradually decline.

——This fruit could increase your life source and improve your health and quality of life in an all-round manner.

——All the life existences are sprouted by the seed of source. The spiritual life rules are the manifestation of the source. The great strength forms the look of the source, which is included in each fulfillment. It includes all the knowledge, rhythm, lives and sacred things. It is a combination of feminine

and masculine, brightness and darkness, positive and negative. It is the flower and fruit of lives and the sturdy tree of lives.

Zhang Tie imagined what Heller had told him about the fruit of source. There was a mysterious link between this fruit and the number 1/12. As long as he ate one fruit of source, the ability that could be brought by each surging point, his physical strength and endurance, his life expectancy and his cells' aging speed would decline by 1/12...

Zhang Tie picked off the fruit of source and held it carefully. After that, he sat under the small tree with crossed legs and put this fruit into his mouth. As he ate it, he closed his eyes.

Soon after the fruit entered his stomach had a pattern of the bud of a flower of source loomed in the middle of Zhang Tie's forehead. Closely after that, the bud was in full bloom. Zhang Tie also started to give out light all over...

After 5 hours later, Zhang Tie opened his eyes. Zhang Tie felt that he had promoted to a new level. He gained a new life both inside and outside. Additionally, Zhang Tie felt having one more familiar energy in his body. He always felt that he had sensed that energy before. After racking his mind for a few minutes, he became suddenly shocked as he sensed the same weak energy escaping from the All-spirits Pagoda when he used the soul-based incarnation method of "Great Wilderness Sutra".

When he remembered the warning of Cloud Crane in the posthumous paper about implementing soul-based incarnation skill, Zhang Tie immediately danced with joy under the small tree while bursting out into laughter...

"Hahaha, I see, I see..."

Chapter 674: Benefits

Zhang Tie had only implemented soul-based incarnation method a few times. In the posthumous paper, Cloud Crane once warned that soul-based incarnation method required a bit source of spirit and soul of its user. It was the biggest shortcoming of soul-based incarnation method. Therefore, cultivators of Great Wilderness Sutra could never constantly apply the soul-based animal controlling skill. With one more incarnation, the source of spirit and soul of one's original body would decline a bit. Zhang Tie was afraid of having some sequelae after applying soul-based animal controlling skill previously. However, after eating the fruit of source, Zhang Tie finally understood that he didn't need to think too much. Because the strength gifted by the fruit of source was the very wisp of strength that had escaped from his body when he fixed his incarnations.

From the beginning, Zhang Tie totally had three incarnations, namely a rat, a thunder hawk and a black beetle. It would always consume his original body's some source energy when he fixed the 3 incarnations. However, compared to the energy that he gained through the fruit of source, this bit of energy escaping from his body was trivial. If the source energy gained through the fruit of source was compared to a vat of water, the source energy that he lost when he fixed the three incarnations was only equal to the bit of water on the tip of the writing brush.

Of course, the source energy contained in the fruit of source of 360 wing demons at and above LV 9 was thousands of times greater than that required by fixing a rat, an insect or a thunder hawk.

In the former Great Wilderness School, the apprentices used numerous secret tonics to mend up the escaping source energy when they cultivated soul-based incarnation skill; although Zhang Tie had not taken numerous secret tonics, a fruit of source was enough to mend up all the source energy that had escaped from his original body. After fixing the only shortcoming of the secret method of "Great Wilderness Sutra", Zhang Tie didn't have to worry about potential harms.

The teleportation ability of Castle of Black Iron, the fruit of source and the "Great Wilderness Sutra", what a perfect combination.

After taking this fruit of source, although Zhang Tie didn't light any more surging point, he felt as powerful as lighting over 10 more surging points. At this moment, the flames around the 125 surging points that had been lit had faintly expanded and grown brighter. Zhang Tie's overall strength had hit a new high from aspects such as strength, speed, reaction capability and senses.

It was just a beginning. Later on, with one more surging point being lit, Zhang Tie would gain 1/12 more ability than those people who lit the same number of surging points. The later it was, the more effective the fruit of source would be.

With a laughter, Zhang Tie started to run about wildly on the top of the mountain so as to sense the changing physical conditions more precisely. He flashed as fast as a lightning bolt. After activating Kuafu Bloodline, he arrived at the foot of the mountain in only a couple of steps. With another stride forward, Zhang Tie returned to the top of the mountain. After activating a senior rapidly moving rune, Zhang Tie moved so fast that he almost turned into an extremely virtual shadow which circled around the immortal mountain.

At this moment, Zhang Tie started to feel that this area was too small that it was even inconvenient for him to move.

Heller watched Zhang Tie running about madly out of excitement with a smile. Heller had a great sense of achievement and satisfaction about Zhang Tie's excitement and success—because this was the feature of his achievement-type personality.

After running around the top of the mountain for a few circles in an extremely virtual shadow, Zhang Tie came to the front of Heller with a fresh wind. After standing still, Zhang Tie showed his figure and look clearly.

Zhang Tie neither blushed nor panted.

"Heller, can you expand the immortal mountain? After moving so many people inside, I feel inconvenient to do many things."

"As you wish, Castle Lord. As long as you stay in Castle of Black Iron for a few more days, I promise to show you a satisfactory space and topographical renovation!"

...

Later on, Zhang Tie ate that fruit of judgment which contained the "preliminary tracing skill", some trouble-reappearance fruits and that fruit of brilliance. The effect of each rune of preliminary tracing skill could last 10 days with a remote-sensing distance of 600 km. If Zhang Tie stuck his tracing tentacles to objects, it would hardly be found by people. If Zhang Tie stuck tracing tentacles to people, nobody below knights could notice such a mysterious rune effect on himself. 'As to knights, heh, heh. Don't knights wear clothes or shoes? As long as knights don't find the tracing tentacles on their belongings temporarily, the rune would take effect as well.'

As a very practical and useful skill, it could be used to trace someone and send an early warning to him. It could also remind Zhang Tie of the location of someone. Additionally, if he was chased after by someone, Zhang Tie, with this skill, would be able to master the trace of the opponent; as a result, he could escape easily.

After taking that fruit, Zhang Tie had one more golden secret rune that represented preliminary tracing skill in his mind. After being injected with spiritual energy, the rune shocked while a faintly agile stick of tracing feather in the shape of dandelion's seed appeared in Zhang Tie's mind sea and started to float in his mind sea.

After taking the fruit of brilliance which contained the spiritual energy of the 4 young elites of Elvis Clan, Zhang Tie's spiritual energy sea had expanded a lot. Commoners could never accumulate so much spiritual energy in their whole lives. However, Zhang Tie could gain them only by eating a fruit.

It took Zhang Tie almost one day to digest all of these fruits. Zhang Tie didn't continue his cultivation; instead, he adjusted his rhythm by eating food and sleeping...

On the next day, Zhang Tie took the 5 leakless fruits while two more golden bird-shaped flames circled around that stick of spiritual feather in his Shrine.

After sacrificing himself 891 times in the whole day, Zhang Tie finally found the next 2 surging points in Castle of Black Iron. Closely after that, he lit the 2 surging points under the small tree once again.

Since then, he only needed to light 17 more surging points before promoting to LV 12 great battle master.

Would he just stay there to wait for the next leakless fruits to become ripe so as to light other surging points?

Of course not. Zhang Tie had started to sit under the small tree with crossed legs and polish that stick of spiritual feather in his Shrine using his spiritual energy like how a commoner cultivated "King Roc Sutra" since the next day after he lit the two surging points.

'Others could light their surging points in this method, so could I. It's not acceptable that I could not use the most rudimentary cultivation skill without leakless fruits.' Zhang Tie thought. Additionally, he faintly felt that he had not fully exerted the effect of his powerful spiritual energy and knight's consciousness.

Zhang Tie was right.

Soon after he calmed down and started to cultivate based on his own ability had he sensed the high efficiency of cultivation benefited from his Knight-level consciousness. Only in about 11 hours had the color of that stick of spiritual feather in his Shrine surging point turned from orange to yellow...

It was like breaking 1 of 7 barriers of a surging point in one day. Zhang Tie could never imagine about this before.

Zhang Tie finally understood the benefit of a powerful spiritual energy.

"You're polishing surging points as fast as a knight!" Heller concluded, "This is the benefit for you to have the knight's spiritual energy. Castle Lord, do you want to challenge more difficult cultivation?"

"Of course, what's that?" Zhang Tie's curiosity was aroused.

"When you polish that stick of spiritual feather in the Shrine, you can gain some iron-body fruits at the same time so as to be stronger!" Heller replied like a senior adviser while his words were full of temptations.

"Is that real?"

"It's impossible in other places at any time. However, it's indeed possible in this environment!" Heller said as he pointed at the firm water wall which was falling into the Abyss of Chaos constantly, "When you start your cultivation, I can divert a water flow onto your body. As long as you can bear it, you will have your body exercised when you polish the stick of spiritual feather, one stone for two birds!"

"Do you mean that the water flow could cut through granite. I'm afraid that I could not bear such a high speed at this moment!"

"Of course the water flow that I divert on you will not have such a high speed. Its effect is like the impulse that you could bear under a waterfall as high as 1,000 m. Under such a great impulse, your majesty could stand 12 hours per day at most!"

Zhang Tie gritted his teeth as he said, "Fine!"

...

Chapter 675: A Remarkable Progress

On the same day, Zhang Tie moved to the foot of the mountain from the place under the small tree. Right on a stony platform near the Abyss of Chaos, Zhang Tie accepted the impulse of the powerful water flow as he attempted to polish that stick of spiritual feather in his Shrine...

At the first 3 days, Zhang Tie could not fully enter meditation under the impulse of the powerful water flow when he felt exhausted 12 hours per day. Until the 4th day, Zhang Tie became slowly adapted to it. He tried to enter meditation under the impulse. On the 7th day, Zhang Tie finally could enter meditation under the impulse of water flow. However, this process was intermittent. After eating 3 iron-body fruits in 10 days, Zhang Tie could finally fully enter meditation under such a powerful impulse of waterfall...

After that, Zhang Tie's cultivation schedule became steady in Castle of Black Iron. He would spend 12 hours a day to polish that stick of spiritual feather in his Shrine under the impulse of the powerful waterfall. After that, Zhang Tie used another 4 hours to cultivate his battle skills and other secret methods and 3 hours to read the endless true words of the Great Wilderness Sutra. As to the rest 5 hours in a day, he would eat food and sleep...

Zhang Tie cultivated and enlightened Iron-blood Fist everyday. Besides, he also cultivated other battle skills and secret skills.

The other battle skill that Zhang Tie cultivated was the swordsmanship called "Meteor Shower Sword" that he bought in the illegal demon hunters market in Selnes Theater of Operations which came from the Eastern Continent. When he bought this book, Zhang Tie was gifted with the secret book "Robust Ox Skill" for free.

Although "Meteor Shower Sword" was not one of the top swordsmanships in the legend, it was also extensive, profound and very powerful. Additionally, the secret knowledge at this level was always beyond the reach of commoners. In the Eastern Continent, some even promoted to sword sage with this secret knowledge.

As long as becoming a strong fighter, anyone could cultivate this secret knowledge. Additionally, as the cultivator's level increased, the cultivator would have deeper enlightenment about this swordsmanship; as a result, his swordsmanship would be more powerful. Zhang Tie didn't know whether it was benefited from his knight's consciousness because he could always understand the contents of the secret knowledge instantly. He made a remarkable progress in the process of learning "Meteor Shower Sword".

Additionally, due to commonplaces between swordsmanship and fist position, Zhang Tie also made progress in Iron-blood Fist.

When he was free, Zhang Tie would cultivate another secret knowledge—"Soul Capture Skill" of Bloody Soul Temple that he gained from Scala's corpse.

Compared to "Meteor Shower Sword", this "Soul Capture Skill" had higher requirements. People whose spiritual energy was lower than that of a battle spirit could not cultivate it. Scala didn't know where to get this secret knowledge. Scala as a LV 14 battle demon didn't unlock this secret knowledge before he was killed by Zhang Tie.

Although it was a higher request on spiritual energy for commoners, it was extremely easy for Zhang Tie. After eating so many fruits of brilliance, his spiritual energy would be much higher than that of common knights, not to mention that of a battle spirit.

Compared to "Iron-blood Fist" and "Meteor Shower Skill", "Soul Capture Skill" was too evil, which was based on the cultivation of vision, auditory sense, smell, taste sense, body sense, consciousness, predestined affinity and soul. As long as he completed the cultivation, he could capture or influence others' souls and consciousness with one look or motion silently which was unpreventable. The hypnotism that Zhang Tie heard before was dwarfed by this marvelous skill. When he reached an extremely supreme realm, he could even sow soul seeds in others' 8 senses, causing them to be his soul slaves. The soul slaves would say fragrant things smelly, smelly things fragrant, white black, black white; they would lose their mind and be fully hallucinatory; they wouldn't even know whether they were dead or not. How arbitrary! What counted most was that soul slaves didn't think that their actions and feelings were under your control. They would only feel that everything they did was following their mind and determination.

After reading "Soul Capture Skill", Zhang Tie confirmed that Koz had not cultivated this secret knowledge. Otherwise, he might have exposed everything he knew to Senel Clan when he fell in their

hands in Tokei City. One could easily obtain any information that he wanted from others' mouth using this "Soul Capture Skill".

As this skill was a bit evil, Zhang Tie was considering whether to cultivate it or not at the beginning; however, after reading the secret knowledge once, Zhang Tie tragically realized that he had already bore the contents of the entire "Soul Capture Skill" firm in mind. Furthermore, as the only request that this secret knowledge posed to its cultivator was the cultivator's spiritual energy, after skimming over the secret knowledge, Zhang Tie had already mastered some low-end secret methods such as soul obsessed skill.

'Whatever, just cultivate it. With more skills, I will be more powerful. As a righteous and kind youth...ahem...ahem...I will not do evil things with those evil secret methods.' Zhang Tie thought as he started to cultivate the "Soul Capture Skill". The moment he started had he found a more tragic fact—although always being average in talents, he had a great aptitude in cultivating the evil secret method. It only took him 2 weeks to promote to the level that 'would be reached by commoners after many years' of serious cultivation on many contents as was written on the mysterious book...

'F*ck, this father is born to...have a...'

Zhang Tie swore inside. At the same time, he made the determination that he would never tell others that he had such an evil aptitude. 'As long as I leave Castle of Black Iron, I will never have heard about "Soul Capture Skill" or anything else.'

Castle of Black Iron would engulf 1.17 million cubic meters of seawater per second. Furthermore, the small tree could provide Zhang Tie one iron-body fruit per 3 days and 1 leakless fruit per 7 days. Meanwhile, when in deep meditation, Zhang Tie could produce a golden bird-shaped flame that could light a surging point from the stick of spiritual feather in the Shrine with his knight's spiritual energy. What an amazing speed! Zhang Tie just gnawed fruits and cultivated carefully when the time elapsed...

Zhang Tie didn't know how long had he stayed in Castle of Black Iron. He felt that he had already lit 134 surging points in the blink of an eye. After lighting 10 more surging points, he would promote to LV 12...

...

Today, Zhang Tie didn't count how many times had he died in the trouble-reappearance situation...

With a sound "bang", Zhang Tie who attempted to light the next surging point on the seaside exploded and turned into bloody mist in the blink of an eye. At the same time, the trouble-reappearance situation broke apart...

Under the torrents, Zhang Tie, in naked body, opened his eyes. After taking another deep breath, he activated that trouble-reappearance situation once again...

After failing over another 100 times consecutively, Zhang Tie stood on the seaside in the trouble-reappearance situation once again. However, Zhang Tie became fretful at this moment. The process of attempts depended completely. Sometimes, he might find the next surging point after exploding 200-300 times. Sometimes, it was not enough even after dying 600-700 times. Today, Zhang Tie had already died more than 700 times; however, he still didn't find that surging point yet. Therefore, he gradually became fretful. Thankfully, he had Castle of Black Iron; otherwise, he might have already died.

Recently, Zhang Tie met two bottlenecks in the cultivation of "Meteor Shower Sword": one was that Zhang Tie could not convert his Iron-blood Battle Qi to sharper Iron-blood Sword Qi. As Iron-blood Battle Qi was very powerful as a top battle qi, it was more difficult for it to convert to more powerful Iron-blood Sword Qi. Zhang Tie had spent many days; however, he failed to break through it. Another bottleneck was that Zhang Tie felt not being able to manipulate some delicate moves and battle skills in the cultivation of "Meteor Shower Sword" although he had great physical strength. The reason was that he had not laid a solid foundation when he started to cultivate swordsmanship. Due to the above two bottlenecks, Zhang Tie's swordsmanship cultivation had to stagnate.

The poor small sea snake had already arrived at the seaside. It was trying to bite Zhang Tie.

Watching that small sea snake struggling to climb onto the beach while twisting its body, Zhang Tie, who was fretful, suddenly burst out laughing. His fret and boredom disappeared at once...

Watching the glistening ripples and feeling the sea wind and seeing the familiar scene on the Iron Ore Beach, a whim occurred to Zhang Tie's mind, 'I've kept cultivating for so many days without any rest. I will have a day off today. Just take a walk in Hidden Dragon Island to relax myself.'

Thinking this, Zhang Tie instantly arrived at the cliff from the Iron Ore Beach with one stride. Closely after that, he disappeared from the seaside.

In the trouble-reappearance situation, besides live animals, everything was as same as that in the real world, including all the grasses, trees, sand and dust. Walking in the familiar Hidden Dragon Island, Zhang Tie couldn't help but sigh with emotions. He recalled what happened in Hidden Dragon Palace when he came there at the beginning——carrying navyblue iron ores with Zhang Hongsheng and the other partners, joking with girls from Zhixing Department and seeing Lan Yunxi's charming look for the first time...

Zhang Tie felt that these things very warming and interesting.

As he reminisced about this, Zhang Tie had already arrived at Hidden Dragon Palace and stridden over the mountain gate.

The Hidden Dragon Palace in the trouble-reappearance situation remained unchanged. Nobody was inside.

Walking in Hidden Dragon Palace and watching all the familiar grasses and trees, Zhang Tie recovered his composure completely...

After remembering that he met bottlenecks in the cultivation of swordsmanship, Zhang Tie directly came to the Swordsmanship Gym. Watching those familiar steel puppets, Zhang Tie sighed with emotions, 'As a common member here, I cultivated my swordsmanship diligently while spraying my sweat like the rain. Pitifully, before I passed the test on a fundamental swordsmanship had I left Hidden Dragon Palace due to various reasons.' Zhang Tie almost forgot when he came here last time.

Zhang Tie came to the front of a row of long swords and slightly touched their handles. After that, he took the heaviest sword on the rack and came to the front of a steel puppet before starting to practice the eight moves of swordsmanship repetitively according to the requirements.

Zhang Tie moved as fast as a lightning bolt. Accompanied by his virtual shadow were the consecutive tinkling sounds. At the same time, the data on the counter of the steel puppet upsurged...

After practicing for more than 1 hour, the data on the counter had risen to 5 digits. At this moment, Zhang Tie felt a link between him and the long sword. He then casually threw it backward, which fell on the rack 30 m away precisely.

"Hmm, it seems that I have to mend up the fundamental swordsmanship in the trouble-reappearance situation so as to master "Meteor Shower Sword". For commoners, some fundamental skills could never be fixed after being lost, even with knight's consciousness!" Zhang Tie mumbled. After that, he walked out of the Swordsmanship Gym while waving his head.

'I wonder how does Lan Yunxi's bedroom look like?'

A bizarre, evil whim occurred to Zhang Tie's mind, which aroused Zhang Tie's curiosity. Zhang Tie then smirked as he turned around and walked towards Lan Yunxi's residence.

On the way, a tall pavilion's roof entered Zhang Tie's vision while being almost covered by woods—— Secret Knowledge Pavilion...

After recalling that old man who drunk tea water here everyday in the Secret Knowledge Pavilion, Zhang Tie revealed a smile as he continued to walk forward. However, he gradually slowed down his footsteps and finally stopped. He then turned around abruptly and gazed at the very Pavilion...

Zhang Tie remembered how he discovered the Gold-eating boa's teeth in the river when he joined the survival training in Wildwolf Valley and all the details in the trouble-reappearance situations these years, even the training in the Swordsmanship Gym just now——in the trouble-reappearance situations, all the lifeless objects were nothing different than roadside rocks and soil as the complete copy of the material world.

Zhang Tie's heart raced heavily while he darted towards the Secret Knowledge Pavilion...

Chapter 676: My Secret Knowledge Pavilion

As same as before, the Secret Knowledge Pavilion was composed of 7 storeys. With 8 sides, the pavilion looked like a pagoda while being sheltered in the picturesque mountain scenery.

It was tranquil in the surroundings except for the rustling sounds of tree leaves swaying in the mountain wind.

The front gate of the Secret Knowledge Pavilion was opened with a screen right inside the gate. After detouring the screen, Zhang Tie arrived at the lobby on the 1st floor. Although the tea tables and stools were still there as orderly as before, the old man who used to drink there disappeared.

Zhang Tie became a bit intense as his heart pounded. He faintly felt as guilty as being a thief when he came to this place in the trouble-reappearance situation.

A staircase behind the lobby led to the 2nd floor, where Zhang Tie had not visited before. Therefore, he wondered what was on the 2nd floor. Previously, when he came here, as long as he told the old man

what secret knowledge or battle skill he wanted to exchange with his credit points would the old man draw the rope of the bell beside the tea table and had people sent it downstairs. According to the regulations in Hidden Dragon Palace, all the learners could only learn the secret knowledge in the Mysterious Knowledge Pavilion. There were some tranquil and isolated rooms in the Pavilion. Like those in some libraries, you could learn and bear the contents in the secret knowledge in mind quietly. Besides managing various secret knowledge, the old man could also answer various questions posed by learners here.

The staircase leading upstairs was clean while being paved with a soft and thick carpet. When Zhang Tie went upstairs, he heard no sound at all.

When Zhang Tie came upstairs, he saw many numbered isolated rooms where learners could study in. Nobody was in the isolated rooms either.

Previously, Zhang Tie had only exchanged "Fish-like Diving Skill" here. He always read it in a room on the 1st floor. He had not imagined that there were more than 20 isolated rooms on the 2nd floor which were larger than those on the 1st floor.

Zhang Tie then came to the 3rd floor and found similar isolated rooms. Being different from that on the 1st and 2nd floor, the isolated rooms on the 3rd floor were fewer and larger. They were isolated with copper or iron walls. There were huge crystal columns in each isolated room, enabling the energy field in the isolated room very active. Besides, each isolated room was matched with a training cell which contained iron puppets. Additionally, there were living utilities like bedding and washroom in each isolated room. At the sight of these isolated rooms, Zhang Tie knew that they ought to be prepared for learning more advanced mysterious knowledge.

There were totally 3 isolated rooms on the 4th floor. Compared to the 3rd floor, the furnishings of these isolated rooms were more advanced and firmer than those on the 3rd floor. The floors, walls and steel puppets in these training rooms were made of more advanced alloy. Zhang Tie could see many odd-looking wounds on the steel puppets. Additionally, the isolated rooms on the 4th floor were evenly matched with different labs: one elixir lab, one alchemist's instruments lab and one comprehensive lab.

'After staying in Hidden Dragon Palace for so long, I've not had any chance to experience the quality learning conditions provided for learners upstairs hereby Hidden Dragon Palace.' Zhang Tie felt like crying.

After visiting the 4th floor, Zhang Tie came to the 5th floor.

Zhang Tie saw an alloy door with an interface of a secret key. There was no keyhole on the door; instead, there was an identification interface through which the special clan identification plate could be read. It seemed to pose a high requirement for the access of the visitor. Zhang Tie blinked his eyes as he attempted to push it; however, the door remained still. Zhang Tie blinked his eyes once again. Closely after that, he was driven furious while that bit of guilty sense had long disappeared in his mind.

'F*ck, this father has been here and you tell me I'm not allowed in?'

"Open it..."

Zhang Tie roared while a terrifying, barbarous strength and powerful Iron-blood Battle Qi turned into a groundbreaking kick.

In a split second, the entire Secret Knowledge Pavilion was like blasting while the boom could almost be heard across the Hidden Dragon Palace.

"F*ck, open it..." "Boom..."

"Open it..." "Boom..."

After roaring about 1 minutes along with the blasting booms, the alloy door finally fell down with another louder boom.

"Pah..." Zhang Tie spat a mouth of saliva forcefully towards the alloy door. Closely after that, he stepped on it and entered the 5th floor of the Secret Knowledge Pavilion.

Zhang Tie saw rows of bookshelves in the entire 5th floor while various secret knowledge were lying there orderly.

Watching such a marvelous scene, Zhang Tie felt a bit dazzled as he thought it was unreal.

After taking a deep breath, Zhang Tie came to the nearest bookshelf and drew out a book by slightly quivering hand.

Zhang Tie saw the words "Crescent Battle Qi" on the cover of that book. He turned on a new page casually and found it was made of a silver-plate paper which touched very comfortable. The cultivation method of "Crescent Battle Qi" was written in the book.

After putting it back, Zhang Tie drew out another book "Barbarous Ox Battle Qi"...

Then the 3rd book "Fiery Fire Battle Qi"...

...

Zhang Tie rapidly passed by those shelves one after another and saw many classifications: Battle Qis— Battle Skills— Elixirs— Runes— Alchemists' Instruments— Comprehensive— Odd Skills— Others—

In the shelf "Comprehensive", Zhang Tie caught sight of the "Iron-blood Fist" that he cultivated...

In the shelf "Odd Skills", Zhang Tie saw the preliminary, medium and senior "Fish-like Diving Skill".

In the shelf "Others", Zhang Tie saw many books such as "100 Questions about Ancestral Bloodline Learning" and "Secret Knowledge in Taixia Country". Although they weren't any mysterious knowledge, they were more expensive than average books of cultivation.

In the shelf "Elixirs", Zhang Tie saw books such as "Brochure for Apprentice Pharmacist", "Herbs Classic", "ABC of Mysterious Medicine", "Deciphering of Human Genes", "Method of Elixir Manufacture", etc..

Among the two items "Runes" and "Alchemist's Instruments", Zhang Tie saw many mysterious knowledge such as "Basic Runes", "Runes Advancement", "Heavens and Ground Corresponding Skill",

"Sounds Imitation Skill", "Minerals Identification Skill", "Metallurgical Method", "Forging Method" and "Flames for Mineral Extraction", etc..

The battle skills were further divided into more categories, including various weapons, fist positions, finger attacking skills, feet movements and cultivation mysterious knowledge...

In all the 5 storeys, there were thousands of mysterious books. Zhang Tie felt like entering a dreamland just by looking at so many names.

Many of the mysterious books here were about battle qi, battle skills and various professional basics that were available to people below LV 9. If he was still in Hidden Dragon Palace, he needed to use a lot of clan contribution points to exchange for any of these mysterious books. However, all of them were freely available to Zhang Tie now.

'How fast does the happiness come!' Zhang Tie's heart raced.

After taking a round on the 5th floor, Zhang Tie rushed to the 6th floor.

On the 6th floor, his heart pounded more heavily.

If the 5th floor was a library, the 6th floor would be an exhibition hall for crystal treasures.

There were all square crystal cabinets which were arranged orderly on the 6th floor. Each crystal cabinet was displaying some sandalwood cases with soft velvet cloths inside. There were mysterious crystal books in different shapes being wrapped with metal on the soft velvet cloths, large or small. Those who had no knowledge about mysterious books would take those mysterious crystal books as ornaments, which were actually advanced mysterious books which could not be cultivated until reaching LV 10.

With a glance, Zhang Tie estimated that there were about 200-300 pieces of mysterious crystal books on the 6th floor. All the deep deposits of Huaiyuan Palace's were displayed here.

Names were written on the sandalwood cases which contained mysterious crystal books for the sake of identification. Zhang Tie took a round on the 6th floor rapidly. After that, he almost cried as the "Robust Ox Skill" which took him great efforts was right here; it was placed in a trivial corner. "Meteor Shower Sword" was even placed ahead of the "Robust Ox Skill". Zhang Tie took the 2 mysterious crystal books out of the cabinets and injected his spiritual energy inside them. He found their contents were as same as that in his own books.

Recalling how many troubles had he experienced when he sought for "Robust Ox Skill", Zhang Tie patted his forehead forcefully, 'Zhang Tie! Zhang Tie! You should have thought about this before! How stupid you are. You've already come to the trouble-reappearance situation for so many times. You have even discovered good items in Wildwolf Valley in the trouble-reappearance situation. How could you forget so many mysterious books in Hidden Dragon Island? How stupid you are! You should not blame others...'

In the most remarkable location in the middle of the cabinets on the 6th floor, Zhang Tie caught sight of "Breaking Sun Sutra". Being different from that which he refused to take from Lan Yunxi, this one was a 60% mysterious book which only contained contents from LV 10 to LV 15. Zhang Tie speculated that this was a trick of Huaiyuan Palace. It was used to encourage clan students and prevent the entire version of "Breaking Sun Sutra" from being exposed to the public. Across Huaiyuan Palace, only a few people could

master the entire version of "Breaking Sun Sutra". Even in Hidden Dragon Palace, clan students could not learn the "Breaking Sun Sutra" without gaining enormous clan contribution points. If not real clan elites, nobody was qualified to touch it.

'What's on the 7th floor?' Zhang Tie took a look there and found it was a people's residence. The faint aroma of tea water on the 7th floor had already indicated who was living there—the old man who guarded this Mysterious Knowledge Pavilion.

After returning to the 6th floor, Zhang Tie had been bothered by a happy problem, 'With so many mysterious books and such a top cultivation condition that numerous people were dreaming about, which mysterious book should I choose to cultivate so as to improve my battle force? It's impossible for me to digest all of them, neither do I have so much time or vigor to do that. So which one is more useful to me?'

Chapter 677: Painstaking Exercise

After finding Secret Knowledge Pavilion, Zhang Tie slightly adjusted his schedule. He narrowed the period to light the surging point and do exercises under the impulse of water flow from 12 hours to 4 hours and the period to read endless true words of Great Wilderness Sutra from 3 hours to 1 hour. He increased the period to cultivate battle skills and secret knowledge from 4 hours to 14 hours. What remained unchanged was the sleeping time—5 hours.

With such an adjustment, although Zhang Tie would take a few more days to promote to LV 12, he could lay a solid foundation. After all, he could promote to LV 12 only after lighting another 9 surging points. Therefore, Zhang Tie was not anxious.

During these days in Castle of Black Iron, Zhang Tie had forgotten about all the troubles outside. He didn't feel it was improper. 'No matter how the war progresses between humans and demons, I'm not even a knight, so it's not my turn to concern about that. This world will continue to run without me. My battle force is my largest dependence. The more powerful I am, the safer it will be for those beside me and myself, and the more influential my words will be to the overall battle situation. Even if a LV 6 soldier survived 100 years in the holy war, he could still not match the meritorious deed that a knight could make in one day on the battlefield. I gained nothing after following Senel Clan for more than 10 days; however, the moment Elder Muray arrived had he solved the problem. What a difference!'

Therefore, Zhang Tie continued his cultivation in Castle of Black Iron with a peaceful mind.

It would definitely be annoying for a person who could hardly make a choice when he discovered a Secret Knowledge Pavilion in the Trouble-reappearance Situation.

It was always a happy thing to find a secret book; however, when there were too many secret books to read, you would feel perplexed.

Thankfully, Zhang Tie had no trouble to make a choice, neither was he over-ambitious. For Zhang Tie, it would be good as long as he could become more powerful. But how? To further develop his strengths so as to enlarge the gap between him and others. When he activated his ancestral bloodlines, he immediately became able to challenge Scala although his level was lower than Scala's.

Therefore, Zhang Tie used the same method when he chose the secret books.

It took Zhang Tie 3 days to skim over the secret books in the Secret Knowledge Pavilion and learn what abilities they could bring to him.

During the 3 days, besides continuing his cultivation, Zhang Tie selected the 1st secret book that could make him more powerful.

As he met the bottleneck in the cultivation of "Meteor Shower Sword", Zhang Tie selected the first secret book "True Swordsmanship" and started to read it carefully. This was a secret book for those below LV 9. Although it didn't contain powerful battle skills or battle qi; it raised Zhang Tie's understanding about the cultivation of battle skills and swordsmanship to a new high.

After studying "True Swordsmanship", Zhang Tie didn't read any more secret books; instead, he started to accomplish the cultivation of his fundamental swordsmanship. It was not only a process to consolidate the foundation of his swordsmanship but also the foundation of Zhang Tie's road towards a real powerhouse.

When in Hidden Dragon Palace, he had to repeat the 8 movements of fundamental swordsmanship 8 million times so as to accomplish the cultivation of his fundamental swordsmanship. This was a painstaking process, which Zhang Tie previously didn't pay too much attention to. In Zhang Tie's opinion, the more powerful the battle skill was, the better it would be. However, after carefully studying "True Swordsmanship", he finally understood that all the great powers were based on the simplest and firmest foundation, without which, the alleged powers were just as illusory as moons in the river and flowers in the mirror. Only with the firmest foundation could one become powerful always.

The foundation of power was featured by a super strong will, forever persistence, strong body, faster speed, best coordination between limbs, consciousness, eyes and movements, 100% precision, great concentration that could turn failure into success and delicate control force like using 500 kg's huge ax to carve floral grains on a bean curd. The only way to reach all the above targets was painstaking exercise—to repeat each simple movement over 1 million times.

Until then did Zhang Tie understand the reason that Hidden Dragon Palace listed fundamental swordsmanship as a compulsory course for all the students. This was not an idea that occurred to someone when he patted his head, but the deepest enlightenment that a real powerhouse could have in the process of cultivation.

Without a firm foundation, the cultivator could never touch the peak of his battle road and battle skills.

Zhang Tie started his painstaking exercise.

At the beginning, with one sword, he could repeat the 8 movements twice in a second, namely reaching out of his sword 16 times...

After 1 week, Zhang Tie held two swords and could repeat 2 rounds of the 8 movements in each second by each hand, namely reaching out of his sword 32 times per second...

This was a tough challenge. In the early days, Zhang Tie's two swords always collided with each other due to different movements. His footsteps would always become disordered when he usually disrupted

his own rhythm. Gradually, Zhang Tie adapted to it in an unimaginable way and solved this tricky problem which seemed could never be solved.

Zhang Tie found that as long as he treated the two long swords in his hands as the two abacuses that he imagined in his mind when doing 'mental arithmetic' could he realize the most perfect coordination when making different movements with the two long swords.

This was a great discovery and an outstanding attempt. After realizing its feasibility, Zhang Tie was shocked as he knew what did this mean. Previously, Zhang Tie had never imagined that he could master the method to make two different movements at the same time after reaching that supreme realm of "mental arithmetic". After applying mental arithmetic in battle skills, Zhang Tie could almost increase his battle force by two times. Now that he could use two swords at the same time; he could also use his fist and sword or his shield and sword at the same time. An unprecedented road of cultivation opened in front of Zhang Tie's eyes, which shocked Zhang Tie for quite a while.

After recovering his composure, Zhang Tie started to cultivate his fundamental swordsmanship in Castle of Black Iron instead of being in the trouble-reappearance situation. He told Heller to divert a thick water flow onto his body from the heavens waterfall. Zhang Tie started to cultivate each movement of fundamental swordsmanship under the heavy impulse of the torrent. At this moment, Zhang Tie didn't need any iron puppet anymore. As he had gazed at that puppet for too long, he could imagine about its look even when he closed his eyes.

Zhang Tie used the two heaviest long swords that he could find from Castle of Black Iron, each weighed 280 kg, to attack the illusory steel puppet which existed in his mind.

He was improving his fundamental swordsmanship, his will and his body at the same time. Zhang Tie didn't stop his cultivation until the potential of each of his cells was fully tapped.

When he could not wave the 280 kg long swords, he used smaller ones. Until his fingers trembled when he held the commonest long swords would he replace the long swords with his fingers. Under the impulse of the heavy water flow, Zhang Tie kept repeating the 8 movements of the fundamental swordsmanship using his fingers.

Through such a painstaking exercise, Zhang Tie gradually recovered his attacking times per hand from one round to two rounds. Almost every time he took a fruit, Zhang Tie would feel freer in movements under the impulse of the water flow. However, the dropping speed of the water flow would soon increase, which gradually offset his physical strength.

In this way, Zhang Tie completely forgot about time; neither did he remember how many times had he repeated the 8 movements of fundamental swordsmanship. He could only remember that he had already opened the 4th floor of All-spirits Pagoda and lit the 143rd surging point. After lighting one more surging point would he promote to LV 12 great battle master...

...

This day, when Zhang Tie woke up, he didn't feel different than usual days. However, the moment he picked the two 280 kg's long swords to start his cultivation had he felt an evident agility and affinity from the two long swords. It seemed that they were not long swords but parts of his body. When he closed his eyes, the long swords almost became his eyes and enabled him to sense everything, including

the trivial air turbulence. When he raised his long swords which then became his hands and enabled him to touch and tear everything apart. When he poked the long swords into the ground which then became his feet on the ground and could never be moved by others.

A whim occurred to Zhang Tie's mind while his long swords instantly crashed with each other. In a split second, with a sharp thunder-like sonic boom, two terrifying crescent-shaped sword qi flew out of the swords and swept over all the grasses, trees and mountain rocks within 50 m at the foot of the immortal mountain in the form of a cross after flying over all the obstacles in front of them, leaving a huge cross symbol on the mountain ridge...

Zhang Tie was shocked as he felt that he was pretty familiar with "Meteor Shower Sword" immediately.

"Congratulations, my lord, you've awakened another ancestral bloodline and formed the Iron-blood Battle Qi!" Heller's voice drifted from Zhang Tie's back...

Chapter 678: Great Battle Master

Zhang Tie turned around and saw Heller walking towards him.

"You mean I've awakened a new ancestral bloodline?"

"My lord, you must have sensed the change. You've awakened sword affinity!" Heller smiled.

'How weird it is. When I woke up, I just felt different with the two long swords. I remembered that when I took the fruit of bloodline and activated ancestral bloodlines, I had to use 62 points of bloodline energy to activate sword affinity. I injected the remaining last bit of bloodline energy into the marshmallow of sword affinity; I did not expect this ancestral bloodline to activate at this moment.' Zhang Tie thought.

Zhang Tie thought it might be related to his painstaking training during this period, 'Ahh, how long have I cultivated in Castle of Black Iron?'

Zhang Tie then asked Heller the same question that he was considering.

"According to the date outside, it's already August. Your majesty, you've exceeded the cultivation of fundamental swordsmanship more than that you could expect. As a reward, you've awakened your ancestral bloodline..." Heller answered.

"Exceeded?" Zhang Tie indeed had not thought about this before. Since he started his painstaking cultivation under that torrent, Zhang Tie even forgot how many times he had reached out his swords.

"Yes, my lord. During this period, you could keep reaching out swords 16 times per second per hand. That's to say, you can reach out swords 32 times per second with two hands, namely 115,200 times per hour. Under the torrent, you trained 8 hours, namely, you had reached out your swords 921,600 times a day. Excluding the cultivation that you made in the trouble-reappearance situation, you had stayed 68 days in Castle of Black Iron by yesterday, during which period, you had reached out your swords 62,668,800 times under the torrent. However, the standard of fulfilling the cultivation of fundamental swordsmanship in Hidden Dragon Palace was that the cultivator had to reach out swords 8 million times. Plus the times that you reached out your swords in the trouble-reappearance situation, you have already reached out your swords over 80 million times, 10 more times than regulated. Besides, you were

cultivating it by two hands at the same time under very tough environment. Because of this, you awakened your sword affinity!"

Perhaps Zhang Tie was not talented in cultivation; however, his strong will and persistence aroused Heller's appreciation.

"Over 80 million times?" Zhang Tie was stunned after hearing the figure. Zhang Tie didn't know that he had accomplished such a great work—by reaching out his swords over 80 million times in total, he accomplished his cultivation of fundamental swordsmanship and laid a solid foundation for his road towards a real powerhouse.

"My lord, have you found any difference in your current movements than before?"

"Not yet." Zhang Tie replied like an idiot as he indeed had not sensed any change.

Heller then pointed at the place where Zhang Tie stood, "Your majesty, this platform is a very firm granite, which was as high as 1.7 m or so at the beginning; however, look at how high it is now, my lord?"

Zhang Tie lowered his head and checked it carefully. He then realized that this granite was only a bit higher than 0.5 m with a pit in the center which was caused by his own gravity when he was meditating.

"This is the best certificate for your painstaking exercise. The torrent that flushed onto your body and your long swords lowered this granite over 1 m in height. Even the hard rock had changed its look under the impulse of the torrent, how could you not sense the change when you cultivated under the impulse of the torrent, my lord?"

Zhang Tie then scratched his head bashfully before replying, "Erm...I really didn't sense any change!"

"That's because you've already been used to cultivate in such an environment. With your rising battle force and increasing bearing capability, I gradually increased the impulse of the torrent. Therefore, you could not sense any change. There's no water flow now, you can try again with your swords, my lord!"

After hearing Heller's words, Zhang Tie casually moved with double swords. In a split second, the platform was covered with thunder-like sonic booms and dense sword shadows, displaying brilliant, grim and terrifying sword flowers...

The sword flowers faded away while everything else on the platform disappeared in 1 second. What happened just now was like an illusion.

Zhang Tie watched his hands with an unimaginable look. In the past one second, he was just cultivating his fundamental swordsmanship as usual. However, in a split second, he had felt his hands accelerating greatly in a much easier way. Therefore, in a second, he launched his attack 19 rounds by two hands, namely 304 times in total. Because of a super fast speed, the brilliant sword shadows formed sword flowers.

Sword flowers was a high realm of swordsmanship recorded in the secret book "True Swordsmanship". The full description about it was "Even water is forbidden in sword flowers!"

'Now that I could reach out swords 304 times per second, I could also punch 304 times per second.'
Zhang Tie thought.

Zhang Tie watched Heller before saying, "Give me a basin of water..."

Heller responded with a smile as he pointed towards the firm water wall on Zhang Tie's side. A water flow instantly flew towards Zhang Tie's head. Compared to the terrifying super high speed of the water wall, this water flow didn't flow so fast. It was equal to the speed of that of a basin of water being poured down from upstairs.

When the water came close to Zhang Tie, Zhang Tie felt that it was flowing as slowly as the crawling speed of a tortoise. After that, he reached out his swords and cut the water into numerous pieces and minced it, then he lifted it and pushed it aside in extremely common movements without even releasing his sword qi.

In Heller's eyes, when the water flow almost touched Zhang Tie's head, with sword flashes, the water had turned into mist and been blown away by the sword wind like a magic...

After the mist faded away, Heller saw Zhang Tie standing there with his swords supporting on the ground while Zhang Tie's body was still dry.

At that moment, Zhang Tie finally sensed his great change. He had faintly and easily reached an unimaginable realm on strength, speed, responding ability, judgment and coordination between limbs, consciousness and eyes. Zhang Tie finally felt a faint resonance between his state and his knight's consciousness.

Forming a resonance with the knight's consciousness and feeling more harmonious indicated a great progress and unusual realm.

"Thank you, Heller!" Zhang Tie appreciated sincerely. He knew that he could never make such a remarkable achievement in such a short period without the environment and conditions that Heller created for him.

"My lord, it's my great honor!" Heller bowed to show his sincerity elegantly.

...

3 days later, Zhang Tie sat on the same platform with crossed legs while a powerful torrent poured down from the sky and kept flushing Zhang Tie's body. Zhang Tie didn't notice it; instead, he was fully focusing on the stick of spiritual feather in his Shrine.

Right then, the purple stick of feather radiated strong brilliance with a slight quiver. Closely after that, a golden flame in the shape of a bird came into being and started to fly around the stick of spiritual feather in his Shrine.

At this moment, there were two bird-shaped golden flames in Zhang Tie's Shrine. During this period of cultivation, Zhang Tie found that he had better keep a golden bird-shaped flame in his Shrine surging point all the time if he wanted to find the next surging point of "King Roc Sutra" by constant attempts in the trouble-reappearance situation. In this way, he could increase the efficiency in lighting surging points instead of having to accumulate enough energy to form a golden bird-shaped flame in his Shrine before making attempts to light new surging points. He didn't have to explode hundreds of times in the trouble-reappearance situation hurriedly before lighting a surging point; instead, he could spread the experiences of exploding himself hundreds of times in intervals between cultivation periods.

When the new golden bird-shaped flame came into being, Zhang Tie let the other one fly out of his Shrine towards a surging point on his sacrum to integrate with that surging point.

With a sound "boom", Zhang Tie's mind sea quivered; at the same time, that surging point on the sacrum was finally lit and radiated a golden flame...

After lighting the 144th surging point, Zhang Tie finally became a LV 12 great battle master...

When he lit the surging point, before Zhang Tie celebrated, all the surging points across his body that had been lit quivered at the same time. Right then, the golden bird-shaped flames in all surging points that had been lit radiated great brilliance. Closely after that, a bizarre strength appeared that made Zhang Tie feel like losing his weight. At the same time, every single cell turned into the wind as they became lighter and moved faster. With a slight move, they turned into the light and flashed towards the endless sea of stars...

This was the "reward" from "King Roc Sutra" after Zhang Tie promoted to a higher level. In the former two times, Zhang Tie was rewarded with great strength; however, this time...

...

Zhang Tie finally opened his brilliant eyes and stood up. At the same time, he felt like frying beams as the 144 surging points that he had lit were cracking at the same time while the high-speed torrent that poured down from the sky stopped.

Zhang Tie gradually revealed a brilliant smile when he sensed his light body...

The reward from "King Roc Sutra" for the cultivator who promoted to LV 12 was agility, namely higher speed and faster responsive ability. 'God, I love you...'

Zhang Tie burst out into laughter...

'It's time to leave Castle of Black Iron...'

Chapter 679: The First Victory

Trouble-reappearance situation, Shadow-Demon Cell...

Abyan's roars had sounded for 2 hours in Shadow-Demon Cell. At this moment, Abyan's two wings had been torn into pieces; its powerful tail had broken while its body was covered with wounds. How miserable it was!

Abyan broke its tail itself. If not, Zhang Tie would clutch its tail and beat it into a meat pie.

Although Abyan's protective battle qi was powerful, it could not bear Zhang Tie's fierce movements by clutching its tail and pounding its body onto the ground one time after another. Some big pits had formed on the ground; each time Zhang Tie pounded its body on the floor would Abyan feel being crushed by a train while spurting out a big mouth of fresh blood; meanwhile, many bones on its body would be broken.

Zhang Tie's strength was too terrifying. What was more was Zhang Tie's high speed, ghost-like footsteps and movements.

This was a bloody battle that had never happened since the birth of the Shadow-Demon Cell between a LV 14 battle demon and Zhang Tie, who had just promoted to LV 12 great battle master.

If a common great battle master fought a battle demon who was two levels higher than him, the common great battle master would lose the battle evidently in half a minute. However, Zhang Tie was not a common battle master. Therefore, this was a fierce battle.

Abyan had powerful battle skills and protective battle qi which could defend and defuse many common protective battle qis. Additionally, it was two levels higher than that of Zhang Tie and had rich battle experiences...

By contrast, Zhang Tie had greater speed; although his battle skill could not match that of Abyan, his battle skills were special; additionally, Zhang Tie had rich battle experiences.

Zhang Tie and Abyan both fought with bare hands.

The Shadow-Demon Cell had been disordered while the floor and walls were covered with huge pits caused by battle qi booms. The bricks and concretes were falling like the rain from the roof. This was also the largest destruction that this trouble-reappearance situation had encountered since it was formed.

Through this battle, Zhang Tie concluded two points. First, in a duel, if a powerful battle qi didn't strike the opponent, it would cause a huge destruction to the environment. Second, Iron-blood Fist and Iron-blood Battle Qi were powerful enough to tear apart a LV 14 battle demon's protective battle qi.

Abyan roared with twisting face. At the same time, he waved his hands and launched off-body battle qi attacks towards Zhang Tie like a lunatic.

Noticing Abyan's movements, Zhang Tie became stunned as he suddenly recalled how he gritted his teeth and tried to survive longer in front of Abyan previously. In previous times, Zhang Tie estimated that he looked as anxious as Abyan at this moment. As a result, Zhang Tie was almost struck by Abyan's off-body battle qi.

When Abyan's strike almost touched Zhang Tie's cloth corner, Zhang Tie straightly disappeared.

In such a small Shadow-Demon Cell, wherever Zhang Tie was, he could appear in any place of this cell with only one step. For Abyan, Zhang Tie was just like a virtual shadow. Everything about Zhang Tie was false, only Abyan's strike was real.

Zhang Tie appeared 20 m behind Abyan. Before Abyan turned around, Zhang Tie's punch had reached its back, causing the thin protective battle qi that Abyan had just formed collapse in a split second. Besides, a lot of scales flew off its body while Abyan spurted out another mouth of fresh blood.

Before Abyan made its counterattack, Zhang Tie had disappeared once again.

Zhang Tie's strike made Abyan fly into a rage.

"Go die..." Abyan roared as it launched its top trump-card battle skill.

9 black bats flew out of Abyan's hands and charged at Zhang Tie at the same time.

Of course, they were not real bats, but bats composed of powerful battle qi.

Battle-qi in shape was a battle skill that a LV 13 battle general could master. With this skill, one's battle qi could play a greater destruction when in a strike. Zhang Tie saw Scala's battle-qi in shape of a destructive wild wolf when he was in Mocco City for the first time.

After fighting with Abyan for so long in Shadow-Demon Cell, it was Zhang Tie's first time to see Abyan's battle-qi in shape.

This was Abyan's 3rd battle-qi in shape within 2 hours.

Not knowing why, Zhang Tie felt that Abyan was changing completely today. Previously, Zhang Tie felt that Abyan was like a tall and terrifying mountain ridge who could tear him off in a split second; however, today, Zhang Tie felt Abyan becoming clumsy as each of its movement lacked something.

The 9 bats charged at Zhang Tie from 4 directions. In the eyes of onlookers, if there was, Zhang Tie had no way to retreat or dodge away. However, in Zhang Tie's eyes, he could still see possibilities in this impossibility. With the combination of his powerful knight's consciousness and his enlightenment of "one step, one scenery", Zhang Tie instantly moved over 100 steps in a limited area by moving forward, backward, leftward, rightward, raising or lowering his head as light as a virtual smoke. After trembling a few times, Zhang Tie got rid of Abyan's trump-card battle-qi in shape for the 3rd time.

Abyan pounced on Zhang Tie. With its mouth widely opened, Abyan exposed its sharp teeth and wanted to bite off a piece of flesh from Zhang Tie's body.

In Zhang Tie's eyes, Abyan was just moving fast.

Zhang Tie knew that he could hardly squeeze anything more out of Abyan, 'It's time to end this battle.'

...

After getting rid of Abyan's strike, Zhang Tie easily passed through Abyan's front claws. When he passed by Abyan's body, Zhang Tie instantly turned around and swept over Abyan's neck as fast as a lightning bolt by using his palm horizontally like a sharp sword...

As a result, Abyan's head was sent flying in the air. While spurting out hot blood, the headless corps continued to rush forward a few more steps before falling on the ground.

With a sound "bang", Abyan's head fell on the ground and rolled a long distance ahead.

Standing in the Shadow-Demon Cell, Zhang Tie watched his hands with a complex look. Just now, he killed Abyan which was once like a nightmare by his own hands.

"I made it, I made it..." Zhang Tie mumbled. Finally, he roared while two lines of tears poured out of his eye sockets, "Angel, Sharapova, Nia, Hirtina, Mia, did you see that? I finally killed Abyan with my own hands today. I can be your guardian knight now, ah..."

The entire Shadow-Demon Cell rocked while numerous stones fell off the roof.

Zhang Tie raised his head with a dumbfounded look, 'What's the matter? My sound is not that destructive...'

"F..."

With a boom, the entire Shadow-Demon Cell collapsed in a split second due to Abye's last battle-qi in shape. Zhang Tie, appeared in this scene as a winner for the first time had been pressed by millions of tons of stones before tasting the complex moods. He didn't even finish the word "F*ck". Even though Zhang Tie had taken dozens of more trouble-reappearance fruits during this period of cultivation, he still had no strength to resist...

The trouble-reappearance situation was shattered and turned into light spots.

...

Under the small tree, Zhang Tie opened his eyes. He felt cold under his lower eyelids. After touching it, he realized that his original body had been dropping off tears.

Although the accident had passed a long time ago, the death of the girls in Blackhot City were always making Zhang Tie's depressive. Zhang Tie always dreamed about the girls' crying looks. However, he was unable to help them; he could only see them being engulfed by the dark force. After killing the murderer who killed those girls in Blackhot City today, Zhang Tie finally felt reassured.

Zhang Tie picked himself up from the ground and walked downstairs that high platform.

Heller was waiting for him downside there. At the sight of Heller, Zhang Tie hurriedly wiped off his tears bashfully and said, "Erm...I've just won a battle...I cried due to the excitement. Have I said something weird just now?"

"No!" Heller shook his head with a solemn look. After that, he moved his eyes from Zhang Tie's face like having not seen Zhang Tie's tears as he suggested, "My lord, we've worked out the latest space and topographic renovation map, do you want to take a look at it?"

"Fine!" Zhang Tie nodded.

Heller waved his hand while a huge three-dimensional vertical image appeared in front of Zhang Tie.

"As many basic energy storages have been accumulated in Castle of Black Iron in these months, the land area in Castle of Black Iron would be expanded to 1,000 sq km or so. Meanwhile, a sea area as wide as about 500 sq km would come into being..." Heller explained to Zhang Tie while pointing at the three-dimensional image...

With Heller's explanation, Zhang Tie recovered his composure and focused on the rotating three-dimensional map...

...

Chapter 680: New Look (I)

The rotating three-dimensional image displayed a new look of Castle of Black Iron, whose land area expanded by 10 times. Besides, there was an ocean. The moment Zhang Tie saw that had he felt his heart racing.

'This is my space, this is the land that I accumulated step by step.' Zhang Tie told himself as he felt proud. Additionally, the immortal mountain in Castle of Black Iron, namely where Zhang Tie was standing on increased by over 10,000 m in height immediately which looked more magnificent and mysterious.

Zhang Tie saw some white clouds above the three-dimensional image.

"White clouds? How could we have white clouds here?" Zhang Tie asked Heller.

"With the expansion of the space in Castle of Black Iron, the natural circulation system of this space will gradually show itself. White cloud is just the initial phenomenon. If this space could further expand later on, it would display its more complex, three-dimensional climate types which are adapted to all sorts of living beings."

"Will it rain here?"

"Maybe!" Heller answered faintly.

"Ah? What do you mean?"

"I mean it will rain if you want it in this space; it will not rain if you don't want it. It depends on you, my lord!"

Zhang Tie nodded, 'Although it's a marvelous way to control the weather; it's nothing strange in Castle of Black Iron.'

"How many people could this new land hold?"

"All the new land is very fertile. Main grain crops could be planted in the three seasons of a year. If we made full use of this land, we could hold a population of more than 3 million people!"

"More than 3 million people?" Zhang Tie slightly frowned as he stretched out his hand to work on the three-dimensional image, "The sea area is too large; just cancel it off. We can change it into a land. Additionally, we need some inland freshwater lakes and as more natural river systems as possible so as to irrigate the land on river banks. We should prioritize the benefits of as more people here as possible!"

Under the manipulation of Zhang Tie, the sea area disappeared while the land area expanded by a quarter. Additionally, some more lakes and rivers appeared in the land.

Watching the change that Zhang Tie made, Heller understood Zhang Tie's meaning immediately, "My lord, are you preparing for more people to live in Castle of Black Iron?"

Zhang Tie nodded, 'The holy war has just started a couple of years ago, however, numerous people have lost their homeland. In the future, the holy war will be crueler.' Zhang Tie could not predict the outcome of this holy war; however, he wanted to do more preparations for the possible future. Castle of Black Iron could serve as a sacred shelter and enable more people to survive on. Take Ice and Snow Wilderness for instance, as an isolated overseas land in Blackson Humans Corridor, it could barely stand

too long if the entire Blackson Humans Corridor collapsed. If there was one day that Ice and Snow Wilderness was mired in an impasse, he could teleport all his followers from Ice and Snow Wilderness to Castle of Black Iron. Although the method seemed to be a bit irresponsible, Zhang Tie knew that what counted most in the holy war was to save as more humans as possible.

After figuring out Zhang Tie's train of thoughts, Heller started a new change. After a short while, he had completed the adjustment of the entire three-dimensional image. Heller pulled down the image with one hand while the entire land area expanded to over 4,000 sq km once more like spreading a pie on the pan.

"My lord, now that you want to hold as more people as possible here, we don't have to keep the new land so thick. According to the previous plan, the land and rock layer in Castle of Black Iron was as thick as 800 m. After the adjustment, its thickness turns into 200 m. Therefore, we could increase more land area and hold over 10 million population in total inside Castle of Black Iron."

Zhang Tie patted his forehead forcefully, "Right, how could I forget about this?"

"Is there any side effect?"

"No, these people could only live on the land surface. If we just consider their daily lives, 200 m in thickness is enough. If you are not satisfied with land area, 20 m in thickness also works. After all, everything here is carried in this space. As long as there's such a layer of soil on the ground, it will grow plant and grains!"

'20 m in thickness?' Zhang Tie rubbed his face, "It's like rolling a dough on the panel. Although the thickness won't bring any side effect to Castle of Black Iron, it feels weird— one guy might penetrate through the land in a few days using a hoe? It's too thin. As it's humans' settlement, I'd better make it safer. Just set it as 200 m in thickness then. This thickness could help people survive and feel safer. If I have any demand in the future, I will increase the thickness."

"I've got another question."

"Can we produce a mineral vein in Castle of Black Iron this time?" Zhang Tie asked Heller with full of hope.

"It has an advanced ability to produce mineral vein in Castle of Black Iron. In the current stage, it requires a great price. Any small low-end mineral vein will require enormous merit values and aura values as well as some other prerequisites. Therefore, I don't suggest you to use this ability now."

After thinking for a few seconds, Zhang Tie asked Heller, "Which mineral vein could we form in Castle of Black Iron based on the current merit values, aura values and basic energy storage?"

"If all the current resources are put in, due to the bucket effect, you can gain a mini, low-end common iron ore whose gross reserve is less than 80,000 tons after using up all the merit values. The template of the iron ores originates from those low-end wasted iron ores that you brought in Castle of Black Iron to increase its basic energy storage when you joined the survival training in Wildwolf Valley! Meanwhile, after forming this iron ore, due to the exhaustion of merit values and the consumption of the greater part of aura values, Castle of Black Iron would not accomplish this space and topographical renovation although there were still a great amount of basic energy storage left."

After hearing Heller's words, Zhang Tie woke up at once. He then took a deep breath as he had not imagined that it was so difficult for Castle of Black Iron to form a natural mineral vein at such a great cost. However, after thinking for a short while, Zhang Tie understood it, 'If it was very easy to form mineral veins in Castle of Black Iron, I would be the richest man in the world only by casually forming some quality gold ores, gem mines or crystal mines in Castle of Black Iron.'

"You mean it's impossible for me to form some mineral veins in Castle of Black Iron now. Is there any other method?"

"The mineral veins in Castle of Black Iron could be formed in two ways. We've known about the first method, when you could provide sufficient resources, you could form a certain mineral vein. Second, after space and topographical renovation, Castle of Black Iron could form a mineral ore naturally. If Castle of Black Iron could form over 1,000 sq km' ocean or land area whose thickness was over 50 km, namely 50,000 m, it would form the preliminary earth's shell. By then, you might gain one or more natural mineral veins or ore deposits whose locations, species and reserves were optional..."

"That is to say, if I'm able to complete such a space and topographic expansion, I might get one or more optional mineral resources by chance?" Zhang Tie widely opened his eyes as he had not imagined that Castle of Black Iron could have such a marvelous ability.

"Yes. Generally, the wider the expanded land area is, the thicker the earth surface and earth's crust are, the more kinds of mineral ores and reserves will be formed optionally in Castle of Black Iron. This process is almost like that outside of Castle of Black Iron. If you're able to accomplish a space and topographic expansion as wide as that of Blackson Humans Corridor, I promise that you will have no fewer mineral veins and ore deposits in the new land of Castle of Black Iron than that in Blackson Humans Corridor."

Zhang Tie showed the whites of his eyes. Based on his little body and little energy, he could not accumulate sufficient basic energy storage for over 100 years by soaking himself in the ocean so as to accomplish such a wide area of expansion, not to mention that he had to have corresponding merit values and aura values. 'Just forget about it. It's too luxurious to think about mineral veins in Castle of Black Iron, it's not even as economical as buying well-extracted metals from outside and bringing them inside Castle of Black Iron.'

After then, Zhang Tie and Heller continued to adjust the three-dimensional map.

A whim occurred to Zhang Tie as he pointed at a place on the immortal mountain, "I need a training field here with a firm land."

"A training field?" Heller watched Zhang Tie with a dubious look.

"Like that where I cultivated a few days ago. I want to cultivate under the impulse of seawater which is diverted from outside to that place. I feel pretty good cultivating in that state. Additionally, I could have iron-body fruits to take!"

"No problem, my lord, are you going to meditate in seclusion in the ocean?"

"You got me!"

"If so, we'd better build a waterfall on this side of the immortal mountain. It's a very considerable impulse from 10,000 m high. It could provide a better cultivation environment when you had no chance to meditate in seclusion in the ocean..." After saying that, Heller drew his fingers on the three-dimensional map while a waterfall straightly flew off one side of the immortal mountain. With a splashing sound, a river appeared on the ground below...