

Carefree 871

Chapter 871: Evil Demon Island

Whoosh whoosh!

A ship was speeding across the sea.

Even without its sail raised, its speed was phenomenal.

There were many secrets to treasure maps. A particular symbol, a few lines of poetry, or a riddle could all be crucial clues. They could even be the key to finding the treasure.

The treasure map of the Soro Pirates was no different, and it hid many secrets within.

One of which was a few lines of poetry in the bottom left corner. Coupled with the sea route, the map revealed an undiscovered current.

Of course, it was a stretch to call it undiscovered. At the very least... the Soro Pirates had learned to make use of it.

“The region we just passed had numerous fatal hidden undercurrents. Normal ships go to great lengths to avoid it... Who would have thought that someone could pass through it completely unharmed by riding this current?” Blackbeard exclaimed.

Every truly safe sea route was the result of generations of sailors’ lives.

For instance, the Golden Sea Route was the safest and fastest route currently known.

Even the slightest change would require immense amounts of effort, along with incurring huge losses.

As for this new route that used a current to pass through the undercurrent-filled region safely, there would surely be an uproar if news about its existence leaked out.

This was because those unexplored regions were filled with opportunities. Of course, there was plenty of danger as well.

Naturally, the voyagers of this era did not care much for the dangers.

The only things that would make them put their lives on the line were their excitement of the world and amazing treasures.

“By riding this current, our speed surpasses even the steam-powered ships. If we can maintain this speed, we’ll be able to reach the location of the treasure in a few days...”

Fang Yuan checked the compass to confirm his direction.

Then he snapped his fingers. “Bill... take good care of our guest!”

“Understood!”

A few newly-promoted Ocean Warlocks were cooperating to control the ocean water.

Bloop! Bloop!

A massive black silhouette appeared from a big whirlpool filled with bubbles. It was a sea monster that looked like a whale.

Its entire body was made of blue crystals, as if it were a mountain.

Then it roared in a certain direction.

A sea monster appeared in that direction. Surprisingly, it did not dare to fight with this huge whale and swam away, so they avoided some trouble.

“Extraordinaries that can control the ocean...”

Blackbeard was completely unfazed by what had just happened. Instead, he looked in Fang Yuan’s direction.

Although Blackbeard had had some Extraordinaries under his command, exerting such control over them would have been impossible.

Only Fang Yuan, who was able to turn an ordinary person into an Extraordinary using the smallest amount of resources, was entitled to command them at will.

After all, making an Ocean Warlock did not require any stringent conditions to be met, and some simple preparations were enough.

Even if the formula eventually leaked to the world, Fang Yuan would have amassed a terrifying force by then.

This alone made him worthy of becoming a pirate governor.

Combined with his abilities and ambitions, he was destined for greatness.

...

A few days later.

“Here we are!” Fang Yuan said after seeing a large island through his spyglass.

The pirates immediately erupted in cheers.

“It really is the island marked on the Soro Pirates’ treasure map!”

As they approached the island, Blackbeard and even the pirates were able to recognize it.

Part of the reason was that the island was extremely strange.

There were two volcanoes, one on the east side and one on the west, that looked like the horns of a devil. Even though they were not erupting at the moment, they gave off a feeling of extreme danger.

“Finally, Evil Demon Island!” Fang Yuan rolled up the treasure map. “Where the Soro Pirates’ treasures are! And the likely home of Sun...”

Due to the lack of a dock, Fiery Lotus was unable to come close to the island. They had to anchor Fiery Lotus far away and lower lifeboats to approach the island.

The pirates sang pirate songs as they padded orderly toward their target.

Numerous coconut trees grew haphazardly on the island. Further into the island was a rainforest.

"Let's go! Be careful!"

Fang Yuan opened the treasure map and pointed in a direction.

"There's no problem. The worst that this island has to offer are merely poisonous bugs and beasts!"

Butcher went forward casually and carved out a path with his cutlass.

All kinds of twisted vines and saw-like grasses melted away at his touch.

He was like a tank that was carving out a road by crushing everything.

"Light your torches! Be on guard!"

After entering the forest, the light grew dimmer and dimmer. Fang Yuan's expression also became serious.

"This island is really big, almost the size of two or three Ettoman counties..." Blackbeard seemed to have thought of something. "We still need half a day to a full day's worth of traveling left before we can reach our destination. This place has plenty of food and fresh water, so it should be enough for some big animals to..."

Poof!

While Blackbeard was speaking, Fang Yuan squinted.

Several small darts instantly appeared in front of the crew.

Butcher grunted as a couple of darts landed on his shoulder.

"Damn bastards!"

He growled. A blue glow seemed to emanate from his cutlass as he slashed toward the left, forming a crescent.

It left a trail of destruction as he severed vegetation and ambushers. Blood and guts spewed onto the ground.

After that, Butcher's mountain-like body instantly fell over.

This extraordinary strong man, someone who had promoted to Extraordinary, fell to just a couple of darts.

"You... chase the ambushers away!"

Fang Yuan went to Butcher and lifted his eyelids. He nodded. "He only fainted. It looks like it was a high-dose tranquilizer..."

In fact, if such a high-dose tranquilizer was injected into a normal person, immediate death by overdose was possible. Only someone with the physique of Butcher could survive without harm.

As the pirates surged forward while roaring, Fang Yuan saw the faces of the ambushers.

Dark skin, barely clothed, and various colors on their faces and bodies—they were the aboriginals of the Golden Ocean.

According to legend, they were a cruel and lazy bunch. They would make meals of prisoners and top it off with spices.

They were lazy, sometimes not even working for an entire day. Due to the nature of the climate here, any seed thrown into the ground could be harvested after a year. Even if they did not plant anything, the fruits in the forest and fish in the sea were enough to fill their bellies.

As a result, Blackbeard looked down on these aboriginals, and they were cheap when sold as slaves.

As the biggest slave trader in the Nightmare Ocean, Blackbeard was very familiar with these aboriginals. "These aboriginals believe that the souls of their people will continue to remain with them after death if they eat their bodies! As such, many aboriginal tribes accept cannibalism..."

"Additionally, they worship their ancestors and heroic spirits. Naturally, there is also a mysterious existence... Necromancers like them a lot. Therefore, the power hierarchy is often very complicated in big aboriginal tribes. And the chief, priest, and warrior captain will have conflicts with one another.

"Generally speaking, these aboriginals are very territorial. Once you trespass into their territory, you become their prey and enemy for life."

...

Blackbeard did live up to his name as a professional in the slave trade.

With a mere glance at the prisoners and their equipment, he had estimated that this aboriginal tribe consisted of well over a thousand men!

A tribe of this size had enough resources to support either a witch doctor or a priest. A witch doctor would be able to provide poison to help them hunt better, whereas a priest would have been able to communicate with certain benevolent beings.

"A tribe of over a thousand?!" Fang Yuan found this information strange. "The Soro Pirates must have cleared the entire island before choosing this place to hide their treasures, right?"

"There's another possibility. He left behind these aboriginals on purpose to act as guards or... clues!" Blackbeard smiled

"This is..." Fang Yuan went forward with a glow in his eyes.

The aboriginals could not put up a resistance against the pirates' techniques. It was not long before they started telling them the truth with dazed expressions.

Unfortunately, Fang Yuan and his crew were really unskilled with the aboriginals' language.

It did not take a genius to figure out that living on such a remote island, with ties cut off from the world for hundreds and even thousands of years, would result in some truly queer languages.

Luckily, Blackbeard was with them. He could put bits and pieces of their speech together and figure some things out.

As they continued to question the aboriginals, Fang Yuan's patience wore thin. He grabbed a prisoner and made him lead the way to their tribe.

The tribe was in a place called 'Qikenunude' in their tongue, meaning place of magical manifestation.

According to the unlucky prisoner, the stone huts that they lived in all used to be home to gods.

Naturally, Fang Yuan and his crew scoffed at the idea.

However, when they finally arrived at the settlement, they could not help but exclaim.

Their field of vision suddenly opened as they left the rainforest.

In front of them was a huge, continuous building cluster. Exquisite stone blocks formed equally elegant palaces, and even the roads were made of flagstone.

The moment they saw the palaces, the pirates concluded that the aboriginals could not have possibly built this place!

Chapter 872: Vestige

"This is weird!"

Fang Yuan's eyes gleamed when he saw this.

"Using stone bricks to build houses is not something usually seen in Ettoman and the Opher Continent. Furthermore, these stone houses are a bit too small..."

Blackbeard chuckled. "Unless the owners of these houses were small! I have rough guess already..."

"Hmm... I think I know too. This place should be the remnants of some ancient civilization that the aboriginal tribe found. As for which civilization..." Fang Yuan rubbed his chin. "They are short and tiny, but also very creative. The ancestors of dwarfs...?"

"If we assume that's true, it means that the reason why the Soro Pirates chose this place to hide their treasure could be that they got everything, including Sun, from here," Fang Yuan thought out loud.

"Dwarfs live in caves, especially those with rich minerals inside, so they definitely didn't live here. Furthermore, the windows and doors are too small for fat dwarfs. Thus, I think it should be goblins!" Blackbeard said confidently.

“Goblins?! Those skinny, dirty, and stupid green-colored dwarfs?” Bill said in disbelief before Fang Yuan even started talking.

The decades of the Great Geographical Discovery was the start of the great discovery of races.

At least for those knowledgeable and experienced pirates, they were already well aware of the fact that the human race was not the only race in the world. Many other races, such as elves and dwarfs, existed.

All races had their own skills and talents. For example, elves were pretty and agile, and dwarfs were stout and strong.

However, that was not the case with goblins. The first impression of goblins to all pirates was the same—they were just like trash.

They were short and skinny, stupid and inferior. They did not even have a proper language system. Furthermore, they were always very dirty and smelly.

An ordinary dwarf or a human could easily beat ten of them.

According to one pirate, goblins were a completely useless species—even the meat of their bodies was useless. Their bodies were not only rotten and smelly but also poisonous.

If not for their strong reproductive ability and extremely short life cycle, they could have gone extinct a long time ago.

“Right! It’s goblins!

“Don’t always equate those green-skinned creatures with foolishness. In fact, they once had a glorious civilization. You wouldn’t be able to even imagine how great their ancestors’ ingenuity and craftsmanship were. It’s said that their research on energy had already reached the deepest essence of materials, and they were able to find god-like energy in the smallest particles. The Goblin Empire during that time was undoubtedly the greatest in the world. For example, the research on steam that Ettoman is currently conducting was one of the most basic ideas that it discovered in some goblin vestige...” Blackbeard said, revealing a secret.

“But how did such a glorious race end up like where they are now?” Fang Yuan asked what everyone was curious about.

“It’s because of wisdom... they rose because of wisdom but also fell because of wisdom...” Blackbeard sighed. “I once found an epic that had an obscure description of this. I hypothesized that it was the god that the goblins believed in who took away their wisdom!”

“Hmm?” Fang Yuan was even more curious. “How stupid could that god be that they would take away the wisdom of their own followers?”

Faith came from wisdom. Once lost, the faith of an ordinary person would not be much different from that of livestock.

“Emm... how would I know? Maybe the god they believed in was a very reckless Evil God...”

“After all, their god’s name was ‘the King of Insanity’. Of course, he was heavily wounded immediately after that incident. Ever since, no one has heard of him. It’s said that he’s already dead,” Blackbeard said. “I think this should be one of the goblin branches.”

“Those sagacious ancestors who had built such a great empire would be so disappointed if they saw what their descendants have become... Prepare to attack!” said Fang Yuan.

Their enemy was over a thousand from a tribe. However, these pirates were not worried at all.

On Fang Yuan’s command, numerous pirates roared and dashed out from the forest.

Bloop!

A leader in the tribe who had three wooden arrows in his mouth immediately stood up, waved the huge banana leaf in his hands, and ordered the aboriginals to counter-attack.

Bang! Bang!

The pirates smirked from a hundred meters away and raised their muskets.

Lead bullets and white smoke poured out from their muskets. Blood spurted everywhere.

A line of aboriginals fell. Wielding their cutlasses and steel hooks, the pirates roared and sped into the tribe.

The pirates instantly killed the aboriginals who were daring enough to repel their attacks and then quickly started to collect the treasures left behind.

They found huge gold nuggets and all sorts of pearls and moved them to a small courtyard in the vestige. After a short while, the items collected had already cumulated into a small mountain.

“There’s an abnormally large amount of treasures here. If there isn’t a gold mine nearby, then the aboriginals might have dug out the pirates’ treasures.”

Fang Yuan walked to the center of the vestige with Blackbeard.

Suddenly, a river of blood condensed in front of a stone house.

The mutter of a deep, low, and mysterious invocation echoed from the stone house.

Hiss hiss!

Chi! Chi!

Caw caw!

...

Under the invocation, a horde of strange-looking poisonous worms crawled out from the blood river.

There were poison dart frogs as big as millstones, spiders with eyes as big as human fists, and huge pythons as thick as buckets.

“Sorcerer?”

Fang Yuan was suddenly interested. He now knew where the tribe's witch doctor was.

"I will turn anyone who can beat our opponents into an Extraordinary!"

Without saying much, Fang Yuan threw out a few detoxification bottles after promising the reward. Some pirates immediately charged at their opponents.

As a great pirate, he did not need to do everything personally.

Fang Yuan sat down on a rock and waited patiently.

After a short while, only a few pirates had died. The rest brought back an old aboriginal man and proudly announced that they had caught the witch doctor.

"Nice! Imprison their leaders separately, then interrogate them and find the information I need." Fang Yuan stood up. Actually, he was more interested in this vestige than these aboriginals.

Before long, Bill ran back with a happy expression while Fang Yuan was examining the unique patterns on a stone. "We've found something! Although this tribe didn't see Soro, they found gold nuggets, coins, and even gems in a river. However, the tribe thought they were just decorations because they didn't know how to use them!"

"Tell them to take us to that river. If they don't comply, kill them immediately."

Fang Yuan waved his hand, feeling even more confused.

This place was just a lone island where few would visit. The landscape should not have changed too much since ancient times.

So why did the Goblin Empire build this place without caring about the costs incurred at all? Fang Yuan wondered.

Although those buildings are refined, they seem to be just housing for workers. Is the truth still hidden somewhere on Evil Demon Island?

With these questions in mind, Fang Yuan and a bunch of other pirates followed the prisoners to a river.

The water appeared to be slightly golden under the sunlight.

"Boss!"

Bill went into the water suddenly and returned with a gold coin in his hand.

"This is a gold coin from Cecil! The image printed on it is King Sukakin III of Cecil!"

Fang Yuan nodded. "Follow along the river!"

"Woo, Woo!" the pirates shouted excitedly.

They walked along the river and reached the source—a dark cave.

A large amount of water flushed out from the cave. The gold nuggets, gold coins, and gems made the water appear golden.

“Let’s go!”

Fang Yuan examined the cave, feeling a little bit confused again. The cave had a smooth oval shape, which was definitely unnatural.

At this time, there were a number of Ocean Warlocks under his command.

A few loyal and capable pirates followed him into the cave.

The ground under the flowing water turned solid as soon as they entered.

“Boss, something isn’t right...” Bill’s voice was tense. He lit a torch as they went deeper into the cave.

The walls surrounding them became smoother and smoother and had a metallic color. There were obvious signs of artificial activity.

“From how long we’ve walked, we should be in the center of the mountain now. It seems that both mountains on Evil Demon Island were made into some factories. They probably built their factories here because this place is well-hidden and... perhaps because of the thermal energy in the ground?”

Geothermal energy was very beneficial and convenient for the extraction of metals.

If this mountain was a factory, then where they had entered from was undoubtedly the opening for sewage.

The cave became more and more spacious as they walked in deeper.

They gradually walked away from the water and reached dry ground.

Crisp sounds echoed in the cave as their boots hit the hard ground.

Tick! Tick!

A dazzling red light suddenly appeared.

Crack! Crack!

The sounds of wheels echoed.

With the sound of heavy footsteps, a dozen tall figures slowly emerged from the darkness.

The torch’s light shined onto their bodies and was reflected back. With rays of metallic light shining, several metal statues appeared.

Their shapes were very strange, and there were all kinds of beasts. The three largest statues had a sharp nose and long limbs, looking exactly like giant goblins!

“They’re the metal guards of an ancient goblin!” Blackbeard smiled. “Congratulations Roche, you’ve found the vestige of an ancient goblin research institute!”

Chapter 873: Betrayal

In this Great Voyage World, the human race had never been the master.

In other words, the human race had never managed to conquer the entire world, whereas the goblins had.

Although evidence of their existence had mostly vanished in the river of history, there were still some remaining—such as those buildings outside.

However, those buildings only had aesthetic value and little practical value compared to the research institute.

To be seen as a research institute, it should at least contain some useful information or resources from the past, such that one could infer how prosperous the ancient Goblin Empire had been.

It was said that the reason why Ettoman could develop their Ironclad Navy in a very short period of time was due to their discovery of a steam research institute constructed by the ancient Goblin Empire.

Looking at what Fang Yuan had discovered, it was much more astonishing. Not only was its scale huge, but it even had some metal guards left. Although it was unknown whether the Soro Pirates had reactivated the metal guards, it was still surprising enough.

“What a pity... Even though the full set of ironclad technology is here, it’s still useless. It takes too long for a completely different industrial system to catch up to this technological level...”

Fang Yuan shook his head indifferently.

Most important to him were things that he could provide him with immediate power—for example, Sun.

” Roar! Roar! ”

The metal beasts’ eyes flashed red. They roared and leaped forward.

“Block them!” Butcher shouted as he rushed to the front.

Having been shot by the aborigines’ darts and seeing that incident as a disgrace, he urgently needed to do something to release his rage.

Suddenly, a few water streams appeared on his skin, and his body grew larger as blue scales emerged and covered his skin.

Dang!

He waved his giant saber, stopping one metal guard immediately.

“Ovation of the Seas!”

A few Ocean Warlocks combined their powers and activated the rings of blue light on their bodies.

The water in the river suddenly boiled and split, forming a giant blue whale that opened its mouth to swallow a few metal guards.

“KDPNGIL!”

The last three remaining goblin guards, who were faster than the ordinary guards, mumbled in the goblin language and made their way toward Fang Yuan.

“Bind!”

Fang Yuan opened up his hands and released spider net-like blue strings from his fingers that then fell on one of the goblin puppets.

Bang! Bang!

The goblin puppet hit by the blue string turned its head forcefully and attacked another goblin puppet.

“Your Excellency, I’ll leave the last one to you!” Fang Yuan said to Blackbeard.

He backed far away, leaving enough room for Blackbeard to deal with the last remaining goblin guard.

What a sly asshole! Blackbeard gritted his teeth in anger and surprise. *This Arcane Trickster is too cunning. I need to be more careful next time.*

Of course, he was not scared at all. After all, he had been the pirate governor of the Nightmare Ocean and was one of the strongest pirates.

He drew a thin rapier and dashed at the goblin puppet, leaving a hole smaller than his pinky on its chest.

Whoo! Whoo!

Almost immediately, a circle of black smoke rose from the puppet’s body, and the puppet became paralyzed.

Obviously, Blackbeard had struck its energy source in that stab.

Bang! Bang!

At the same time, the puppet Fang Yuan was controlling broke down along with the other one.

“Era of Ice!”

The Ocean Warlocks attacked with all their energy. An extremely cold gale blew through, and several ice statues glowing with blue light appeared.

“It seems that those metal guards were just flawed gadgets of the Goblin Empire!” Blackbeard walked forward and kicked the paralyzed goblin statue. “Maybe the Soro Pirates reactivated them to defend against pirates. However, they’re only useful against ordinary pirates. Against us... heh.”

He suddenly stopped speaking.

Fang Yuan had accidentally activated some mechanism while he was examining and touching a metal wall.

Smack! Smack! Smack!

Lamps lit up one after another, making the surroundings as bright as day.

The whole place became clearer. It looked like they were in an immense karst cave, only its walls were much smoother and covered with metal.

The strings of light suspended all around, shining brightly onto a conspicuous object.

There was an enormous steel warship!

The black steel warship occupied more than half of the space inside the mountain, oppressing everything around it.

" Sss ..."

Almost all the pirates took a deep breath of cold air.

Usually, the longest ordinary warship was one hundred meters. An ironclad, which was considered very large, was usually around one to two hundred meters long.

However, this warship was at least three hundred meters long. It was undoubtedly the largest warship in the world.

Most importantly, this warship looked simple and classy. It was made of some special dull-colored metal, and there was not a single trace of rust on it after so long.

"It seems like this is the ancient magic warship 'Sun'!" Fang Yuan exhaled. "I wonder how they moved such a big ship inside!"

The river outside was at most two meters wide, and the entrance was tiny. No one would think that the warship was moved in from that path.

"Since Sun is here, it means that the Soro Pirates' treasures must be on it!"

Blackbeard's eyes were filled with excitement. He walked closer to Sun and climbed up swiftly.

It was hard to tell what this warship was made of, and the ship's deck was densely packed with cannons that were so thick that they could contain human bodies inside, making their scalps numb from the sight of them.

"Is there any other clue on the treasure map to direct us from here?" Blackbeard asked as he saw Fang Yuan coming up.

"Let me see..."

Fang Yuan took out the treasure map.

At this time, all the original sea routes on the map had disappeared, and a brand new route had appeared.

At the end of the route, there was the symbol of a key.

"Sun's key! The core—"

Swoosh!

Before Fang Yuan's voice fell, Blackbeard transformed into lightning, dashed over, and grabbed for the treasure map.

"Blackbeard!"

Fang Yuan seemed prepared for Blackbeard's sudden attack. He instantly withdrew his right hand, and the treasure map disappeared.

However, Blackbeard did not slow down and went straight into the cabin.

"From now on, Blackbeard is our enemy..."

Fang Yuan released a deep breath. He had already predicted Blackbeard's betrayal.

Although Blackbeard was a famous pirate governor and had made a promise, his actions in recent days were indeed slightly abnormal.

Keeping promises and obeying rules were nothing to pirates.

Thus, Blackbeard's purpose for sticking around, although he had shown no interest in it previously, was to obtain the Soro Pirates' treasures, especially Sun.

How could a legendary pirate not have his own flagship?

If Blackbeard was able to get all those treasures, he would definitely have the power to rise again.

Therefore, for the past few days, he had just been acting in front of Fang Yuan and hiding his true purpose.

Finally, his true purpose was exposed.

"Speaking of which, Blackbeard used to have a piece of the treasure map, so it's reasonable that he's done some research in advance..."

Fang Yuan waved his hand. "After him!"

To Blackbeard, this was his only chance. However, to Fang Yuan, this was just a normal adventure. The two were simply incomparable.

Furthermore, the fact that Blackbeard had rushed into the cabin recklessly after seeing the treasure map made Fang Yuan's life so much easier.

After all, it was not easy to find a pirate as powerful as Blackbeard to help him clear the path in such a dangerous place.

"He thought what he saw just now was everything, but too bad for him... Everyone, follow me!"

Fang Yuan chuckled lightly and walked into the cabin.

Surprisingly, traces of light shone on the treasure map, and more information appeared.

...

With the map on him and Blackbeard helping to clear the path, Fang Yuan moved forward effortlessly.

He even saw a few broken guards occasionally. Blackbeard had evidently ripped them apart.

At this time, Blackbeard's only hope to survive was to get the key to Sun and become its owner as soon as possible.

Otherwise, even if he could escape from them on land, he would still not be an opponent for Specter Ship at sea.

Thus, Blackbeard went all out this time.

" *Tsk tsk ...* Unexpectedly, besides being proficient in black magic, he also has outstanding fencing skills..."

Fang Yuan was very confident that he could easily defeat Blackbeard, and he even purposely slowed down.

The guards in Sun were mostly metal machines and not difficult to deal with. They were, at most, a small challenge left by predecessors.

" *Tsk tsk ...* Blackbeard seems to have destroyed this special track. Be careful, everyone!

"How could such a thick metal door be directly broken? He must have used either a forbidden technique or some consumable..."

"Look at that cutting pattern. It should be some type of laser trap. Blackbeard is indeed very powerful!"

...

The more marks he left on his way, the clearer Blackbeard's strength was to Fang Yuan. Fang Yuan gathered all the information from these marks and obtained a fuller picture of him.

Finally, after walking through a sci-fi-esque gate, Fang Yuan and the rest reached the core power room of Sun.

Inside the power room, Blackbeard stared at the silver key floating in a pillar of light greedily.

"The key to controlling Sun!" His hands reached out. "As long as I can take control of Sun and its powerful cannons, nothing will be able to stop me!"

"Blackbeard, you traitor!" Fang Yuan shouted.

"Only an idiot would believe the promise of a pirate!" Blackbeard said proudly, though he looked dirty and sloppy. Without pausing for even a single second, his hands kept moving toward the pillar of light.

Chapter 874: Sun

Buzz!

A stream of burning light flashed in the air.

Blackbeard screamed and quickly backed off, but his hands were already burned into coke.

" *Tsk tsk ...* Blackbeard, you were too hasty..." Fang Yuan slowly took out the treasure map. "I knew that you would betray us a long time ago, so how could I still show you all the secrets?"

"Damn it!"

Blackbeard rapidly chanted a few spells.

Several red meatballs that seemed to contain human bodies inside suddenly appeared.

Splash!

All of a sudden, the membranes of those meatballs broke, and human-like monsters emerged.

"Ow! Ow!"

They roared. One of them ran toward the pillar of light to grab Sun's key, and the rest ran toward Fang Yuan from all directions.

Zap!

Light flashed in the air again, and the one that approached the pillar of light containing the key burned into coke.

Seeing this, Blackbeard was angrier. "Roche, you asshole!"

"What? You're the one who cheated me!" Fang Yuan's eyes widened, looking flabbergasted.

At the same time, he waved his hands, and his pirate bodyguards fended off the incoming human-like monsters.

"I'm really curious about how powerful the notorious Blackbeard is." He laughed loudly, drew his cutlass, and approached Blackbeard.

"Arcane Trickster!!"

Blackbeard roared. Cold streams of light flashed in his hands, moving at astonishing speeds.

Clang!

A rapier materialized in one hand while a shield protected Blackbeard's other side, both sputtering sparks.

Almost immediately, Fang Yuan's cutlass slashed at the rapier and cut off its tip.

"Blackbeard, you've revealed too many of your abilities along the way... But how much do you know about me? Do you know what other powers I have?"

Fang Yuan waved his cutlass as he leisurely walked forward.

Although Blackbeard was not as strong as the Demigod specters on Specter Ship, he was definitely one of the most powerful humans.

But under Fang Yuan's psychological manipulation, he seemed at a loss.

The power of this incarnation of Fang Yuan had not yet reached the Demigod level.

Even with Fang Yuan's main body sending power to it and Specter Ship's support to further weaken the seal, it was still no more powerful than Blackbeard. In fact, it might actually be a bit weaker than Blackbeard.

However, since Blackbeard had already used up a lot of his energy opening up the path earlier, and Fang Yuan was already clear about Blackbeard's abilities from the marks he left behind, it was currently fairly easy for Fang Yuan to fight against Blackbeard.

Once Fang Yuan attacked Blackbeard with all his might, Blackbeard immediately fell into a losing position.

"Impossible!"

Blackbeard looked in complete disbelief at the shield on Fang Yuan's wrist. Fang Yuan was freely waving it about to block his attacks effortlessly.

He roared, and his rapier looked like a hundred flowers blooming as it tried to strike Fang Yuan continuously.

Ding! Ding! Dang! Dang!

Sparks appeared on the shield again and again as Fang Yuan twirled his wrist, fending off those attacks easily.

"How can you recognize my attack patterns?" Blackbeard said in shock. He jumped back, breathing heavily.

"Because you taught me!" Fang Yuan laughed loudly and struck with his cutlass.

Poof! Poof!

After a few attempts to attack, Blackbeard gave up on defense and pointed his rapier at Fang Yuan's throat.

Fang Yuan did not evade, meeting the rapier thrust head-on.

Poof!

Blood spewed everywhere.

Blackbeard's eyes widened as a trail of blood flowed from his neck.

At this moment, his rapier was already touching Fang Yuan's throat, almost killing Fang Yuan if his rapier could have only moved a little bit further.

However, his hands had no energy left.

"I... am not resigned..."

Blackbeard moaned and fell gently to the ground.

He was indeed unresigned. He would not have died if he had obtained the treasure map and if the tip of his rapier had not been cut off...

Unfortunately, there were no 'ifs' in this world.

Therefore, he could only accept it as his body fell to the ground.

Chi chi!

After his death, those summoned monsters turned into a pool of blood on the floor.

“He was also rather pitiful... He did not even look at the map carefully...”

Fang Yuan took out the treasure map and walked toward the pillar of light.

“To the glory of Solomon and the sorrow of the ancient goblins... All glory will become ordinary, and only the invincible steel fortress will continue sailing the ocean...”

He threw the treasure map away after chanting the spell.

Buzz!

Almost immediately, the treasure map turned into ashes and integrated into the pillar of light.

After some buzzing, the pillar of light scattered and disappeared. Fang Yuan caught the key as it fell from the air.

“Sun!”

Fang Yuan felt as if he was connected to a vast being while holding on to Sun’s key.

This vast being did not have the same kind of intelligence as he did. Instead, it felt more like a high-performance computer, seeming able to adopt actions independently with just a few simple commands from him.

Moreover, it seemed that there was a huge database within his access privileges.

Though Fang Yuan ignored the rest, he managed to learn the goblin language.

“My respected commander, Sun is at your service!”

Fang Yuan heard the mechanical voice of a goblin in his ear.

“Sun?” Fang Yuan’s lips curled up slightly at the corners. “I need to know all your details!”

Suddenly, a data screen formed in front of him. At the top of the screen, there was a small model of Sun, and below that was all of its detailed information:

“Sun

Length: 32 meters, Width: 30 meters

Displacement: 50,000 tons

Status of Fusion Reactor: Good (maintaining 60% charge)

Status of Main Cannon: 87%! Status of Secondary Cannons: 55%! Status of Hull Armor: 91%!

Additional Battle Units: Goblin Rippers (27), Diamond Golems (3), Machine Engineers...

Legend Ability—Eternity: This warship does not rely on other energy sources because the fusion reactor provides energy. The machine engineers will automatically perform ship maintenance, and there will always be freshwater in the water storage tank.

Legend Ability—Burning Sun: Sun can release 50% of all the energy stored in its fusion reactor at once to release an extremely powerful attack with its main cannon that can destroy an island. Attention: This attack will damage the warship's hull. After each attack, the fusion reactor will enter rest mode for three hours to restore its energy. If the total energy of the warship drops below 20% during this time, the performance of the warship will decrease. If it drops below 3%, the warship will enter sleep mode directly.

Legend Ability—Diamond: Sun represents the pinnacle of machinery magic and can transform into a land-combat form. Attention: This mode consumes 10% of the energy reserves every minute.”

“No wonder why it's a legendary warship...”

Fang Yuan nodded in satisfaction after seeing this.

‘Burning Sun’ should be undoubtedly the most powerful single-target attack.

And ‘Diamond’ should be the crux to how the ship was moved onto this island.

“Summon the diamond golems!”

Those traps and tests that the Soro Pirates had set up made use of only the lowest-level metal golems, and they did not even have many rippers.

However, diamond golems were at a much higher level, similar to the fighter planes on an aircraft carrier.

Under Fang Yuan's command, a few shadows with exhaust flames behind them quickly descended.

They were three warrior golems.

Each of them was as tall as three meters. They did not look human nor goblin. Rather, they seemed to combine all the advantages of various body shapes and were designed into the most suitable structure for killing.

Just by standing there, they released a formidable pressure.

“Such power, although still a bit below a Demigod's intrinsic quality, is absolutely lethal enough. But I'm not sure whether such purely physical attacks are effective against specters...”

Bang!

Before he finished, a diamond golem with translucent armor turned its hand into a sharp dagger and attacked in Fang Yuan's direction.

Poof!

The sharp dagger stabbed through the black mist behind Fang Yuan.

“Hehe!”

The black mist dispersed and then condensed again—it was actually Blackbeard!

“As expected... how could a pirate proficient in black magic die so easily?”

Fang Yuan shrugged his shoulders and turned to Blackbeard’s dead body on the ground. “Did you abandon your body and transform into a spirit?”

“Roche!” Blackbeard stared at Fang Yuan hatefully. “No matter how powerful Sun is, it’s only a product of technology. How can physical attacks hurt specters? It’s the same logic as to how ironclads are unable to hurt Specter Ship! Even though I’ve discarded my physical body, I will eventually make you pay for what you’ve done to me!”

Toot! Toot!

At the same time, glowing red light emitted from the eyes of the diamond golem, and a mechanical voice sounded, “DIE...”

A few strange sounds echoed in the air. Butcher and the pirates, of course, did not understand anything. However, Fang Yuan was able to comprehend the meaning of those sounds.

“Intruder alert!”

“Attack attempt on the commander. Enemy recognized. Danger level: Three!”

“Attack!”

“Target is a spirit! Fulfills operation rule number three! Follow attack plan number nine-nine-six!”

“Activating life energy field!”

Bang!

The diamond golems attacked once again. While their fists flew at Blackbeard, a few distorted light rays appeared.

“Ahh!!!” Blackbeard’s vengeful soul screamed in agony.

A huge hole appeared on his translucent chest. Black mist flew around the hole and tried to repair it, but it was a futile effort.

“Idiot!” Fang Yuan laughed mockingly. “All substances in the world have the same essence. When pure physical attacks reach the limit, they can even destroy the entire world. How could they not destroy a spirit?”

The ironclads were unable to damage Specter Ship simply because they were not powerful enough.

Steam power was just an outdated technology to the ancient Goblin Empire. Sun was completely different—it was the product of high technology!

Chapter 875: Royal City

“No... You can’t do this!”

Blackbeard's soul remnant was on the verge of collapse after being attacked by the diamond golems.

"If you kill me, there won't be any pirate governors willing to nominate you for Pirate King! Do you still want to be the Pirate King?" Blackbeard shouted, his face ferocious and his eyes red.

"Idiot! Did you forget that the top rule among pirates is that there are no rules?!"

Fang Yuan laughed lightly and waved his hand.

He did not expect that this ambitious and ruthless pirate's last words to be so weak and full of fear.

Under Fang Yuan's instruction, the three diamond golems no longer hesitated. They marched forward, grabbed Blackbeard's soul, and tore it apart using their energy hands.

Whoosh!

With a loud scream, he disappeared from this world.

"Sun!"

After dealing with Blackbeard, Fang Yuan finally had time to closely examine the structure of this warship.

Its details were completely illustrated in the model, and it showed that the Soro Pirates had chosen a few cabins to store their treasures. There were so many treasures that even Fang Yuan was surprised by it.

However, considering the Soro Pirates were powerful enough to easily conquer the world with just a single warship, Sun, it made sense that they were extremely wealthy.

Thinking of this, another question popped into his mind.

What caused such a powerful pirate team to fall in the end?

If they had only wanted to get enough treasures and then retire, they definitely would not have left such a huge amount of treasures behind.

Unfortunately, there was no information on this, so Fang Yuan could only infer from what evidence he had at hand.

"Boss!"

Butcher and the rest were staring at the diamond golems beside Fang Yuan in shock.

"Our exploration this time was quite successful... The treasures left by the Soro Pirates are now all ours!" Fang Yuan laughed loudly. "As well as Sun!"

"Woo, woo!"

Bill and his subordinates waved their cutlasses and cheered.

To them, Fang Yuan was an almost omnipotent boss.

At first, it was Specter Ship; now, it was Sun and defeating Blackbeard.

All of these successes made them feel that Fang Yuan was going to rise as a new pirate governor.

However, Fang Yuan felt slightly alarmed and alert.

As great as the Soro Pirates were, even possessing Sun, they still ultimately vanished from this world, much less him, who was still so weak.

After obtaining Specter Ship, the speed of my main body breaking through has become much faster. If I can become the Pirate King and disrupt the World Thread, I'll definitely be able to break through the restrictions and come to the real world!

However, even if I'm able to achieve this, I shouldn't be too complacent... If not, I'll end up as the next 'Sea God'!

There were many Demon Gods in this world, but no matter how strong one was, there was still the possibility of death. The Sea God was an example. Even though he was so powerful, he was still killed and made into 'Sea God'.

Even at the Demon God level, it's still not safe. This is due to the limits of this world...

Every being had different power in different worlds, even Demon Gods.

And in this Great Voyage World, extraordinary powers were unable to solve everything.

In other words, extraordinary powers would fail when outnumbered, just like how if there were enough ants, they could kill an elephant.

"This world..."

Fang Yuan sighed while gazing at the sea in the distance.

...

Pirate King City.

It was the brightest pearl on the Golden Sea Route and one of the most famous free ports.

It was rumored that one could easily sell a crown from Opher, even if it belonged to the Queen of Ettoman.

There were huge amounts of pirates, merchants, and naval scouts arriving every day, bringing about the city's prosperity.

Such a prosperous city was, of course, a thorn in the side to the royal navy. However, even the mighty Ettoman, who had the Invincible Steel Fleet, was not confident in attacking this city.

The reason was that, in this city, there were not only a large number of pirates but also quite a few retired pirate governors that were still very powerful.

Furthermore, this city was protected by a legendary ship, King's Throne.

King's Throne was as famous as Sea God and Specter Ship, and it was also the flagship of the previous Pirate King.

Its only legend ability was 'Sea Contract', allowing it to form contracts with an infinite amount of sea monsters.

The ocean was boundless compared to land.

And the sea monsters were the owners of the dangerous deep sea.

It was unknown what existences there were in the deep sea. It was entirely possible for children contaminated by the blood of Evil Gods and demons that could rival gods to be inside.

Under King's Throne's Sea Contract, even sea monsters as strong as Evil Gods had to surrender.

Of course, it was all hearsay that sea monsters of such a level existed.

However, there were definitely Demigod-level sea monsters contracted to Throne.

If not, Pirate King City would not have remained safe until now.

...

Swoosh!

A stream of white quickly approached a huge island—it was the Wanderer.

Pirate Prince Edward stood on the deck and looked at the enormous city on the island. He was filled with emotion. "We meet again, Pirate King City."

Pirate King City spread throughout the entire island. Ports at the boundary of the island had an endless number of ships passing through every day, making the city flourish.

In addition, the location of these ports would change at specific times every day.

They could relocate to completely different directions or sea regions.

Such special features were a good method to help pirates and merchants who did not wish to expose themselves hide their activities.

Edward did not pay attention to this at all.

He berthed his ship at a port and went to a conference hall with his subordinates.

It was a mess inside.

Various pirates of different races in torn clothes were waving their cutlasses and flintlocks and fighting each other.

There was a round table at the center of the hall.

Edward slowly sat down. Immediately, everyone in the room turned toward him respectfully.

A merman even smiled and greeted him. "Good day, Your Excellency Pirate Prince of the Golden Ocean!"

Merfolk lived in the ocean. They had human-like limbs, but their bodies were covered with fish-like scales and fins.

Those with purer bloodlines looked more human, but those with complex bloodlines simply had fish heads, making them look ugly and scary.

The merman who greeted Edward did not look much different from a human.

If not for the faint scales scattered on his cheek, one could not even tell that he was merfolk. He looked like a graceful middle-aged human.

Edward bowed slightly. "Greetings, Your Excellency Kingsman of the Coral Ocean!"

This merman was clearly the Merfolk King, Kingsman, the Coral Ocean's governor, king of Merfolk Kingdom, and the pirate who possessed Sea God.

"And of course, Governor Balmain of the Devil Ocean..."

Prince Edward greeted them one by one.

The Devil Ocean's governor was a human pirate. It was said that his research on ironclads was as deep as Ettoman's and that he had already started modifying his fleet.

Star Clusters Archipelago's governor was a graceful and noble elf with a giant green bow on his back.

He was the 'Wind Catcher' Aeoris, an elf pirate who was renowned even among humans.

And the last one was a governor from the East, Wang Zhi.

They were all influential and powerful pirate governors from different regions.

They had gathered because of the threat from Ettoman.

As expected, no proper discussion could happen between them. Once they came together, they would definitely start fighting one another.

"Ettoman's ambition has to be stopped. If not, we will lose our ocean and our freedom!"

Merfolk King Kingsman started the conversation, setting the tone for the conference.

"Yes! We have to resolve the threat from Ettoman!" Balmain said coldly. "However, we need a bit more time. It's not easy to defeat that Steel Fleet."

"Don't worry, Your Excellency. You've already obtained the techniques for steel ships..." Aeoris did not want to keep this secret for Balmain. "The longer we drag this out, the more beneficial it is to you, right?"

"Rubbish!" Balmain's eyes turned red. "Everyone knows that Pirate Prince Edward knows the most about steam-powered ships... Not only does he have detailed specifications on them, but he also witnessed the battle that ruined Blackbeard..."

The other pirates instantly became cautious of Edward.

"Ettoman has approached, but what are we doing here?" Edward was disappointed seeing this. "I did find a goblin vestige, but there was very little information on steel ships. Even though I've already invested a lot into the research on them, it will still take quite some time to design a steam-powered

ship based on the little amount of information I've obtained. By the time I design a warship, Ettoman could have already chased us out of the ocean... So tell me, do you want this to happen?"

Edward tore his clothes and jumped onto the table. His face was flushed with agitation, totally different from his usual self.

"Of course I'm unwilling!"

"Let's destroy them together!"

The pirates in this conference hall were not ordinary. Once they heard Edward's words, they all agreed excitedly.

However, a few governors exchanged looks and remained quiet.

Nevertheless, they could not change the common goal of all pirates.

"Including me, there are a total of five pirate governors here. We should first decide on who will be the Pirate King!" Edward said. "We shouldn't fight alone, and we need a unified commander. If a king emerges, I'm willing to share all my research resources!"

Chapter 876: Harvest

"Pirate King? I oppose!" Balmain slammed the table furiously. "I won't allow you to have control over Pirate King City and King's Throne!"

Pirate King City and the nearby sea region was the most prosperous place in the world, but no pirate governor ruled it.

Instead, a group of retired pirates called the Pirate Alliance governed it. According to the ancient contract, only a true Pirate King could fully control King's Throne.

Otherwise, this legendary pirate ship would only protect Pirate King City and destroy all intruders.

"Why not?" Edward smiled. "We've already witnessed Ettoman's Invincible Steel Fleet. To defeat it, we have to combine the powers of at least three legendary ships, as well as other extraordinary warships!"

"Extraordinary warships are relatively easy to get. Any famous pirate would be able to get one. Do you want to create an extraordinary warship army to beat Ettoman's Invincible Steel Fleet?" Aeoris laughed.

"That was indeed my thought... Don't tell me you guys never sent any spies to Ettoman's factories to check on their situation! I believe that all of you should know that as time passes, even if we can build ironclads ourselves, it will be too late. By then, for every ship we build, Ettoman would have three out already!"

Edward put his hands on the table and said solemnly, "Sirs, we don't have much time left to hesitate!"

"Three legendary ships... you make it sound so easy..." Balmain shrugged. "Between all of us here, I think only Kingsman's Sea God is worthy of being called legendary! My flagship is not worth mentioning.

As for the rest, Edward, your Wanderer, Wang Zhi's Five Mountains, and Aeoris's Wind Chasing Leaf can only be considered second-rate..."

" Cough cough ..."

Kingsman coughed lightly.

His power was the greatest among the pirate governors. Once he started speaking, the rest became quiet and listened to him carefully.

"For our freedom and our goals, I can contribute my Sea God for a while. However, even if we have King's Throne, it's still not strong enough to fight against Ettoman!"

"Therefore, we need an ally..." Edward's voice was serious. "... Arcane Trickster Roche!"

"Arcane Trickster Roche?"

All the governors in the conference hall frowned.

Of course, everyone had heard of this notorious pirate.

Roche's most astonishing feat was managing to become Specter Ship's captain.

Furthermore, he had appeared in the fight that ruined Blackbeard and was rumored to have rescued him.

"There's a vacancy for governor of Nightmare Ocean, and I believe that Roche will be interested. If we can elect a Pirate King and get King's Throne under control, we'll be strong enough to fight against Ettoman!" Edward said passionately, his eyes burning with fire.

"The Arcane Trickster is a renowned pirate, but becoming the pirate governor of Nightmare Ocean is not something that we can decide. He has to seize the Nightmare Ocean himself!" Kingsman said loudly. Many agreed with him immediately.

He possessed the legendary Sea God, Balmain had the most steam-modified ships, Aeoris represented the interests of the minority races, and Wang Zhi had the most professional fleet.

"Absolutely not!"

"You want to win over the Arcane Trickster by having him become a pirate governor and then getting him to recommend you for Pirate King. There's no such a good thing in this world!"

Obviously, the other governors were not stupid. They immediately thought of the possibility that Pirate Prince Edward had secretly partnered with Arcane Trickster Roche. Thus, they strongly rejected.

"I told you before, Edward... Don't think that you can persuade them! They're all stupid and selfish people who only care about rum and women!"

Fang Yuan sighed and slowly walked into the conference hall.

"Arcane Trickster Roche?!" Balmain immediately stood up and pointed his flintlock and cutlass at Fang Yuan. "A newly-risen pirate... I could kill you in a second and send your dead body to feed the sharks!"

"Indeed... Regarding these colleagues, I also feel very desperate..." Edward shook his head helplessly. "Ettoman's fleet has completely occupied the Nightmare Ocean and is attacking my Golden Ocean right now. They could attack my capital at any moment! But you guys are still... so selfish, only caring about your own interests at such a critical moment!"

"Oh, oh!" Wang Zhi shouted in some eastern language.

"Wang Zhi says that he thought of a solution!" Wang Zhi's translator raised the glasses on his nose. "As long as we can take down Roche and take away his control of Spector Ship, we will have three legendary ships!"

"I agree!" Balmain shouted, looking at Fang Yuan maliciously.

"I second it!" The graceful elf Aeoris also nodded.

"If this is everyone's decision, then I agree as well!" Kingsman shrugged and looked at Edward, ill-humored. "Our dear Pirate Prince Edward, what about you? Will you choose to stand on the same side as us, or help this pirate fight against us?"

"My decision, of course..." But before Edward finished speaking, he suddenly backed off quickly and jumped out the window.

Positioning complete. Burning Sun charged. Target locked. Firing!

'Fang Yuan' suddenly changed into liquid metal as Edward laughed loudly. Impressively, it was actually a puppet.

"%#! It was a trap!"

The governors shouted and wanted to escape.

Unfortunately, it was too late.

Buzz!

The next moment...

Flash!

A terrible stream of white light swept through the sky and instantly fell into the conference hall.

Silver light flashed.

Immediately after that, a mushroom cloud billowed upward.

Sun's main cannon—legend ability Burning Sun!

The most powerful single-target attack had suddenly arrived at this place.

"Burning Sun is quite formidable. It can even aim at a specific location and accurately attack the target!"

From outside the venue, the real Fang Yuan walked over while sweeping the dust off his shoulders, and then he pulled Edward out from the debris. "Are you okay?"

"I won't die!" Edward's face was full of dust, and he was coughing slightly. "If you didn't have Sun, I definitely wouldn't have chosen to cooperate with you!"

"Both you and I don't wish to see the glory of pirates vanish in history. To achieve this, the only way is to have a leader and for everyone to have a common goal!" Fang Yuan was solemn. "Other than that, there's no other choice! Furthermore, after we're done here, we will possess Sea God and even the King's Throne! That's more than enough for you to complete your plan!"

"Complete?"

Edward stared at the debris and started questioning himself.

At this moment, the enormous pirate conference hall had disappeared. What was left was only a deep and giant hole in the ground. It was so deep, it was as if it could reach the center of the world.

"In this situation, can they survive?"

Edward's expression was wooden.

"Of course... The world always likes to play with us, and we have to take all possible situations into account." Fang Yuan laughed loudly. "But... I think our most important issue right now is to think about how to deal with Pirate King City's anger!"

Pirate King City forbade internal strife and large-scale attacks.

Otherwise, the Pirate Alliance would issue punishments.

This was a strong deterrence to the governors because the Pirate Alliance had partial control over King's Throne.

"If there are some governors still alive, it will be difficult for us to deal with..." Edward frowned. "Pirates without a leader are a pile of loose sand. I'm confident that I can take over their fleets, but if there's someone competing with me, it'll be a different story..."

"Pirate Prince, do you want to explain yourself?"

Finally, the explosion subsided, and a large number of pirates arrived.

Compared to ordinary pirates, they looked more professional, even having unified weapons and clothes.

"Pirates are pirates. They can never form a true army!"

Seeing this, Edward's face changed. "They're the protectors of Pirate King City and can't be underestimated! But my people will soon come to help us! We need to be careful about those older pirates hiding in the back. They're very strong, especially when they work together. There are even some retired pirate governors who might want to take this opportunity to stage a comeback!"

"Don't worry... They have no chance at all! This Pirate King City has been at peace for too long, and it's too dependent on the protection of a legendary pirate ship," Fang Yuan said scornfully.

Speaking of this, those pirate governors and their henchmen were really unlucky.

They died simply because they trusted the security of Pirate King City too much.

It was indeed detrimental when rebellious pirates suddenly started to obey rules.

These guards in black looked gloomy. The old pirate in front lifted his hood and smirked. "How dare you break the rules of Pirate King City! Your eyes and hearts will be dug out, your souls will be cursed to stay in your rotten bodies forever, and your bodies will be hung on the walls of Pirate King City to feed the crows!"

"Wow... I'm so scared!"

Fang Yuan shrugged.

At that moment, the Pirate Prince and his subordinates went forward and stood directly opposite the guards.

"Quickly head to the port! Otherwise, it'll be difficult for us to escape once King's Throne comes!"

Edward looked anxious.

"No one will be able to escape... and King's Throne has already been dispatched!"

The old pirate looked malicious and mysterious.

The next moment...

Poof!

The ground quaked. A fountain of blood erupted into the sky.

Chapter 877: Attack

"Roar! Roar!"

All of Pirate King City seemed to come alive in an instant.

The ground trembled, cracking layer upon layer. From within, a roar that sounded as though it came from ancient times boomed.

Countless pirates and merchants were seized with panic while trying to escape, but they had no idea where to go.

This was because the tremors were affecting the entire island.

Even the port had an enormous whirlpool emerge. It was like a black hole that was engulfing large amounts of seawater and ships.

Edward seemed to recall something. "Looks like... the rumors are true. Pirate King City is built on the body of an immensely enormous sea monster..."

"Heh... That's indeed the case. All of Pirate King City is built on an island turtle. An ordinary island turtle already has an enormous body, but this Island Turtle King is like a gigantic island and sleeps for over a hundred years each time... After making a contract with King's Throne, it became the cornerstone of Pirate King City!"

The old pirate, who was the commander of the guards, sneered. "You're currently on our territory... and still dared to wantonly trample the rules. We guardians will let you know the wrath of pirates!"

"Hehe..." Fang Yuan remained calm amid the tremors and had a mocking look on his face when he looked at the old pirate. "A bunch of retired old fogeys who still want to be at the front of the stage. Do you think being a pirate is like a child playing pretend? Dream on!"

The old pirate's expression turned cold. "When the Island Turtle King completely awakens and reinforcements arrive, I hope you're still able to laugh..."

At that moment, the gem on the necklace in front of his chest twinkled. Suddenly, it projected a screen that showed a few old pirates around a round table.

"Golden Ocean's Pirate Governor Edward and Arcane Trickster Roche... Due to your actions, you shall face the wrath of the entire Pirate King City... in the name of the Pirate Alliance and Pirate King City's guardians!"

"Noisy!"

Fang Yuan pounced forward and stretched out his hand, immediately grabbing the necklace.

The commander of the old pirates retreated into the crowd and roared, "Kill them!"

Kaboom!

The ground shook even more violently.

Amid the loud bangs, the ground split open, and a couple of enormous creatures climbed out.

They were creatures that lived on the Island Turtle King's body, and they had a relationship that was similar to hippopotamuses and Egyptian plovers. Because they felt the Island Turtle King's wrath, they immediately appeared and attacked Fang Yuan.

...

At the same time, in a secret room...

Like old wolves gathering together, a few old pirates with a glint of cunningness in their eyes sat in a circle.

"Those pirate governors were too careless! To think they actually fell prey to Edward and Roche's plot!"

"I sensed ripples in space. It shouldn't be complete annihilation. There should be a few who slipped through the net..."

"That doesn't matter. We must immediately deal with Edward and Roche to uphold the dignity of our Pirate King City..."

"We've already woken up the Island Turtle King, and the ships docked at the port are unable to move, aside from legendary pirate ships of course... If by any chance Kingsman is still alive and he returns to Sea God, that will be greatly troublesome!"

“So what if it’s troublesome? We must deal with it! Pirates can’t be in disunity, and the ultimate decision-maker must be us!”

“Yes, first kill Edward and that Roche, then snatch and take possession of all of the legendary pirate ships!”

“Immediately activate King’s Throne. Even if we only have partial control over it, we can still order the sea monsters to crush these audacious pirates...”

...

Numerous resolutions were formed and sent out through various channels.

They were the behind-the-scenes masters of Pirate King City, the five elders who truly had supreme authority over the Pirate Alliance.

Some of them were even retired pirate governors.

They did not have good impressions of Edward and Fang Yuan, these two youngsters who were in a rush to seize power.

So naturally, they had to muster all strength to eliminate them.

Some of their eyes were even emitting flames.

The loyalty of pirates was a joke.

Edward was confident he could take over the pirate governors’ remaining forces, and of course, so were they.

As long as they got rid of Edward and Fang Yuan, these two last unstable factors, and subdued the pirates that had luckily escaped, Pirate King City could immediately unify the oceans and become the true king of pirates!

On this thought, even for them, they could not help having their eyes turn red and their breaths become heavy.

At this moment, a crystal on the wooden table in the meeting room suddenly shattered.

They were in the dark about the situation on the battlefield.

“They think that by destroying a surveillance eye that we would have no other means?”

One of the old pirates had a gloomy expression and pressed a mechanism on one of his crutches.

Immediately, an even clearer screen emerged in front of the old men.

“This is...”

On the screen, Arcane Trickster Roche was strolling confidently with a necklace in his hands while sea monsters attacked him from all sides. He looked over with delight as though he had seen his prey.

“Found it!”

“Found... what?”

The five pirate elders exchanged glances, their hearts palpitating with uneasiness.

Kaboom!

The next moment, an enormous steel foot stomped on the roof, and the roof came crashing down.

These old fellows dodged too late and instantly became a pile of mincemeat.

But even if they survived, they would still be buried alive in the wreckage.

Bang! Bang!

An enormous steel fist landed right after. It was like a pile driver, smashing the original secret room into a huge hole in an instant.

The five pirate elders definitely had their skeletons turn into dust and their flesh into pulp.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

The enormous fist moved away.

Only now could it be seen that it was from a steel giant that was several hundred meters tall.

The giant took a step, and with a jump, it crossed over Pirate King City's city walls. The crowd was seized with panic, as if they were experiencing a natural disaster.

Although there were still guards that kept to their duty, ordinary cannons and firearms could not even leave a mark on the steel giant.

Sun's legend ability—Diamond!

This ability allowed the Sun to transform into a steel giant that could fight on land.

After defeating the five pirate elders in one move, the Sun Giant headed toward the governors' conference hall and pressed down with its hands.

Crack!

It grabbed a sea monster's neck and twisted it, leaving a huge corpse lying on the ground.

"It's done?!"

It did a sweep across all directions and then extended a palm to bring Fang Yuan and Edward onto its shoulders.

"Boss!"

Butcher and his other loyal subordinates were already waiting there, and they broke into a grin. "We found the Pirate Alliance and wiped them out."

"Well done!" Fang Yuan nodded but also felt some regret. *Unfortunately, it wasn't in the Creator Space. Otherwise, with the governors' deaths earlier, there would have definitely been large amounts of accomplishments and rewards given... and at the same time, it might have even changed the storyline...*

“This is Sun’s transformation ability?” Upon seeing this, Edward could not hide his astonishment. “With two legendary pirate ships in your hands, King’s Throne won’t be able to cause any trouble at all.”

“This legend ability can only last five minutes at most...”

Fang Yuan’s eyes gleamed, and the steel Sun Giant quickly ran toward the sea.

Bang! Bang!

With its astonishing weight, even though it had a customized structure to reduce it, every step it took still resulted in a huge hole and even generated metallic clashing sounds.

It stepped on the turtle’s shell? Fang Yuan was not concerned in the slightest. *The Burning Sun shot earlier was equivalent to making a large hole in this huge turtle, and even its shell was smashed. With so much blood lost, no matter how temperate it is, it would go mad...*

From afar, he could already see that some huge rocks had fallen at the edge of Pirate King City, revealing dark-yellow scales and the thick outermost layer of skin behind it.

The cliffs had shattered into small pieces, and an enormous foot was revealed.

The Island Turtle King was finally going to fully awaken!

Bang!

At this moment, the steel giant had reached the edge of the island and suddenly jumped.

Crack! Crack!

In midair, it underwent a bizarre transformation, turned back into Sun, and fell violently into the ocean.

Activating reverse gravitational field! Remaining energy at 25%!

Fang Yuan heard the mechanical voice of a goblin.

“Launch at full speed! Leave this place! Head to where Sea God is docked!”

Splash!

Sun went below the sea surface for a moment and then quickly reemerged with streams of water coming out of its cannons like a brook.

After hearing Fang Yuan’s orders, it immediately dashed at full force toward Sea God.

At the port, due to the radical events that had happened in Pirate King City, the pirates on land were naturally in chaos. As for the pirates that stayed on their ships, they left the port one after another.

Although there were unfortunate people who were affected by the movements of the awakening Island Turtle King, with their ships being destroyed and people being annihilated, there were also fortunate people who managed to escape.

Among them, the pirate governors had brought the most people and ships, so their commotion was also the fiercest.

Mermaid Pirates.

This pirate team was entirely made up of merfolk. Although it had the fewest ships among the pirate governors, none of the other governors would dare make light of them.

After all, escorted by numerous warships around it was the legendary warship Sea God!

During the time when numerous legendary pirate ships had vanished without a trace, Sea God even had the reputation of being the first.

Of course, in Kingsman's point of view, even King's Throne might not be capable of going up against Sea God.

However, Sun was currently boldly dashing forward with an exceptionally terrifying aura, rushing straight into the Mermaid Pirates' area.

Ding ding!

Below the hull, rustling sounds coming from the section that was submerged in seawater rang out.

These sounds were made by the merfolk pirates from the Mermaid Pirates trying to attack the bottom of Sun's hull.

This tactic would have been a nightmare for any ship in the era of wooden sailing ships. Unfortunately, the entirety of Sun was built using metal. In terms of the thickness of its steel plates, it was even thicker than those used in Ettoman's ironclads. Thus, the dirty tricks that were occurring underwater were simply disregarded. It dashed toward the center, and the famous Sea God appeared in sight.

It looked like an ordinary three-masted ship with a huge blue sail. In terms of its external appearance, it was not much different from an ordinary ship.

However, as soon as he got closer, Fang Yuan's eyes glistened.

Chapter 878: Betrayal

"Fire!"

Undoubtedly, using Sun to charge into the enemy base alone was extremely dangerous. To put it bluntly, it was no different from suicide.

The Mermaid Pirates immediately responded by concentrating their firepower on Sun.

In an instant, over a hundred artillery shells hit the ship, exploding in bouts of flames.

Kaboom!

This barrage of cannon fire did not even bring a slight vibration to ship.

Fang Yuan was calm, looking intently at the data window that was only visible to the commander.

Receiving bombardment, activating anti-matter forcefield!

Assessment for this bombardment intensity: 1! Evaluation: Even if no defensive measures are taken, this bombardment will require a full day to break through the ship's armor!

Robot Engineers standby, be ready to move out to repair the ship!

Attack encountered, main and secondary cannons are ready. Commander, do we retaliate?

...

Despite the ferocity of the bombardment, even ordinary ironclads would survive, so it was a piece of cake for Sun's defenses.

Fang Yuan looked at the pirate ship closeby and waved. "Counterattack!"

Secondary cannons standing by, targeting, fire!

Bang! Bang!

Amid the sound of machines, Sun's secondary cannons started firing.

Two bouts of flame exploded on the sea.

Even Sun's secondary cannons had a horrifying caliber size, and a single shot could level half a football field.

No wooden ship on the sea would be able to survive a shot from the secondary cannons.

That was also without taking into consideration that Sun's cannons could be augmented, and no shots would miss. After a round of cannon fire, the ferocious pirates who believed that they had found themselves a bargain had lost ten ships.

"Tsk tsk ... is this the power of a legendary pirate ship?" Even Pirate Prince Edward was dumbfounded. "This cannon fire must have sunk five of their first-level warships? Even if Kingsman didn't die earlier, his heart would have been broken into pieces by this sight!"

"I think that Kingsman is dead. Otherwise, why would there no response from Sea God... It won't do me any good worrying about him. As long as I can take control of the ship, there will be no more problems."

The fleet's core, Sea God, finally started to take action.

A grand prayer song resounded from its deck.

There was a vaguely visible young mermaid on the deck praying.

Along with her high-pitched voice, the illusion of a fiercely roaring god appeared on Sea God's blue sail.

Kaboom!

Clouds gathered and blocked the sun.

Endless waves surfaced on the sea. Coupled with the struggle of the Island Turtle King, it was though the end of the world had arrived.

Splash!

The waves churned, as though a giant beast hidden beneath the sea was flipping about recklessly. The waves grew taller and taller.

"This is bad. It's tsunamis and whirlpools!" Edward frowned as he looked at the forming giant whirlpool that separated Sea God and Sun. "Since that mermaid has this much control over Sea God, she must be a trusted aide of Kingsman!"

"It's just a whirlpool. We'll rush past it!" Fang Yuan ordered, "Open the anti-gravitational field, full power!"

Roger! Remaining energy at 20%!

Immediately, Sun dialed up its speed to the max. Like a speedboat, it sped past the whirlpool, leaving a white trail of waves, and arrived in front of Sea God.

Roar! Roar!

At the same time, the Island Turtle King finally awakened. Carrying a Pirate King City, it chased after Sun by paddling with all four legs.

Large amounts of sea monsters appeared near the Island Turtle King and surrounded a large ship with a blood-colored sail.

The large ship looked ferocious. Its ram and bow were all made in the image of ferocious beasts and fangs, and the ship's hull was decorated with many sea monster patterns.

"Pirate King City's guardian, King's Throne!"

Edward could feel the hairs on his neck stand up upon seeing King's Throne.

After all, this legendary pirate ship had protected Pirate King City for many years, and even the Ettoman navy found it extremely difficult to deal with.

If Fang Yuan was not at his side, he would have immediately returned to Wanderer and leave this region.

"Did it finally appear?"

Fang Yuan smiled coldly and sounded a pitch-black horn.

Whoo! Whoo!

With the desolate sound of the horn, a thick mist appeared.

A large, translucent ship seemed to appear from the netherworld.

"It's Specter Ship!"

"That ghost ship!"

"It will kill any sailor! That ship is full of undead creatures!"

"We're finished!"

...

Legends about Specter Ship were not to be taken lightly, especially for pirates.

The sight of Specter Ship paralyzed many ordinary pirates. They collapsed on the deck and were unable to move for a good while.

“Target... King’s Throne! Attack!”

The Demigod Lich stood at the prow. With his command, a black mist appeared from Specter Ship and floated toward King’s Throne.

Upon closer inspection, one would see that the black mist was full of wraiths, specters, banshees, etc.

“As another legendary ship, even if Specter Ship can’t claim victory over King’s Throne, it should at least buy some time... Furthermore, King’s Throne doesn’t have any sailors on board at the moment. It’s moving purely on instinct...”

Only Sea God was of concern to Fang Yuan at the moment.

It gave him a really peculiar feeling.

It looked like that unlucky Sea God whose body was thoroughly scavenged was on the same level as his main body.

Regretfully, why he fell remained a mystery under the suppression of this world.

Even after falling, materials from his body were still able to forge this terrifying Sea God.

“King’s Throne is just moving based on instinct, like a specific program... As for Sea God, there’s still a mermaid that has partial control over the ship. I can’t let her get away!”

With Fang Yuan’s order, Sun’s speed increased again, and it arrived next to Sea God.

Compared to Sun’s towering size, Sea God almost looked like a toy. However, its presence was no lesser for it.

“Oh sea... Answer my call, attack my enemy!” the mermaid sang.

Splash Splash!

There was a disturbance on the sea surface. Then a wall of water rose from the sea. Sprays continued to climb well over a hundred meters high.

While Sun was a giant among ships, compared to the size of the sea, it was just an ant.

The situation was horrifying.

The water continued to climb, as though it were shackled by an invisible force that would only release it after reaching the peak.

Ten million tons of seawater blocked out the sun like a mountain. Its shadow covered Sun, looking like a snowy mountain that was about to avalanche.

“Great Tsunami! Sea Burial!”

Finally, with the mermaid’s hysterical screams, the tsunami fell.

Ten million tons of seawater was enough to send Sun to the bottom of the ocean.

The giant waves also caused the surrounding pirate ships to suffer collateral damage. Countless ships were overturned.

In this sea peril, only Sea God was surrounded by a layer of luminous blue light that protected it from the waves.

“Are... we victorious?”

On the deck of Sea God, the mermaid’s face was pale as she looked at her wrist.

A few bloody cuts could be seen.

How was it possible to control Sea God and cause such a terrifying sea peril without repercussions?

“Gather the merfolk sailors at once and anchor at the nearest island. After the Great Turtle calms down, I will enter Pirate King City!”

The mermaid bit off her clothes to bandage her wrist, her delicate face full of perseverance. “My father is the king of the kingdom. I don’t believe that he’d die so easily!”

“Yes! Great Sea Princess!”

The surrounding merfolk bowed humbly.

After all, this young mermaid was the daughter of Kingsman, Merfolk Kingdom’s princess.

In addition, the ability to control Sea God was akin to the power of the gods.

“It looks like... Kingsman is really dead!”

The surface of the sea suddenly split apart, and a jade-green ship jumped out.

It looked like a barracuda. It had a smooth and slender hull, and its mooring rope was made of thick tree vines with leaves still attached.

“Wind Chasing Leaf?” The teenage mermaid shouted, “Elf Pirate Governor Aeoris... you wish to be our enemy?”

“No! I merely seek your Sea God!”

Aeoris was an Extraordinary himself, and his voice was clearly audible in the giant waves.

Wind Chasing Leaf approached swiftly and arrived at Sea God’s side.

Swoosh!

Vines reached out as though they had lives of their own. Tightening their grip around Sea God, the two ships became one.

“Kill!”

“Capture Sea God!”

“The most powerful aspect of Sea God is its ability to control the sea... But now, unless it sinks itself as well, it can’t do anything to us!”

“We elves will ultimately become the kings of the ocean! Sea God... is ours!”

...

With Aeoris’s roar, huge amounts of elf pirates and other races jumped over to battle.

Looking at this, the mermaid princess’s limbs went cold. “Damn...”

Controlling the sea was Sea God’s only legend ability. However, the two ships were now one.

Regardless of the size of the tsunami she could summon, she could do nothing to the enemy unless she was willing to sink Sea God as well.

As for a boarding battle?

Although merfolk warriors never feared battle, the opponents this time were the elites of a pirate governor.

Seconds later, blood and gore flew everywhere, and the Mermaid Pirates lost.

“Surrender and give me Sea God. I swear I will take you as my wife!” His eyes filled with greed, Aeoris approached the mermaid princess. “Your father has died... only I can protect you!”

“Dream on!” The mermaid princess was furious. “You broke the promise with my father!”

“Promise? Was there one?” Aeoris smirked. “A pirate’s promise? Haha...”

Chapter 879: King

“Kill all the merfolk except for the princess!” Aeoris ordered after his cold laugh. “The sea’s gifts must belong to the elves!”

Among the pirate governors, he was not the most powerful, nor did he have the biggest force under his command. The only thing he relied on was a legendary item, the Dagger of Escape!

It could be used for a one-time teleport and would activate automatically when he was in mortal danger, teleporting him to a safe place.

However, after one use, this legendary item would be ruined.

Even so, Aeoris did not regret it one bit. Compared to his life, a legendary item was not even worth mentioning.

Furthermore, the death of so many pirate governors presented a huge opportunity.

Even the legendary pirate ships that showed up now totaled to a solid four!

If he could obtain all of them, becoming the Pirate King would be a piece of cake. He could even make an ocean empire!

“Then, let us greet death together!”

As Aeoris advanced slowly, the mermaid princess’ face filled with resolution. “Great Tsunami!”

Bloop! Bloop!

The scene earlier reappeared. Ten million tons of seawater started to accumulate like a snow mountain that was about to collapse. It would sink both Sea God and Wind Chasing Leaf into hell.

“Haha... You won’t succeed. I still have... King’s Throne!” Aeoris laughed maniacally. He suddenly drew his sword and raised it high. “I, son of stars, the hero of elves, Pirate Governor Aeoris, will become the Pirate King of this generation! King’s Throne, you are my flagship! All sea monsters, stop fighting Specter and takedown Sea God for me!”

Splash!

A tiger shark the size of a ship swam past. Without even looking at Aeoris, it raised its tail and splashed a large amount of seawater on to Aeoris, wetting him thoroughly. Aeoris now looked like a fool.

“Impossible... King’s Throne can’t break the vow it made! Why...” The elf was dumbfounded at what had transpired. “I am the only pirate governor that survived and the sole voter! Why has my proposal failed?”

Bloop! Bloop!

Suddenly, a huge volume of bubbles surfaced.

Under Sea God and Wind Chasing Leaf, the sea surface bulged before breaking apart to reveal Sun.

It came in at a critical angle, and a round of cannon fire destroyed large amounts of vines. The two ships separated at once.

“Fool... Who told you that sinking must mean death!” Edward shouted as he charged toward Aeoris.

Now, it was obvious why Aeoris had failed—another pirate governor remained.

“Mermaid princess?”

Without thinking, Fang Yuan jumped onto Sea God and rushed toward the mermaid princess.

After the big fights today, Sun’s energy reserves had reached rock bottom and had to be recharged before further use.

It might not survive another sink to the bottom of the ocean.

As such, he and Edward rushed onto Sea God to protect themselves.

“Edward, you’re still alive?” Aeoris turned his failure into fury. With an elven longsword in hand, he charged at Edward.

“Sorry, but as long as I’m alive, you can stop dreaming about becoming king!”

Edward laughed heartily and prepared to take on Aeoris with his cutlass.

They were both pirate governors. Equipment, martial arts, and extraordinary powers were all evenly matched, and neither could gain an advantage over the other.

Then Sun's crew, including Butcher, Bill, and Edward's subordinates, rushed over while roaring.

"Lass, this method of worship will eventually claim your life and your soul..." Fang Yuan looked calmly at the mermaid princess. "Give up... You've already summoned the powers of the sea too many times today. If you continue with this, death is the only outcome that awaits you!"

"Never! I will never surrender!" The mermaid princess steeled her resolve. "If you don't back down, I'll let Sea God rest forever at the bottom of the ocean!"

"As you wish!" Fang Yuan shrugged and put his hands into his trouser pockets. "At worst, I'll just have to fish it up again... You know the consequences if you proceed with this!"

"..." The mermaid princess felt dizzy. Looking at the shell necklace in her hand, she gritted her teeth. "Sea Burial!"

Rumble!

The huge god on Sea God's sail roared a few times, but it eventually dissipated unwillingly.

The sea wall suddenly crumbled.

Bang!

The lass fell onto the ground, unconscious.

"Didn't I tell you earlier... With your powers, controlling Sea God was a bit too much for you..."

Fang Yuan sped past numerous merfolk before stopping at the mermaid princess's side. He nimbly picked her up by the waist and took the shell necklace as well.

"Damn... Put her down!"

Seeing what was happening, Aeoris eyes turned red. Abandoning all semblance of elegance, he forced Edward back with his sword and then charged at Fang Yuan.

"Sea!"

Fang Yuan suddenly raised the shell necklace he had taken.

Kaboom!

The surrounding waves churned, and an incalculable amount of seawater gathered to form a blue hand that grabbed Aeoris.

"Impossible... This is the power of the sea!"

"Doesn't the Child of the Sea need to be of Kingsman's bloodline?"

The other merfolk wavered upon seeing Fang Yuan control seawater. It was as though their faith had suffered a blow. Some of the dull-witted merfolk even knelt on the ground.

“Aeoris...”

Edward also rushed over. Seeing what was happening, he and his subordinates were left speechless.

Obviously, this Arcane Trickster Roche had already taken control of a third legendary pirate ship.

With this amount of power, he could do almost anything he wanted in the ocean. With the exception of the Ettoman family, none could hope to stand up to him.

Bloop! Bloop!

Under Fang Yuan’s control, the seawater formed a big sphere with Aeoris at the center.

There was no way to move or breath. Seconds later, pain filled the elf’s face.

“I’ll give you a chance!”

Fang Yuan waved his hand, and Aeoris’ head appeared out of the water sphere. He breathed in the air greedily.

“Along with Edward, you shall recognize me as the Pirate King. Then, I’ll spare you,” Fang Yuan said calmly.

While his plan looked like a cut to the Gordian knot, it was actually an immense loss to the pirate elites.

He even suspected that the pirates would split apart after this, and then he would be hard-pressed to find any qualified legendary pirate ship captains.

As such, letting this pirate governor live was still necessary.

Aeoris saw the coldness in Fang Yuan’s eyes and responded immediately. “I-I bow before you, great Pirate King Roche!”

In fact, he was left with no choice. He understood that even if he resisted with his life, Fang Yuan could kill him and let Edward nominate instead. He would still be able to become the Pirate King.

Fang Yuan kept silent for a while, his eyes fixed on Edward.

Edward gritted his teeth before kneeling in front of Fang Yuan and presenting his cutlass.

“I, son of the Golden Ocean, Edward, also nominate you, Arcane Trickster Roche, to become our Pirate King!”

Buzz buzz!

Instantly, it was as if something had taken shape, but it was as if nothing had happened at all.

Fang Yuan took the blade nimbly and gave it a casual wave.

Bloop! Bloop!

The water surface parted. Sea monster after sea monster surfaced. Not only was there the tiger shark that was the size of a ship, but there were also octopuses, whales, turtles, and other unknown monsters.

They were the strongest sea monsters contracted to King's Throne throughout the years. The strongest few had strength that rivaled Demigods.

However, they now hung their heads low, as though they were pledging loyalty to this new Pirate King.

Fang Yuan boarded Sun, and his voice spread throughout the battlefield. "As the Pirate King, Pirate King City must obey me! The same goes for the governors of the four oceans!"

Almost instantly, Specter Ship and King's Throne, who were locked in a battle to the death, separated. They approached Sun's sides.

The Island Turtle King also slowly calmed down. Pulling its head and limbs back into its shell, it assumed the appearance of a giant island once again.

"Edward! Butcher, Bill, Cassenia, Rolisa..." Without any hesitation, Fang Yuan issued his order. "You will lead sailors to recruit the pirates, especially those of the pirate governors! Aeoris, help out with the reorganization if you don't wish to die!"

With four legendary pirate ships under his command, the pirates could not escape even if they wanted to.

"Also... after we gather the ships, we will shift Pirate King City! A pirate event of such scale is sure to reach the ears of the Ettoman Royal Navy. They might even try to hunt us down!"

Luckily, Pirate King City could move, and they could choose to run instead of defending.

After sending out his orders, Fang Yuan grabbed the ship's railing and stood in silence for a long time.

His subordinates assumed that their leader was savoring the joy of becoming the Pirate King, but what they did not know was that the entire world was undergoing a terrifying change at the same time.

Fang Yuan had come to this world via dream-traversing, so the majority of his powers were sealed, and he could only wield a small portion that leaked through.

Donald and Sorcerer Orlando were pieces on his board, and his goal was to send the world into turmoil.

He had then entered the fray personally and taken control of a pirate ship, taking the first step toward unsealing his main body.

Now that he became the Pirate King, he put his all into stirring the World Thread.

As the world was in turmoil, Fang Yuan's main body was finally unsealed. The final step of the plan was complete!

"Demon God!

"Demon God!

"The Dao of Dream Master has finally agglomerated. The distinction between reality and fantasy is no more!"

Fang Yuan sighed. Something seemed different about him, yet nothing seemed to have happened at all.

However, Fang Yuan knew that from this moment on, he was absolutely different.

With Demon God-level power and control of two Great Daos, he would be able to secure a place for himself even in the Mental Demon Realm, and he would not need to fear that black hand's revenge!

Chapter 880: Follow-up

Although Fang Yuan's clothes were the same as before, his body was entirely different.

Also, he was no longer a Magical Clone. Instead, he now had his true body.

It could be said that he had silently succeeded in his plot.

Because his true body broke the seal and became a Demon God, everything was different.

For example, the shell necklace in his hand represented partial control over Sea God.

However, with a mere thought, Fang Yuan took over Sea God's highest jurisdiction. Even if Kingsman revived, he could do nothing about it.

Additionally, there was King's Throne.

Although it was currently following his orders through the contract, Fang Yuan did not have the highest jurisdiction over this legendary ship. Once a new Pirate King was crowned, the ownership would immediately transfer to the new Pirate King.

However, now that his true body was in this world, he would not allow such things to happen. Silently, he corroded the basis of King's Throne, and he would eventually bend this symbol of the Pirate King to his will.

All was going well in Pirate King City.

Because many pirate governors had died and the five old pirates were eliminated, the reorganization process went smoothly with the help of Edward and Aeoris. The shifting process proceeded without a hitch as well.

Although it was a slight pity that they had to abandon the status and profit of being a transit hub, their survival was much more important.

Besides, they could always come back.

"Your Excellency Pirate King!"

When night came, everything was on the right track.

The two pirate governors entered. "The ships and men under Balmain and the remaining forces of the Mermaid Pirates have submitted to us... But some merfolk are still making noise. They wish to have their princess back!"

“That’s naturally impossible. However, you can tell them that as long as they wait patiently, I’ll make her the Coral Ocean’s pirate governor!”

The Mermaid Pirates had their forces rooted deeply in the Coral Ocean. Even if Fang Yuan wanted to meddle with it, he did not have any means to do so. Having someone that supported him become its pirate governor was the best course of action.

“On top of that, there’s a small surprise. Bring him in!”

Fang Yuan clapped. Butcher and Bill proudly escorted in a pirate wearing oriental clothing.

“Pirate governor of the East, captain of Five Mountains, His Excellency Wang Zhi!”

Edward and Aeoris looked at the old pirate coldly.

In the turn of events at the conference earlier, Aeoris had barely escaped using his legendary item, but this old geezer was even more cunning. He had been using a clone for the entirety of the conference.

Now, one could see the wisdom in Fang Yuan’s decision to let Aeoris live.

If he had killed Aeoris, then there would have been two voters left: Edward and Wang Zhi. Even if Edward fully supported him, he would not have been able to become the Pirate King through the ancient contract by obtaining the majority vote.

This old geezer had been waiting at the side, hoping to get some freebies. But once he saw the four legendary pirate ships had all come under Fang Yuan’s command, he knew that all was lost and tried to escape.

However, he could only choose to surrender under the gazes of so many sea monsters.

Since he was extremely scared of dying, submitting to Fang Yuan was the natural choice.

Fang Yuan was still very pleased with this news.

After all, a Pirate King required enough men under him, as well as admirals who were able to handle things by themselves.

If he really killed all the pirate governors, the disorganized men under him would be hard to control.

Now that three governors remained, it was easy to centralize the chain of command.

Roar! Roar!

Fang Yuan boarded King’s Throne and grabbed the helm.

Before long, Pirate King City set off again. The Island Turtle King extended its limbs and paddled slowly, leaving this territory.

...

Next morning.

It was a clear day, and over ten columns of black smoke slowly floated forward from afar.

The whistles of the steam engines echoed, and over a dozen enormous chimneys that were spraying flames into the air came into view, as though they were connected to hell.

“Commander, according to the nautical chart, this is the location of Pirate King City!”

On the biggest flagship, Fearless, the lookouts exchanged glances with one another before sending an unfortunate soul over to report to Admiral Philip, Vice Admiral Norton, and the other officers.

“Hmm?”

Norton took a glance at his surroundings and saw that nothing but seawater surrounded them. He frowned.

“Looks like the intelligence was right. The pirates clashed and then shifted Pirate King City...”

Philip could not help but sigh.

While it was good news to them that the pirates had internal strife, it would be a different matter if a Pirate King was born.

“But something as large as Pirate King City...” Vice Admiral Norton was still found it hard to believe.

“Unless that rumored island turtle really exists!”

He had taken it as a joke when he first heard the tale.

But as things stood, he was the one who was a joke.

“Even our kingdom’s top scholars can’t predict the physical forms that sea monsters have. Furthermore, the enemy now has King’s Throne!”

Philip licked his lips and then ordered the men to bring out a portrait. “From today onward, this Pirate King is our enemy!”

“Roche?” Norton was even more shocked. “Shouldn’t it be one of the other pirate governors...”

“This Arcane Trickster is something else. Not only did he tame Specter Ship, but he also participated in the battle to annihilate Blackbeard and even saved him from our clutches!” Philip sighed. “We rushed here in hopes of exterminating the pirates, but he was smart enough to not give us the opportunity!”

“Regardless, removing Pirate King City and extending our forces beyond the Solomon Strait to here can be considered an achievement,” said the experienced Vice Admiral Norton. “We only need to construct a port in the vicinity to cut off this greatest source of income for the pirates while providing benefits for the kingdom...”

“I’ve thought about this plan as well...” Philip chuckled wryly upon hearing Norton’s plan. “The vicinity is rife with danger, and it’s infamous for the huge number of sea monsters. In addition, there aren’t any islands around suited to build a big port on. Pirate King City remained safe here only because of the Island Turtle King, who could scare off ordinary sea monsters. If a really powerful sea monster appeared, King’s Throne would set out to try to establish a contract with it...”

“You mean... unless King’s Throne is in our hands, there’s no hope of building a transit hub here?” Norton immediately understood the situation.

“That’s right... The war with the pirates is sure to last a while. However, I believe that Ettoman will eventually emerge victorious!” Philip looked at the mist ahead solemnly.

...

Somewhere near the Solomon Strait.

Pirates were going about their business.

Splash!

Suddenly, a large number of giant tentacles covered with suction cups appeared from the depths of the ocean. Like the hands of an underwater hades, it gripped a merchant ship flying the Cecil flag.

“Sea monster!”

“Giant octopus! Prepare for battle!”

“That’s... Deep Sea Hades!!!”

...

The morale of the sailors aboard the merchant ship was all but eliminated when they saw a ship flying the flag of the Octopus Marauder Team suddenly surface from the depths of the ocean.

Orlando stood at the ship’s helm and roared, “Attack!”

Mermaid was now his flagship.

“Kill!”

As Mermaid surfaced extremely close to the merchant ship, numerous pirates jumped over onto its deck from Mermaid and killed everything in sight.

It was not long before they started robbing crate after crate of treasures and carrying them back onto Mermaid.

The merchant ship then sank into the ocean at the hands of the giant octopus.

“As expected, pillages are always fruitful when Mermaid and the giant octopus cooperate!”

However, Orlando did not look all too happy about what had happened.

As a privateer captain, even though he had Ettoman’s support, he simply could not do as he pleased.

The other thing that was troubling him were the legends about Arcane Trickster Roche.

Although Orlando was now a pirate who was famous throughout the Nightmare Ocean and the Golden Ocean, he was nothing compared to the Pirate King.

Furthermore, a few of those legends struck fear into him.

He took out the insignia that had helped him acquire the Pirate System.

A row of data appeared before his eyes.

"Name: Orlando

Level: Civilian Level five, Sorcerer Level five

Strength: 3

Speed: 3

Physique: 2.5

Psyche: 7

Identity: Privateer Captain (Under Ettoman's command)

Title: Deep Sea Hades

Specialization: Sailing (Proficient), Firearms Manipulation (Proficient), Cutlass Techniques (Master), Battle Casting (Proficient), Sorcery (Proficient)

Experience: 100 (Experience required before reaching the next level: 8000)"

...

This was the beginning of his rise to power. If it was not for the Pirate System, Orlando would still be the third officer of the Octopus Marauder Team.

However, the secrets about this 'Dream and Armament Master' were surfacing more and more recently.

Ettoman aside, with only the praise from the greatly renowned economist Donald, the Dream and Armament Master has gained many followers.

As for Donald, he had abandoned his scholarly pursuits. Now, he was more like the head of a religion.

This was, however, in line with the tradition shared by many scholars from Ettoman, which was becoming engrossed in theology in their later years.

What really struck fear into Orlando was Arcane Trickster Roche.

According to what he had gathered secretly, Roche was extremely crafty and had numerous methods. He had also once prayed to a certain god before a battle.

Although his spies were not core members of the crew and were unable to get a close look, they could confirm that the insignia that Roche had once taken out was very similar to the insignia of the Dream and Armament Master.

Orlando had felt a constant sense of unease after hearing this.

What did this Evil God who reigned in the past want by interfering with matters at sea?

Furthermore, the Dream and Armament Master seemed to like the Pirate King much more than him. Was the master preparing to abandon him?