

He saw that the attacker was dressed in a tight-fitting outfit with bandages wrapped firmly around his legs. He was also wearing soft leather armor and a hood to hide his face. This person did not look like a sorcerer at all, but more like an assassin.

The bandage wraps on his legs had a very useful purpose. They were usually used to prevent the veins in the lower limbs from swelling after extended traveling on foot. Furthermore, it helped prevent snakes and scorpions from crawling into the pants during their travels and also prevented mosquitoes from biting them.

This left Ren Xiaosu a little surprised. So it turned out there were actually combat sorcerers in the Kingdom of Sorcerers?

They were probably the ones who carried out the dirty work for the magus order!

When the sorcerer saw Ren Xiaosu pursuing him relentlessly, he took out his Eye of True Sight he had tucked in his waist belt and started chanting.

In an instant, a four-meter wall of flames suddenly appeared in front of Ren Xiaosu.

The raging flames were burning, and the extremely high temperature caused the surrounding shrubs to instantly go ablaze.

But when Ren Xiaosu reached the foot of the flame wall, he did not intend to dodge it at all. Instead, he leaped over it with all his might!

When the sorcerer turned around and saw this, he was shocked. Was this even a normal person? He had not seen this young man use any spells, so how did he leap over the wall of flames purely with his physical strength?

But to Ren Xiaosu, such a feat was really easy.

The sorcerer was secretly shocked and decided to use sorcery to quickly shake off Ren Xiaosu. In his opinion, the young man behind him was a little strange. There was no need for him to stay here and fight to the death.
Hang on! When the combat sorcerer turned around again, he saw Ren Xiaosu take out a black Eye of True Sight from somewhere.
Black! Eye of True Sight!
The combat sorcerer was shocked. How could the black Eye of True Sight appear in the hands of a young man he had never seen before?
Just as he was about to have another look to confirm, he heard Ren Xiaosu shout behind him, "May you be prosperous!
"Happy New Year!
"I wish you happiness!
"May all your wishes come true!
"May you get everything you desire!
"Bountiful blessings!
"Live a long life!"
The combat sorcerer was confused. 'Aren't you being too polite?!'
Seeing Ren Xiaosu shooting off a mouthful of blessings, the combat sorcerer was stunned on the spot.

He had clearly sneak attacked the other party, so why was he wishing him all those blessings? But the problem was that the blessings were way too random. What the heck was with "bountiful blessings" and "live a long life"? Did you just learn how to offer well wishes or something?

The combat sorcerer wondered if the other party was trying to express reconciliation, and that he actually did not wish to fight him to the death.

He hesitated for a second before saying loudly, "I wish you happiness too!"

As his words trailed off, he felt the ground beneath his feet disappear. Then he fell into quicksand.

The combat sorcerer was stunned once more. Wait a minute, this was actual sorcery. But why didn't he hear the other party reciting any incantations just now?

No, those blessings were actually his incantations!

He was actually fucking reciting incantations?

The combat sorcerer swore this was the first time in his life that he had heard such polite incantations!

Someone was actually able to use the Central Plains' language to recite incantations, and he even obtained a black Eye of True Sight? In that instant, a train of chaotic thoughts went through the combat sorcerer's mind. However, he did not have time to think about this anymore. He could only see a dazzling array of spells flying around him like someone was setting off fireworks while he fell quickly into the depths of the quicksand.

The combat sorcerer held his Eye of True Sight tightly in his hand and started reciting an incantation. Suddenly, a huge rock appeared under his feet and forcefully pushed him out of the quicksand.

Sudden Stalagmite!

This combat sorcerer was really quite outstanding at adapting. Sudden Stalagmite was normally a spell used to kill enemies, but he actually used it here to negate the power of the quicksand.

But before he could get back up, the combat sorcerer felt an icy weapon pressing against his neck.

The other party was wearing a white mask and holding a long black saber in his hand.

Ren Xiaosu came up to the combat sorcerer with a smile. "Your name?"

"Woz," the combat sorcerer answered calmly.

"What're you doing here? Who's the mastermind?" Ren Xiaosu asked again.

"Someone offered a bounty to kill Melgor. I only take missions; I don't ask who the employer is," the combat sorcerer said.

"Eh, are you a bounty hunter?" Ren Xiaosu wondered, "Wasn't the mission given to you by the magus order?"

"I'm not affiliated with the magus order," Woz said calmly.

These words left Ren Xiaosu completely stunned. Could it be that there were other sorcerers who operated outside of the magus order? Ren Xiaosu pondered it for a couple seconds before asking, "Are y'all holding onto Eyes of True Sight that weren't retrieved by the magus order?"

"That's right," answered Woz.

Ren Xiaosu nodded. That was right. The magus order had never allowed any low-ranking sorcerers to pass down their Eyes of True Sight through inheritance. But over the years, there should have been some that slipped through their net.

With these thoughts, "Old Xu" slashed Woz's carotid artery and let his blood flow freely onto the Gobi desert.

This person had witnessed Ren Xiaosu's secret, so he could not let him live.

Moreover, Ren Xiaosu took the Eye of True Sight Woz had been holding tightly in hand and got an idea. 'Who should I give this Eye of True Sight to?'

The first stone would definitely have to be given to P5092. The genius military commander was a treasure for the Northwest, so he should have a few more tricks up his sleeve to defend himself.

Actually, according to Ren Xiaosu's plan, he should give the first stone to Yang Xiaojin. But on second thought, he felt it would not be too late to make plans for that after he got his hands on the other two black Eyes of True Sight.

Ren Xiaosu turned around and went back to where Melgor and the others were. But Melgor was running towards him worriedly as though he had come to support him in battle.

When Melgor saw Ren Xiaosu, he hurriedly asked, "How are you? Are you injured?"

"No." Ren Xiaosu shook his head with a smile.

"What about the sorcerer?" Melgor wondered.

"I'm sorry, I couldn't catch up and allowed him to escape," Ren Xiaosu said a little regretfully. He could not say he had already killed him as that would expose how strong he was. Besides, he did not want to hand over the Eye of True Sight he had taken from Woz.

Melgor comforted him, "What's there to be sorry about? It's only natural that you can't catch up to a sorcerer.. But if you did, it would've only put you in more danger."

## Chapter 1092 - The Second Eye Of True Sight

"When the attacker cast that Flame Pillar spell just now, I immediately knew that his strength was far above mine." Melgor said, "So it's actually a good thing that you didn't manage to catch up to him. Don't be so reckless next time, or you could lose your life."

Curious, Ren Xiaosu asked, "You were even able to determine that sorcerer was stronger than you when he just appeared out of nowhere and cast a single spell? Is it because there aren't many sorcerers who are weaker than you?"

Melgor was speechless.

He immediately felt uncomfortable. But when he thought about it carefully, that really seemed to be the case.

However, in order to save his reputation as a sorcerer, Melgor still emphasized, "You might not have seen the most basic Flame Pillar spell before, but I have. Its temperature is much lower than the one he cast. If that sorcerer had not had many years of training, he couldn't show that kind of power at all. By the way, did you see how he was dressed?"

"Yes." Ren Xiaosu nodded. "He was wearing brown leather armor and had a concealed arrow within his sleeve. It felt like he was very experienced in combat, so he didn't seem like a sorcerer at all."

"Then that's it." Melgor nodded and said, "That's a bounty hunter and not a true sorcerer. The identities of such bounty hunters are actually very sensitive. They usually work for the archmages' secular families and specialize in doing the dirty and laborious work for them. If their identities get exposed, they'll just say they stole their Eyes of True Sight from someone else. In any case, they'll deny any and all ties with the magus order. Of course, there's also bounty hunters who truly operate on the fringe of society, and those are fugitives who're constantly targeted by the magus order."

Melgor continued, "These bounty hunters are different from true sorcerers. True magi pursue the mastery of sorcery while bounty hunters seek death and destruction. On one hand, it's because they specialize in assassination. On the other hand, it's very difficult for them to reach a higher level of sorcery through normal means. That bounty hunter was a very typical example. The meditation visualization for the Flame Pillar spell is considered pretty common and can often be found in the black market. Furthermore, they tend to use more effective killing methods. A Fireball has a trajectory to follow, but the Flame Pillar can deal more explosive damage in an instant. It's considered the go-to spell of bounty hunters."

"You might not be strong, but you sure know quite a bit." Ren Xiaosu chuckled.

Melgor said resentfully, "Must you provoke me every day? Will it make you stronger if my feelings get hurt by you or something?"

"Ahem, no, not at all." Ren Xiaosu comforted, "Aren't I just trying to motivate you to improve? Otherwise, how're you going to steal your lover back? Are you just gonna depend on me alone... Although that would work too."

"Will you die if you don't brag?" Melgor said helplessly, "You can't even catch up to a bounty hunter, so what makes you think you can help me? Where does your confidence come from?!"

Nearby, Liu Ting and Li Chengguo curled their lips. Although they had become closer, they were still a little unused to Ren Xiaosu's inexplicable narcissism and confidence.

However, Ren Xiaosu could not possibly tell the truth to these three. If he just bluntly said, "I've already killed that bounty hunter!"

Then what? Melgor would immediately think, 'Since you're capable of killing that bounty hunter, how did you get bound by my Earth Bind spell back then?'

Immediately after, they would all start asking about that bounty hunter's Eye of True Sight. Then should Ren Xiaosu keep it for himself or hand it over?

Who could guarantee that Li Chengguo and Liu Ting really considered Ren Xiaosu a friend? Until now, Ren Xiaosu had not seen any gratitude tokens earned from Liu Ting. But even if Liu Ting had thanked him sincerely before, people could still change.

There was no need for Ren Xiaosu to bet his life on these people.

At this moment, no one knew the most polite sorcerer in the history of the Magi had been born, and the person who witnessed the birth was dead.

Melgor did not continue resting. Instead, he quickly led Ren Xiaosu and the others on their way. Now that bounty hunters had arrived, he had to get back to York County before they were attacked again.

The opponent had probably chosen to make a move here because they did not want to take action in the Kingdom of Sorcerers. After all, if a sorcerer were assassinated in the Magi's territory, it would mean someone was trying to go against the entire order.

Since the magus order saw themselves as gods and declared the fringe sorcerers as "Children of Heaven," they would have to uphold this authority.

Would a god that could be killed by someone still be a god?

Therefore, there were also unwritten rules among sorcerers. If some things had to be taken care of, they could not let the secular world know about it.

Not long after they left, a middle-aged man quietly came to the place where Ren Xiaosu and company had reorganized. He first checked on the battle situation and found there were still traces of the Flame Pillar spell released by the bounty hunter there.

Right afterwards, he followed the tracks in the Gobi Desert southwards. The more he saw, the more shocked he became.

This was because he realized that the bounty hunter had chosen to use the Flame Pillar while he was retreating. This meant the bounty hunter had encountered a troublesome enemy and wanted to use the spell to delay the opponent's pursuit.

The middle-aged man frowned. This did not match the intel he had been given. To be honest, he did not expect the plan to fail this time.

Thinking of this, he continued walking forward. Immediately, he saw a dazzling scene of spells that had been cast. There was Liquefy Ground, Wind Bind, and even some other indiscernible spells.

Immediately after, he saw a pool of blood on the ground that had almost been covered by the sand blowing in the Gobi.

He carefully brushed away the yellow sand that was covering the bloodstains and looked at a certain spot on the ground where the Liquefy Ground spell was cast. He could tell that someone had fallen inside but used Sudden Stalagmite to break free from the trap.

From the look of things, this was where the bounty hunter met his demise.

The middle-aged man slowly stood up. He took out his Eye of True Sight from his waist belt and recited an incantation. A moment later, a falcon flew from his Eye of True Sight and headed northwest.

But before the falcon could fly far, the ground suddenly erupted. The middle-aged man hurriedly tried to retreat and cast a spell in response, but it was already too late.

Amid the flying sand and dust, a black saber broke through it all at lightning speed and pierced the sorcerer's heart.

The white-masked "Old Xu" moved in the direction of the stab and came within close proximity of the middle-aged sorcerer. It was nearly hugging him. Old Xu twisted the black saber in its hand and completely wrung the life force out of the middle-aged sorcerer. Then it slowly laid him flat on the ground.

clenched very tightly around the stone, as though he still had a great longing and reluctance to part with it even after his death.
Ren Xiaosu made Old Xu hold the Eye of True Sight in its hand and examined it. It seemed like it didn't take much effort to get his hands on these Eyes of True Sight. All he needed to do was to wait for the enemy to bring one to him.
He made Old Xu put the Eye of True Sight into its pocket before starting work on destroying all shreds of evidence here.
Ren Xiaosu had kept the crime scene intact to see if he could bait something out of this.
Chapter 1093 - The All-star Crew Of The Prosperous Northwest
While Melgor and company were hurrying to York County, the two sheeple suddenly realized Ren Xiaosu seemed to be in a very good mood.
At this moment, the neat-looking cotton sorcerer robe Melgor was wearing was dirty beyond recognition. The wrinkles in his attire made it look like a crumpled piece of paper that had been unfurled.
The two sheep apprentices looked even more exhausted. They were in a worse state than Melgor because they did not know how to use sorcery to enhance themselves.

However, Ren Xiaosu was in an extremely relaxed state. With his current physical fitness, it was as good as taking a stroll even though they were rushing towards their destination. In fact, he even felt quite pleased.

Of course, the most important thing was that he had gained two Eyes of True Sight.

Ren Xiaosu felt that it was a good omen that someone had sent him such big gifts as soon as he arrived in the Kingdom of Sorcerers. He thought he could definitely gain more Eyes of True Sight in the future.

Ren Xiaosu suddenly asked, "By the way, Mel, do you think those bounty hunters won't dare to act so insolently after we get to York County?"

"Yes," Melgor answered firmly. As for the nickname "Mel," he could only acknowledge it since Ren Xiaosu had saved his life.

Ren Xiaosu felt it was a little wasteful. It would be good if he could use Melgor to lure more bounty hunters.

"Um... why don't we take a rest here?" Ren Xiaosu said, "It feels like y'all might suddenly die if we keep running like this!"

Melgor was stunned for a moment. "How can we stop at a time like this? York County is just up ahead!"

Liu Ting wondered, "Ren Xiaosu, are you a spy for the bounty hunters? Are you trying to delay us because you're afraid they can't make a move once we arrive in the county?"

Ren Xiaosu slapped Liu Ting on the back of his head angrily. "If I were a spy, all of you would already be dead! Y'all didn't even have a chance of fighting back when you were caught in the quicksand. And if I hadn't pulled Melgor aside, he would've been burnt to ashes!"

"Well, I guess..." Liu Ting said aggrievedly. "But why are you suddenly telling everyone to stop to take a break..."

"Don't worry, with me around, even if that bounty hunter comes again, he won't do anything to y'all!" Ren Xiaosu promised.

"Who do you think you are?" Liu Ting muttered, "You can't even defeat Melgor...."

Melgor said to Ren Xiaosu, "Let's continue. There's really no need to take such a risk."

"Alright then," Ren Xiaosu said reluctantly. He would have to find another opportunity in the future. "By the way, how many grades of the Eye of True Sight are there?"

"Five." Melgor said, "White, orange, red, gold, and black, in that ascending order."

"What's the difference?" Ren Xiaosu wondered.

The Eyes of True Sight the two bounty hunters had just contributed to him were white and orange in color respectively.

It was obvious the middle-aged man who had suddenly appeared later to check on the field of battle was higher ranked. He was probably a commander or something.

However, in Ren Xiaosu's opinion, those two should also be fringe figures at most.

Melgor explained, "I've never used the other grades of the Eye of True Sight before, so I'm not too sure of the differences. I only heard the higher the grade the Eye of True Sight, the more stable a sorcerer's spellcasting will be, and it'll even have a certain amplification effect. They say with the highest grade of the Eye of True Sight, the black one, even a young sorcerer who's never practiced spells before can cast them successfully at will. In other words, if an archmage who wields the black Eye of True Sight passes it on to his children, his offspring will naturally have a head start in the world of magic."

"So that's how it is." Ren Xiaosu nodded. So it turned out he only managed to cast a spell that easily because he had the black Eye of True Sight.

This made Ren Xiaosu a little sad. He managed to successfully cast a spell even without practicing it a 1,000 times, which made him think he was talented at sorcery. However, it seemed like that was not the case.

But from the look of things, he could not give the Eye of True Sight he had seized to P5092 yet. After all, how could the all-star crew of the Prosperous Northwest use such a low-level Eye of True Sight?

For Eyes of True Sight of either the white or orange grades, he could just give them to people like Zhang Xiaoman to use.

Before long, a dirt road gradually appeared under the group's feet. This meant there were often vehicles traveling here.

He observed things and realized the tracks on the dirt road did not seem to be made by motor vehicles. They were probably left by oxcarts and horse-drawn carriages instead. This made Ren Xiaosu very curious about the technological level of the Kingdom of Sorcerers.

It was not like he had never met people of other nationalities before. Take, for example, the expeditionary army. They were most affected by the Cataclysm and ended up suffering a complete regression of their industrial system.

And how about the Kingdom of Sorcerers?

The clothes Melgor and the servants were wearing were made from coarse cotton and linen textiles, and the bounty hunters they encountered were actually still using weapons like concealed arrows. Wouldn't they be better off using sniper rifles instead?

Ren Xiaosu asked Melgor, "Are there firearms in the nation of sorcerers?"

"Of course there are." Melgor said, "But firearms are very strictly regulated and only carried by those in the royal army. Of course, our firearms here are not as sophisticated as those found in the Central Plains."

"How's the level of physics and chemistry in the Kingdom of Sorcerers?" Ren Xiaosu asked.

Actually, it was possible to roughly estimate the technology of a civilization based on the level of physics and chemistry in their society.

Melgor looked at Ren Xiaosu and said, "I suggest you don't mention these words when you get to the Kingdom of Sorcerers. Chemistry does not exist there, only alchemy. Of course, only I am willing to discuss such topics with you. If the magus order portrays themselves as gods, then science is naturally their enemy. That's because science is the natural enemy of pseudoscience."

Ren Xiaosu pondered this. He had read in books that there was a saying that theology was what lay at the end of science's path. No one could prove whether that was true or not, and Ren Xiaosu did not intend to pass any judgment on that either.

However, sorcerers were not true gods. They had only played up their own statuses as gods, but they could not stand up to the test if it came down to it. Therefore, science became their greatest enemy.

In Ren Xiaosu's opinion, no matter how powerful a sorcerer was, they would still die if they got sniped by someone. That was why the control of firearms in the nation of sorcerers was so strict.

Sorcerers were unlike some supernatural beings in the Central Plains who would not even suffer a scratch after getting shot. At most, the bullet would get stuck in their muscle fibers, and Ren Xiaosu was an example of such a person.

However, sorcerers themselves were extremely fragile, and that was their shortcoming.

Therefore, it was only natural that sorcerers did not want anything that could harm them to appear in the secular world.

And Melgor was only a low-ranking sorcerer. What he said might just be hearsay and not necessarily true.

Ren Xiaosu would have to personally go and find out what the magus order was really thinking.

The sound of horse trotting suddenly came from ahead on the dirt road. Ren Xiaosu pulled Melgor behind him and said, "Be careful!"
As Melgor looked at Ren Xiaosu's upright stature, he felt a little touched.
Chapter 1094 - Special Powers
The sound of the horse trotting got closer and closer. Ren Xiaosu watched quietly as more than a dozen figures gradually appeared ahead on the dirt road and galloped towards them at full speed.
The horses looked handsome with an extremely tough stature. Among the cavalry, there were even some people leading horses without a rider on them.
These people were all wearing heavy steel armor. When Ren Xiaosu saw them for the first time, he nearly drew his black saber. In fact, it was because their armor was somewhat similar to the expeditionary army's heavy armor.
However, these people's armor was a shiny silver and looked much more exquisite than what the barbarians wore. They were even more attractive to look at.
But in Ren Xiaosu's opinion, their armor was not as practical and sturdy as the barbarians'.
Melgor smiled and patted Ren Xiaosu on the shoulder. "Don't be nervous. These are the knights of the Li and Liu clans."

"How did they know that we were coming back?" Ren Xiaosu wondered.

"Actually, according to our arrangements, we should've returned a month ago. They were supposed to be waiting at the edge of the Gobi to welcome us, but we were delayed by a month due to the incident with the Eye of True Sight. I believe they were likely patrolling the area once in a while."

"I see." Ren Xiaosu said, "I thought they were enemies coming to kill you."

Li Chengguo and Liu Ting had already started waving their hands wildly. The eyes of the two sheeple were red, and it looked like they had become very emotional at the thought of returning to their hometown.

For the past two years, they had been disguised as sheep and ate grass every day. Now that they had returned to their hometown and saw their clans' knights, how could they not be excited?

"How's the combat capability of the knights?" Ren Xiaosu asked curiously.

"They're all veterans who were discharged from the royal army." Melgor explained, "Actually, the royal family does not allow nobles to raise their own private armies. You can see they're only carrying bladed weapons. They aren't allowed to carry any lances or bows. In the Kingdom of Sorcerers, spears, bows, and firearms are all prohibited weaponry, and civilians aren't allowed to secretly own any of such equipment."

"Wait a sec, you just said that they weren't allowed to have any private armies. Then what are these people?" Ren Xiaosu asked.

"At the beginning, the regulations were very strict when the order was first handed down. But it's gradually loosened up," Melgor answered. "Furthermore, these veterans did not have any livelihoods after they retired from the military, so they became a threat to society and order. As such, the royal family started tacitly allowing nobles to recruit a small number of soldiers to guard their homes."

"Without modern firearms and explosives, how can these people stand up to the magus order that controls the royal family?" Ren Xiaosu said disdainfully, "Speaking of which, since the magus order has

no intention of developing science, aren't they afraid that the Northwest will launch a counterattack someday? When the Northwest develops into a stronger power, these sorcerers will be as useless as trash."

Melgor glanced at Ren Xiaosu. "Why? You still have Fortress 178 on your mind? What's important is that no foreign enemies have ever invaded the Kingdom of Sorcerers for the past 200 years."

Ren Xiaosu thought to himself, 'True, there's no need to think so highly of all monarchies. In the history of every Central Plains dynasty, there hasn't been one that lasted too long either, with the shortest one not even outlasting the current Kingdom of Sorcerers.'

Historically, there were many cases of nations going into isolation and closing their borders. They sold their lands for riches, and killed loyal subjects who served them.

If not for that, there wouldn't have been so many dynasties.

Calculating the duration, the Magi had enjoyed themselves for over 200 years now, so it was also about time for them to lose their fight.

Ren Xiaosu suddenly realized the more he knew about this Kingdom of Sorcerers, the more he felt it was no longer fit to be seen as the Northwest's opponent.

More than a dozen knights had already arrived in front of them. All of them jumped down from their horses and knelt down on one knee with their right hands placed over their chests to salute Melgor.

When Melgor signaled for them to get up, they turned and looked at Li Chengguo. "Young Master, we were tardy."

Li Chengguo's eyes were brimming with tears. "You're not tardy at all!"

Next to him, Liu Ting asked, "Where are the knights from our Liu clan?"



Ren Xiaosu said to Li Chengguo and Liu Ting, "Um... sheeple, why don't you two squeeze onto one of the horses?"

Liu Ting raised an eyebrow. "We can let one of the knights walk back on foot."

"Does a steward's words carry so little weight with you servants?" Ren Xiaosu asked. "Hurry up and get on the horse!"

Li Chengguo and Liu Ting could only answer helplessly, "OK..."

Melgor and Ren Xiaosu rode at the front of the group together. The knights riding at the back asked Li Chengguo in a whisper, "Young Master, what's the history of Lord Melgor's steward?"

Liu Ting lowered his voice and said disdainfully, "He's no one important. He was originally a captive we took from Fortress 178. In the end, he was chosen by Lord Melgor to be his personal steward!"

"Then does he have any special powers?" the knight commander asked.

Liu Ting snapped at him, "He's especially good at bragging!"

The knight commander was speechless.

Melgor suddenly said to Ren Xiaosu, "When I saw these knights, I remembered the question you asked me. I've indeed seen the name Ren He mentioned in a book before. It was in that book that chronicled the life of that genius sorcerer."

"What was recorded in there?" Ren Xiaosu asked curiously.

"I only thumbed through that book, but there was something that left a deep impression on me." Melgor said, "Initially, three black Eyes of True Sight existed, and two of them were the private assets of that sorcerer. Somehow, one of them ended up in the hands of the Tudor family."

"Didn't you say that there were two black Eyes of True Sight? One of them fell into the hands of the Tudor family, so what about the other?" Ren Xiaosu asked.
Melgor looked at Ren Xiaosu. "It was taken away by that Central Plains rider!"
Ren Xiaosu was stunned. "He took it away?"

"Yes, it said he gave it to him as a gift," Melgor confirmed.. "Wait, I understand now. The unknown black Eye of True Sight I sensed was the one the Central Plains rider took away!"