

Black Iron 711

Chapter 711: A Misunderstanding

The alleged No. 1 knight was similar to a nationwide employed knight. The only difference was that nationwide employed knights served a nation or royals while employed knights served clans that had not established countries. If demons completely occupied Blackson Humans Corridor in the future, Senel Clan might be rewarded with a nation. If so, that knight employed by Senel Clan might be the No. 1 knight of their nation or a corps leader.

Any knight would be at least a corps leader in Blackson Humans Corridor if they took an office in the army. However, there were many human countries in Blackson Humans Corridor, none of their armies contained more than 400,000 soldiers. None of the countries were able to establish and sustain the needs of a corps. Therefore, if one country could have one knight on their side, even if the knight could not take the office as a corps leader, he would become the alleged No. 1 knight of the country.

The No. 1 knight of a country was like a lifetime marshal, which was the supreme battle force of a country. Countries with one No. 1 knight would be much more powerful than those without and weaker than those countries which could establish corps. These countries were the pillar ones with the greatest battle forces in Blackson Humans Corridor.

The Symbian Republic and Raymlan Empire were both such countries. However, the No. 1 knight of Symbian Republic sacrificed himself outside Mocco City while the No. 1 knight of Raymlan Empire was standing in front of Zhang Tie.

Some countries and powers had hundreds of thousands of soldiers; however, they still could not attract knights to serve them. Over 70% of the human countries in Blackson Humans Corridor were like this, such as the former Andaman Alliance, the current Free Commercial Federation, Cross Star Commercial Federation, Holland Republic, Titanic Duchy and that Holy Golden Orchid Empire, etc..

Countries like Norman Empire and Jinyun Country which could establish corps all ranked first in Blackson Humans Corridor, especially Hua countries like Jinyun Country. In Jinyun Country, all the major Hua clans could cultivate knights. The number of knights in the major Hua clans in Jinyun Country also ranked first across Blackson Humans Corridor. The mighty Jinyun Country was also a powerful epitome of Hua people in this age.

Zhang Tie had not imagined that the No. 1 knight of Raymlan Empire could block his way.

Given the knight's sword qi, Zhang Tie knew that he was not weak. Such a sword qi could exterminate anyone below "knight" from 200 m away. However, for Zhang Tie, it was just not bad. Compared to the demon knight that Zhang Tie had just killed, this one might even be weaker.

After promoting to a knight, Zhang Tie's perception also rose to the level of knights. He started to treat everything with the insight and mentality of knights.

Although Zhang Tie was flying at the speed of about 200 m per second, at the sight of the sword qi crossing his way, Zhang Tie stopped instantly. He transiently completed his conversion between extreme high-speed movement and extreme static.

Seeing how Zhang Tie stopped, that knight called Jaray frowned as he made his decision to kill Zhang Tie...

Zhang Tie's extremely young look made Jaray more alert.

Besides being taller and stronger, Zhang Tie's look remained unchanged. He was still as same as that at the age of 16 in Blackhot City. Those who were familiar with Zhang Tie wouldn't feel that Zhang Tie's look was special. However, in the eyes of Jaray, Zhang Tie looked extremely "monstrous", 'A 16-year old knight? No way!'

Therefore, Jaray was sure that this unidentified knight had hidden his true look purposefully. 'It's already evil for such a powerful knight to disguise himself as a Hua man; additionally, he wants to raid the capital of Raymlan Kingdom. It will be more dangerous.'

If such a powerful knight was allowed in the capital of Raymlan Empire, it would be a real catastrophe.

Similar events once happened in former holy wars. This also indicated the terror of knights. Nothing else could stop a knight except knights.

Right then, the royals in Saint Maner City, the capital of Raymlan Empire had already started the evacuation procedures. All the royal members were in an emergency evacuation...

...

"What do you want?" Zhang Tie muffled his voice unpleasantly when he was blocked by someone forcefully.

"Your Excellency, although Raymlan Empire is a small country, you're still not allowed to enter Saint Maner City, the capital of Raymlan Empire unless you step on my corpse..." Jaray said solemnly as he put his long sword horizontally. Meanwhile, his cyan battle-qi totem rushed to the sky.

Closely after that, all the battle airships behind him started to change their formation as if they had already received the signal to fight. The huge net gradually transformed into a huge ball. Having served in airship troop for a long time, of course, Zhang Tie knew what did the ball formation mean. It meant that the airships were going to collaborate with each other and fight him to death. So many battle airships in different sizes were going to fight a knight, what a tragic scene!

Honestly, if this knight Jaray said a jargon such as, "This mountain belongs to me, this tree is planted by me; if you want to pass by, leave your money", Zhang Tie would never feel strange. However, when Jaray thought that Zhang Tie was going to invade Saint Maner City, the capital of Raymlan Empire, Zhang Tie became dumbfounded and almost cried, 'What the hell! I'm just in a rush. How the hell can I be framed in this way?'

Now that it was a misunderstanding, Zhang Tie's displeasure faded away at once.

"Your Excellency, you must have misunderstood me. I'm just in a rush!" Zhang Tie explained calmly.

"Hahaha..." Jaray burst out into laughter before glaring at Zhang Tie, "You're in a rush? That's the best joke that I've ever heard. As a knight, why do you fabricate such a laughingstock? You really think that nobody in Raymlan Empire could stop you? 2 hours ago, you flew over Kalay Mountain Range and Barlin City before flying 1,000 miles towards Saint Maner City in such an aggressive way. You call it "in a rush"?

It was Goddess Lake behind Saint Maner City which lasts 2,000 miles. You tell me you're going to fly over 3,000 miles only "in a rush?" I've never heard that any knight across Blackson Humans Corridor could fly over 2,000 miles without a stop. You flew over 1,000 miles in only 2 hours towards Saint Maner City, dare you say it is not a raid?"

After hearing Jaray's words, Zhang Tie became stunned as he instantly found the problem, 'Erm...erm...can't all knights fly forever? I didn't find any problem in the flight yet. It's so easy. According to Jaray, it's uneasy for a knight to fly over 1,000 miles. I just flew at a normal speed, why did it become aggressive in others' eyes? Why do they think I am targeting Saint Maner City?'

'Does it mean that other knights could not have such a great flight performance? Saint Maner City is a major air traffic hub in the south of Blackson Humans Corridor which is closest to Kalay Mountain Range. Therefore, my flight route aroused their misunderstanding.'

Zhang Tie realized that he had made a low-end mistake. As he had just promoted to a knight, he thought all the knights could have such a great flight performance. Therefore, he just flew wherever he wanted.

Zhang Tie almost forgot that he was cultivating an emperor-level secret knowledge, the "King Roc Sutra" that nobody else had cultivated in this world.

In the world, there were totally 2 emperor-level secret books, "Xuanyuan God Sutra", which was cultivated by Xuanyuan Emperor's clan members in Taixia Country. As to "King Roc Sutra", Zhang Tie was the only one who reached above LV 11.

'After returning to Huaiyuan Palace, I have to report to the elders that I've promoted to a knight. Additionally, after promoting to a knight, I became more confident to return to Huaiyuan Palace. I could face the elders frankly. However, if the secret that I am cultivating "King Roc Sutra" is exposed to the public, it will arouse an earthquake.

In a split second, various whims occurred to Zhang Tie's mind, 'It seems that I have to give up the mind to fly towards Huaiyuan palace in case of arousing the attention of the public. If I just flew over 10,000 miles back to Huaiyuan Palace arrogantly, I might never live a peaceful life in the future.'

Seeing Zhang Tie being silent, Jaray confirmed his hypothesis. Watching Zhang Tie's young face, Jaray sneered, "Now that we're going to fight, why not show your real look. It's heard that the Three-eye Association also have some powerful knights. If you still hide your real look at this moment, it would ruin your dignity as a powerhouse. You're really whimsy, how can you disguise as a young man."

Being wordless, Zhang Tie just rubbed his face, 'When I disguised as others, nobody had ever identified my real look; however, when I'm showing my real look, nobody believes in me. How dramatic!'

Zhang Tie sighed as he watched the No. 1 knight of Raymlan Empire calmly, "Your Excellency, you must have misunderstood me. I'm Zhang Tie. I'm in my real look. I'm from Huaiyuan Palace, Jinyun Country. I want to go back to Huaiyuan Palace by the airship in Saint Maner City!"

After hearing Zhang Tie's reply, Jaray became stunned as it was completely out of his imagination.

In a split second, Jaray recovered his composure as he burst out into laughter, "Is there any young elder like you in Huaiyuan Palace, Jinyun Country? Now that you're a human knight, please show me your knight plate."

"What is a Knight plate?" Zhang Tie became amazed.

"You're really good at disguising!" Jaray sneered, "Now that you're a knight from Huaiyuan Palace, don't tell me that you've not been to the Mountain of Brightness."

Having just promoted to a knight, Zhang Tie knew nothing about the world of knights. He didn't know anything about the Mountain of Brightness and knight plate.

"I've just promoted to a knight and I'm about to rush back to Zhang Clan. I'm not an elder of Huaiyuan Palace yet. Therefore, I don't have a knight plate!"

Watching Zhang Tie's calm look and hearing his stable reply, Jaray became dubious...

'If Zhang Tie was really a knight on the side of Three-eye Association or demon, he should have started the fight as soon as possible. He doesn't need to waste time with me here. The longer he stays here, the more disadvantageous it would be for him and the more possible that he might be caught up by other human knights behind him. As a result, he might finally be surrounded in Saint Maner City. I'd also talk with him so as to prolong time. After a few more hours, one of my friends would arrive.'

Jaray gazed at Zhang Tie with an experienced vicious look as he suddenly asked, "Now that you want to go to Saint Maner City, do you mind us giving you a favor by an airship? In Hua language, Raymlan Empire should show the rite to you as the host."

Zhang Tie replied with a faint smile as he got Jaray's intention. 'Now that we're not enemy, I want to ask this human knight some questions by this chance in case of loopholes.'

"Alright. I wonder which is your flagship airship, Your Excellency. After traveling so long, I'm a bit tired. I also want to take a rest!" Zhang Tie replied frankly.

Jaray threw a deep glance at Zhang Tie. Although he was still alert about Zhang Tie, he had already put away his battle-qi totem.

"Come with me!"

Saying this, Jaray flew towards the airship troop in the distance at the speed of about 100 m per second.

Zhang Tie just kept about 100 m away from Jaray.

As Jaray flew, he kept noticing Zhang Tie. After finding that Zhang Tie was still not anxious, Jaray doubted, 'Is he a real knight of Huaiyuan Palace? But he's too young. I've not heard about such a young knight in Huaiyuan Palace these couple of years. It's heard that Lan Yunxi, the princess of Huaiyuan Palace is just LV 12. She's even served in Selnes Theater of Operations as the commander of the airship troop of Jinyun Country. Zhang Tie, hmm, I remembered that someone had mentioned about this name before...'

"Your Excellency, do you know Lan Yunxi?" Jaray asked tentatively.

Zhang Tie became stunned as he had not imagined that Jaray also knew about Lan Yunxi, "She's my elder sister!"

'—and my reserved wife.' Zhang Tie didn't pour out the latter half.

"You know each other?"

"Very familiar!"

...

Watching Jaray and Zhang Tie flew towards them, one after another, the airship troop of Raymlan Empire didn't open fire towards Zhang Tie—of course, even if they opened fire, their strike would almost be ignored by Zhang Tie. The steam bolts on the airship could never break knight's protective battle qi at all. Among all the steam weapons, only large-scale city-defense steam weapons such as steam centrifugal shells could pose a bit threat to the knight.

Zhang Tie was directly led to a deck of a huge fury-level airship. Due to his great battle force, Zhang Tie was very confident. He didn't worry that these people of Raymlan Empire could play any trick in front of him.

The moment the two knights landed on the deck, some commissioned officers had rushed out.

At the sight of Zhang Tie, one commissioned officer of Raymlan Empire widely opened his eyes, "Ahh? Your Excellency Zhang Tie?"

The moment that commissioned officer uttered had Zhang Tie became stunned. So did Jaray and the other commissioned officers in the surroundings. They all gazed at that young commissioned officer with a strange look.

"You know me?" Zhang Tie asked as he pointed at his nose.

After drawing in a deep breath, that commissioned officer explained, "When in Mocco City, after the failed bomb attempts of Three-eye Association towards you, I saw you wander around the city with a carriage of wing demons' heads. I remember that the entire depressive Mocco City had been boiling that day. Later on, when I led the airship relief team of Raymlan Empire to Selnes Theater of Operations, we encountered the ambush of wing demons. At the critical moment, Your Excellency appeared by a unique Wind Talker glider and cleaned all the wing demons. I was in the airship at that moment. Before leaving, Your Excellency even waved the wings of the glider. It's deeply imprinted in my mind from then on. Your Excellency might have forgotten about what you did in Selnes Theater of Operations, but my brothers and I would never forget about that. Later on, you were framed by those b*stards of Three-eye Association. They said you had surrendered to demons after being captured. However, none of the brothers who had served the airship troops and glider troops believed that. None of those who had seen you wander in the streets with a carriage of wing demons' heads, who had fought together with you, who had seen the wrecked glider which could never fly off would believe that the Selnes Eagle who had safeguarded the entire air territory of Selnes Theater of Operations could be conquered by the mean conspiracy of Three-eye Association by lowering your arrogant head to demons and Three-eye Association."

After hearing this commissioned officer, Zhang Tie almost dropped his tears. All the other commissioned officer and Jaray were deeply moved. Even the human defense line in Selnes Theater of Operations had been broken by demons, the Selnes Eagle who once hovered above the entire Selnes Theater of Operations was still an immortal legend in the human airship troops across Blackson Humans Corridor and the pride of all human soldiers who could drive gliders.

After saying these words, that commissioned officer stood at attention and made a salute to Zhang Tie solemnly, "Your Excellency, welcome to visit Goddess Lake, the flagship of the royal airship troop of Raymlan Empire..."

Zhang Tie also made a solemn salute to this commissioned officer without saying anything...

Jaray scanned the faces of Zhang Tie and that commissioned officer before bursting out into laughter...

"Distribute my order, cancel off the warning. Return to Saint Maner City..."

Chapter 712: The Mountain of Brightness

In a luxurious lounge of Goddess Lake, the flagship of the royal airship troop of Raymlan Empire, Zhang Tie and Jaray were sitting on a comfortable sofa and chatting casually.

The airship just moved over 100 miles per hour. In this state, it would take them at least 6 hours to arrive at Saint Maner City, the capital of Raymlan Empire. After Zhang Tie's status was confirmed by the commissioned officer in the airship, especially after seeing that Zhang Tie was pretty relaxed, Jaray didn't doubt about Zhang Tie anymore; instead, he started to communicate with Zhang Tie frankly.

Zhang Tie also knew that the airship troop was moving a bit slowly. However, he didn't complain about it. After all, he was not in a rush.

Zhang Tie finally knew how his trace was discovered. 'I've not imagined that I have been traced four times by the observation posts and air-defense posts in the flight of over 1,000 miles within 2 hours. Given this point, the countries in the south of Kalay Mountain Range seem to have made better preparations to the holy war than those in the north. The intelligence network of the Central Countries Alliance in the south of Kalay Mountain Range is more established. However, this is also related to my flight route and flight time. If I could be more meticulous, I'm fully confident to not be noticed by anyone. In the evening, as long as I keep my Chakra running slowly, I will not release my battle qi and become as dazzling as a meteor in the sky. As a result, those observation posts and air-defense posts on the ground would barely find my trace.'

Jaray then sent a feedback to the side of Central Countries Alliance. The content of the message strictly complied with some information feedback rules about knights. Zhang Tie's status and concrete trace remained confidential—the unidentified knight is confirmed as a Hua knight from Jinyun Country. He's going to take airship in Saint Maner City.

After this message was sent, it indicated that the crisis was relieved. Even if the major clans of Jinyun Country received such a message, they would also think that other clan's knight was executing some secret task outside.

Through Jaray, Zhang Tie knew the final result of the battle of Upton City. Although Zhang Tie was not amazed by this result, he figured out what was happening at that time. He knew why those demons suddenly became as spirited as having eaten viagra.

What helped the super demon corps save some loss was the Demon General and its Three-in-One Strength. Without the Three-in-One Strength, at least half of the super demon corps would be cleared by 10 human knights and so many airships.

However, with the Three-in-One Strength of the Demon General, the speed of all the demons could increase by 30% instantly on the battlefield.

The sacrificed human knight was a royal member of Norman Empire, who was killed by the Demon General when it broke out of the encirclement.

Through the battle of Upton City, the plan that demons and the Three-eye Association wanted the northern tunnel of Kalay Mountain Range, went into bankruptcy. Norman Empire was the biggest beneficiary in the battle of Upton City, who had made the most contribution in the battle. This was the first human knight that Norman Empire lost since the beginning of the holy war.

Zhang Tie felt pitiful about the sacrificed knight.

The holy war was cruel! Even knights would be killed in the holy war. From Mocco City to Upton City, Zhang Tie had experienced two battles when human knights fought to the death. He had also killed one demon knight and one mixed-blood knight of Three-eye Association, one by raiding, one by head-on collision.

Jaray was a very decent and traditional knight. When he talked about knights, Jaray wanted to ask Zhang Tie about something several times; however, he finally didn't do that.

Of course, Zhang Tie knew what Jaray wanted to ask him about. Actually, Zhang Tie had already prepared for that.

"I've also joined the battle of Upton City!"

After hearing Zhang Tie's words, Jaray became stupefied, "Really? I heard only 10 human knights were dispatched out by Norman Empire, Jinyun Country and Qilan Country. Were you hiding somewhere?"

"I joined it accidentally. After the Demon General released its Three-in-One Strength, I was chased by a demon powerhouse and flurriedly entered an underground tunnel beneath Kalay Mountain Range. The demon powerhouse kept chasing me all the way to an extremely deep, mysterious underground space, where there was a crystal pyramid. After entering the pyramid, I found the time inside the pyramid was much slower than that of the outside. Therefore, I only cultivated inside for many years until I promoted to a knight!"

Speaking of the tower of time, Zhang Tie didn't worry about it being uncovered. 'As Kalay Mountain Range is so large, my expression is also blurry, others could never find the precise entrance of the underground space. Even if they did find it, they were definitely seeking for death in the subterranean watercourse if they were below LV 14. Even if they were above LV 14, they could have less than 1/10,000 probability to enter the underground space. Even if someone hit the jackpot, he had to wait 6 decades until the tower of time reopened. Even if it was a human knight, after entering that underground space, he could barely escape out of that underwater swirl which had such a terrifying, great suction. As a result, the human knight could only stay in the underground space for 6 decades,

during which period, even if the human knight didn't turn mad or die, it would depend on whether I agree to spare him such a chance to enter the tower of time when it reopened.'

'The tower of time is a big trap, if someone really plans to find it, he deserves to have a big trouble!' Zhang Tie thought.

After hearing Zhang Tie's words, Jaray was so excited that he almost sprung up. This No. 1 knight of Raymlan Empire watched Zhang Tie with gleaming eyes, "What? You discovered the prehistorical relics——Tower of Time in a mysterious underground space beneath Kalay Mountain Range? Hurry, tell me something about the Tower of Time. What's it made of? What's the time velocity ratio inside it? I was told that the time velocity ratio in some tower of time could reach 10 years:1 day. Is that you met one of these?"

After hearing Jaray's questions, Zhang Tie instantly understood it that tower of time was not a big secret in the circle of knights; otherwise, Jaray could never know it so clearly.

"Ahh? Tower of time is divided into many categories?"

"Of course, don't you know that?"

"Erm...I have not touched such knowledge before!" Zhang Tie shrugged.

Jaray watched Zhang Tie as he suddenly realized that, "It's normal. This knowledge could not be touched until you promote to a knight! Now that you've already promoted to a knight, I can tell you now." Jaray, who was restraining in words before, suddenly became talkative, "Tower of Time could be divided into many categories according to different methods. If it is just divided by the time velocity ratio, according to some literature, there are 7-8 categories of towers of time in total since the Catastrophe to now. Their time velocity ratio ranges from 1 month:1 day to 10 years:1 day, etc.."

"You mean some of the discovered towers of time are still in the hand of humans?"

"Of course!" Jaray threw a glance at Zhang Tie with a special look, "According to my knowledge, Hua people in Taixia have the most towers of time. 80% of towers of time that have been discovered are in the hand of Hua people in Taixia Country. It's heard that the super clans and schools in Taixia had 7-10 towers of time. Outsiders don't know about the details about the tower of time. The super clans and schools in Taixia Country call the underground space where the tower of time rested in Dongtian 1. Tower of time was the biggest secret of a clan or a school!"

"What about other division methods?"

"Of course, it's heard that there are better conditions and resources in the tower of time. After entering it, the cultivator could rapidly grasp some skills and abilities with the conditions and resources inside it. In a very short time, the cultivator would become a powerful pharmacist, a rune manufacturer or an alchemist master. However, such a tower of time is just a legend. If there truly was one, no details about it would be exposed to the public!"

Zhang Tie was shocked by this. However, Zhang Tie understood that the rules to access the tower of time should be the same. For instance, only one person was allowed at one time. It required enough time for the tower of time to restore energy. Even though some super clans or schools had towers of time in some Dongtian, very few people were qualified to access it.

'Whether that mysterious underground space that I've discovered is a Dongtian?' Zhang Tie thought out of curiosity.

"You'd better not expose the secret of the tower of time to the public in case of trouble. I promise to not expose your secret to the 3rd person!" Jaray told Zhang Tie solemnly.

"Oh yes, nice, thanks for the warning!" Zhang Tie hurriedly appreciated him. As a No. 1 knight of a country who dared defend his duty and honor at the risk of his own life at the critical moment would have a good moral standing for sure, "As I've just come out of the underground space today after promoting to a knight, I'm too excited. Therefore, I flew a bit fast. Will I have any side-effects?"

Zhang Tie asked with a solemn look.

"Do you feel that your chakras are still functioning properly?" Jaray asked seriously with a bit concern like an old man.

"Hmm, it's okay. Only a bit light!" Zhang Tie fabricated. Actually, that flight didn't pose any influence to him at all. At this speed, even if he flew another 10,000 miles, his Chakra could still run as steadily as a 100 tons' millstone.

"You're still too young!" Jaray let out a sigh, "Average black iron knights have to take a rest after a flight of 700-1,000 miles. Take me as an instance, if I need to take a long-distance journey, I will take a rest in every 1,000 miles. If I fly longer than 1,000 miles one time, I have to consume more battle qi. I can fly over 2,000 miles one time; however, it would cost over 80% of my battle qi. As a result, my battle force would reduce sharply. If so, I will not be able to deal with emergencies. If not use rare advanced medicament or pills, I will not be able to recover my battle qi completely in even a week. For knights, it's a cool experience in flight. However, the most frugal and safest way is to run on the ground, and occasionally use the flight to assist. In that way, we can move faster while consuming less energy; besides, we can deal with emergencies..."

Zhang Tie silently swallowed his saliva, 'Even knight's battle qi could be used up and required some time to recover. Knights could only insist a bit longer than those below knights. I thought that knight's battle qi could be provided endlessly like me.' Since the moment he promoted to a knight, even though Zhang Tie had a head-on fight with that demon knight in the underground space, Zhang Tie still didn't feel any problem with his battle qi provision. The sun in his qi ocean was releasing brilliance, namely, his battle qi was endless. Zhang Tie almost needn't worry about running out of his battle qi.

'Is this the terror of emperor-level secret knowledge?' Zhang Tie thought inside, 'Thanks to Jaray, otherwise, I might expose my secret to the public in the future.'

"What about the knight's plate and the Mountain of Brightness?"

Jaray smiled, "Do you know Fighters Association, Pharmacists Association and Mercenaries Association?"

"Yup!"

"Mountain of Brightness is equal to the association of human knights. It's the most powerful human organization. After promoting to knights, all the human knights have to ask for their own ID plates, namely knight's plates from Mountain of Brightness."

"Can I go there?"

"You can. You're free to go there. However, if you don't go there to register your status, you will isolate yourself from the knights' world and cut off the road towards higher ranks. I think even the elders of Huaiyuan Palace would not agree with that if you don't go there!"

"Why?"

"Because the founder of the Mountain of Brightness is Xuanyuan Emperor of Hua people. It is right in the territory of Jinyun Country!"

...

Chapter 713: The Black Iron Effect

After flying 4 hours by Goddess Lake, Zhang Tie felt a powerful qi moving closer, 'it was a knight's qi.'

Like how eagles could notice other eagles hovering in the sky and how tigers could sniff other tigers walking in the woods, knights were also very sensitive to the qi of their same kind, especially when the other knight released a powerful battle qi straightly.

Although the battle qi was still 50 miles away, Zhang Tie had already sensed it.

"It's one of my friends. Several hours ago, when you flew towards Saint Maner City, he received a relief message. Therefore, he's in a rush towards here to support me!" As he explained, Jaray stood up, "Wait a moment, I will go pick him up. I'm sure my friend will be very happy to meet a young powerful knight!"

"As you wish, I also want to meet your friend. There's an old Hua saying, 'True friendship exists at the critical moment.' A friend who could drop everything and rush towards here to help you in the crisis is worthwhile!"

Jaray replied with a smile as he felt that Zhang Tie's words were pretty reasonable. After nodding towards Zhang Tie, he left the lounge. In the blink of an eye, Zhang Tie felt Jaray flying off the airship towards the qi.

Zhang Tie just had a cup of tea and waited there quietly.

Tea leaves from the Eastern Continent were the most expensive drink. Zhang Tie had learned a lot through the communication with Jaray over the past few hours. In Blackson Humans Corridor, knights liked tea leaves from Taixia Country the most. Some senior products could nourish knights' body and spiritual energy. If knights always drunk them, they could have a better recognition about the power of mother nature and usually maintained clear-mindedness. Benefited from the tea leaves, knights could easily enter cultivation. Such tea leaves were knights' favorite. They would cost at least 100 kgs of gold per kilo. Additionally, Jaray said such tea leaves were not the best. The best ones could be hardly bought through common channels. Only a very few of them could be traded in senior auctions.

Watching the bit of golden fine tea leaves in his cup, Zhang Tie revealed a bitter smile, 'This tea leaf is called golden scale. It comes from the Eastern Continent. A small cup of this tea leaves would cost at least 30 gold coins. It's equal to 3 years' salary of my father in Blackhot City.' Although Jaray was not a

luxurious man, he had to learn something about it at his level. Gradually, the resources of knights became luxuries that commoners dreamed for.

The tea smelt comfortable and tasted a bit bitter and smooth. Zhang Tie found it carried a special energy and aura, which nourished his body and spiritual energy. This feeling was similar to that of all-purpose medicament. By contrast, the effect of this tea was not as fast as that of all-purpose medicament. However, it felt more exquisite and natural. Besides nourishing his body tenderly, Zhang Tie found that it made his thoughts a bit clearer and more dynamic, 'It would definitely be helpful to knight's cultivation if they always drunk it. However, I'm afraid that it would cost a knight an astonishing amount of money on such tea leaves each year."

Right then, Zhang Tie recalled Donder, who said that he had drunk a cup of tea which was worth a few gold coins. Whereas, Zhang Tie thought that he was boasting at that time.

The most impressive tea leaf was that small common tea leaf from the Eastern Continent that Fattie Barley told him to hold in the mouth when he went for Ms. Anna. Of course, that common tea leaf could never match this golden scale in price and quality. However, Zhang Tie always felt that it was the best tea leaf that he had ever tasted and could not be replaced by any other tea leaves ever.

When he remembered about his friends in Blackhot City, Zhang Tie added two ladles of sugar in the tea...

Drinking the sweet tea, Zhang Tie smiled. For commoners, sweet things in daily lives could always bring more pleasure to them than bitterness. Some habits were related to one person's background. For Zhang Tie, who grew up drinking rice brew never felt that tea tasted good, even though such a cup of tea could not be bought by his family by selling rice brew for even 10 years!

...

Only after 5-6 minutes, Jaray had come back followed by a tall and tough knight in full-body armor. This knight was the No. 1 knight of Berdi Empire. The national strength of Berdi Empire was almost equal to that of Raymlan Empire. The two countries were connected with each other in the territory. Besides, they were harmonious in the relationship. The royals of the two countries got married a few times. Jaray and Way had been bosom friends for over 70 years.

The arrival of Way made the lounge more boisterous. The three knights had more topics to share.

Jaray and Way were too much elder than Zhang Tie, who was only 20 years old. However, in the eyes of Jaray and Way, Zhang Tie was not arrogant due to a young age or his background at all. Not only that, Zhang Tie was very modest and frank, which made the other elder knights more comfortable. Therefore, their talks proceeded very smoothly.

Being different from Jaray, who was restraint, Way was foursquare. Only after 10 minutes later, Way had asked all of his doubts.

"Jaray and I were 100 years old when we promoted to knights. It's a young age among knights. But Jaray said you're just 20 years old. How could you promote to a knight so fast? I asked Jaray just now, but he didn't tell me about that..."

Zhang Tie threw a glance at Jaray, who replied with a smile silently. As he had promised Zhang Tie that he would not expose anything about Tower of Time to others, he didn't even expose it to Way unswervingly.

Zhang Tie also smiled as he repeated what he told to Jaray just now to Way.

Being same to Jaray, Way also almost sprung up after hearing that Zhang Tie discovered a tower of time in a mysterious underground space.

"No way, no way..." Way forcefully patted his thigh a few times, "I've never imagined that such a mysterious space is hiding deep beneath Kalay Mountain Range, along with a tower of time in it..." After saying that, Way suddenly realized something as he glared at Jaray, "You've long known about it, right?"

"I've promised Zhang Tie that I will not expose it to anyone else. Of course, I cannot break my words!" Jaray explained calmly.

"I rushed all the way here to fight for you at the risk of my life, but you didn't even tell me that top secret?" Way became furious.

"You didn't have to come here, I've not begged you to be here!" Jaray smiled.

After gazing at each other for short while, they both burst out laughing at the same time. Zhang Tie felt that they were tactful and trustful to each other.

"The tower of time would reopen after 6 decades. It's hard to come out of there even if you could get down there. Even knights could not get out of there safe and sound. I have some other reasons to come out of there this time!" Zhang Tie warned them sincerely. As that place was a pit, considering that the two knights were decent, Zhang Tie warned them in case they regretted paying a visit there.

After exchanging glances with each other, Jaray and Way both nodded as they knew what Zhang Tie meant.

"Don't worry, I will not expose this secret to the 4th person. Jaray and I once planned to discover the underground world a few years ago, pitifully, as the No. 1 knights of Berdi Empire and Raymlan Empire, we cannot leave at our will. Although we might have a great harvest in the underground world, we know it's very risky. Additionally, we cannot estimate how much time is needed down there..." Way let out a sigh.

"You wanted to seek for the tower of time before?"

"Besides the tower of time, there are actually many secret items in the underground world, which are very attractive to knights!"

"Secret items?"

"Right. After promoting to a knight, except for weapons, most of the rune equipment and alchemist's equipment, especially those which could improve the ability of commoners have become useless for knights. That equipment could exert their full effects on LV 15 battle spirits; however, they could only exert 10% of their full effect on knights!"

Given Zhang Tie's look, Way asked out of amazement, "Don't you know about Black Iron Effect?"

"As Zhang Tie has just promoted to a knight, he has not touched this knowledge before!" Jaray explained on one side.

"What do you mean by Black Iron Effect of equipment?" Zhang Tie asked.

"The Black Iron Effect of equipment is a bottleneck effect on common equipment of Black Iron Knight. For instance, there's a vat of water in front of you; is it easy for you to increase 10% of the water in it?"

Zhang Tie nodded.

"What if there's a river in front of you. Is it still that easy for you to increase 10% of the water in it? A damp piece of soft mud might be one time harder after being dried two days under the sun; however, it's not that easy for you to make a piece of steel one time harder only by drying it under the sun for a couple of days." Way explained it straightforwardly. It was very satisfactory for a knight to instruct the other one, "After forming the first Chakra, your energy level and strength system has become utterly different than that of those who had not formed it. Therefore, the rune equipment and alchemist's equipment that could work on commoners would not have the same effect on you. If an equipment could improve a commoner's ability by less than 10%, it would be ineffective to knights. Only when its effect on a commoner is higher than 10% could it be a bit effective to fighters in less than one scale. This is the Black Iron Effect of the knight's equipment."

After hearing Way's explanation, Zhang Tie understood it right away. He finally understood why he only got 3 items from two knights outside Mocco City. From that knight of Symbian Republic, Zhang Tie gained an autumn-frost golden sword, whose basic performance and functions are effective to knights in all ranks; however, from the knight of Three-eye Association, Zhang Tie only got a rose finger ring and a full-moon dragon soul waistband.

'The rapid recovering rune on the autumn-frost golden sword could help commoners recover their energy 10% faster, which means 1% for knights; the rose finger ring's rapid recovering rune could help commoners recover their energy 11% faster, and increase their meditating effect by 15%. As the full-moon dragon soul waistband is a bronze secret item used by knights, it's still lying in Castle of Black Iron.'

When collecting the booties, Zhang Tie was curious that why the two knights only wore such a few rune equipment. They could at least wear some more finger rings.

After hearing Way's explanation, Zhang Tie finally understood that it was not because the two knights didn't want to wear some more items, but they could only have such few items to wear due to Black Iron Effect. Many equipment that were effective to commoners didn't work on knights at all. Only those top quality items used by commoners could exert 10% of its effect on knights.

"If we could promote to a higher level, do you mean that those commoners' rune equipment would not work on us anymore?"

"You got it!" Jaray nodded, "By then, except for underground secret items, none of the rune equipment or alchemist's equipment made by humans in this age would work on a land knight."

"Land knight?" It was Zhang Tie's first time to hear the appellation of a rank higher than the black iron knight.

"Yes, knights in the next rank would be named as land knights after forming the Chakra of land which gathers land, water, wind and fire!"

Speaking of a land knight, Jaray and Way both radiated sacred eyes at the same time. The land knight was what all the black iron knights strived and dreamed for...

"Is Demon General a land knight?"

"No, it has just stridden over the threshold of land knight's world with one foot. If he was a land knight, at most half of the 10 human knights could survive the Upton Battle..."

...

After chatting with Jaray and Way, Zhang Tie learned more about knights. As Jaray and Way were old human knights who had advanced to knights a very long time ago, their knowledge and recognition of knights' world benefited Zhang Tie a lot.

Finally, Goddess Lake, the flagship of the royal airship troop of Raymlan Empire arrived at Saint Maner City. It landed in an aisle being adjacent to Goddess Lake...

This aisle covered over 10 sq miles. It was where Jaray's battle palace rested in Raymlan Empire. The imperial palace of Raymlan Empire was just 5-6 miles away with the water in between.

After promoting to a knight, as long as the knight became the No. 1 knight of a country or a corps leader, its fixed residence would be called battle palace where his subordinates and servants would serve him in. This was the greatest honor of a knight given by the country that he guarded...

Chapter 714: The Negotiation

In the imperial palace of Raymlan Empire, Jaray was staying in a study with a 50-year-old man in an imperial crown, who was the Alta VII, the emperor of Raymlan Empire...

At some point in time today, all the royal members of Raymlan Empire had evacuated from the imperial palace silently. Later on, they came back silently. During the process of a few hours, nobody else knew about this event across Saint Maner City. Even now, only a few people knew the whereabouts of the prince for the sake of his safety. If everything went smooth, crown prince would appear in the vision of the public tomorrow.

The knight's raid was a grim, sharp guillotine hovering above the heads of weak royal members. In the 2nd holy war, numerous human countries and royals of small countries were chopped off by demons and Three-eye Association.

"You mean Zhang Tie is that Selnes Eagle, who's promoted to a knight at 20 years of age?" Alta VII asked in an extremely amazed voice while his mouth could almost hold an egg.

Alta VII had seen too many people who were born to be emperors, kings and billionaires. However, it was his first time to hear someone promote to a knight at his 20s even in Blackson Humans Corridor, although there might be such cases in the Eastern Continent.

"Yes! Zhang Tie's real age is a bit elder than 20. Given his look, he's just 16-17 years old!" Jaray told Alta VII.

"No way. Has Jinyun Country and Huaiyuan Palace been so powerful?" Alta VII asked with a bit flurried look.

"Jinyun Country and Huaiyuan Palace are indeed very powerful. However, I think the reason that Zhang Tie promoted to a knight at such a young age mainly depends on his efforts and luck. He's favored by the God!"

"He's favored by the God?" Alta VII mumbled it twice before sighing with a jealous and admiring look, "Alas, why Alta Clan couldn't produce such a talent!"

"Your Majesty, the princes have been very diligent. However, some things could not be made only by individual efforts!" Jaray had to say something for those princes as their private teacher and the No. 1 knight of Raymlan Empire.

"Facing the great pressure from the clan and the empire, the princes of Raymlan Empire have been very diligent. The 3rd prince has already reached LV 13 battle general; however, knights cannot be cultivated only by money. If the princes can cultivate in the tower of time for enough time, are you sure that they will promote to knights? It's uncertain!" Although Zhang Tie didn't say how many years had he stayed in the tower of time, Jaray knew clearly that only real powerhouses with the hearts of real powerhouses could make it in the lonely and distant cultivation environment. "Only strong-willed people could put forth their brilliant flowers of lives in loneliness. Otherwise, you could only get lunatics or corpses after throwing them in the tower of time. Such a case truly existed."

After hearing Jaray's explanation, Alta let out a sigh. Closely after that, he became thrilled and asked, "Jaray, do you think we can have my daughters marry Huaiyuan Palace? I have over 10 daughters, whose ages range from 7 to 30. They are all beauties. Erm, that Zhang Tie..."

"Your Majesty..." Jaray accented his voice...

Alta VII realized that he was a bit rude just now. Therefore, he closed his mouth at once. It was really a bit whimsical for him to have a Hua knight serve Alta Clan with only a woman called princess. Even a battle spirit with the poor background would not sell himself so easily, not to mention Zhang Tie who had Huaiyuan Palace on his back. In the eyes of many powerful cultivators, the alleged women and princesses were not even as valuable as a useful rune equipment. Of course, unless that man required something from the female's side, a knight would never treat a princess of Raymlan Empire as something. Princess was just a product of empires. However, a powerful knight could be able to build an empire himself.

"What's your opinion?" Alta VII sat on the chair with a frustrated look.

"Your Majesty, if you looked too anxious, it would make others belittle Raymlan Empire and Alta Clan. Zhang Tie is in my battle palace. Your Excellency could have the 9th prince and one princess take a valuable gift to pay a visit to Zhang Tie in my battle palace. It's polite and not light-headed to do this."

"Ahh? Why Kru? He's just an innocent kid." Alta II asked out of amazement.

"As Kru is an innocent kid, he's the best one to go there. Kru likes glider. The best driver of glider across Blackson Humans Corridor is in Saint Maner City. Therefore, he can ask Zhang Tie to teach him!"

As an emperor, even though Alta VII didn't mean to be a hegemon, he could understand Jaray's words at once.

"Hmm, fine. Just let Kru and Candis go there. As to the gift..." Alta VII hesitated about the gift.

"Your Majesty, do you believe me?"

"Of course!"

"We'd better prepare some special, valuable gift. As Zhang Tie is a Hua man, Your Majesty, you can gift him that item that you brought back from the Eastern Continent last time!"

"Ahh? Do we have to do that?" Alta VII looked unwilling.

"Your Majesty, do you know where's that missing demon knight in Upton battle?"

"Is there any relation?"

"The missing demon knight might have been killed by Zhang Tie!" Jaray replied calmly.

"What?" Alta VII instantly sprung up from his chair like being stabbed by nails.

Although Zhang Tie didn't say the battle force of the demon who chased after him, Jaray could infer that the one chased after Zhang Tie was a demon knight as Zhang Tie, a human knight, said it was a demon powerhouse. Although Zhang Tie didn't say the result of the demon knight, he survived back from the underground space. Therefore, the demon knight obviously had been killed by Zhang Tie.

"Perhaps that gift is valuable for Zhang Tie at this moment. Otherwise, after a few years, that item would be nothing for him. Given Zhang Tie's deed in Selnes Theater of Operations, he's a righteous man who treasures friendship very much. In the holy war, even knights would die. If something bad happens to me in the future, I will not be able to guard Raymlan Empire and Alta Clan. By then, I wish Alta Clan could be protected by such a powerhouse. The friendship between us and this man might bring a hope to Alta Clan in the future! Your Majesty, don't you think it is a proper trade?"

...

After the flagship landed, Jaray went to the imperial palace of Raymlan Empire. Being accompanied by Way, Zhang Tie was visiting the private collections of Jaray in his battle palace. Watching those collections, Zhang Tie finally understood why Jaray was so interested in the tower time. Because almost all the private collections of Jaray were marvelous items left by prehistorical human civilizations, which could be barely seen by commoners in their whole lives...

Chapter 715: Picking off Stars

More than 10 colorful light spots were in the mysterious void, large or small. They were sparkling bizarre lights, yellow, blue, red or a crystal-like transparent light. Each light spot was a marvelous geometric crystal which constantly changed its shape. Each geometric crystal was a blooming flower of life. The

crystals flew irregularly as fast as a lightning bolt and spirits in the mysterious void. Some crystals would fly out of the mysterious void while some would fly in, both at a very high speed.

This world of elements could only be seen by knights after forming their Chakra and entering meditation. The four basic elements of earth, water, wind and fire that formed everything in the universe truly existed independently and could be sensed with knight's consciousness in the free, pure and most basic form.

Different basic elements were colliding, combining and annihilating in the world of elements under the traction of mysterious strength.

Of course, they were not really annihilating or disappearing. They were just changing a pattern of existence after combination. They started to appear in the world of materials in the form of sensible material or energy.

World of elements was a vast sparkling ocean. By contrast, the real world was like the submarine world that deposited in this ocean. All the lives were living in that real submarine world. Only very few lives' senses and consciousness could get rid of the gravity and bond of the world of materials and enter this colorful ocean of sparkling basic elements when the energy frequency of their spirit and awareness rose to a pole.

The power of knights originated from their gnosis and recognition about the source energy.

At this moment, Zhang Tie's spiritual energy had become a huge hand and was chasing after a yellow crystal in a tiny "pit", which had a bizarre force field in the world of elements. Due to the existence of that "pit", the elements over there were more than those in the surrounding space. Therefore, it was a bit easier to capture those basic element crystals which were flying everywhere in the void like meteors and spirits.

The yellow crystals were earth elements, the only element that Zhang Tie's huge hand could capture in the world of elements at this moment. Red crystals would directly burn a hole in the huge hand and penetrate through it. Blue crystals would depart into numerous parts in front of the hand of spiritual energy and combine with each other behind it like a naughty fish shoal. The crystal-like meteors and spirits directly ignored the hand and penetrated through it like breaking through a broken fish net; only those yellow crystals could be caught by this hand like real objects.

After chasing them for a long while, the hand finally caught a tiny yellow tetrahedron crystal in the world of elements. After tightly holding it, the hand retreated back to the world of materials and threw the yellow crystal into a huge and complex Chakra which was rotating like a millstone. The Chakra devoured the yellow crystal, crushing it and converting it into the purest energy of land element. Finally, it was output into the void shadow in the peripheral of the solid Chakra.

A bigger and more complex earth Chakra was looming in the phantom shadow, which was made of numerous complex geometrical patterns like an extremely delicate mandala...

The yellow crystal was converted into earth element before running into an inconspicuous place on the edge of the solid Chakra and manifesting a line, which was less than 1/10 of a tiny geometrical pattern at its bottom...

There were over 10,000 basic tower-shaped geometrical patterns in the huge Chakra mandala. The function of the yellow crystal was as trivial as throwing a brick in the construction site of a thousands-meter high skyscraper...

...

Zhang Tie opened his eyes and threw a glance at that wall clock in the cultivation cabin of the airship. It was already been the evening of September 23rd, 4 days after Zhang Tie entered meditation...

This was Zhang Tie's first time to enter cultivation as a knight.

There was only one cultivation task below knights, namely, polishing surging points. By contrast, knights only had one task in cultivation, namely, forming Chakra.

If the process of polishing surging points was like drilling wood to make fire, the process of forming Chakra could be described in three terms, namely, picking off stars, pushing millstone and casting mold.

Picking off stars referred to capture earth element in the world of elements; pushing millstone referred to input the land element that the knight had caught into his Chakra and had it crushed into pieces so as to assimilate the knight's own strength; casting mold referred to pour the assimilated earth element into the peripheral phantom of the earth Chakra. When the peripheral phantom ring of the entire earth Chakra completely turned solid composed of earth elements, it would rotate independently instead of having to follow the first Chakra, the black iron knight would promote to a land knight.

In the three steps, the first two steps could run automatically. When the knight's Chakra was rotating automatically, all the steps would run automatically due to the "King Roc Sutra" that he cultivated. It was similar to other knights. After surging their surging points, once the first Chakra came into being, each one's later cultivation process would be pushed freely by the Chakra like how intestines and stomach digested food and how stars ran on the orbits. You only needed to consider whether your intestines and stomach could enjoy good food or not.

Therefore, capturing four basic elements using spiritual energy and forming the energy of elements of Chakra, it became the core contents for knights to cultivate and raise their realms.

It was very difficult for Zhang Tie to enter meditation and sense the world of elements for the first time. It took Zhang Tie two days to do it. In the latter two days, Zhang Tie finally captured three land elements from the world of elements and started his official cultivation since he promoted to a black iron knight after numerous attempts.

After the first earth element crystal that Zhang Tie captured was crushed into pieces by his Chakra, the mandala peripheral ring of that earth Chakra loomed around the first Chakra. After capturing the other 2 earth element crystals, Zhang Tie had just moved a bit forward towards the earth knight.

After recalling the cultivation process these two days and watching the second Chakra's phantom ring in his consciousness, Zhang Tie gradually recovered his composure.

According to Jaray, the mandala peripheral ring of most of knights' land Chakra was composed of 300-1,000 geometrical patterns. When Zhang Tie counted his geometrical patterns, he almost passed out. The mandala peripheral ring of the entire earth Chakra of his "King Roc Sutra" was a vast, delicate picture, which contained over 10,000 geometrical patterns in different shapes such as a tower, triangle,

square, round and feather, etc.. Such a phantom Chakra looked extremely magnificent. However, it was also extremely difficult to form it. It would require several times even dozens of times more land elements than that required by other knights.

In this age, commoners could live about 90 years. When one reached LV 9 after lighting all the surging points on his spine, one would be able to live 120 years. With each level higher, one's life expectancy would increase by 30 years. When one reached LV 15 battle spirit, one's life expectancy would reach about 300 years. After promoting to a knight, one would live 400 years. Even though knights had great life expectancies, a great number of black iron knights died due to various reasons before promoting to earth knights. Given this point, we knew how difficult it was for black iron knights to form their second Chakra.

Some black iron knights even failed to form their second Chakra after promoting to black iron knights for 100-200 years.

'I wonder how long would it take me to form the second Chakra of "King Roc Sutra".'

Such a question occurred to Zhang Tie's mind when he was sitting on the cushion with crossed legs and had not fully recovered his composure from the "pleasure" that was brought by picking off stars. Zhang Tie then felt a headache. After letting out a sigh, he picked himself up. By the way, he put that 'Basic Elements Gathering Matrix' into a special bag and hung it over his shoulder.

That "Basic Elements Gathering Matrix" was composed of 3 bronze obelisks, each of which was about 10 cm in height. Being covered with bizarre runes, although they looked trivial, they had a great effect on his cultivation.

This was a gift from Raymlan Empire's royal. As a bronze secret item, it was a collection of the royal of Raymlan. Its usage was very simple. Before entering the world of basic elements, Zhang Tie only needed to put the three bronze obelisks in the shape of a triangle on his side. He then sat in the triangle. In this way, the Basic Elements Gathering Matrix could form a marvelous force field "pit" in the world of basic elements. This force field "pit" was like a puddle, which could increase the density of four basic elements around him by 20% in the world of basic elements. Benefited from this, Zhang Tie could capture basic element crystals more effectively.

After trying it, Zhang Tie sensed an obvious higher efficiency in capturing the four basic elements on his side with the help of Basic Elements Gathering Matrix.

'There must be some more methods to increase my efficiency in picking off stars. Now that there's a Basic Elements Gathering Matrix, it indicates that other knights also met the same problem about low efficiency in cultivation. They must have other methods to deal with it. Thankfully, I've already been a black iron knight. I have enough time to do that.' After comforting himself, Zhang Tie opened the hatch and walked out of the cabin of cultivation.

This airship was the private airship of Princess Candis, a royal of Raymlan Empire. Although it was not as large as fury-level airships, it was the most comfortable and luxurious one that Zhang Tie had ever taken.

A luxurious bedroom with a huge princess' bed inside was next to the cultivation cabin. The bed still maintained the alluring body fragrance of Princess Candis and her groans...

Princess Candis showed her private airship to Zhang Tie that night. Finally, after spending 15 years in the tower of time, Zhang Tie visited every place on her naked body...

'That's a nice memory.' Zhang Tie smacked.

...

"Are we arriving at Huaiyuan Prefecture?" Zhang Tie came to the cockpit.

"Your Excellency, we will arrive at Yuanjiang River after 600 miles!" The coxswain answered respectfully.

"You can land in Golden Sea City of Huaiyuan Prefecture for some supplies. After landing there, take this letter to the director of Jinwu Business Group. He will prepare something for you as my gift to Princess Candis and Your Majesty Alta VII. By the way, I have to extend my thanks to Princess Candis and Your Majesty Alta VII for their hospitality on behalf of me!" Zhang Tie said as he handed a letter into the hand of the coxswain. Zhang Tie's gift was 50,000 vials all-purpose medicament.

"Alright!" The captain carefully took Zhang Tie's letter.

...

After doing all this, Zhang Tie directly flew off the deck of the airship towards Yiyang City and disappeared into the clouds.

All the crew members saw Zhang Tie off with admiring looks.

"What if I can also be a knight one day..." A crew member mumbled.

"It's easy. You will make it come true in your dream very soon!" An experienced sergeant first class patted another one's shoulder.

After hearing this, all the others burst out into laughter...

Chapter 716: Returning to Huaiyuan Palace

Zhang Tie flew towards Yiyang City at the speed of 0.6 Mach. This time, he learned to hide himself by flying above 10,000 m behind clouds. Even in the sunny day, most of the people could barely find such a person flying above 10,000 m, not to mention a knight.

The head-on sharp airflow was blocked off by that invisible protective battle qi covering him. Therefore, Zhang Tie didn't feel chilly in the high altitude. When Zhang Tie was in the underground space, he had tried it. As long as he didn't accelerate to above 0.6 Mach, his battle-qi brilliance would not be exposed. That was to say, 0.6 Mach was his navigation speed and invisible speed.

There were many airships in the air. As long as he lowered his head, he would be able to see many of them. Because of the holy war, the powerful Jinyun Country being away from the north theater of operations seemed to become more prosperous.

After a few years, the demonized puppets troop with above 100,000 members in the south of Kalay Mountain Range had already been dispersed or annihilated. Now, the demonized puppets only existed

in small teams in the south of Kalay Mountain Range. They were wandering like bandits and wild beasts in the urban ruins and wild. However, they became more tricky. Many places in the south of Kalay Mountain Range had become depopulated zones. Jinyun Country and Qilan Country were least damaged by demonized puppets as the demonized puppets disasters in the two countries were suppressed at first. At this moment, great batches of people were pouring into the south from north, filling everywhere in Jinyun Country and Qilan Country. In another word, it was boisterous in the two countries. Looking down at the brightly-lit cities in the night, Zhang Tie felt a sharp contrast from those deserted cities being covered with corpses in the north. Zhang Tie felt like returning to the human world from the hell. As a person who had fought demonized puppets in Selnes Theater of Operations and experienced almost 100 battles in 1 year, this was really a warm feeling, Zhang Tie really felt warm at this moment.

After flying over 500 miles, Zhang Tie saw a huge airship formation of almost 2,000 huge whale-level airships flying towards Yuanjiang River in over 10 rows like 10-odd long dragons and airbuses. The formation lasted over dozens of miles.

The symbol of the airships was a red bloody-dragon flag.

This was the airship formation of Norman Empire.

After flying over the natural chasm of Yuanjiang River, the airship formation entered the air territory of Huaiyuan Prefecture and landed in the large airship base which almost covered 100 sq miles being not far from the river. Zhang Tie slowed down and watched the formation for a short while. After those airships landed, almost 400,000 people got off 2,000 airships...

Taian City was on the plain being not far from the airship base. Two railways extended out Taian City from east and west. Right beside the railways, a lot of towns and residential areas were coming into being. The ground completely became a huge construction site.

At this moment, Taian City and its affiliated land which covered 50,000-60,000 sq miles had been sold to Norman Empire. This place had become a general base of Norman Empire in the south of Kalay Mountain Range and an asylum for the population of Norman Empire to migrate to the south. All the Hua people here had been evacuated.

After checking the layout of Norman Empire here, he continued to fly towards Yiyang City.

1 hour later, Yiyang City, the most brightly-lit city appeared. Compared to the brightly-lit scenery, what made Zhang Tie more amazed was the 10-odd large ships in a row berthing in the Yiyang Harbor, which Zhang Tie had not seen before. Even when he looked down at them, he was still stunned by the huge body and length of the huge ships. Million-tons ship! Only Taixia Country in the Eastern Continent could produce such super huge ships. Even the tens of thousands tons' ships were dwarfed by such giants.

'F*ck, how many people would such giants hold at one time? Is this the legendary great retreat?'

Zhang Tie watched Yiyang City for a while as he turned around and scratched his head. At this moment, he didn't know the whereabouts of the elders of Huaiyuan Palace. Finally, he released his battle qi for a second. Zhang Tie knew that it was equal to a roar outside others' home with a trumpet by doing this.

In a split second, Zhang Tie saw two meteors flying off a mountain in Yiyang City towards him.

"Which friend is visiting Huaiyuan Palace?"

Before the two meteors drew close to him, a voice had arrived a few seconds ahead.

Given the sound, Zhang Tie knew it was Elder Muray, whose sound Zhang Tie had heard many times.

Zhang Tie firstly heard this sound in the ancestral bloodline palace of Clansmen Pavilion, when he felt it pretty lofty and aggressive.

Zhang Tie heard this sound secondly in the camp of the middle corps of demonized puppets in Stancy City. When Elder Muray scolded, "When you beat the young, the elder would come for revenge naturally", Zhang Tie was pretty moved. It was Zhang Tie's first time to sense the warmth and loveliness of Huaiyuan Palace on his back. When he was bullied, Elder Muray instantly appeared and boomed his tricky enemy into bullsh*t with a bolt.

Zhang Tie heard this sound thirdly when he was chased by a demon knight. Elder Muray roared angrily on the way to save him...

At this moment, it was Zhang Tie's 4th time to hear this sound, when Zhang Tie felt pretty intimate and blood boiling.

In the blink of an eye, the two elders had arrived. The one came here with Elder Muray was Elder Muen, whom Zhang Tie had seen before too. The battle that Huaiyuan Palace launched towards Heavens Cold City was led by Elder Muen. When Zhang Tie violated the regulation of Huaiyuan Palace by taking his friends in the Heavens Cold City without the consent of the superiors, he was also punished by Elder Muen.

Watching the two elders, Zhang Tie felt complex inside.

The two elders became stupefied at the sight of Zhang Tie, who was suspending in the void. They rubbed their eyes at the same time.

"Zhang Tie, the unfilial offspring of Huaiyuan Palace, comes back! Honorable elders!" Zhang Tie bowed towards them very respectfully...

...

"What a shadow demon. You dare to disguise the offspring of Zhang Clan, Huaiyuan Palace. I will chop off your head!" Elder Muray roared as he straightly charged at Zhang Tie with a purple face...

Chapter 717: Elders

Zhang Tie was also shocked by Elder Muray's bayonet-charge.

Elder Muray moved very fast; however, Zhang Tie also had a quick response. He dodged from the first strike by retreating 300 m away in a split second.

"Elder Muen, have you also forgotten that I wanted to add sugar to the Top Quality Wild Spring Tea from Eastern Continent in the airship outside the Heavens Cold City?" Zhang Tie roared towards Elder Muen, instead of explaining it to Elder Muray.

Only Zhang Tie and Elder Muen were at present when this happened. Additionally, such a detail could be barely known by others.

"Brother Muray, wait for a second!" Elder Muen urged.

The moment Zhang Tie finished his words had Elder Muen flashed towards Elder Muray as fast as a lightning bolt and stopped him.

In such a short period, Zhang Tie had dodged three strikes from Elder Muray; however, he didn't launch any counterattack at all.

Zhang Tie felt that Elder Muray was just a bit better than that knight who chased after him. Elder Muray's true trump card was his brilliant huge bow, which was suitable for long-distance fight most.

"You believe him?" Elder Muray's face turned completely purple, which looked pretty majestic, "How come Zhang Tie became a knight at such a young age? This demon is obviously disrupting and mocking our Huaiyuan Palace!"

"The drinking details, a few years ago outside Heavens Cold City, could hardly be exposed to the public!" Elder Muen watched Elder Muray with a solemn look.

"However, it's possible. With some secret skills, people could easily get one's memory. If Zhang Tie fell into the hand of that demon, it's not strange for the demon to know the details..." Elder Muray urged as he slowed down.

"If it's a real shadow demon, we can cooperate to kill it after a short while. He won't escape!"

After hearing Elder Muen's words, Elder Muray finally stopped. However, he was still glaring at Zhang Tie as if he wanted to see what other tricks could this shadow demon play.

Zhang Tie just suspended about 50 m away from the other two Elders.

"How can you persuade us that you're Zhang Tie?" Elder Muen asked Zhang Tie calmly.

Zhang Tie smiled, "Have you forgotten about it, Elder Muray? You've already identified my status in the Ancestral Bloodline Palace of Clansmen Pavilion with bloodline crystal. As you might feel that I'm disguised no matter what I say now, why not identify it once again? I can wait here. You can go back to get the bloodline crystal; I can also follow you in the Clansmen Pavilion. No matter what, it's not far from here!" Zhang Tie pointed at the location of the Clansmen Pavilion below his feet.

After hearing Zhang Tie's answer, even Elder Muray became stunned. He had not imagined that Zhang Tie could be such straightforward. If Zhang Tie was really a disguised one, how could he be so confident? In front of the bloodline crystal, any disguised person would expose his original look. Shadow demon could disguise as Zhang Tie. Some people could get Zhang Tie's memory through some secret skills. However, bloodline heritage could never be disguised.

After exchanging a glance with each other, the two elders nodded slightly and tacitly. After that, Elder Muray stayed here; Elder Muen turned around and flew towards Clansmen Pavilion as fast as a lightning bolt. In the knight's speed, it only took him a couple of minutes to come and go. Even if Zhang Tie was the Demon General, Elder Muen believed that Elder Muray could also stand a couple of minutes' fight with Zhang Tie.

Soon after Elder Muen left, watching Zhang Tie waiting for him back with a calm look, Elder Muray finally couldn't help but ask with a dubious look, "You...you're really Zhang Tie?"

After letting out a sigh, Zhang Tie watched Elder Muray calmly, "Elder Muray and I met in the Ancestral Bloodline Pavilion for the first time. As we have our own persistence, I made you unhappy at that moment. However, I could also sense Elder Muray's concern about me when I was chased by the demon knight. I have to extend my thanks to Elder Muray!"

After saying it, Zhang Tie deeply bowed towards Elder Muray.

Zhang Tie didn't tell Elder Muray that he had witnessed how Elder Muray killed Koz, the head of Senel Clan. As he was in the incarnation of a beetle, it would be hard to explain about it.

After hearing the two relevant events, Elder Muray's snowwhite eyebrows jumped one time as his aggressive qi instantly relieved.

"I know your doubt, Elder Muray. As I was chased by the demon knight, I was forced to jump into the subterranean river before you arrived. The watercourse of the subterranean river was very complex. Thankfully, I had a good diving skill which was formed when I was in Hidden Dragon Island. I had a chance to survive myself in the subterranean river. However, I was taken into an underground space by the subterranean river, where I had a marvelous experience and promoted to a knight within 1 month!"

Elder Muray now looked a bit relieved. However, before Elder Muray said anything, Elder Muen had already returned from the Clansmen Pavilion with the bloodline crystal in his hand.

Elder Muen directly threw the bloodline crystal towards Zhang Tie, "Now that you've used it, you should know how to use it!"

Watching the crystal which radiated a fantastic brilliance with a drop of blood roiling inside, Zhang Tie directly pierced his finger with the tip of the crystal, having his fresh blood drop onto the crystal.

When the blood inside the crystal met Zhang Tie's fresh blood, the bloodline crystal instantly radiated the glow, brightening hundreds sq m, making it like an afterglow. The crystal even floated in the sky weightlessly.

When the crystal radiated the glow, it indicated that this person was the offspring of the Lord Huaiyuan. The crystal floating in the sky indicated that the drop of fresh blood entering the crystal truly came from the knight.

At the sight of this scene, Elder Muen and Elder Muray were both surprised and excited as their eyebrows and mustaches both raised.

Realizing that someone on the ground had paid attention to the glow radiated from the bloodline crystal, Elder Muen waved his sleeve and put away the bloodline crystal before saying, "Go back to the Ancestral Hall first!"

Zhang Tie then followed the two elders towards the Ancestral Hall of Huaiyuan Palace.

It was Zhang Tie's first time to go to Ancestral Hall. After arriving at the terrace outside the Ancestral Hall, Zhang Tie then followed them in a magnificent hall.

At the end of the Ancestral Hall, there was an over 20-m high huge metal statue, which was heroically drawing open a crossbow towards the gate of the hall. There were many huge pillars as high as dozens of meters and as wide as 3-4 m in the hall. Some huge purple gold-copper cauldrons were standing in the corners while burning a special whale oil. Without causing any smoke, the burning oil released an exotic fragrance that made people reassured. The power, wealth and family background of Huaiyuan Palace were all exhibited in the hall.

The moment Zhang Tie caught sight of the characters " 怀远堂 1 " above the metal statue had he known that this man was Zhang Huaiyuan, the founder of Huaiyuan Palace and his direct ancestor.

At the foot of the huge statue were over 20 rows of more than 10,000 memorial tablets in total that were tidily and solemnly placed in stages. Beneath these tablets was a worship desk. In the middle of the worship desk was a piece of huge, pure, transparent black crystal as high as almost 1 m.

Everything here was very solemn and majestic.

Zhang Tie just watched the ancestral tablets and the statue of his ancestor silently. He then moved forward and took 3 sticks of incenses from the worship desk and lit them.

"Zhang Tie, apprentice of Huaiyuan Palace worships ancestors. I hope you could safeguard Huaiyuan Palace, keep it prosperous forever and keep my parents safe and happy for the rest of their lives. Please let me shoulder the diseases, aging, sorrows, pains and all the disasters for my parents!"

After saying that, Zhang Tie reverently knelt down and kowtowed three times before inserting the incenses into the incense burners.

Elder Muray and Elder Muen had long heard that Zhang Tie was extremely obedient to his parents. When Zhang Tie's family lived in Blackhot City, they were poor. Zhang Tie's mother sold rice brew to make up his father's income at the price of 2-3 copper coins per bowl. Zhang Tie liked to eat rice brew very much. However, after 4 years of age, he didn't eat anymore. When his family members asked why, he said he didn't want to take too much as he knew his parents were working too hard. Later on, when Zhang Tie's family returned to Huaiyuan Palace, Zhang Tie then saved his father out of the prison using a "Mental Arithmetic by Abacus". After that, Zhang Tie invented all-purpose medicament and became the pillar of the whole family. Although he could make too much money per day, he still didn't complain about his parents at all; instead, he always disguised as a naive kid to please his parents.

As all these things about Zhang Tie were too trivial, of course, the two elders would not pay attention to them until Zhang Tie had 3 outstanding sons.

Listening to Zhang Tie's prayer, the two elders felt emotional. As an old Hua saying went, parents were the pillars of a family. If there was an obedient son in a family, the family would naturally be surrounded by fortune qi and always have good lucks. Even if the whole family was in a dilemma, they could still get rid of it due to bliss. As Zhang Tie and Zhang Yang were both obedient sons, although their family had just returned to Huaiyuan Palace from Blackhot City a few years ago, their family lived better one year after another. After promoting to a knight, Zhang Tie made Zhang Clan even the entire bloodline of Golden Sea City of Huaiyuan Palace prosperous. With one more knight, Huaiyuan Palace also became more powerful. Being obedient counted most in Hua culture. What a simple truth!

Watching Zhang Tie finishing his prayer, Elder Muen had Zhang Tie take a seat and wait for a few seconds. After then, he pointed at a golden jar with a narrow neck while a strand of battle qi flew out, causing a muffled sound. At the same time, Zhang Tie felt a bizarre strength spreading in the hall like ripples.

"Elder Muen, what's that for?" Zhang Tie asked out of curiosity.

Elder Muen and Elder Muray had long changed their attitudes utterly. After exchanging glances with each other with a smile, Elder Muray opened his mouth, "This is used to transmit sound. As long as it utters a sound, all the other elders of Zhang Clan will receive the signal through their jade chips. Closely after that, they would arrive as soon as possible."

"Isn't it as same as remote-sensing crystal?"

"Almost like that. However, remote-sensing crystals are natural born which could only be used in a pair. However, the sound-transmitting jar and jade chips are alchemist's objects, many of which could be used at the same time. Besides, they are limited to a distance. They could only resonate, instead of transmitting too many messages like remote-sensing crystals!"

Zhang Tie nodded. He had not imagined that he could see such a marvelous object in Huaiyuan Palace.

"Your affair counts most. After Elder Muyu and Elder Muan arrive here, you'd better explain it to them!" Elder Muen added.

Besides Elder Muyuan, Zhang Tie's 6th granduncle who had gone to the Eastern Continent, the rest 4 elders were in Huaiyuan Prefecture.

"Alright!"

At this moment, Elder Muray, although being bad-tempered, was also sitting quietly and waiting for the arrival of the other two elders. As it was a big event for Zhang Clan, the rest two elders in Huaiyuan Prefecture had to know about it.

...

After 10 minutes, Elder Muen saw Zhang Tie moving his ears. Heart racing a bit, he then asked.

"You've sensed that too?"

"I feel that an elder is 50 miles away from here. He's flying at his full speed while releasing his powerful battle qi!"

Having not imagined that Zhang Tie had already completely stabilized his realm of knight, Elder Muray and Elder Muen glanced at each other out of amazement, 'Those who have not stabilized their realm of knight could never be that sensitive to a knight's qi. One could not stabilize his realm of knight until he promotes to knight for 10 years at least. Although one person might have a chance to promote to a knight rapidly, one could never save time in stabilizing his realm of knight...

The two elders both faintly guessed something.

...

Only after a few more minutes, Zhang Tie heard a sound outside the Ancestral Hall, when the elder landed outside the hall and walked in.

"Zhang Tie..." That elder exclaimed at the sight of Zhang Tie with an amazed look.

"Brother Muan, Zhang Tie came back, let's talk about it later when Elder Muyu arrives!" Elder Muen uttered.

Each elder had reached an extremely deep level in mental and physical cultivation. At that moment, although Elder Muan was amazed, he directly became quiet and took a seat.

After sitting down, at the sight of Zhang Tie's easygoing look, Elder Muan abruptly felt something as he drew in a breath, 'Zhang Tie's qi could almost match that of the other two elders' qi, has he...'

Elder Muan looked at Elder Muray, who slightly nodded towards him.

A few minutes later, Elder Muyu arrived.

After all the 4 elders arrived, they all moved their eyes onto Zhang Tie.

...

"The task that I accepted from the Allied Force Command was a trap. Senel Clan had long known that I would make an investigation in Tokei City, therefore, they arranged some powerhouses and high-level wing demons to wait for me in Tokei City. Soon after arriving at Tokei City, I had been discovered by some high-level wing demons. In the battle with wing demons, my glider dropped off. I was then captured by Koz, the head of Senel Clan..."

"What happened later, you might have guessed. Senel Clan and Three-eye Association wanted me to serve them. I refused. They then sullied me in dirty means. Finally, Senel Clan wanted to make me succumb to them by locking me in a castle outside Tokei City.

"I didn't succumb to them. Instead, I found a chance to escape out of there. Due to some special reasons, after escaping from the territory of Senel Clan, I recovered and improved my battle force during a period. Later on, I returned to Selnes Theater of Operations. At that moment, Selnes Theater of Operations had been broken through by demons. Therefore, I just followed the demonized puppets corps all the way to revenge them from Selnes Theater of Operations, the Symbian Republic to Norman empire!"

"However, I failed to find such a chance. The demonized puppets covered everywhere in the camp. I even didn't know where were the family members of Senel Clan. Later on, the demonized puppets corps suffered a great loss in Nein City, causing a great chaos in the demonized puppets corps. After hiding in the chaotic demonized puppets corps for 2 months, I still failed to find the trace of Senel Clan. Therefore, I left Norman Empire for Upton City!"

"After that, I met a familiar person Tharant in Upton City, a young elite of Arthur Clan, another clan of Three-eye Association. After following Tharant for a few days, I found a conspiracy that he was planning in Upton City. He wanted to coordinate with the demonized puppets corps to close the south gate in the north of Kalay Mountain Range."

"After that, I sent the discovery to my elder brother..."

"Later on, the Upton battle broke out. You all knew what happened then. I was chased by a demon knight and finally jumped into the subterranean river to escape. However, I was led into a mysterious underground space, where I found a huge pyramid being made of crystals. Being shocked, I walked inside unconsciously..."

When Zhang Tie said this, all the other elders exclaimed, "Ahh? Tower of time?"

Elder Muray almost stood up as he asked, "What happened then?"

Zhang Tie shrugged and said with a helpless look, "Honestly, it happened a long time ago. The moment I entered the pyramid had the demon knight arrived. As he was far away from me, he failed to catch me timely. I thought I was going to die as there was no way to escape. However, it was unimaginable that the demon knight could not follow me in the pyramid. He could not open it no matter how forcefully he attacked the pyramid from outside. Therefore, I became a bit reassured!"

Listening to this, all the other elders nodded inside, 'It's true. Tower of time could only allow one person at one time. Now that Zhang Tie had entered it, the demon knight could never enter it, neither could the Demon General. Zhang Tie was really lucky enough.'

"As the demon knight was waiting outside the pyramid, I dared not go out. In the beginning, I thought I was destined to die inside the pyramid as there was no food in it. After staying in the pyramid a few days, I didn't feel like hungry or thirsty at all. As it was open inside it, I then started to cultivate inside there!"

"I didn't know how long have I stayed in the pyramid. I remembered that I was almost driven mad by the loneliness for a few times. However, when I remembered that demon knight was right outside the pyramid, I forced myself to constantly cultivate until I entered a tranquility. I forgot about the existence of time and the demon knight. I just cultivated and cultivated until one day I felt being a bit hungry. I then walked out of the pyramid, when I found that I had promoted to a knight..."

"Ahh? How long have you stayed in the tower of time?" Elder Muen asked.

With a serious frown, Zhang Tie shook his head helplessly before letting out a deep sigh, "In that state, I forgot how long had I stayed inside. I felt that I had stayed inside for my whole life. It was too long..."

Of course, Zhang Tie lied. If he told them that he had promoted to a knight only after staying in the tower of time for 15 years, the elders would definitely burst out clamor as they would be further curious about his cultivation methods and chance. As it was too short for commoners to promote to a knight in only 15 years, Zhang Tie just let them think about it themselves. After all, according to Jaray, different towers of time had different time velocity. Even though Huaiyuan Palace wanted to figure out how long had he stayed in the tower of time, they had to wait another 6 decades at least. By then, it didn't matter even if they knew that Zhang Tie had promoted to a knight in 15 years.

The elders exchanged glances with each other out of amazement...

They all knew that Zhang Tie hid some secrets purposefully such as how he escaped out of the prison of Senel Clan and how he increased his battle force so fast. Now that Zhang Tie skipped them, nobody forced him to say that then.

If a king didn't keep his secret, he would lose his country; if a chancellor didn't keep his secret, he would lose his position; if a shi didn't keep his secret, he would lose his life. In this world, everybody had their own secrets. Even the roadside billboards had a hidden side, not to mention a person. All the elders of Huaiyuan Palace had their own secrets which they didn't want to expose to the public. Therefore, they didn't ask Zhang Tie about the details that Zhang Tie covered purposefully. It was also unnecessary. There were only two points that counted most. Zhang Tie was a member of Huaiyuan Palace; he had promoted to a knight.

"Do you remember the location of the tower of time? When will the tower of time open again?" Noticing everyone else become silent, Elder Muan finally posed the questions that all the other elders were concerned about most.

"Hmm, I've made marks all the way out of there. The tower of time should open once again in 6 decades..." Zhang Tie pretended to rack his mind as he frowned, "When I left the pyramid, a message occurred to my mind. After leaving the underground space, I remembered the message, it said that the pyramid would open 60 years later!"

After hearing Zhang Tie's reply, all the elders let out a sigh.

"What other questions do you have?" Elder Muen glanced at the other 3 elders before asking.

After exchanging a glance with each other, all the other elders shook their heads.

"If so, from today on, our Huaiyuan Palace will have one more clan elder, the only one who has promoted to a knight before 25!"

Zhang Tie became stunned at once, 'What? Clan elder...'

Chapter 718: A Great Plan

After talking with the other 4 clan elders until midnight, Zhang Tie went to bed in an attic being not far from the Ancestral Hall where only elders could live in.

Although Zhang Tie went to bed, he was still troubled with too many messages.

After promoting to a knight, one would be destined to be a clan elder. This was indisputable in Huaiyuan Palace, or any place in Jinyun Country or Eastern Continent. Honestly, Zhang Tie didn't make any mental preparation about becoming the clan elder of Huaiyuan Palace. However, he could never stop it happening unless he broke himself away from Huaiyuan Palace. If a knight was not a clan elder, it would definitely bring a lot of negative gossips and doubts to Huaiyuan Palace and himself. Therefore, Zhang Tie had to accept the position.

Actually, Zhang Tie planned to return to Huaiyuan Palace for clearing some misunderstandings between him and Huaiyuan Palace in case of later concerns. He had never imagined that he could become a clan elder, which meant that he directly became a supreme leader of Huaiyuan Palace and a decision-maker on clan events. The conflicts between him and Huaiyuan Palace were nothing serious compared to the position of clan elder. The God joked with Zhang Tie once again.

Last night, none of the elders asked Zhang Tie about his cultivation, which made Zhang Tie a bit shocked.

However, what shocked Zhang Tie the most was the arrangement that Zhang Clan made for Huaiyuan Prefecture in the future.

After the super fleet arrived at Huaiyuan Prefecture from the Eastern Continent, Huaiyuan Palace would accomplish the evacuation of all the Hua population from Huaiyuan Prefecture. This task had been carried out a few years. Up to now, there were still over 2 million Hua people left in Huaiyuan Prefecture. This was a complete transfer of Huaiyuan Palace's power. Not only this, all the major clans across Jinyun Country had been doing this.

When the 3rd holy war arrived, no major clan would lay their own clan's hope in Waii Sub-continent, a remote place. It was an inevitable choice that all the major clans would return to Taixia Country for their origins.

It was not a hasty decision for Huaiyuan Palace to return to Taixia Country. In Elder Muen's words, since Lord Huaiyuan founded his first city in Waii Sub-continent, Huaiyuan Palace had been preparing for returning to Taixia Country one day.

90% of population across Huaiyuan Prefecture would be transferred to Youzhou City, Taixia Country. Youzhou State was a lower state in the north of Taixia Country. It was just an underdeveloped place.. The area of the entire Youzhou State was equal to 2/3 of that of Waii Sub-continent. 5 decades ago, Taixia Country expanded its territory towards the north. When the border of Youzhou State was fixed, Huaiyuan Palace bought almost 1 million sq miles' land in the southeast coastal area of Youzhou State, Taixia Country. These years, besides Huaiyuan City in Yingzhou State, Huaiyuan Palace also had its undertaking in Youzhou State. They had not founded a city in Youzhou State yet. They just founded a big harbor. This time, after returning to Taixia Country, Huaiyuan Palace would find 8 cities in Youzhou State at one time so as to hold so many people which were transferred there.

According to the regulation of Taixia Country, after founding the 8 cities, Huaiyuan Palace would have a clan prefecture in Youzhou State, which indicated the official return of Huaiyuan Palace, instead of being overseas refugees. With this honor, Huaiyuan Palace would have a greater potential in development in Taixia Country. In the future, Huaiyuan Palace would help Count Long Wind to ascend to the prefectural governor of Youzhou State, Taixia Country...

These years, Count Long Wind had been in Taixia Country, preparing for Huaiyuan Palace to return to Taixia Country and accumulate human relationships for him to ascend to the prefectural governor of Youzhou State, Taixia Country.

It was a great 100-year plan for Huaiyuan Palace to return to Taixia Country!

Compared to Waii Sub-continent, the remote place, Taixia Country was the real stage of Huaiyuan Palace.

Zhang Tie felt that everything that Huaiyuan Palace did in Jinyun Country was for this day. The abrupt holy war just stimulated Huaiyuan Palace to reap its harvest in Jinyun Country and return to its home to restart its undertaking with great population and wealth.

Huaiyuan Palace was just accumulating its power in Waii Sub-continent. When they came back to Taixia Country, they would lay their foundation for greater development potential.

The other major clans of Jinyun Country had similar plans, including those in Qilan Country. After the holy war broke out, the only choice that all the overseas major Hua clans could make was to return to Taixia Country!

However, this time, Huaiyuan Palace could not take away its cities, neither could it just leave everything here. At least for the time being, before the demonized puppets corps arrived, the entire Huaiyuan Prefecture was still prosperous. Those cities were still bringing great profits to Huaiyuan Palace everyday. Therefore, the Hurricane Corps of Huaiyuan Palace stayed here and wouldn't leave Waii Sub-continent until the last moment. As a deterrence, Huaiyuan Palace would also leave an elder to guard its interests in Huaiyuan Prefecture as the head of the Hurricane Corps.

After promoting to a knight, although his status as a clan elder had not been exposed, Zhang Tie had been qualified to attend the confidential events in the clan.

Zhang Tie bargained with the other clan elders in the latter half of their talk last night.

The discussion only contained 2 topics: Zhang Tie's duties in Huaiyuan Palace after promoting to the clan elder of Huaiyuan Palace; The bloodline heritage of Zhang Tie's 3 babies.

The two topics were both major events for Huaiyuan Palace. The first one was involved with the position of the new clan elder in Huaiyuan Palace; the second one was more important. The continuity of ancestral bloodlines was involved with a clan's prosperity. Especially the latter one, which was the biggest concern of the clan elders.

"I didn't know about the secrets of my 3 babies until I contacted my elder brother. I didn't know why they inherited my ancestral bloodline. I think this is related to my experience when I was once struck by thunderbolts in Blackhot City. After that, I felt my body had experienced subtle changes. I couldn't describe them in words. Maybe it's just an accident!"

Zhang Tie flickered to the elders with the most effective reason—thunder strike once again.

It was indeed the best decision for him to owe all the problems to thunder gods and the acquired lightning functional scholar syndrome. Zhang Tie would never admit that he could control the inheritance of ancestral bloodlines. Otherwise, he would never have a "tranquil" life in the future.

After hearing Zhang Tie's explanation, the elders became silent.

Although they didn't speak, all the elders reached an agreement that the most important thing that Zhang Tie should do now was not cultivation, but to marry some Hua girls and deliver more babies so as to ensure whether Zhang Tie's ancestral bloodlines could be inherited again. Especially after Zhang Tie confirmed that he had awakened the powerful Kuafu bloodline and sword affinity in the past one year, the elders opened their mouths so widely as if they wanted to devour Zhang Tie alive.

When bargaining with the elders, Zhang Tie was also considering his own problems. He was thinking about the relationship between him and Huaiyuan Palace. Finally, they fixed two events.

—After promoting to be a clan elder of Huaiyuan Palace, Zhang Tie would serve the office of the head of Hurricane Corps of Huaiyuan Palace and stay in Waii Sub-continent.

—Before Zhang Tie returned to Taixia Country, Huaiyuan Palace would not interfere with Zhang Tie's marriage and personal life. However, after returning to Taixia Country, Zhang Tie was obliged to coordinate with Huaiyuan Palace to sustain the ancestral bloodline of Zhang Clan.

...

Zhang Tie didn't sleep well that night as he kept digesting the messages that he was told by the clan elders.

As a knight, one could still be energetic after being awake for a few days; therefore, Zhang Tie didn't feel sleepy at all. After getting up, he entered meditation with crossed legs for a short while before feeling refreshing all over once again.

After cleansing his face and teeth, Zhang Tie left the attic.

...

Only after one night, all the deacons and disciples on the Yiyang Mountain had been busy.

After coming to the Ancestral Hall, Zhang Tie found that a lot of deacons and disciples were cleaning the huge pillars while standing on the huge steel frames that they had put up.

"Take care, take care..." A deacon told a team of strong men who were carrying a lot of heavy crates into the Ancestral Hall. After that, the deacon told them to put down the crates, take the objects being padded by soft velvet out of the crates and pave them onto the floor of the hall.

At the sight of those objects, Zhang Tie became stunned. Because all the crates contained extremely brilliant square gold bricks, each of which was 2-3 cm in thickness, 10 cm in length and width. All the gold bricks were covered with brilliant patterns of bliss clouds. As the bricks were heavy, it required 2 deacons to take each brick out of the crate carefully and pave it onto the floor.

The moment the crates were empty would they be taken away. Closely after that, another team of strong men would carry in another batch of crates.

'Cleaning the hall and paving the floor with gold bricks. What for?'

Seeing Elder Muen standing in the hall and arranging jobs for some deacons, Zhang Tie walked over there.

At the sight of Zhang Tie, Elder Muen waved his hand, telling those deacons to leave.

...

Chapter 719: Rotating Chakra Ceremony

After bowing towards Elder Muen, those deacons threw an awe-stricken glance at Zhang Tie before leaving. As they were responsible for taking care of the Ancestral Hall and serving clan elders, of course, these deacons knew what was this for.

"Elder Muen, what's this for? Are we holding some ceremony?" Zhang Tie asked out of curiosity.

"Of course we need to hold a ceremony. Have you forgotten what we talked about last night?" Elder Muen revealed a smile.

"Ahh? Is that for me?"

"Of course!"

"This...is too grand!" Zhang Tie looked around and watched those busy deacons and disciples, those gold bricks with propitious clouds and the prayer flags that were hanging in the hall. That was really too grand. Last night, the other elders said there would be an official ceremony for one more knight in Huaiyuan Palace. Zhang Tie had not imagined that it could be such grand.

"Rotating Chakra Ceremony is a major event for our clan. Of course, we have to treat it meticulously!" Elder Muen said with a solemn look.

"Rotating Chakra Ceremony?"

"After promoting to a knight, you have formed your original Chakra; if the Chakra could rotate forever, it would indicate a great battle force of our clan. The rotating Chakra is not only related to yourself, but also related to the qiyun and prosperity of the entire clan and Huaiyuan Palace. Therefore, we have to hold a rotating Chakra ceremony to celebrate and display the dignity of the knight!" Speaking of this, Elder Muen looked around the entire hall with a narcissistic and emotional look as he lowered his voice, "The last rotating Chakra ceremony was held here 68 years ago. Before Elder Muyu and Elder Muan promoted to knights at the same time, they were called Huaiyuan Double Jades due to great talents. They promoted to knights within 3 years one after another. In that rotating Chakra ceremony, the moment the two knights appeared, our Huaiyuan Palace shocked the entire Waii Sub-continent. In Jinyun Country, Huaiyuan Palace's prestige even exceeded the other 5 major clans, Lan Clan, Ou Clan, Dantai Clan, Wang Clan and Li Clan. Each member of Huaiyuan Palace was proud about that. Since then, the rotating Chakra ceremony's ritual instruments had been maintained everyday. Each member of Huaiyuan Palace expected for the moment when we could use those ritual instruments once again. And it came again 68 years later..."

"68 years!" Zhang Tie also let out a sigh while he was deeply moved by Elder Muen. Zhang Tie had not imagined that it was so difficult to be a knight.

"The big events of a major clan are warfare and sacrifice. In Taixia Country, each top clan would hold a rotating Chakra ceremony per 10 years or so. In each rotating Chakra ceremony, the cohesive force and influence of a clan would reach a new high. Before Huaiyuan Palace returned to Taixia Country, it's a good symbol for Huaiyuan Palace to hold another rotating Chakra ceremony in this Ancestral Hall!"

"When will it start?"

"November 3rd. It's a lucky day!" Elder Muen replied, "We have to pay great attention to this rotating Chakra ceremony. It will take Huaiyuan Palace's side more than half a month to prepare for it. Additionally, we have to send invitations to guests. It would take all the guests at least 1 month to arrive here. Today is September 24th. Although it is still a bit hasty, 40 days is okay !"

After thinking for a while, Zhang Tie said, "I have something to deal with. I will leave Huaiyuan Prefecture for a while. I will come back before November 1st!"

As Zhang Tie had not been to Ice and Snow Wilderness for a long time, he planned to take a look back there in this period. As his current swimming speed was at least 10 times faster than that of before, it wouldn't take him too long to make a round trip.

After being silent for a second, Elder Muen watched Zhang Tie seriously, "As this rotating Chakra ceremony is related to the dignity of the clan, after sending out the invitations, guests will converge here from all directions. If you didn't come back on time, the entire Huaiyuan Palace would feel bashful. If it's a dangerous trip, you can have Elder Muray accompany you..."

As Zhang Tie usually disappeared, Elder Muen was afraid that Zhang Tie would disappear once again. If so, Huaiyuan Palace would have a big trouble. If Zhang Tie was still the previous one, Elder Muen would have rebuked him; however, Zhang Tie's status was as same as that of him now. Although Zhang Tie had not become an official clan elder, he could not be looked down by anyone else in Huaiyuan Palace. As a clan elder, unless making an unforgivable mistake when he would be punished by all the other clan elders, he had the right to refuse any order in the clan. Negotiations were available instead of orders for him.

"Elder Muen, don't worry. I'm not going to fight demons this time. I will be safe!" Zhang Tie explained with a smile as he understood Elder Muen's concern.

"Hmm, come with me..." Elder Muen then led Zhang Tie into a rear court of the Ancestral Hall, where the clan elders usually cultivated in. After that, Elder Muen took out of a mini brocade box from a cabinet in a room.

Zhang Tie took it and found a finger ring inside. Given its look, the finger ring was nothing different than common finger rings, besides being thicker and wider. However, Zhang Tie knew that common finger rings could never be put away here in such a solemn way. Additionally, Zhang Tie remembered that all the clan elders were wearing a similar common finger ring.

"This is a top-quality remote-sensing crystal finger ring that could only be worn by clan elders of Huaiyuan Palace. According to our plan, you should wear it when you confirmed the knight character at the end of the rotating Chakra ceremony. Now that you want to leave Huaiyuan Prefecture, you can put it on first. You can contact the other clan elders with it in an emergency."

Zhang Tie took it and looked at it carefully. However, he found that it didn't look like a remote-sensing crystal at all.

"There's a mini top quality remote-sensing crystal inside this finger ring. You cannot see it without using your spiritual energy!"

Zhang Tie then sensed a fine hole which was dozens of times narrower than that of needle eye on the surface of the finger ring. After injecting his spiritual energy into that fine hole, Zhang Tie sensed the core of the remote-sensing crystal which looked like a drop of running water.

The smaller the remote-sensing crystal was, the easier it would be carried and the more precious it would be. After being sealed inside the finger ring, the remote-sensing crystal could almost not be seen by others. Such a delicate craftsmanship and the value of such a tiny remote-sensing crystal was amazing. Compared to that remote-sensing crystal gifted by Zhang Yang, this finger ring was much more

advanced. After wearing this finger ring, when a message was transmitted here, he would receive it instantly.

Furthermore, this finger ring was a rare Knight-level rune equipment. After scanning over the metallic surface of the finger ring with his spiritual energy, Zhang Tie had seen lines of the message in his mind.

——Huaiyuan Finger Ring

——Knight-level Equipment.

——With this finger ring, the wearer could increase his nimbleness by 2%, his recovery speed by 2% and his perceptive ability by 2%.

What a rarity! What was more was that there was an in-laid top quality remote-sensing crystal inside the finger ring.

"This finger ring is produced in the Items Pavilion of Huaiyuan Palace. Only clan elders are qualified to wear it. Each clan elder has one!"

Zhang Tie took it solemnly. Although the Huaiyuan Finger Ring was light, it was valuable.

There was an exclusive long-distance communications identification code for this finger ring in the box. After skimming it, Zhang Tie rubbed it into ashes in front of Elder Muen.

"In the encryption department of the Ancestral Hall, someone was keeping an eye on the other side of this remote-sensing crystal around the clock. Through the transfer of the encryption department, you could contact the other 5 clan elders through this finger ring!"

The encryption department was exclusive for the long-distance communications among clan elders, which was under the management of royal and reliable clan deacons. This agency displayed the wealth and privileges of clan elders of Huaiyuan Palace.

"Did Elder Muyuan transmit the message from Eastern Continent to here by Huaiyuan Finger Ring this time?"

"Hmm!" Elder Muen nodded.

After becoming a clan elder, according to the regulations of Huaiyuan Palace, Zhang Tie could only call other elders' courtesy names. Even if they were father and son or brothers, they could also not call each other according to their seniority in the family unless at home or privately. Therefore, Zhang Tie could not call 6th granduncle in the public anymore.

...

After 10 minutes, Zhang Tie strode downwards Yiyang Mountain, the center of Huaiyuan Palace alone.

In Huaiyuan Palace, nobody dared to follow clan elders unless the one was bored of living too long. Additionally, only knights were able to follow knights.

"Ahh? Are you a new disciple? We've not seen you before!" When Zhang Tie went downhill, he met some deacons who were going uphill at the same age of Zhang Tie. Watching the young man who was wearing a different warrior's costume from that of others, the other deacons asked amazingly. 'As all

the deacons, stewards and disciples in the mountain were uniformed costumes respectively, nobody dared wear casual clothes here. Who's that one? How can he be so audacious?"

"No..."

Zhang Tie answered calmly before walking downhill in a handsome way under the amazing gaze of the disciples.

...

After half an hour, Zhang Tie came to an apartment on one avenue of Yiyang City.

...

"Ahh? Mr and Mrs James have already checked out half a year ago. They've already left Yiyang City by the sea!"

The concierge of that apartment was a strong white man. He answered Zhang Tie politely when he found that Zhang Tie was a Hua man in an expensive set of warrior's costumes.

At this moment, as a great batch of Hua people were evacuating from Yiyang City, more and more other human species flooded in. Many Siberians found their jobs in Yiyang City, which made up the shortage of labor forces in this city.

The concierge's reply was within Zhang Tie's expectation completely. On the way here, he had guessed that Miss Daina had already moved away. Last time, after he left Yiyang City two months ago, Miss Daina should have married her fiancé. As such a long time had passed by, it was impossible for Miss Daina to stay in Yiyang City.

Zhang Tie didn't know why would he come here. As a whim just occurred to his mind, 'What's going with Miss Daina? If she's living well, I just want to take a glance from the distance without any malicious intention.' However, after finding that someone else was living in the residence of Miss Daina and her husband, Zhang Tie couldn't stand to inquire the concierge about the whereabouts of Miss Daina.

"Do you know their whereabouts?"

"They might have gone to the Eastern Continent. As to the details, I have to say I don't know. It's heard that Doc James is proficient in surgery. Someone dug him out of his previous hospital. His wife got pregnant. Of course, they left here by chance..."

'Had Miss Daina got pregnant? Given the time, she should have become a mom.' Zhang Tie felt complex inside.

'I married some girls and became a father; Miss Daina also married a man and became a mother. Is this the so-called life?'

...

After leaving Miss Daina's residence, Zhang Tie walked for a while in the boisterous streets of Yiyang City. Finally, he recovered his composure and called a taxi for Golden Sea City.

The driver of the taxi was a black man, who could not speak Hua language fluently. Zhang Tie just pointed at his destination on the map showed by the driver. The driver then understood where he was heading for.

Zhang Tie prepared to visit Zhang Clan's head in Golden Sea City. On the way, the driver completely treated him as a tool for practicing Hua language. Hearing his jokes in awkward Hua language, Zhang Tie sighed helplessly, 'Yup, c'est la vie—even the woman being loved by a knight married another man; met a driver who joked in awkward Hua language when you were depressed.'

The taxi driver parked outside the old mansion of Zhang clan. Zhang Tie tossed a gold coin at the driver as he said, "Keep the changes..."

As the travel fee was less than 10 silver coin, the driver was overjoyed by a gold coin.

"Xiexie 1 ...Xiexie..." The driver instantly accelerated away 2 .

Zhang Tie shook his head as he walked towards the old mansion of Zhang Clan...

A limo drove by Zhang's old mansion accidentally. When it passed by Zhang Tie, the vehicle suddenly slowed down. The window was rolled down while a beauty in a very womanly skirt watched Zhang Tie's side with a slight frown. Zhang Tie also looked at her. The woman's eyes instantly turned bright.

"Is that you?" The woman exclaimed with an amazement.

After gazing at her for a few seconds, Zhang Tie remembered who she was, the crazy girl who hugged him and called him hubby when she saw him for the first time...

'Nana...'

After changing her make-up, the little female delinquent almost could not be recognized by Zhang Tie...

However, based on Zhang Tie's knowledge about women, the moment he saw her, he knew that her current look was completely disguised...

Chapter 720: A Party in the Old Mansion

The guardians outside the gate of the old mansion didn't know Zhang Tie. Seeing Zhang Tie wandering towards them, they stopped him at once. However, that woman and her car were let in.

After the car drove inside, Zhang Tie was still standing outside the gate. The woman then threw an interesting look back at him.

"Nana, how can you stare at a man so rudely. It's Zhang's granny's 70th birthday, you should not be as wild as before. Your Aunt Xue even wants to introduce some young talented men of Zhang Clan to you today." A noble Hua lady at her 40s with an up-do urged, who looked a bit similar to that girl. She looked pretty good. Given the top quality purple beads string over her neck and the jade green bracelets on her wrists which could be family jewels, she was definitely a noblewoman.

"Zhang Clan of Golden Sea City is really prosperous these years. A couple of years ago, Zhang Clan could not match our Wang Clan. However, Zhang Clan's undertakings in Golden Sea City developed so fast.

Zhang Clan's Milky Way Shipyard is worth over 10 million gold coins now, which rises to 2nd from 3rd. The old man Zhang Haitian of Zhang Clan is really great!" A 40-50-year-old man with glasses on the woman's side added as he watched the boisterous scene in Zhang's old mansion.

"It's said that Jinwu Business Group has its channel to get all-purpose medicament. They could even share a business with Longwind Business Group. What a great Zhang undertakings!" Speaking of the all-purpose medicament, the noble woman's eyes gleamed at once.

The man slightly frowned as he replied, "It seems that Jinwu Business Group has few business relations with Zhang's old mansion. However, Zhang Yang, the head of Jinwu Business Group is indeed a grandson of Zhang Haitian, the head of Zhang Clan!"

"What's the reason? Doesn't Zhang's old mansion have shares of Jinwu Business Group?" The woman became a bit amazed.

"Hehe, Zhang Haitian the old man has 4 wives, 11 sons and daughters, and dozens of grandchildren. Many of his grandchildren had got married and established their own undertakings. It's normal to have problems in such a huge family. Every family has its own difficulties. Don't we?" The man smiled softly.

The noblewoman then became silent.

The girl in the car made a grimace by stretching out her tongue.

Zhang's old mansion was indeed very boisterous. As there was no vacancy in Zhang's old mansion anymore, some limos even parked on the road 100 m away from Zhang's old mansion. The steward of Zhang's old mansion was guiding servants to help drivers park their cars and lead guests into the old mansion.

After getting off the vehicle, the girl couldn't help but throw a glance back at Zhang Tie, who was still standing outside the gate. At this moment, a guardian hurriedly trotted towards here. When he met a guardian of the old mansion, he whispered to the guardian. The moment the guardian heard this had he stridden towards the gate flurriedly.

...

Zhang Tie patiently waited outside the gate a few minutes, during which period, two more limos drove into Zhang's old mansion. It seemed especially boisterous today in the old mansion. There would never be so many people in usual time.

After a few minutes, Zhang Tie saw a familiar guardian hurriedly walking towards him.

"Ahh, young master Zhang Tie..." At the sight of Zhang Tie, the guardian became startled at once. He had not imagined that Zhang Tie could appear at this moment. He hurriedly had the concierges let Zhang Tie in, "Ahh, as these guardians are newly employed, they haven't seen you before. Please don't blame them, young master..."

As a great taboo, if guardians made their owner's family members uncomfortable, they would definitely be laid off. Even Zhang Haitian would not allow such silly guardians to stay in the old mansion.

After hearing the guardian's explanation, the two concierges hurriedly apologized to Zhang Tie.

"It doesn't matter, it doesn't matter, you're also fulfilling your duties. The old man would feel safe living here as he has concierges like you..." Zhang Tie replied with a smile.

Knowing that Zhang Tie was so kind, the two concierges let out a sigh at the same time, 'I've not imagined that the old man has such a kind grandson. All the other grandsons usually come here by limos in a very dignified way while being favored by many people. However, this one just came here by taxi. It seems that he has a low position in Zhang Clan. Additionally, he just came here in warrior's costumes today. It looks too casual...'

The guardian who knew Zhang Tie directly led Zhang Tie into the old mansion.

"It's so boisterous today." Zhang Tie uttered.

"It's the 70th birthday of the eldest grandma. So many people are coming here to offer birthday congratulations to her!"

"Ahh, is Zhang Su here?" Zhang Tie asked out of amazement.

Although Zhang Su and Zhang Tie both stayed in Hidden Dragon Palace, they just saw each other a few times. Later on, Zhang Su left Hidden Dragon Palace and carried out clan task. After the battle of Heavens Cold City, Zhang Tie left Hidden Dragon Palace. They hadn't seen each other for 5 years.

"Young master Zhang Su has come back yesterday..."

Zhang Tie nodded, 'As Zhang Su is the eldest grandma's direct grandson, he should come back on her 70th birthday.'

Watching so many vehicles on the way, Zhang Tie knew that there were many visitors here today.

After coming to the lobby of the old mansion, Zhang Tie entered it himself.

...

The lobby was refurnished today. It looked happy everywhere. Over 200 people were gathering in the lobby, male or female, young or old. They were chatting together. Besides Zhang's family members, there were also many guests. Most of the guests were Zhang's old friends and influential figures in Golden Sea City. Male guests were in tidy clothes; female guests were in shiny jewels. Male and female were communicating with each other in different circles.

The moment Zhang Tie entered the lobby had he caught sight of Zhang Su.

In a small parlor beside the lobby, Zhang Su was chatting with the other young men and women whose age ranged from 16-20 or so. They were all sitting around Zhang Su and listening to him like how stars embraced the moon.

Zhang Su in a set of military uniform ranked Lieutenant Colonel of Jinyun Country looked pretty heroic and handsome. Many girls admired him so much that their eyes were sparkling. Even males were showing venerable looks. When Zhang Su was talking about something, some female teenagers at their 16s couldn't stand to exclaim while covering their mouth with the hand.

Compared to that 5 years ago, Zhang Su looked maturer and more confident.

At the sight of Zhang Su, Zhang Tie knew that he was LV 10. It seemed that Zhang Su made a great progress these years compared to other members of Huaiyuan Palace; however, his progress was still dwarfed by Lan Yunxi, the chosen one. Of course, he could never match Zhang Tie, who always had marvelous experiences. Nobody across Waii Sub-continent could promote to knight at Zhang Tie's age, not to mention Zhang Su.

Even though, a LV 10 fighter at such a young age was qualified as an elite and backbone. The killer of Zhen Clan who was dispatched to Hidden Dragon Island from Heavens Cold City to kill Zhang Tie was also LV 10. However, Zhang Su's military uniform and rank indicated his current position.

Sensing someone on his side, he looked around and caught sight of Zhang Tie.

Zhang Tie revealed a big smile.

Zhang Su became a bit stunned. Closely after that, he sprung up and strode towards Zhang Tie, leaving the others alone.

The onlookers then moved their eyes onto Zhang Tie.

Some of them were Zhang Tie's cousins, who saw Zhang Tie in the old mansion a few years ago and still had a blurry memory of Zhang Tie. However, those young guests didn't know Zhang Tie at all.

"Ahh, who's that guy? I've not seen him before!" A young man asked a Zhang's member.

"Hmm, he's Zhang Tie, a cousin!" That person answered faintly.

Besides the troop that Huaiyuan Palace dispatched to Selnes Theater of Operations, few people across Huaiyuan Prefecture knew Zhang Tie's honor "Selnes Eagle". Because Hua people didn't pay much attention to such honors that were popular in Siberians. Later on, after Zhang Tie was captured by Senel Clan, rumors spread across Selnes Theater of Operations; Huayuan Palace then didn't propagate him anymore. The message about Zhang Tie that Zhang's old mansion gasped was still one and half a year ago when Zhang Tie was chased out of Hidden Dragon Palace. The old man Zhang Haitian of Zhang Clan didn't express his opinion about Zhang Tie's performance. As to those peers, some of them felt pitiful about Zhang Tie; some took pleasure in Zhang Tie's misfortune. In a major clan, young ones always compete with each other.

"Cousin!" Zhang Tie called him.

"You're still alive?" Zhang Su looked very excited as his eyes were filled with tears, "I heard about your experience from junior fellow apprentice Liu Xu when I went back to Hidden Dragon Island last time. I thought...I thought..."

Watching Zhang Su's expression, Zhang Tie felt warm, too. When in Hidden Dragon Palace, he knew that this cousin was a bit arrogant; however, generally, he was a sentimental person. Additionally, he was pretty decisive and had a great sense of responsibility.

Zhang Tie just embraced Zhang Su tightly.

Given the bloodline, they were cousins. In Hidden Dragon Palace, they were fellow apprentices. When the holy war broke out, Zhang Tie defended demons in Selnes Theater of Operations while Zhang Su cleared demonized puppets in Qilan Country, namely, they were comrades-in-arms. Plus some common

experiences in Hidden Dragon Island, they didn't need to talk too much; instead, they just embraced each other while patting each other's backs forcefully.

Zhang Tie was not eye-catching in Zhang's old mansion. Few people paid attention to him when he entered the old mansion. By contrast, Zhang Su was the pillar of Zhang's young generation who was widely accepted by the family members in Zhang's old mansion. When they embraced so fervently at the gate of the lobby, everybody else moved their eyes on them. After recognizing Zhang Tie, a steward hurriedly went to report to Zhang Haitian the old man of Zhang Clan.

After separating from each other, Zhang Su recovered his composure before drawing in a breath deeply. Closely after that, he guided Zhang Tie into the back drawing room.

"The grandpa is always thinking about you these days. He also knew what you encountered in Selnes Theater of Operations. Over the past year, having not received your message, the old man has been worried about you. He must be very happy to know that you've come today..."

Zhang Tie replied with a smile. Being silent, he just followed Zhang Su towards the back drawing room. Before they entered the back drawing-room, the old man had been already walking towards them. At the sight of Zhang Tie, the grandpa was so happy that he tightly held Zhang Tie's hands.

"Fine, fine, nice to see you back, nice to see you back..."

The one followed after the old man was his eldest wife. The old woman wore a gold-silk purple skirt with a green emerald as large as a chicken's egg on her forehead. Meanwhile, she was holding a brilliant crystal ruyi. She looked pretty dignified and rich. Although it was her 70th birthday, only one-third of her hair had turned pale. She looked like only a bit elder than 50.

"I've just returned to Huaiyuan Prefecture last night. As I didn't know that today was grand madam's 70th birthday, therefore, I didn't prepare any gift for you. Please don't blame me for that!" Zhang Tie explained.

"Su'er also came back with no gift. As you two fought outside for the clan, it's my best gift that you came back safe and sound! Your grandpa has not been so happy for a long time..." Grand madam said happily. No matter whether it was true or not, Zhang Tie indeed felt warm inside.

"Have you registered in the clan when you came back?" The grandpa asked out of concern, which contained deep meaning.

"Hmm, I've already registered. It's okay..."

The old man then became reassured. In his opinion, if Zhang Tie could come back and register himself in the clan after being captured and stand safe and sound in front of him, he's indeed innocent. If there was really some problems with him, Zhang Tie had to undergo a strict interrogation carried out by the clan, even if he could survive back.

"It's okay, young men should experience more. As long as there's a green mountain, we won't fear about having no firewoods to burn!" The old man comforted Zhang Tie. The old man even wanted to ask Zhang Tie about his experiences after being captured; however, seeing so many people circling around here, he became silent.

Zhang Tie revealed a smile without making any explanation. In most people's eyes, he was dismissed by Hidden Dragon Palace; after that, he was captured in Selnes Theater of Operations and his current status was definitely disgraced. As all the news in Yiyang Mountain were forbidden to be revealed to the public, even if those deacons and disciples knew something, they dared not expose the news to the public. Except for only a few people, most of the people across Huaiyuan Prefecture didn't know that he had already promoted to a knight.

Seeing Zhang Haitian and the grand madam walking out of the back drawing-room to see Zhang Tie, many people in the lobby were surprised as many of them gathered here.

"Old man, who's this young man?" A guest asked out of curiosity.

"This is my grandson, who has been fighting in Selnes Theater of Operations with the airship troop of Jinyun Country. He's just come back today!" The old man explained faintly.

At the same time, the old man threw a glance at Zhang Su. Zhang Su instantly got the old man's meaning as he grabbed Zhang Tie's arm and explained to the onlookers with a smile, "Uncles, as my cousin has just come back today, I will introduce some friends to him. Some younger female cousins are waiting for listening to my cousin talking about how humans fought demonized puppets in STO. I have to take him away!"

"Haha...I've not imagined that Zhang Clan could have two talents who could fight demons. Old man, you have good fortune. You have so many talented offsprings of literary and military capacity!" The guest replied while all the other guests laughed out loudly. Zhang Su also took Zhang Tie into the back drawing-room.

Given the performance of the old man and Zhang Su, Zhang Tie could sense that the old man was protecting him. Seeing Zhang Su and Zhang Tie getting along with each other so well, the old man also became relieved. From then on, he always kept a big smile.

Seeing the old man happy, all the people in the old mansion also looked happy, even though some of them were actually unhappy. Therefore, Zhang's old mansion became more boisterous.

Those young men who surrounded Zhang Su just now were indeed interested in Zhang Tie. The moment Zhang Su pulled Zhang Tie over there had a 16-17-year-old girl thrown her curious look onto Zhang Tie. Although Zhang Tie was already over 20 years old, he looked as young as the girl.

Feeling like meeting a peer, the young girl instantly asked Zhang Tie about his job and military rank in Selnes Theater of Operations vigorously.

"I fought demons with the airship troop in Selnes Theater of Operations. I'm a glider driver; sergeant first class!" Zhang Tie answered seriously. As the only air cavalry in Selnes Theater of Operations, he was indeed fighting with the airship troop as a sergeant first class.

Zhang Su turned around and seemed wanting to say something. Zhang Tie then blinked his eyes towards him. After knowing that Zhang Tie didn't want to mention what happened in Selnes Theater of Operations, Zhang Su then became silent; he just listened to Zhang Tie flickering the young girl.

"Ahh..."The young girl obviously looked disappointed. Judging from Zhang Su's and grandpa's attitudes towards him, the young girl even thought Zhang Tie was an influential figure. However, she had not

imagined that Zhang Tie was just a newbie who drove gliders. Not only that, even the other young women moved their eyes away from Zhang Tie. In this circle, although being young, many people had known it clearly who were valuable to them. Undoubtedly, a sergeant first class who could only drive glider in Selnes Theater of Operations was not their target.

"What were you doing before serving the army? You're younger than 18. How could you join the army?" The young girl asked the last question out of curiosity.

"I stayed in Hidden Dragon Palace for a few days, but I was expelled. So I'm barely qualified as a fighter!" Zhang Tie explained seriously.

After hearing Zhang Tie's reply, even those men beside Zhang Tie became wordless—just a guy who was expelled from Huaiyuan Palace.

...

Zhang Tie then felt quiet. After revealing a smile towards Zhang Su, he sat in the corner of the drawing-room with a glass of wine in hand and listening to young men chatting.

Zhang Tie had not imagined that it was the grand madam's 70th birthday. Previously, he wanted to leave soon after visiting the old man. It seemed that he had to finish the supper. It would be too merciless if he left now. 'Just wait then.'

Zhang Tie drunk the wine as he listening to their talk. At the same time, he was imagining 4 golden abacuses and carrying out the four different arithmetic operations.

Zhang Tie was already able to do two things adroitly at the same time. After promoting to a knight, with surging spiritual energy, he attempted to do different arithmetic operations on 4 abacuses at the same time.

This attempt was almost as same as that when he just attempted to imagine 2 abacuses in mind at the beginning.

When he did two things at the same time, Zhang Tie actually had already realized the potential value of "mental arithmetic by abacus".

The more abacuses he imagined in mind, the more effective "mental arithmetic by abacus" would be to the improvement of his spiritual energy. When he imagined 2 abacuses at the same time, he could improve his spiritual energy by 2 times; when he imagined 4 abacuses at the same time, he could improve his spiritual energy by 3 times.

The original 'mental arithmetic by abacus' could make a very limited improvement in his spiritual energy; however, after improving the effect by 3 times, Zhang Tie felt that "mental arithmetic by abacus" could almost match the effect of some secret methods on cultivating spiritual energy.

'What if I imagine 8, 16, 32 abacuses at the same time?'

The moment Zhang Tie imagined about the bright future had he faintly become excited inside.

However, this was not the only effect of "mental arithmetic by abacus". The most important effect of "mental arithmetic by abacus" was that he could do many things at the same time...

'What would happen if I could do 2 things, 4 things even 8 things at the same time...'

Zhang Tie faintly felt a terrifying potential value of "mental arithmetic by abacus"...

...

Suddenly, a gust of fragrance arrived. Smelling the familiar fragrance, Zhang Tie sighed, 'The girl comes again?'

"Please stay far away from me. Can we just pretend to not know each other?" Zhang Tie sighed as he stopped cultivation.

"I feel you were just flickering the young girl, right? How could you be that average?" The woman whispered to Zhang Tie.

Raising his eyes, Zhang Tie looked at the woman in a brilliant womanly skirt. The woman's eyes gleamed dangerously like how a naughty kid found something funny.

"So what?" Zhang Tie slightly raised his jaw, "You bit me?"

"How about this? You tell me your life in Selnes Theater of Operations, I promise to not tell others about that!" The woman called Nana revealed a curious look.

Zhang Tie just rolled his eyes and ignored such a naive suggestion.

"Tell me about your requirement. How about racing car once again. If you lost it, you have to follow my order!" The woman rolled her eyes as she said smartly.

"Little girl, your mom is calling you. Hurry, go meet your Mr. Right in the future. If you are rebellious in your puberty, just race cars with other boys. You can drill as many holes as possible on your ears. After all, you don't lack money. Just daub some senior recovery medicament on the holes. Additionally, you can also pretend as a fair lady with earrings on them in such a scene. When you get married, remember to give birth to some more babies for your husband as a contribution to humans. You can take care of your babies, walk dogs or make hairdressing at home everyday. Just be your young mistress of the house. As to battles, many people would die there. You'd better not involve in it. Neither should you be interested in the battle. If you are interested in stories, just go read cavalry novels!"

The woman became stunned. She looked along the direction of Zhang Tie's jaw as she saw her mom and Aunt Xue standing in the far with a 20-year old man in a formal dress. Her mom was watching him with a worrying look and intending to have her back. 'How...how did he know that I daubed senior recovery medicament on my ear holes.'

'Jerk!'

...

However, Zhang Tie made a wrong judgment about this girl's next movement. Under the gaze of the two women and a man, this girl just took a seat on the sofa beside her like a fair lady silently. At the same time, she threw a sweet smile at Zhang Tie while putting her arms on the handrails of the sofa. Closely after that, she leaned against the sofa and watched Zhang Tie obsessively with her hand on her cheek.

What a picturesque scene!

Zhang Tie soon sensed the girl's destructive force. The man who was waiting for her over there threw a jealous look towards him. Closely after that, the other young men transferred their eyes onto Zhang Tie. Even those girls who lost their interests in him also started to look at him with an amazing look once again.

Zhang Su also looked weird as he thought, 'What a cousin! You could have dozens of girlfriends and female friends in Blackhot City silently and could have all of them move to Huaiyuan Prefecture voluntarily. But only after sitting here in an extremely low-key way for a few minutes, you've already fascinated the princess of Wang Clan...'