

Black Iron 921

Chapter 921: Becoming a Celestial Being

As knights treasured time so much, they did everything at a high efficiency.

The entire process of Mountain Lifting Hermit entering the room to leaving lasted less than 5 minutes. After a short meeting with each other, the 12 knights left the Iron-blood Tower respectively.

As they were going to set off at 9 pm tomorrow, they only had 24 hours left for making preparations in the Lion Fortress.

When Zhang Tie, Gong Ziyao and Zhou Shufan left the Iron-blood Tower, the heavy rain had not stopped yet. It was still pitch-dark outside the fortress.

"Brother Cui, we might encounter many accidents in this action, you'd better prepare some equipment in case of possible dangers!"

"Thanks, brother Zhou, I'm thinking about preparing something!"

"If you don't have enough consumption points and earth-elements crystals. Just tell us, we've got 10 more earth-elements crystals, you could exchange them for many items!"

"I've not used up the earth-elements crystals that I've exchanged with the horns of that ox-head demon. Additionally, I've got 1,000 consumption points left. It's enough!"

"Which weapon are you good at, brother Cui?"

"Spear!"

"Spear!" Zhou Shufan glanced at Zhang Tie's tower-like figure seriously as if he was imagining how Zhang Tie looked when he used a spear, "It's a popular weapon. You could buy it in the equipment stores in the fortress. Top-quality spears need to be customized which requires longer time. I'm afraid that you might not have enough time to customize spears."

"No problem, I will take a look in the equipment stores. By the way, I will buy some other items!"

"See you tomorrow then!"

"Yes, see you tomorrow!"

Gong Ziyao, Zhou Shufan and Zhang Tie then cupped their hands towards each other before separating from each other.

Seeing Gong Ziyao and Zhou Shufan off, Zhang Tie recalled Pandora's look once again...

Standing outside the Iron-blood Tower for a few seconds in an absent-minded way, Zhang Tie shook his head. After recalling the locations of the equipment stores on the map of the Lion Fortress, Zhang Tie strode away...

...

3 hours later, Zhang Tie returned to his private knight's tower with a senior metal field operations bag which was longer than 70 cm. A knight's battle spear which had been folded into three sections was inserted to one side of the bag.

It was a snapping-up, in which Zhang Tie spent 80% of his earth-elements crystals and consumption points.

The most expensive one among the commodities that he had purchased was that knight-level foldable battle spear, which was called abyss battle spear. It was 178 kg in weight and 3.8 m in length. The entire battle spear was made of abyss iron. Additionally, the body of the spear was attached with a Class III consolidating effect; the head of the spear was also granted with a rune effect of accelerated bleeding. This battle spear was made by an artisan master in the Lion Fortress. It cost Zhang Tie 11 earth-elements crystals.

As Zhang Tie was also an artisan master, at the sight of the spear, he had known the superb craftsmanship of the artisan master who made this abyss battle spear. Its maker was even better than "Master Jiang" and Zhang Tie himself. It would take Zhang Tie at least 1.5 months to make a battle spear which was faintly dwarfed by this one.

In peacetime, abyss battle spear was portable as it could be folded into three sections. When in need, it would only take its owner a couple of seconds to assemble the three sections and play its role as a knight's battle spear.

Besides the abyss battle spear, Zhang Tie bought a pair of high metal tiger-claw shaped battle boots, which was waterproof, fire-resistant and pierce-resistant and carried the effect of Class II consolidating skill and a Class I cleaning effect. The Class II consolidating skill was common; however, the Class I cleaning effect was considerate for knights. With this rune effect, even if Zhang Tie constantly fought for months in the wild, he would never scare others away by his foot the moment he took off his battle boots.

This pair of battle boots cost Zhang Tie 6 earth-elements crystals. As a result, Zhang Tie only had 1 earth-elements crystal left.

Actually, there were better battle boots and battle spears. However, given his ability, Zhang Tie could only buy the two items.

As for others, the senior metal field operations bag and the sets of combat uniforms in the bag cost Zhang Tie more than 700 consumption points.

After returning to his knight's tower, Zhang Tie put down his belongings in the bedroom before entering Castle of Black Iron...

Since being wanted, Zhang Tie had not entered Castle of Black Iron.

...

"Ah..." The moment Zhang Tie entered Castle of Black Iron, he had heard a jarring exclamation instead of a Heller's greeting.

Right in the lobby of the palace tree, two girls of about 15 years were startled by Zhang Tie's sudden appearance as they exclaimed at once.

Zhang Tie was also stunned as he had not imagined that someone else was here. However, he instantly remembered that he had promised Heller to have some youngsters go up the mountain last time.

When he took his parents in, he didn't see the two girls. It was really out of his imagination that he could see them this time.

"This is the God of Karma whom you're worshipping. The God could freely access to the secular world and his own immortal country in his incarnation. No panic!"

Heller always appeared in time. After hearing that this one was the celestial being that they had been worshipping, the two beautiful girls hurriedly knelt down.

Heller blinked his eyes towards Zhang Tie. After understanding Heller's meaning, Zhang Tie instantly triggered his body-changing immortal bloodline and recovered his original look. At the sight of Zhang Tie's original look, the two girls immediately lowered their heads and almost touched the ground. They dared not glance at Zhang Tie anymore as if they were very guilty...

Zhang Tie only recovered his original face; however, his figure remained unchanged. As Cui Li's figure was much larger than Zhang Tie's, if he recovered his original figure, his pants would rip off at once. He could not continue to disguise as a celestial being by pulling his pants.

However, it was enough for him to just change his face. Watching the two girls being so scared and thrilled, Heller told them to leave...

'God of Karma?' Zhang Tie blinked his eyes towards Heller as he wondered when did he become the God of Karma of those residents in Castle of Black Iron.

...

Chapter 922: Golden Lotus Flowers over the Magma Lake

"Castle Lord!" Heller bowed towards Zhang Tie after the two awe-stricken and exciting girls left.

Zhang Tie asked Heller, "What's the God of Karma?"

"It's the official appellation of Castle Lord given by the residents in Castle of Black Iron. Karma represents reprimand and redemption. It's both a start and an end. Karma is the top rule, the source of all the strengths, nature and all the rules. All the rules are the concrete manifestation of karma. The God of Karma is the top celestial being and the Creator. The appellation indicates that the residents in Castle of Black Iron worship and respect you!" Heller said with a solemn look.

"Is that real?"

Zhang Tie touched his bald head in a bashful way as he felt the appellation was something great.

"Erm...is it okay?" Zhang Tie asked Heller in a faintly shameful way. It might be a bit exaggerated for a mortal to be worshipped as a celestial being.

"What are you concerned about, Castle Lord?" Heller asked.

'Hmm, whatever, it's just an appellation. Nothing to be worried about it.'

'Could a wanted man also be worshipped like a celestial being?' Zhang Tie smiled in a self-deprecated manner. Closely after that, he walked towards the small tree which was covered with fruits.

After so many days, the small tree was covered with leakless fruits.

Besides, two fruits of redemption from the gratitude of gulf shrimps and hairy shellfish were also hanging over the small tree, which looked pretty brilliant...

——Fruit of Redemption from the gratitude of gulf shrimps. It's already ripe. Usage: Pick and direct eat it. Notice: The fruit cannot be taken out of the Castle of Black Iron. After twelve hours of having been picked off the tree, its energy and vitality will gradually decline.

——With this fruit, Castle Lord could accelerate the healing and recovering ability by 18.7% and increase the upper limit in endurance capacity in the hypoxic environment by 9.3%.

——Fruit of Redemption from the gratitude of hairy shellfish. It's already ripe. Usage: Pick and direct eat it. Notice: The fruit cannot be taken out of the Castle of Black Iron. After twelve hours of having been picked off the tree, its energy and vitality will gradually decline.

——With this fruit, Castle Lord could increase the defensive capability and anti-strike ability by 4.3%.

The two ripe fruits of redemption indicated that Paul had been carrying out his task by setting free gulf shrimps and hairy shellfish after Zhang Tie left Yanghe Prefecture.

Zhang Tie revealed a big smile before starting to enjoy the fruits.

Rome was not built in one day.

A long journey began with the first step. After taking so many fruits one after another, Zhang Tie gradually climbed up to the higher peaks.

These leakless fruits became the "tonic" of Zhang Tie's battle qi. Zhang Tie ate them one after another like having common fruits. Zhang Tie soon ate up all the leakless fruits that had been accumulated during the past months. After that, Zhang Tie started to take the fruits of redemption. Compared to those leakless fruits, it took Zhang Tie about 3 hours to fully digest the two fruits of redemption, which was a bit longer than that required by those leakless fruits.

After returning to the Lion Fortress for only 2 days, Zhang Tie had promoted to 1 change black iron knight and gained an overall improvement in power from "King Roc Sutra". After taking so many fruits, Zhang Tie's potential overall strength increased once more.

After digesting these fruits, Zhang Tie got off the sacrificial altar. When he was going back to his private knight's tower, he was stopped by Heller.

"Castle Lord, you might have already forgotten something."

"What?"

"Castle Lord, how did you feel in the first abyss?"

"Nice, but it was too misty over there. I had a poor vision inside it!" Zhang Tie replied with a confused look.

"The garrison knights in the Lion Fortress have to drink one vial of senior night-viewing medicament per year so as to stay in the Earth-elements Realm. I'm afraid that Castle Lord has forgotten that you could have a dark vision ability without taking night-viewing medicament!"

After hearing Heller's words, Zhang Tie became confused at first; after that, he blinked his eyes as if he had recalled something. Closely after that, he was in ecstasy...

Many people have the similar experiences. When making a move, they would suddenly find a passbook in a corner or some gold coins that they once hid. They then felt having a windfall.

That was how Zhang Tie felt at this moment. After being busy fighting demons these years, he might have forgotten about this if not being reminded by Heller.

He remembered that he had one more treasure in Castle of Black Iron—Fiery Flame Lotus.

After taking the seeds of the Fiery Flame Lotus, he could have a dark vision ability which was more effective than night-viewing medicament.

"Oh, how about the Fiery Flame Lotus in Castle of Black Iron now?"

"Why not take a look at them with me, Castle Lord?" Heller suggested as he stretched out his hand to invite Zhang Tie.

Zhang Tie immediately rushed into the underground tunnel of the palace tree.

The underground tunnel of the palace tree was linked with the Immortal Mountain.

The inside of the Immortal Mountain had a wonderful scenery.

The hinterland of the Immortal Mountain included the largest warehouse of Castle of Black Iron, Aziz's cellars and Edward's foundry.

As for rune equipment masters, Edward's foundry was really attractive where Edward used dozens of extremely pure underground flames in different temperatures to extract items. Each rune equipment master was desiring about having such a workshop. They could not imagine about having dozens of underground flames in different temperatures in the same workshop at all.

In the past, Zhang Tie didn't understand why Edward chose to build it in the hinterland of the Immortal Mountain. Now, in the eyes of an artisan master, Zhang Tie found that Edward's foundry in the Immortal Mountain was really a DreamWorks for rune equipment masters. He realized that he would not find the second foundry like this in the world outside Castle of Black Iron.

Right at the bottom of the Immortal Mountain, Zhang Tie saw numerous glittering fiery flame lotus on a magma lake which covered tens of thousands of square meters.

Among the glittering lotus leaves were golden lotus flowers. Some golden lotus buds were getting ready to burst; some had been in full bloom; some golden lotus flowers had bred seedpod.

The entire space above the magma lake was filled with an exotic fragrance.

The remaining lotus seeds that he left here had become a wide area of fiery flame lotus leaves, flowers and seeds.

At the sight of such a luxuriant scene in the magma lake, Zhang Tie felt a contradictory déjà vu. Many people might have already seen common lotus flowers covering a lake; however, Zhang Tie bet that they had never seen so many fiery flame lotus leaves, flowers and seeds over a magma lake. Even his master Zhao Yuan might not have seen that before.

This was a top luxuriant scene and the manifestation of the good luck in Castle of Black Iron. It was Castle of Black Iron who was the celestial being instead of him.

"After the first batch of fiery flame lotus become ripe, Castle Lord didn't care about it as if you didn't need fiery flame golden lotus seed for the time being; therefore, I decided all by myself to sow those seeds. After so many years, due to the nourishment of the aura in Castle of Black Iron, they finally reached such a scale. There were 1149 fiery flame golden lotus seeds in this magma lake."

Zhang Tie squatted beside the magma lake as he touched one fiery flame golden lotus leaf out of curiosity. As large as a common lotus leaf, it was not hot but the texture was like a metal. It was like a super alloy leaf. Although Zhang Tie had a terrifying strength, he could still not crumb the fiery flame golden lotus leaf; instead, he could only leave a fingerprint on it. Zhang Tie flicked at it, causing two melodious, silvery metallic sounds.

The subtlety of silicon-based life was really out of Zhang Tie's imagination.

As an artisan master, Zhang Tie instinctively knew that the leaf of this fiery flame lotus was an extremely rare material. Besides being light and firm, the leaf also had some special functions. Battle armors being made of the leaves of fiery flame lotus were definitely rare.

Zhang Tie touched its stem and felt bristles as hard as metal on it. Like lotus leaf, lotus stem was also a rare raw material of equipment.

Zhang Tie picked himself up from the ground and asked Heller, "What's the lotus root of this fiery flame lotus used for?"

"The root of the fiery flame lotus is not available to you, Castle Lord."

"Why?"

"Even after being processed, the effects of the root of fiery flame golden lotus could only be digested by earth knights. After taking its root, earth knights could raise their high temperature-resistant ability to an unimaginable level and could further improve their protective battle qi. As a result, when in a defensive state, earth knights could also harm their enemies."

"Protective battle qi could be aggressive?"

"Castle Lord, you have already seen your master Zhao Yuan perform it!"

Zhang Tie remembered that the moment the LV 10 fighter from Zhen Clan in Heavens Cold City touched Zhao Yuan's clothes, his arms had burned into ashes...

Watching these lotus flowers, Zhang Tie wondered what effect would he gain after taking all of these fiery flame lotus seeds.

"After 3 days, Castle Lord could try the taste of these fiery flame golden lotus seeds. Castle Lord will have a big surprise by then!" Heller said leisurely.

...

When Zhang Tie exited the Castle of Black Iron, he had been fully confident about the coming action.

One day flew past...

...

At 8:50 pm, November 3rd, after putting away his belongings, Zhang Tie carried his metal field operations bag with an abyss spear on its side and a gold-eaten tri-edged dagger in a metal sheath beside his waist in a soft armor and a pair of metal tiger-claw shaped battle boots and came to the outside of the gate of Lion Fortress.

As the old saying went, a fair bird had fair feathers. With such a wholly new set of equipment, Zhang Tie looked much more powerful than that a few days ago. He was filled with killing qi at the moment.

Gong Ziyao and Zhou Shufan had arrived here a few minutes earlier than Zhang Tie. Besides carrying a knight-level field operations bag respectively, Gong Ziyao wore a set of half-body metal armor, Zhou Shufan wore a set of senior grey knight-level soft armor with a short sword at one side of his waist. Watching Zhang Tie punching his card and striding out of the gate, Gong Ziyao's and Zhou Shufan's eyes gleamed at the same time.

"Brother Cui, you look extremely brave. If you were in a senior armor, you would look more dignified!"

"Ha...ha...brothers, you don't look bad, either!" Zhang Tie burst into laughter.

In only a few minutes, those whom Zhang Tie had met in the Iron-blood Tower had arrived one after another. Almost each of them was carrying a knight-level field operations bag.

Without a space-teleportation equipment, even being knights, they had to take enough food and water with them. With one kettle of water, the knight might survive the dilemma. Therefore, nobody dared be careless at this critical moment.

The garrison knights at the gate of the Lion Fortress were not shocked by such a team of knights as they could catch sight of many teams of knights going on expeditions everyday. No matter what these knights were going there for, as long as they left the Lion Fortress, they might encounter demons. In that case, they had to end the battles by forces. Objectively, these teams of knights going on expeditions safeguarded the Lion Fortress.

Mountain Lifting Hermit also arrived here on time with a metal bag on his back. After ensuring that everybody had arrived, Mountain Lifting Hermit nodded and issued the order, "Let's go!". Closely after that, he rose in the air, followed by all the others.

As an earth knight, Mountain Lifting Hermit moved very fast in the air. Only after a short while, Zhang Tie felt that he had reached almost 800 km per hour. The others hurriedly followed him up.

As for common black iron knights, it was a bit difficult for them to constantly fly at such a high speed for a few hours.

As Mountain Lifting Hermit flew, he kept observing the performance of the others. Actions spoke louder than words. If a black iron knight could have an excellent performance in the air, his battle strength would not be too bad.

Although all the knights in this team had killed demon knights and were elites in the Lion Fortress, they were also different than each other in battle strength.

Only flying 1 hour at such a high speed, the differences between the knights in battle strength had been exposed.

The couple was still closely following up Mountain Lifting Hermit while the three foreign knights had gradually lagged behind.

Zhang Tie, Gong Ziyao and Zhou Shufan were close to each other. Although being in the middle of the team, Zhang Tie's leisure look won more glances from Mountain Lifting Hermit. As a result, Mountain Lifting Hermit nodded inside...

...

As for Zhang Tie, through this action, he might get silver secret items or kill demon knights. Even if they did not encounter a demon knight, it would also be a big achievement for a newbie to explore a mysterious region in the first abyss under the leadership of so many veterans. He just took this action as a knights' travel in the first abyss.

Therefore, Zhang Tie was the most relaxed one among them...

Mountain Lifting Hermit enjoyed a great dignity among this team of knights, which was not formed in a short period. Instead, it was gradually formed through long-term contacts with him. For example, Gong Ziyao and Zhou Shufan once fought together with Mountain Lifting Hermit in the first abyss a couple of years ago. Therefore, they believed in him very much.

According to Zhang Tie's observation, although Mountain Lifting Hermit was a bit solemn, his moral standing was reliable. Without personal charisma, he would not easily organize such a team.

In Lion Fortress, the moral standing of an earth knight could easily become a widely accepted secret among black iron knights in a very short period.

...

After leaving the Lion Fortress for less than 1.5 hours, someone in the team had already been exhausted. Mountain Lifting Hermit noticed that; therefore, he landed, followed by the others. They started to run on the ground...

As for knights, as long as they were not flying but were running rapidly on the ground, it was almost like taking a rest.

After landing, their running speed was about 200 km per hour. While running, they could adjust their breaths.

As for Zhang Tie, running was a piece of cake.

After 4 hours, Mountain Lifting Hermit rose in the air once again, closely followed by all the others...

After one night's travel, they finally appeared in front of the first abyss on the next morning when it started to break in the Earth-elements Realm...

Mountain Lifting Hermit landed in a valley less than 10 km away from the first abyss. There were some plants and a brook in this valley. It was the ideal place for supply and resting before entering the first abyss. It seemed that Mountain Lifting Hermit was familiar with this route very much.

"After resting 3 hours here, we will enter the first abyss!" The moment they landed here, Mountain Lifting Hermit had issued the order.

After that, Mountain Lifting Hermit found a place and entered cultivation calmly with eyes closed.

Zhang Tie came to the lower reach of the brook and washed his face.

"Hello, I'm Filton, a knight from the Grims Republic on the Western Continent. What's your name?" The black knight walked to Zhang Tie and greeted him...

Filton spoke Hua language fluently...

'Grims Republic?' Zhang Tie became stunned for a second. He remembered that he had heard about this nation before, 'Oh, yes, it's the trading partner of Ms. Olin's Navyblue Castle on the Western Continent.'

Zhang Tie picked himself up from the ground as he casually cleaned his hand on his clothes before saying straightforwardly, "I'm Cui Li, from Yongzhou Province..."

Zhang Tie stretched out his hand towards Filton; however, Filton cupped his hands towards Zhang Tie...

After being stunned for a second, they changed their gestures at the same time.

This time, Zhang Tie cupped his hands; however, Filton stretched out his hand.

After exchanging a glance with each other, they burst out into laughter at the same time.

"Cecilia made a bet with me just now. She said I was destined to be snubbed!" Filton smiled.

"Ah? Why?"

"Because all the Hua knight that we've known in Lion Fortress before were too arrogant or too reserved. Additionally, you don't look like a kind-hearted man!" Filton threw a glance at the blonde female knight who was looking at them from hundreds of meters away.

That female knight called Cecilia was hot in terms of both figure and look. Although her oval face was not extremely beautiful, she looked valiant, heroic and elegant. Plus her long blond hair, she looked pretty charming.

"Hahaha, you could tell that tomato, besides arrogant and reserved ones, there are also sincere ones like me who'd like to make friends with others among Hua people!"

After hearing the word "tomato", the female knight replied with a cold harrumph.

"Do you think that I'm sincere?" Filton pointed at his own nose.

"I have a brother who looks similar to you. You remind me of him! In the saying of your black guys——if someone liked to be friends with you even though you didn't have any beautiful younger sister, he would not be too bad. I've not got any beautiful younger sister..."

Filton burst out into laughter...

When the two people were making fun of each other, the other knights kept that in mind. Nobody could imagine that Zhang Tie would have fun with that foreign knight. Even Mountain Lifting Hermit had opened his eyes and thrown a glance at Zhang Tie once again...

Chapter 923: Sects and Team Members

Even though they didn't know each other before, after staying with each other for 3 days, they had become familiar with each other.

At least, Zhang Tie had known all of them after 3 days.

Of course, the head of this team was still Mountain Lifting Hermit who always looked serious.

As for the immortal couple, the male was Lu Zhongming while the female was Lin Huanxi. They both came from Guzhou Province, Taixia Country. They usually lived in the Minling Mountain, Guzhou Province, Taixia Country seclusively. Additionally, they were the heads of Minling Sword Sect in Minling Mountain and had over 1,000 disciples over there. Therefore, they were well-known in Guzhou Province.

In Taixia Country, if any knight did not want to be an official or a hermit, could establish a sect in a famous mountain. Of course, the top 7 sects were the most eminent in Taixia Country. Below the top 7 sects, there were numerous sects established by knights in each province or prefecture. This was an implicit rule in Taixia Country. In Waii Subcontinent, many sects were developed in places such as fighting clubs. Over there, even a great battle master or battle general might establish a sect in a country, not to mention a knight. However, in Taixia Country, besides gangs in streets, all the sects should be at least established by a black iron knight. This indicated that any sect in Taixia Country at least carried forward the battle skills and knowledge of a black iron knight. The disciples in these sects could have chances to promote to knights.

Those below knights, even battle spirits were not qualified to establish a sect in Taixia Country. If someone dared violate the implicit rule in Taixia Country, his sect would be destroyed by someone else in only a few days. Without a black iron knight on their back, how could they defend their undertaking?

This was why Taixia Country was full of powerful ones. Besides the huge population, the cultivation environment in Taixia Country was pretty good. Any youth who had a rich family and was decisive and strong-willed would have a greater chance to join a sect in Taixia Country and carry forward the knowledge of a knight-level powerhouse if they could travel across Taixia Country.

Although there were a lot of sects in Waii Subcontinent, none of them could provide a chance for commoners to carry forward the knowledge of a knight.

The couple Lu Zhongming and Lin Huanxi were most careful in the team. They always maintained cleanliness all over. Each time they landed and took a rest, they would clean themselves. Before having a rest on the ground, they would take out a piece of cloth from their bag and pave it over the ground. After that, they would sit on the cloth. In the term before the Catastrophe, they were petty bourgeois in the team.

However, they were qualified to be petty bourgeois, although Lu Zhongming and Lin Huanxi were black iron knights, they had entered 8 changes black iron stage at the same time. At least they were the best ones below Mountain Lifting Hermit from cultivation base.

By contrast, according to Gong Ziyao and Zhou Shufan, Mountain Lifting Hermit had entered 2 changes earth knight stage two years ago. Of course, it was impossible for him to enter 3 changes earth knight stage in only 2 years; however, Mountain Lifting Hermit had consolidated his realm and battle strength much more.

In Lion Fortress, Mountain Lifting Hermit had killed 6 black iron demon knights and fought earth demon knights for more than 3 times. He was an experienced knight.

In the entire team, besides Gong Ziyao and Zhou Shufan, the three foreign knights Filton, Cecilia and Bolam were familiar with Zhang Tie first. The three foreign knights were all from the Western Continent. Filton came from Grims Republic, Cecilia came from Francia Empire, which was a big country in the center of Western Continent and had over 10 billion population. The total area of Francia Empire was equal to the size of a province in Taixia Country. Its overall national strength was a bit greater than that of Grims Republic. Francia Empire was the core strength of the Western Continent.

After knowing that Cecilia came to Lion Fortress alone, Zhang Tie admired this woman's braveness too.

Bolam was that white knight. Even he didn't know which country did he belong to. For as long as he could remember, he had been traversing across so many countries on the Western Continent. His mother was a performer in a traveling circus. Even his mother didn't know whom his father was. Since he was born, he had been traveling across the continent with the circus. He did not stay at any place for over 1 month. Later on, he left the circus and started to travel everywhere alone. He promoted to a knight in an airship. Bolam was obsessed with fighting skills. He was always silent and would not speak more than 5 sentences a day.

The three people met in a knight's bar in the Lion Fortress. They then organized a group and gradually became familiar with each other.

By the way, it was the commonest form for three knights to organize a group in the Lion Fortress, because three knights could form a 3-in-1 matrix at the critical moment and could greatly increase their viability in the first abyss. The other 6 knights in the team usually worked together in a group of 2.

Among the rest 6 people, 3 of them were respectively elders of three major clans in Force Province, who were called Yang Zhenjun, Zhao Youxian and Qian Yi respectively. Their clans had at least 5 cities in Force Province. Yang Zhenjun had long known Gong Ziyao and Zhou Shufan.

As for the rest 3 knights, one was called Tai Rufeng who came from Tai Clan in Yanzhou Province, Taixia Country. Tai Clan was the clan of the provincial governor of Yanzhou Province; one was called Hua Qianxia who came from Songzhou Province, Taixia Country as an elder of Gulao Mountain in Songzhou Province; one was called Ximen Fu who came from Heavens Holding Pavilion, one of the top 7 sects in Taixia Country.

All of these knights, including Cecilia, had killed demon knights. All of them had a deep background or rich experience. By contrast, Cui Li might be the commonest one among them.

Besides Mountain Lifting Hermit, 4 of the 8 knights from Taixia Country were from sects. Therefore, Zhang Tie started to become interested in sects in Taixia Country very much. In the 3 days, as long as Zhang Tie was free, he would inquire about sects in Taixia Country from the couple, Hua Qianxia and Ximen Fu.

Compared to the clan system which was maintained in terms of bloodlines, the sect system in Taixia Country had a greater influence and speed in development.

How long would it take a black iron knight to reproduce a clan of more than 10,000 people? At least several generations. However, it would take a black iron knight less than 1 year to accept 10,000 disciples. Additionally, the development of sects was out of the limit of regions and bloodlines. Many times, when some talents in a clan were accepted by a certain sect, the clan would be bound to the chariots of the sect and become closely related to the sect on interests. The more apprentices the sect had, the greater the community of interests would be.

If two knights with the similar conditions launched a competition of developing their own forces from the same starting line, one chose clan route, the other chose sect route. In 10 years, the one who chose sect route would have an overwhelming strength than the one who chose the clan route.

In Taixia Country, the cohesive force of sects being maintained in terms of the relationship between masters and apprentices was very powerful. The relationship between masters and apprentices could completely match that between the emperor and the chancellors and between fathers and sons. The leader of a sect could have the right to determine the life or death of his apprentices.

The monarchical power of the country, the power of clans and the power of masters of sects crisscrossed with each other in Taixia Country and determined the fate of Taixia Country.

The sects in Taixia Country were actually the most vigorous systems. Some sects in Taixia Country could last over 1,000 years. Given this point, one would know the power of sects in Taixia Country.

'Why was I framed by people and had to escape everywhere this time? In the final analysis, I'm too weak in both strength and background. If I was a disciple of one of the top sects in Taixia Country or if I had established my own sphere of influence in Taixia Country, the one who framed me would not make it so easily as he had to consider the outcome of it.'

The current situation and prospect of the power of sect in Taixia Country reminded Zhang Tie of something.

'What if I establish a sect in Taixia Country?'

Now that he could not rely on Huaiyuan Palace anymore and didn't want to be restricted too much by being an official in Taixia Country, he had to establish his own sect so as to expand his own influence.

The moment this whim occurred to his mind, it had started to grow up crazily in Zhang Tie's mind.

'However, it is not the right moment to do that now. I don't need to consider it at least before promoting to an earth knight.'

'The influence of a sect being established by a black iron knight is utterly different than that being established by an earth knight. Additionally, my current identity Cui Li is not well-known above ground or underground. It's boring to establish a sect and be a rustic emperor in a remote palace.'

'After establishing an Ancient-God Church in Ice and Snow Wilderness, I have firmly controlled the entire Ice and Snow Wilderness and all the Slavs. If I establish a sect in Taixia Country, perhaps...I will have bright prospects!'

...

After 3 days, the team had deepened thousands of miles into the first abyss and started to enter the main battlefield between demon knights and human knights...

Chapter 924: Encountering Demon Knights

During the past 3 days since they entered the first abyss, this team didn't encounter any demon knight at all.

In the first abyss, the team of 12 human knights moved and rested together. The distance between every two members would not exceed 100 m. Even though, they would have the same probability to encounter demon knights as that a single human knight would have in the first abyss.

As the proverb went, when one usually walked along the riverside, how could his shoes not get wet.

On the 4th day since they entered the first abyss, when they reached the conventional battlefield of the first abyss, they finally encountered demon knights.

...

Mountain Lifting Hermit was flying ahead of the team, closely followed by the other 11 human knights in the shape of herringbone. Everybody had hidden their battle qi lusters and followed up Mountain Lifting Hermit in the black fog along the precipice of the first abyss.

All of a sudden, Zhang Tie caught sight of some lusters flickering in the black fog over 20 miles ahead of them.

Due to the dense fog in the abyss, he could faintly judge that they were knights' battle qis.

However, Zhang Tie remained silent. Through these days' observation, Zhang Tie had realized that he could have a greater vision than the others due to his dark vision ability.

Until the flickering lusters moved another hundred of meters ahead in a few seconds did Mountain Lifting Hermit stop.

Everyone had caught sight of the faint battle qis in the distant black fog.

Due to the long distance, Mountain Lifting Hermit could not see it clearly. Additionally, the looming battle qis were separating and gathering from time to time. Therefore, it was very difficult to determine how many forces were there.

As the leader of this team, Mountain Lifting Hermit was expected by all the others to work out a plan in such a case.

Generally, battle qis in the first abyss indicated an ongoing battle. Of course, it might also be a fatal trap. The party which thought that they were advantageous in battle strength or had powerhouses on their back might simulate an ongoing battle by releasing battle qis in the first abyss on purpose so as to attract the opponent passers-by and ambush them. Such a trick was usually seen in the first abyss by both demons and humans. The fatal trap was like angling in water. Of course, if the anglers had a bad luck, they might encounter a great white or a billhead, when he might be tragic.

Generally, shadow knights and heavenly knights had disdained playing such a trick. Those who dared play such a trick would always be a team of knights led by one or two earth knights.

Narrowing his eyes, Mountain Lifting Hermit watched the battle qis in the distant fog with flickering eyes. Only after thinking a couple of seconds, he had made the decision, "I need one person to take a look over there with me. The others just hide here! If it's a trap ahead of us, I will send a signal to you. You then retreat to the place where we rested last time. After we broke through their encirclement, we will converge with you over there!"

"I will go there with Mountain Lifting Hermit!" Soon after Mountain Lifting Hermit finished his words, Zhang Tie had jumped out.

Demon knights were definitely "tunics" for Zhang Tie. Although it might be a trap, Zhang Tie still wanted to take a look over there. It would be better for him if it was not a trap. Before determining to interfere with it, Mountain Lifting Hermit actually could determine to have his team detour that place and the rest of the team would not have any different opinion about that. However, they would feel a bit uncomfortable if they just detoured that place. Because, it might be unkind for them to do that. As human knights, if they didn't stand on the side of their same kind when facing demons, they would face a mental test on being righteous or not.

The boldness of execution stems from superb skill. As his battle strength grew increasingly powerful, Zhang Tie became increasingly bolder.

He might have dangers there with Mountain Lifting Hermit. If it was indeed a trap in front of them, they might be trapped. As for the same trap, an earth knight might be able to escape out; however, a black knight might not. If it was not a trap, after a black iron knight and an earth knight joined the battle, given the scale of the faint battle qis, the balance between both parties would be altered at once. As a result, the human knights would have an overwhelming advantage.

If it was a trap, it would be more convenient for them to break through the encirclement; if not, the trace of their team would not be exposed. This consideration indicated that Mountain Lifting Hermit was very shrewd and righteous.

Gong Ziyao and Zhou Shufan both wanted to say something; however, now that Zhang Tie wanted to go there, they didn't feel it proper to stop him at this moment. It was improper if they persuaded Zhang Tie that it was too dangerous over there and let others go there.

After throwing a glance at Zhang Tie, Mountain Lifting Hermit nodded. Closely after that, he flew towards the flickering battle qi totems, followed by Zhang Tie.

The moment they left, the other knights of the team had exchanged a glance with each other before hiding somewhere nearby.

Being not far from them was a precipice of the first abyss. In the precipice, there were many vertical, valley-like gullies as deep as hundreds of meters. The gullies had been covered with thick and huge abyss vines. Any gully could hide hundreds of people, not to mention 10.

While hiding his battle qi luster, Zhang Tie flew towards the battlefield closely after Mountain Lifting Hermit...

It only took Zhang Tie and Mountain Lifting Hermit a bit longer than 2 minutes to finish the trip of over 20 miles.

It was not a trap, but a real battle between human knights and demon knights.

3 human knights in uniformed greenish armors were fighting fiercely with 4 ox-head demon knights. As demons outnumbered humans, the 4 demon knights had already been in an advantageous position.

The battle was undergoing pretty fiercely.

Each party had formed a 3-in-1 battle formation, the surplus demon knight was constantly booming the 3-in-1 human formation on one side, causing a great disturbance and stress to them.

"I will assault the demon formation, you deal with that surplus demon knight as soon as possible!" Mountain Lifting Hermit told Zhang Tie in a secret way.

"Okay!" Zhang Tie's heart had long been pounding.

The moment Zhang Tie finished his words, Mountain Lifting Hermit had released his battle qi luster and accelerated his speed by 2 times towards the 3-in-1 demon formation. Zhang Tie also released his battle qi luster and accelerated towards the surplus demon knight.

Due to the low visibility in the first abyss, their sudden acceleration made the four demon knights off-guard at once.

Being hundreds of meters away from the 4 demons, Mountain Lifting Hermit had released his huge virtual image which was hundreds of meters in height.

After promoting to earth knights, knights would manifest the virtual images of their battle skills when their battle qis were extremely vigorous. The virtual images were the symbols of knights above earth

knights. Knights' virtual images were illuminant objects which were almost material objects being composed of battle qi, spiritual energy and willingness like that of battle qi totems of fighters. However, knights' virtual images were several levels higher than that of battle qi totems.

The appearance of the virtual image of an earth knight indicated that the earth knight had spent his full effort in the battle.

The virtual image of Mountain Lifting Hermit was an extremely fierce giant who was embracing a hill.

With the appearance of the virtual image, Mountain Lifting Hermit who was not tall previously instantly became much more muscled.

The moment he launched an attack, Mountain Lifting Hermit had exerted his full efforts like how a lion pounced on a hare.

"Go die!" Mountain Lifting Hermit roared like causing a spring thunder.

At the same time, Mountain Lifting Hermit released a light beam by his hand and stroke one of the 3-in-1 demon knight, sending him flying backward...

The 3-in-1 formation was collapsed in a split second.

The demon knights were shocked greatly while the 3 human knights became spirited immediately...

The surplus ox-head demon knight was also stunned. He caught sight of Zhang Tie who was accelerating at him. Therefore, he slashed towards Zhang Tie by his huge saber, being accompanied with a fierce saber qi...

Zhang Tie accelerated once again as fast as a lightning bolt being benefited from the effect of the "Fire Dragon Flowing Light Battle Skill". At this moment, the gold-eaten tri-edged dagger appeared in Zhang Tie's hand and protected Zhang Tie's body from being harmed by the saber qi like a diamond crown.

The saber qi of the demon knight was split up by Zhang Tie's gold-eaten tri-edged dagger into two halves and rubbed with Zhang Tie's protective battle qi as if it was going to cut open Zhang Tie's protective battle qi.

Being pushed by this saber qi, Zhang Tie became faintly absent-minded in a split second when time and space might have paused.

Being pushed by this saber qi, he felt like being pressed by sea water and two undercurrents at the bottom of the sea when in a high-speed flight. If he could take advantage of this stress, he could move faster instead of slowing down. Similarly, when one peeled a banana, the moment one put forth one's strength, one would send the banana flying out of its peel.

In the sky, when he took advantage of the wind strength facing him, his glider would also win an elevating force and driving force. The secret lay in the difference between the upper and lower planes of the wings of the glider...

Zhang Tie had experienced the similar scenes so many times in both sea and sky.

Facing that stress, Zhang Tie ran his spiritual energy while he shrunk his protective battle qi and adjusted it in the shape of a spindle. Closely after that, he rapidly shrunk and rocked his protective battle qi. When sensing the changing stress and friction force, Zhang Tie accelerated once again and rushed towards that demon knight in an overwhelming way...

In a split second...

The tri-edged dagger split off the saber qi of the demon knight and broke its protective battle qi before stabbing into the demon knight's body immediately...

The demon knight watched Zhang Tie with a dumbfounded yet a pain-free look...

Chapter 925: A Destructive Strike

Nobody had imagined that Zhang Tie could directly break the demon knight's strike and stab his dagger into its body, including Mountain Lifting Hermit, Zhang Tie, even the demon knight itself.

It was out of everyone's imagination that Zhang Tie could break the demon knight's saber qi, his amazing speed and the sharpness of his tri-edged dagger.

If not the powerful gold-eaten tri-edged dagger, Zhang Tie's sensitiveness to air flow and stress after long-term exercise in water and sky and his ability to convert this sensitiveness into his advantage in superb skills, if the demon knight didn't launch a long-distance strike at him when he rushed towards it...Zhang Tie would never do that in a split second.

The speed of the simulated "Fire Dragon Flowing Light Battle Skill" had reached over 70% of that of the real battle skill. The moment Zhang Tie converted the stress of the saber qi into driving force, his speed had reached twice that of the "Fire Dragon Flowing Light Battle Skill" in a split second.

What a destructive blow!

A blow being accomplished with super high speed and strength at a certain time and under specific conditions.

The demon knight had not imagined that Zhang Tie could move so fast and penetrate through its protective battle qi with such great strength.

The protective battle qi of the demon knight could not be penetrated through easily. Although the demon knight felt that its protective battle qi had been extremely pressed and cut open by the sharp dagger, its protective battle qi was still elastic. It was Zhang Tie's terrifying strength that had his dagger break the upper bearing limit of the demon knight's protective battle qi like cutting through a piece of steel by a dagger.

After being dumbfounded for less than 0.1 seconds, with the secondary harm caused by the dagger's battle qi, the demon knight finally roared. Closely after that, it felt one wrist being tightened. It was Zhang Tie again who gripped its wrist the moment he broke its protective battle qi...

With red eyes, the demon knight chopped its huge pitch-dark saber towards Zhang Tie's head.

"Go die!" Zhang Tie's battle qi grew vigorous as he forcefully cut open a terrifying wound on the side of the lower abdomen of the demon knight. Closely after that, he drew the dagger out of there and stabbed inside ferociously once again...

The demon knight's saber only cut open 2/3 of Zhang Tie protective battle qi. Its saber blade slid off a few centimeters before Zhang Tie's nose...

Zhang Tie's dagger penetrated through the demon knight's protective battle qi once again and inserted his gold-eaten tri-edged dagger into the other side of the lower abdomen of the demon knight before stirring it inside forcefully...

Zhang Tie's other hand kept gripping the demon knight's wrist. In this way, the two knights were chopping and stabbing each other, causing flesh and blood to fly everywhere...

...

When in Blackhot City, Zhang Tie had known that some gangsters in the city would handcuff one hand with each other while fighting with daggers by the other hand ferociously...

This pattern of the duel from the bottom of the society was brutal, bloody and fatal.

Zhang Tie was adopting this combat mode. The winner must be the fiercer and braver one...

Based on rich battle experiences, skills, braveness, battle strength and insight, Zhang Tie could catch the faint chance in a split second and win the combat in the end.

Since he gripped the wrist of that demon knight, the result of this combat had been fixed...

Only after three collisions, the demon knight's face had turned completely pale.

When Zhang Tie launched a strike towards it once again, the demon knight started to block Zhang Tie's strike instead of attacking him anymore.

However, in such a close combat, as Zhang Tie was gripping its wrist, the demon knight had lost its agility. Therefore, it was very difficult for it to defend Zhang Tie's strike, not to mention that it had suffered a heavy wound...

...

After Zhang Tie and Mountain Lifting Hermit joined the combat, the battle situation was reversed at once...

After striking a demon knight and sending it flying backward, Mountain Lifting Hermit forcefully rushed towards that demon knight and kept releasing his battle qi towards it.

The 3-in-1 formation of the 3 demon knights was destroyed at once.

Mountain Lifting Hermit's aggressive qi and Zhang Tie's amazing performance shocked the other two demon knights at the same time. After realizing that human knights outnumbered them and an earth knight had joined the battle, the two demon knights immediately turned around and escaped...

The 3 human knights who were fighting the 4 demon knights immediately chased after the two demon knights and disappeared in the dense fog...

...

After a few minutes, the demon knight who was giving dying kicks at Mountain Lifting Hermit uttered a miserable shriek. At the same time, its entire body [below head] was punched into pieces by Mountain Lifting Hermit...

After hearing the miserable shriek, Zhang Tie streaked his dagger through the demon knight's throat...

The demon knight spurted out its blood from its neck like a fountain.

The demon knight was so shocked that it felt the energy of its collapsing earth chakra was pouring into Zhang Tie's hand which was gripping its wrist like being devoured by a bottomless black hole while it watched Zhang Tie's glassy-eyed expression...

The moment its earth chakra was collapsed, the demon knight's remaining protective battle qi disappeared in a split second. As a result, it had no strength to struggle anymore.

Of course, Zhang Tie didn't grip its wrist only for showing off his fierce battle skills.

The demon knight wanted to roar; however, the moment it uttered, it had spurted out a mouth of dense blood from its broken neck and windpipe.

When Mountain Lifting Hermit flew towards him, Zhang Tie felt that he had already absorbed 80% of the energy of the earth chakra of this demon knight. Therefore, he directly stabbed into its heart and punched its body into flesh...

Zhang Tie instantly caught its black battle saber and the pair of ox horns...

"Great!" Mountain Lifting Hermit hailed Zhang Tie...

Chapter 926: Being Extremely Awkward and Sincerest

Mountain Lifting Hermit was an earth knight. It was reasonable for him to exert his full efforts to kill a black iron demon knight. However, even Mountain Lifting Hermit hailed Zhang Tie's fierce striking skills towards a black iron demon knight.

Mountain Lifting Hermit had noticed how Zhang Tie gripped the demon knight's wrist and stabbed his dagger into its body while resisting the saber of the latter. Although Mountain Lifting Hermit had met so many combats these years, he had not seen such a brutal close duel before.

Although being coarse, this combat made its onlookers thrilled.

Mountain Lifting Hermit had not seen such an intrepid human knight for so long.

The moment they ended the combats, Zhang Tie and Mountain Lifting Hermit had flown towards the direction where the two demon knights had escaped for.

After a few minutes, the 3 human knights who had chased after the two demon knights flew back from afar, one of whom held a pair of ox horns like Zhang Tie and Mountain Lifting Hermit.

At the sight of the ox horns in the hands of Zhang Tie and Mountain Lifting Hermit, the 3 human knights understood that the two demon knights had been killed by Zhang Tie and Mountain Lifting Hermit.

"Thanks to your righteous deed, we're members of the Feathers Army in the Lion Fortress. I'm Zhou Feng; this is Guo Zifang; this is Deng Tianhao. May I know your names?" The moment the three knights arrived, one knight with a square face and dense eyebrows had cupped his hands towards Zhang Tie and Mountain Lifting Hermit.

If not Zhang Tie and Mountain Lifting Hermit, the 3 human knights might be in great danger. Even though they were not exterminated, being besieged by the 4 demon knights, even if they could break out of the encirclement, at least 1 of them would long sleep in the first abyss.

To tell the truth, Zhang Tie and Mountain Lifting Hermit were like their saviors. Therefore, Zhou Feng introduced himself and the other two human knights very politely and solemnly.

Feathers Army was one of the top 4 armies of Hua people in Taixia Country. Zhang Tie had not imagined that he could meet the knights of Feathers Army here once again. Although Zhou Feng, Guo Zifang and Deng Tianhao were not outstanding in the Lion Fortress, they were definitely high-ranking officers in the Feathers Army and corps leaders on the earth's surface.

"As we're all knights in Taixia Country, we had to help you when we found you were in trouble. I'm Mountain Lifting Hermit!" Mountain Lifting Hermit replied with the same indifferent and faintly cold look. Although he was speaking politely, his look still remained unchanged.

This was the temperament of Mountain Lifting Hermit—being glassy-eyed yet kind-hearted. At the sight of dangers facing the 3 human knights, he immediately rushed towards them; however, he was not passionate about others' appreciation.

Zhou Feng, Guo Zifang and Deng Tianhao raised their eyebrows. Earth knights in the Lion Fortress were definitely more outstanding than common black iron knights. As there were so many black iron knights here, they might not know each one; however, he had indeed heard about Mountain Lifting Hermit.

"This one is..." They then looked at Zhang Tie.

They had seen how Zhang Tie raided that demon knight and carried out a close duel with it. Actually, they were more impressed by Zhang Tie than Mountain Lifting Hermit. They could identify that Mountain Lifting Hermit was an earth knight; however, they were more shocked by Zhang Tie's braveness and terrifying battle strength. Few outstanding valiant generals in the Feathers Army could match Zhang Tie.

"I'm Cui Li, Cui Li from Yongzhou Province!" Zhang Tie grinned as he frankly inserted the pair of ox horns into his metal bag.

This pair of ox horns indicated his exploit, which could be exchanged for many good items in the Lion Fortress. Even Mountain Lifting Hermit would take it, not to mention Zhang Tie.

Zhang Tie felt pretty good. Although the booty from killing this demon knight could not match that from the last one, Zhang Tie felt that this one's earth charka could almost light 4 of his scales. The Purgatory Samsara was really the best partner of emperor-level secret methods. If he maintained his previous cultivation speed, he didn't know how long would he take to light 4 scales. However, this time, after coming to the first abyss for less than 5 days with Mountain Lifting Hermit, he had lit 4 scales. Zhang Tie had already been satisfied with this journey even if he couldn't gain anything later on.

This time, Zhou Feng, Guo Zifang and Deng Tianhao were responsible for scouting in the first abyss. After accomplishing their task, on the way back, they encountered the 4 demon knights. Therefore, a fierce battle broke out.

After chatting with Mountain Lifting Hermit and Zhang Tie for a short while, they had revealed a news to the two, "The Tiewei Mountain Range in the First Abyss is abnormal lately; demons' activities are growing increasingly frequent over there. Additionally, high-level demon knights were found there. It's becoming more dangerous to gain element crystals from the mines of Tiewei Mountain Range. The battle over there is growing fiercer. If you want to go there, you'd better take care of yourself. After returning to Lion Fortress, we will report this news to our superior..."

After reminding Mountain Lifting Hermit and Zhang Tie, Zhou Feng, Guo Zifang and Deng Tianhao cupped their hands towards Zhang Tie before leaving rapidly.

The final warning by Zhou Feng should be confidential. Generally, without the consent of the superior, they should not leak this news to others. They broke the rule because Zhang Tie and Mountain Lifting Hermit saved their lives.

Seeing them off, Mountain Lifting Hermit revealed a thoughtful look before nodding towards Zhang Tie, "Let's go back too!"

Zhang Tie nodded silently before following Mountain Lifting Hermit on the way back.

After 1 minute later, Mountain Lifting Hermit suddenly opened his mouth...

"I saw the demon knight to strike you with its saber qi but how did you break its saber qi while accelerating your speed by almost 2 times in a split second?" Mountain Lifting Hermit put it straightforwardly as if he was not good at communicating with others.

Zhang Tie directly drew his gold-eaten tri-edged dagger out of the sheath and threw it to Mountain Lifting Hermit, "This is a sharp weapon that I got by accident. I found that this dagger was greatly penetrative to knight's battle qi; therefore, I had a try just now and broke its saber qi smoothly. As the old saying goes, sword always goes in line while saber always covers a wide area. The demon knight's saber qi had a wide striking scope; however, its saber qi was not as dense as sword qi. Therefore, I broke its saber qi fortunately. When I cut open it, I felt that its saber qi pushed my protective battle qi which reminded me of the experience in the sea when I met undercurrents. Actually, the stress could be converted into a driving force. After adjusting the interactive pattern between my protective battle qi and saber qi, I accelerated immediately. I've not imagined about such an effect too..."

Mountain Lifting Hermit had not imagined that Zhang Tie could explain it to him so clearly. After taking Zhang Tie's dagger, he looked over it while his look gradually turned more solemn, "Your dagger is made of the teeth of gold-eaten boa by an alchemist master. It's priceless given its material and

craftsmanship. It's indeed very penetrative to the protective battle qi of black iron knights. You'd better put it away. This item would make people jealous in the Lion Fortress."

After looking over it for a short while, Mountain Lifting Hermit threw it back to Zhang Tie.

Zhang Tie put it back into the sheath.

After letting out a sigh, Mountain Lifting Hermit watched Zhang Tie with a tender look at once as he told Zhang Tie in a genial voice, "As for the pattern that you could accelerate your speed by two times immediately under the stress of saber qi, it's your precious gnosis and your trump card. You might even work out another powerful battle skill by it. Remember to not expose this gnosis to the others from then on. You have to watch out in the Lion Fortress and the Earth-elements Realm!"

Touching his bald head, Zhang Tie smirked, "Thanks for your warning, Mountain Lifting Hermit, I've caught sight of your virtual image—an intrepid giant embraced a mountain, may I know your cultivation method?"

"I'm cultivating the "Embracing Mountain Sutra", a count-class sutra!" Mountain Lifting Hermit explained it to Zhang Tie patiently.

After fighting together with Zhang Tie, witnessing Zhang Tie's valiance and finding that Zhang Tie was straightforward and sincere who would stand out immediately when in dangers, Mountain Lifting Hermit who was usually forthright slightly changed his attitude towards Zhang Tie too.

Zhang Tie also found the change in Mountain Lifting Hermit. Therefore, he sighed with emotions inside, 'The extremely awkward deed could conquer the extreme intelligence; the extreme sincerity could break the extreme hypocrisy.' Being disguised by Zhu Liang the fierce wolf, the role of Cui Li was crazy about battle skills in an awkward and sincere way, Zhang Tie inherited the temperament of Cui Li and exerted it to the utmost, namely, being extremely awkward and sincerest. However, Zhang Tie gradually found that the way of being extremely awkward and sincerest was actually a profound life philosophy. It could relax him and pose a great influence on those beside him. Therefore, Zhang Tie gradually found that it was natural for him to behave in an awkward and sincere way...

Chapter 927: The Demon Baron

Watching Zhang Tie and Mountain Lifting Hermit to come back in such a short period with a pair of ox horns respectively, the other 10 human knights of the team were shocked inside.

It was not strange for Mountain Lifting Hermit to kill a black iron knight as an earth knight; however, it was really out of their imaginations that Zhang Tie could also kill a black iron knight in such a short period.

Therefore, many people changed their attitudes towards Zhang Tie.

Zhang Tie ignored their amazing eye lights. He directly threw the battle saber that he gained from the demon knight to Gong Ziyao, "Brother Gong, you're good at using sabers, this saber might have a great power in your hand..."

Abyss iron was very precious. Even if it was not a weapon, a piece of abyss iron weighing dozens of kgs would be very expensive too.

"But this is your booty..."

"It's just a saber. I don't use it. By the way, it's heavy. Just take it, brother Gong!"

After hearing Zhang Tie's words, Gong Ziyao took the saber.

The battle sabers of demon knights were fierce and grim, which were very popular in the Lion Fortress.

"As we've already met demon knights here, we'd better watch out..." Mountain Lifting Hermit warned them before setting off ahead of the team once again.

This time, Mountain Lifting Hermit accelerated his speed evidently...

"You've killed a demon knight?" Filton asked Zhang Tie in a secret way.

Zhang Tie turned around and found that Cecilia and Bolam on the other line were watching him.

"Right, when the demon knight wrestled with some knights from the Lion Fortress, I raided it and killed it!"

"Wow!" Filton said while sighing with relief, "You've already killed 2 demon knights after coming to the Lion Fortress for less than 1 month, I feel you might become a trump knight!"

"Trump knight?"

"After killing 5 knights of your level, you would be called trump knight! The target of I, Cecilia and Bolam is to be a trump knight!" Filton explained seriously.

Zhang Tie replied with a smile.

It was really too difficult for a common black iron human knight to kill 5 black iron demon knights. The one who could make this achievement was qualified to be a trump knight. However, Zhang Tie had killed over one dozen demon knights and knights from Three-eye Association; therefore, the reputation of trump knight was not attractive to him. Actually, Zhang Tie was qualified to be a trump out of trump human knight.

"What benefits do I have after becoming a trump knight in the Western Continent?" Zhang Tie asked Filton in a secret way.

"After becoming a trump knight, you would be able to rule the most powerful trump corps in the Western Continent. Even being a No. 1 knight in a country, you could also enjoy a very good treatment and many privileges!"

Zhang Tie replied with a surprised look, "I see!"

"You didn't know that?"

"I didn't know too much about the Western Continent!"

"Even in Lion Fortress, you could also have a lot of benefits as a trump knight!"

"What are they?"

"You can choose highly paid tasks which are especially for trump knights. Additionally, you can practice your battle skill in the Heavens Ball once a month for free! Of course, you will gain more respect. All the earth knights being promoted from trump knights are very sharp. If trump knights could be famous on the Heavens Fortune Namelist, they would be the real nobles among humans!"

"Hahaha, I've not imagined that there're so many benefits for a trump knight. I expect to be a trump knight in a few days!"

After hearing Zhang Tie's answer, Filton became speechless. 'Others have to exert their full efforts to be a trump knight, how come this guy expect to be a trump knight in a few days? How arrogant he is!' However, although Zhang Tie was arrogant, Filton didn't feel sick about that; instead, he felt it was possible for Zhang Tie.

Under the leadership of Mountain Lifting Hermit, the team made turns twice and soon disappeared in the dense black fog in the first Abyss...

...

After they left this region for 4 hours, a tall demon knight appeared silently in the air above the battlefield where Zhang Tie and Mountain Lifting Hermit fought just now. There might be a powerful, invisible tensile force over this figure while the black fog within 20 m rolled away in all directions like being blown away by the wind.

The demon knight's horns looked purple and golden. In a black half-body armor, a bloody cloak and a pair of grim metal gloves, this one looked much more powerful than the 4 demon knights that Zhang Tie and Mountain Lifting Hermit had just met.

The demon knight's eyes looked aggressive with full killing intent. He gazed at the surrounding fog while the fog gradually formed 7 figures, each figure was about 16 cm in height. At first, 4 figures fought 3 figures. Later on, 2 more mini figures darted towards them and killed 2 of the group of 4. The remaining 2 figures started to retreat while the group of 3 who were in a disadvantageous position chased them away...

This demon knight stood still here a couple of minutes when another demon knight arrived with luster. Those mini figures composed of fog faded away suddenly...

The latter one was the very one who had escaped away from the three human knights.

"Lord Baron, we encountered the raid from an earth human knight and a top black iron knight just now..." The latter demon knight panted faintly with an embarrassed look as its wounds had not been treated.

"I've already known that..." The demon knight being called Lord Baron gazed at the latter demon knight while its eyes gradually turned icier and bloodier, "In that case, even if you only had 2 people, you could fight human knights to death instead of escaping, although you were besieged by the 3-in-1 formation of human knights, you could at least perish together with one human knight. However, you chose to escape and survive the 5 human knights safe and sound. Why are you still alive?"

The latter wounded demon knight had been wet all over as it started to quiver, "Lord Baron..."

"If you could not fight to death for the Demon God, you're nothing but a sh*t!"

The moment it finished the word "sh*t", the Lord Baron had already penetrated through the quivering body of the wounded demon knight with a punch...

The demon knight whose body was penetrated through started to burn all over. Only after wailing mournfully a few times, it had become ashes in less than 1 minute and disappeared in the black fog of the First Abyss, leaving a pair of horns...

The pair of bloody horns fell in the hands of Lord Baron. The Lord Baron then widely opened its mouth and started to crunch them with its terrifying, sharp teeth, causing jarring frictions and grinding sound before swallowing them.

When the Lord Baron crunched the pair of horns, the horns flew out of dense fresh blood while a weird bloody rune appeared in Lord Baron...

"Now that you could not serve the Demon God, I will put away the strength that the Demon God gifted to you..."

After swallowing the pair of horns, Lord Baron's eyes turned bloody. It looked at two directions: one was where Zhou Feng and the other two human knights left for; the other was where Mountain Lifting Hermit and Zhang Tie left for. Only after considering it for 2 seconds, it had moved towards where Mountain Lifting Hermit and Zhang Tie left for and disappeared in the dense fog in a split second...

After the demon baron left, the black fog covered that place once again...

This place recovered its tranquility like nothing had happened.

...

After 4 hours of flight, they caught sight of a huge black entrance of a cave whose diameter was about 1 mile among the gullies of the First Abyss. Mountain Lifting Hermit led them in...

They had met hundreds of caves like this one, large or small on the way.

Each cave like this one might lead to a mysterious yet unknown world...

From a certain perspective, the First Abyss was similar to an elevator in the Earth-elements Realm...

...

Chapter 928: An Accidental Encounter

The First Abyss was too large. Even if all the human knights in the Lion Fortress entered the First Abyss and spread at the same height on average, they would not see each other within hundreds of square miles.

If not the illuminating battle qis in battles and the battle qi lusters in flight, they could only have a visibility of a few miles in the First Abyss.

The First Abyss was a huge, deep well. If not entering the hotspot regions in the First Abyss on purpose, they would have a very low possibility to encounter human knights or demon knights in the First Abyss.

The hotspot regions in the First Abyss were closely related to the interests of both humans and demons, for instance, the Tiewei Mountain Range which was abundant in earth-elements crystals.

The fiercest battle in the First Abyss happened in Tiewei Mountain Range.

The team of Mountain Lifting Hermit entered an underground tunnel of the First Abyss, which was not the hotspot region. At least before those mysterious places and items behind the tunnels were exposed to the public, those deep and serene tunnels would not become boisterous.

There were numerous underground tunnels in the First Abyss. As a result, the First Abyss was like a piece of cheese with many small holes in it. Until today, demons and humans had just explored a small part of these underground tunnels. As for what was in the other tunnels and where they led to, it was still a mystery.

If the contingent of pioneers on the earth's surface could arrive here, they would love this place.

With these tunnels and caves, the First Abyss was like a maze full of treasures, secrets and dangers.

Compared to the earth's surface and the First Abyss, the underground tunnels and caves in the First Abyss composed a fantastic and magnificent world.

After entering one cave for half a day, the black fog released by the vines started to fade away as their visions gradually recovered.

After entering the underground cave for a day, Zhang Tie saw many ruined pyramids. It seemed that those pyramids were destroyed by an irresistible power. They might have lain in the pitch-dark tunnel tens of thousands of years and were quietly telling the history of human civilization being buried underground.

Underground, each pyramid might hide many secrets. Those ruined pyramids might have been explored by many knights.

On the 3rd day since they entered the underground cave, Zhang Tie saw a wide area of purple crystals covering hundreds of square miles; all the crystals were above Class III and higher than 0.5 m, making it look like a splendid purple sea. If it was on the earth's surface, those crystal clusters would be worth a lot. There were precious ores and semi-precious stones among those crystal clusters such as aquamarines, topazes, fluorites, magnesites, calcites and zinc crystals...

Watching those purple crystal clusters and those precious associated ores and semi-precious stones on the earth's surface, Zhang Tie suddenly understood why Mountain Lifting Hermit wanted a space-teleportation equipment.

As a knight who usually accessed to such places and saw numerous precious objects; however, due to limited conditions, he could not take away too many of them. Even if he could take some of them back to the Lion Fortress, his achievements would not match his labor force and identity as a knight. Zhang Tie could feel how depressed Mountain Lifting Hermit was.

Additionally, a space-teleportation equipment with resources inside indicated a greater ability to explore the Earth-elements Realm and dangerous situations, a stronger viability and a better logistic service; especially the latter two points which counted most for knights. Without a stronger viability and a better logistic service, knights could only move in a short distance even though they could fly.

By then did Zhang Tie realized how lucky he was with Castle of Black Iron.

As for Zhang Tie, Castle of Black Iron's space and great food supply ability could almost satisfy all of his demands.

On the 4th day, since they entered the underground cave, the team of Mountain Lifting Hermit had met their competitors.

Coincidentally, Zhang Tie had met some of them before.

...

"Mountain Lifting Hermit, long time no see..." After hearing the sound drifting from the front, the team of Mountain Lifting Hermit stopped at once.

At the same time, they saw another team of knights flying from afar.

That was also a team of human knights. Additionally, it seemed that the head of that team knew Mountain Lifting Hermit as he hailed the latter. Mountain Lifting Hermit didn't prepare to defend them; he just stopped. Therefore, the others of his team realized that those flying towards them must come from the Lion Fortress too.

Zhang Tie also stopped as he watched those knights flying close to them.

The head of the opposite team was an old man with silver hair in a green robe. His long eyebrows were as white as snow under the pair of slim eyes while his cheeks were red. He looked like an immortal. Given his qi, he could match that of Mountain Lifting Hermit. Therefore, Zhang Tie knew that the old man was also an earth knight.

The old man was followed by 9 knights. Besides the 4 men and 2 women that Zhang Tie had seen on the airboat of Zhang Clan in Tianlu Palace in Taixia Country, there were 3 elder ones whom Zhang Tie had not seen before.

The equipment and weapons of the 9 knights behind the elder were evidently more advanced than that of the team of Mountain Lifting Hermit.

It seemed that Zhang Tie had left a deep impression to the 4 men and 2 women. The moment the two teams drew closer, the 6 pairs of eyes had gazed at Zhang Tie.

Although being at the end of the team, Zhang Tie's figure and bald head made him eye-catching.

At the sight of Zhang Tie, the 2 female knights of the other team had moved a few steps back; especially when Zhang Tie threw his glance at them, the two female knights both felt uncomfortable.

"Brother Anguo..." Mountain Lifting Hermit hailed the head of the other team with a glassy-eyed look.

As the old man with long snow-white eyebrows knew the temperament of Mountain Lifting Hermit, he didn't mind Mountain Lifting Hermit's indifferent attitude. After throwing a glance at Zhang Tie, he looked at the 6 young knights in his team and asked, "You know someone in the team of Mountain Lifting Hermit?"

As an earth knight, Mountain Lifting Hermit had a very sensitive feeling. The moment his team members behaved abnormally, he'd sense it right away.

"Grand elder, when we came to the Lion Fortress this time, we entered the tunnel of the Earth-elements Realm together with a knight in the team of Mountain Lifting Hermit...ahem...ahem...that brother is really sturdy...erm, he's also heroic and unruly. Therefore, he's very impressive to us. We've not imagined that we could encounter him here once again!" A young man considered a second before replying.

"Hahahaha, if so, you should make friends with each other..."

Although it was a polite suggestion, the two female knights felt jarring. They even felt bashful repeating what Zhang Tie had said last time.

"Brother Anguo, what's your rule in this journey to the hieron?" Mountain Lifting Hermit suddenly asked.

After hearing Mountain Lifting Hermit's question, the old man's eyes gleamed. After being silent for a second, he replied, "As human knights, although we all want items in the heiron, I feel that it's unnecessary for us to fight to death only for those trivial items in the holy war and it would make others to mock us. After entering it this time, private combats and setting traps are forbidden inside. We will depend on our own abilities. As for the waifs, anyone who could get it first would own it. Anyone who dared violate this rule would be punished by the rest of us. What do you say about that?"

"What a major clan! That's great!" Mountain Lifting Hermit nodded.

"Hahahaha...this is a good method. I also agree with you..." With thunder-like laughter, another group of lights arrived from afar in a split second.

The head of this team was a fat man in a robe of a ministry councilor with floral patterns on it.

At the sight of this man, both Mountain Lifting Hermit and the white-eyebrow elder frowned faintly.

Zhang Tie watched the latter team of knights as he sighed with emotions inside, 'What an accidental encounter! The "Young sister" that I met a few days ago outside the entrance of the Earth-elements Realm is also in this team.' Compared to that a few days ago, this "Young sister" had changed a set of purple imperial costume and made a snail-shaped bun, which made her more enchanting.

The "Young sister" also caught sight of Zhang Tie as she replied with an arrogant harrumph. Closely after that, she turned around and moved her eyes away from him. However, her plump breasts became firm at once...

'What a woman! She still didn't forget to show off her physical capital at this moment.' Zhang Tie touched his bald head as he almost burst out into laughter.

"Old Monster Qi, why are you here..." Mountain Lifting Hermit watched that fat head with an icier expression.

"Hahaha, as you're here, I'm here too!" The fat man replied with a smile as he took out a diamond-shaped piece of metal which shined exotic luster like a magic, "Without my object, you cannot enter it. I've spent a lot on this object and this chance. If you don't like me, I will leave right away..."

"If so, do you agree with our rule?" The white-eyebrow elder asked.

"I do, of course, I do! Why not?" The fat man patted his chest, causing his fat belly to quiver all over, "I was even scared of being trapped by you two. Although I have a bad reputation, what I've said was like a fart which could never be regretted at all. Otherwise, even if I didn't feel it disgusting, the others would feel it disgusting. After eating my fart, my words would always be smelly. If so, nobody would stay with me anymore. Am I not right?"

After hearing such funny words, Zhang Tie couldn't stand bursting out into laughter...

The moment Zhang Tie burst into laughter, the fat man changed his face right away. With dangerous, gleaming eye lights, he watched Zhang Tie, "Brat, why do you laugh..."

Chapter 929: The Hurricane in the First Abyss

"It's my first time to hear someone comparing his words to fart, I like your simile, it's fresh, humorous and individual!" Zhang Tie said straightforwardly. Even though he was facing an earth knight, he was not scared at all.

"Humorous?" Old Monster Qi watched Zhang Tie as he blinked his eyes. All of a sudden, his killing qi disappeared as he burst out into laughter, "Brat, you're visionary, I like you. What's your name?"

"Cui Li!"

"I like you. How about coming to my side? I'm sure that you could get benefits in the ruined hieron!" Old Monster Qi patted his chest and suggested with a smile.

Zhang Tie had not imagined that this guy would dare "undermine the foundation" of Mountain Lifting Hermit. 'It seems that this Old Monster Qi is really something. He must be qualified to be arrogant. It's normal for such an able man to be a rustic emperor in a remote place like Waii Subcontinent.'

"Thank you but I don't care which team do I belong to!" Zhang Tie shrugged as he continued with a casual look, "Additionally, I don't like to cooperate with someone who changes his facial expressions so fast. Although Mountain Lifting Hermit looks cold, he's enthusiastic inside. I feel good in this team!"

The moment they heard Zhang Tie's reply, both Mountain Lifting Hermit's and Old Monster Qi's eyes gleamed.

Old Monster Qi slightly narrowed his eyes as he said, "You're the first black iron knight who dared to say that I change my facial expressions so fast!"

"Although the others didn't say that in front of you, they thought the same inside. If it's your real reflection, why not care about it being mentioned by others? If you're a mountain, you will be a mountain; if you're a tree, you will be a tree; if you're a snake, you will be a snake; if you're a dragon, you will be a dragon. No matter what others comment about you, a mountain will not be a tree; a tree will not be a mountain; a snake will not be a dragon; a dragon will not be a snake. Unless what you present to others are fake, you should not care about it being mentioned by others. Am I right?"

"Interesting, interesting..." The Old Monster Qi's eyes gleamed as he burst out into laughter once again.

Finding that Zhang Tie was so talkative in front of Old Monster Qi, the "Young sister" in the team of Old Monster Qi couldn't stand throwing a few glances at Zhang Tie out of curiosity. All the other knights who met Zhang Tie for the first time also gazed at him with a serious look.

"Ahem..ahem..." The white-eyebrow elder coughed twice at this moment so as to attract the others' attention, "Now that we've fixed the rule, we'd better not stay here anymore. Let's go take a look at whether the hurricane has stopped or not. I'm afraid that it will stop after a day or two!"

Mountain Lifting Hermit nodded as he issued the order "Let's go" before flying towards afar ahead of his team, closely followed by Zhang Tie and all the other team members.

Seeing Mountain Lifting Hermit's team leaving, the other two teams also hurriedly followed them up. The three teams then moved shoulder to shoulder with a distance of less than 50 m. The 3 earth knights led their teams towards the pit in the distance.

This underground pit was thousands of meters in depth, which had many branch holes. If the three teams could encounter here, it indicated that the hieron ruins was not far from here.

They were all thrilled inside.

"Young sister, long time no see!" Zhang Tie hailed the "Young sister" in a secret way when in flight.

Even earth knights could not easily hear the contents of talks between black iron knights which were done in a secret way. Therefore, Zhang Tie was not afraid of being heard by others.

"Harrumph, rogue!" The young sister replied with a cold harrumph.

As the young sister was born to be enchanting, even such a simple reply sounded like being coquettish to Zhang Tie.

"Young sister, as we entered the Earth-elements Realm at the same time, this brother wants to warn you. My mother told me to not make friends with people who usually changes his moods. Such people are not reliable. Watch out, don't be devoured by him in the end!" Zhang Tie threw a glance at Old Monster Qi as he warned the young sister.

"Why do you care about me so much?" After a few seconds, the young sister replied with a softer voice.

"Even though we cannot sleep on the same bed, we're not enemies either. Additionally, this brother finds that you are not a bad girl. You're at most a lost girl with full desires. Therefore, I just warned out of good intention..."

After hearing Zhang Tie's response, the young sister turned around and rolled her eyes at Zhang Tie from dozens of meters away before flying off...

Touching his bald head, Zhang Tie became confused, 'Did I say something wrong?'

...

The demon baron appeared in their confluence after they left there for 2 hours. With sparkling red eyes, the demon baron stretched out of its bloody tongue which split into 4 parts like that of a lizard. After licking around its mouth rapidly, he flashed away towards where Zhang Tie and Mountain Lifting Hermit left for...

...

After 3 hours, those human knights felt hot abruptly while Zhang Tie saw some statues on the walls of the deep tunnel.

All the exotic statues as high as 1,000 m were sitting up straight on chairs. Some of them held weapons, some held maces; some cupped fruits such as pine cones. These statues were too huge and tall with grim faces. Being directly carved in the mountain, they shocked Zhang Tie's souls greatly.

Although they were flying hundreds of meters above the ground, they could only reach the knees of those statues.

Many of those statues had been ruined; many had cracks as wide as dozens of meters; some had already collapsed. Zhang Tie guessed that they had been carved for tens of thousands of years. However, Zhang Tie could still sense something solemn and holy from these statues.

'In the long course of history, what kind of civilisation could create such a marvel?'

When flying past these statues, everyone slowed down out of their reverence to the unknowns and human history.

At this moment, Zhang Tie saw a glow from the exit of the cave. At the same time, he felt hotter. The temperature was almost as high as 100 celcius degrees. After penetrating through the exit of the cave, Zhang Tie saw a borderless space.

Zhang Tie was shocked by this scene.

It was a boiling magma sea below them which was covered with a red hurricane. The red hurricane roared and rolled the magma into the air as high as thousands of meters. 'What a destructive power!'

This was the so-called hurricane in the First Abyss. Although being far away from the magma sea and the hurricane, they could still feel the terrifying power of the hurricane. It was a destructive furnace being featured by a terrifying, high temperature and speed...

The red hurricane was very strange as it was only rampant above the magma sea. The moment it left the magma sea, it had disappeared.

Due to this red hurricane, they couldn't see anything in the distance of this space.

Out of curiosity, Zhang Tie broke off a solid rock from aside. It was a low-quality hematite which was very hard and resistant to high temperature. After weighing it in hand, Zhang Tie threw it into the red hurricane.

Right under the gaze of everyone else, the piece of hematite entered the red hurricane. Before it fell into the magma sea, it had been torn apart, melt by the red hurricane and finally disappeared...

'F*ck!' Zhang Tie took a deep breath.

Even earth knights would not insist on a few minutes facing such a destructive power, not to mention black iron knights. If knights wanted to enter this hurricane, they had to bear high-speed excisions hundreds of times a second in all directions. No protective battle qi could stand such a destruction. Even shadow knights might not bear it.

"F*ck, that's amazing. Is the hieron ruins behind this hurricane? It's really the idealest place to kill a person and rob his treasures..." Filton said as he flew to Zhang Tie's side with Cecilia and Bolam.

"Shut up, Filton..." Cecilia swore him with her furious eyes on him.

As they were cooperating with three earth knights, even if there was a robbery, it could only be a black iron knight who's robbed. After thinking it through, Filton smirked and didn't say anything else.

Watching the magma sea, Bolam who was always silent finally uttered with a solemn look, "After entering it, we'd better stay with each other!"

Cecilia and Filton nodded at the same time.

As they watched it on one side of the magma sea, the white-eyebrow elder took out a metal compass and stood on some positions for a short while respectively by facing the compass towards the hurricane as if measuring or confirming something. After a few minutes, he put away his metal compass and told Mountain Lifting Hermit, "We're neither too late nor too early, the hurricane will disappear in 45 hours..."

"You mean we will be able to enter it in about 2 days?"

"Right!"

"Hahahaha..." Old Monster Qi laughed, "That's pretty good. We will take a rest two days here so that we could plunder inside!"

The white-eyebrow elder exchanged a glance with Mountain Lifting Hermit before nodding with him at the same time.

Everyone then moved back into the cave. As it was barren near the magma sea, they couldn't find any resources to supply themselves at all. Additionally it was too hot here, they'd better rest in another place.

...

After half an hour, all of them landed in the valley where those huge statues were 35 miles away from that magma sea...

Chapter 930: An Emergency

The deep and serene valley was covered with fungi which were adapted to darkness. All the fungi were higher than 2 m like huge, open umbrellas, few of them could reach 3-4 m in height in the shape of pavilions. At the first blush, the entire valley was like an exotic children's playground...

Water flew out of the cliffs on both sides of the valley. In the Earth-elements Realm, as long as there were underground plants, there would be full of vitality.

This was the ideal place for the teams of human knights to take a rest.

All the members of the team led by the white-eyebrow elder were from Zhang Clan in Tianlu Palace, Taixia Country. The white-eyebrow elder's name was Zhang Anguo; he's the grand elder of the House of Elders in Tianlu Palace. The word "An 1" was exclusive to the knights of Zhang Clan in Tianlu Palace like the word "Mu" in Huaiyuan Palace.

Given the point that the Tianlu Palace could dispatch one grand elder and nine knights for an action in Earth-elements Realm, Zhang Tie sighed with emotions about the sharp difference between Tianlu Palace and Huaiyuan Palace inside. He wondered when Huaiyuan Palace could reach the level of Tianlu Palace.

The knights under the leadership of Old Monster Qi also came from the Lion Fortress. Besides Old Monster Qi, the other black iron knights were all strange in the Lion Fortress. As there were too many human knights in the Lion Fortress with a great mobility, if not being a trump knight, black iron knights could barely have a great influence in the Lion Fortress.

The three teams of knights pitched their camps with a distance fewer than 7 miles from each other.

The team of Mountain Lifting Hermit directly pitched their camp on the thigh of a huge statue which was sitting up straight.

As it was about 400 m away from the ground, it was relatively cleaner and more refreshing. The two legs of the huge statue, after being put together, was as large as a square which could hold thousands of people at least. The valley was at the foot of this status, from where they could get food.

...

Zhang Tie also took out a simple foldable tent from his bag, which only weighed 2 or 3 kg and was as large as a hat after being folded. Zhang Tie found a proper place and threw the tent onto the ground. With a sound of "bi", it automatically turned into a camouflaging tent with a dome.

Such a simple, portable tent was only used for the waterproof purpose and prevent its owner from being exposed to the public when in sleep. It was just a bit confidential yet without any defensive power. As for knights, even though they slept in armored vehicles, their safety could still not be guaranteed. Therefore, Zhang Tie didn't pose any requirement for the tent.

After fixing the four corners of the tent by hand using alloy steel nails, Gong Ziyao came to Zhang Tie's front and said, "Come on, let's go find some food!"

"Where's brother Zhou?"

"He went to find firewoods and water. After coming out for so many days, I've been so desiring about meat!"

Zhang Tie then picked himself up and called Filton. Filton hurriedly ran toward them.

"We're going to find some food, will you come with us?"

After hearing that they were going to find food, Filton's eyes gleamed at once as he licked his lips, "The breadfruits and nutritious mushrooms in the Lion Fortress made me sick..."

Zhang Tie and Gong Ziyao burst out into laughter at the same time. After that, Filton told Cecilia about their plan before flying off the statue with Zhang Tie and Gong Ziyao.

As they would enter the magma sea in about 2 days, with the three earth knights on their side, they became relaxed at once...

...

With the perceptions and night-viewing ability of knights, the three people would soon find a prey among some fungi.

It was an animal as large as a dog. When Zhang Tie caught sight of it, it was eating a finger-nail sized termite at the root of a fungus. At the sight of it, Gong Ziyao took out a fluorite lamp with optical lens and irradiated it. The moment the animal saw the light, it became still at once like being affected by a magic. Closely after that, Gong Ziyao walked over there leisurely and killed it by pointing at its head before picking it up.

The entire process went very smoothly and easily.

"Brother Gong, what's this?" Zhang Tie asked out of curiosity.

"This animal is called underground pangolin. It's very vigilant. The moment it catches sight of light, it will become still and relaxed. In this state, its flesh will be very tasty. If it were killed in vigilance in the dark out of fear, its body of gland would secrete an exotic substance to make its flesh sour and poisonous. If so, its flesh would be inedible!" Gong Ziyao explained.

In the next half an hour, the three people caught another underground pangolin in the same way. They even found some edible mushrooms. After cleaning them in a mountain spring, the three people took their food back to their camp.

The others had already set some bonfires and cooked their own food in the camp. Those withered fungi in the valley were good firewoods.

At this moment, proper rest and adjustment physically and spiritually were definitely necessary. Nobody knew what they would face in the hieron ruins in 2 days.

The group of 6 roasted two underground pangolins and boiled a pot of fungi soup, which were both tasty food at this moment.

Sitting around the bonfire, the group of 6 ate and chatted. Until they ate up all the food did they return to their own tents to rest.

As knights didn't need to sleep for too long, they were actually cultivating and forming their chakras.

After entering his own tent, Zhang Tie closed the tent from inside and sat down with crossed legs before digesting the achievements of killing that demon knight a few days ago...

Just like what he achieved the first time, Zhang Tie became reassured, he "saw" a lot of golden, pure earth elements rotating around his chakras like satellites on the tracks of a planet and waiting to be converted into his earth chakra...

This achievement was indeed fewer than the last time. However, he could light at least 4 scales.

Zhang Tie revealed a smile...

Being immersed in Zhang Tie's spiritual energy, the geometrical patterns on the earth chakra of "King Roc Sutra" were gradually lit...

...

As expected, in a few hours, four scales on Cui Li's crystal plate were lit consecutively, turning the number of scales being lit into 40...

What an amazing speed!

Soon after he lit 4 dragons scales, Zhang Tie heard a muffled sound "Emergency..." from outside...

All the team members woke up from their dreamlands or cultivation realms at the same time as they rushed out of their tents at the fastest speed...

In a place over 50 miles away, a knight's battle qi luster faded away immediately...