

Magic Era 121

Chapter 121: Spirit Warrior

Lin Yun's 2nd opponent was a magic beast, a level 15 Three-Eyed Evil Wolf that could use Necromancy at around the level of a 5th Rank Great Mage. It collapsed after fighting Lin Yun for a minute.

Lin Yun hurried to recover his mana while looking expectantly at the center of the arena. Sure enough, three golden chests appeared out of thin air once again. Unable to resist Shawn's persuasive advice, Lin Yun picked the leftmost golden chest this time too.

"More mana crystals!" There were another dozen mana crystals in the chest. Lin Yun felt the urge to kill Shawn when he saw this.

"Don't be impetuous. Don't be impetuous! Take a look at their quality!" Noticing the precarious situation, Shawn quickly stopped Lin Yun, who had planned on cutting off the supply of mana.

Calming down a bit, Lin Yun took a closer look and found out...

The quality of this batch of mana crystals was a fair bit better than what he'd gotten from the earlier chest. The lowest was level 10, while the highest reached level 12! One had to know that with each increase in the level, the value would roughly double. Lin Yun made some calculations and found out that the value of this second batch of mana crystals was double that of the first batch!

He was a bit surprised at the increase, to the point that Lin Yun forgot to deal with Shawn. If the value of each reward doubled, then wouldn't he be able to buy all of Noscent after a dozen times?

"Don't dream too much about it, didn't you notice that the strength of that Three-Eyed Evil Wolf was a lot greater than the previous group of Rock Wolves? After a dozen times, you might have to face the Dream King..." Shawn ruthlessly woke Lin Yun from his greedy fantasy.

"..."

In fact, he didn't need to go that far.

By the time he met the 6th round of opponents, he was already sweating bullets...

It was an entire group of ten Spirit Warriors.

These Spirit Warriors had followed the prince during his life and were unable to break away from the power of the Bloodline Curse after his death. By being buried in that Dark Arena, their souls had transformed into spirits, forever guarding the prince's eternal rest.

Lin Yun studied his new enemies. The ten Spirit Warriors were wearing silver armor and holding Magic Greatswords. Wounds crisscrossing their bodies indicated that they were veterans of many battles when they were still alive. Each one had the strength of a 15th Rank, but they also had thick Aura and exquisite martial skills. They might each have fighting strength greater than that of a 15th Rank Great Swordsman.

In the entire Thousand Sails City, perhaps only the Silver Moon Mercenaries and a few other peak forces could have such a lineup.

“Hey, Lord Shawn, think of a plan, quick...”

“Don’t play with me, what kind of plan? Even if you supply mana to me, I still won’t be able to display my Incarnation...” A hint of panic could be heard in Shawn’s voice. Although the binding of the master-slave contract wasn’t very strong, if his master died, Shawn would still suffer a heavy blow...

“You have the nerve to call yourself a True Spirit Magic Tool?” Lin Yun still took the time to curse before the battle with the ten Spirit Warriors began.

This was a fight with no build-up. Both sides used their most powerful abilities right at the start. Aura was ignited as the Spirit Warriors rushed over. The huge greatswords carried with them the sound of destruction as they slashed down, flaming Aura raging on the blades, splitting open Lin Yun’s Ice Fire Shield in an instant.

Lin Yun was desperate. When his Ice Fire Shield was cut apart, he used the momentum from the greatsword’s push to retreat a few steps and followed up with an incantation. A huge and powerful Fire Dragon roared before pouncing at the Spirit Warriors.

Lin Yun gripped his Spiritual Magic Staff tightly as he gestured continuously with his hands, coordinating with the incantation. In a short ten seconds, he let out three successive Fire Dragons!

This way of casting was extremely dangerous because he could suffer a magic backlash at any time.

But he couldn’t worry about that right now. His goal was simply to launch an attack powerful enough to kill one or two Spirit Warriors to start with. That way, he would be able to rely on the vigorous mana supply from the Spiritual Magic Staff to contend against the remaining Spirit Warriors.

Unfortunately, Lin Yun’s first plan failed.

The ten Spirit Warriors got into a formation and managed to withstand Lin Yun’s torrent of magic.

Although a few Spirit Warriors were seriously harmed and looked like they had lost some of their fighting strength, Lin Yun’s heart tightened.

Lin Yun knew that here in the Dark Arena, the frightening recovery speed of the Spirit Warriors made their bodies almost unkillable. These deadly injuries would recover in a matter of minutes.

But since the fight had already started, Lin Yun only had one path left ahead of him. After his initial wave of reckless casting, Lin Yun’s mana had already dropped by half, but Lin Yun’s following display became even fiercer. Taking advantage of the fact that a few Spirit Warriors had been seriously injured, Lin Yun incanted once again: Flame Barrier, Consecutive Fire Arrows, Elemental Slash, Frost Burst... His most powerful spells fell one after the other on the bodies of these Spirit Warriors.

It had only been thirty seconds since the start of the battle, but the damage Lin Yun caused would be enough to scare any Great Mage shitless.

But... The number of Spirit Warriors still remained at ten.

Moreover, they still approached Lin Yun, even with over half of them being seriously injured. The flaming Aura seemed to already be right in front of him.

Lin Yun knew that his first opportunity had already escaped him...

“Fuck...” He cursed to himself fiercely. He had no choice but to use Elemental Incarnation early. By relying on the sea of fire that he had created with his initial barrage of spells, Lin Yun pulled open the distance with a Flame Flash.

“Stupid, you are truly hopelessly stupid. You haven’t noticed that these Spirit Warriors already formed a Life Sharing Formation? Do you think you are a peak High Mage that can dispatch ten Spirit Warriors at once?” Shawn’s flustered and exasperated scolding echoed in Lin Yun’s ears just as he landed on the other side of the sea of fire.

“I obviously know of the Life Sharing Formation, but I don’t have the means to split it apart!”

“No, you do!”

“I do?” Lin Yun’s expression froze.

“I feel a familiar mana fluctuation in your body, it should have been from the Death Garden in the tomb! Take that thing out, quick!”

“The Sage Chapter?” Lin Yun felt a bit strange. The Ultimate Spells stored in the Sage Chapter truly were his most powerful cards. ‘But are they enough to break the Life Sharing Formation?’

It’s not as if Lin Yun hadn’t thought of using the Ultimate Spells...

But after the previous attempt, Lin Yun had already guessed that the Spirit Warriors were using the Life Sharing Formation. Its ability to endure damage was too high. Even if he used his Ultimate Spells, he would only be able to injure some more Spirit Warriors... It wouldn’t be of too much help to the battle as a whole.

It was a tough obstacle to overcome, as the power of Lin Yun’s Ultimate Spells were only at the 4th Tier at the moment. If he wanted to instantly dispatch these Spirit Warriors, he would need 6th Tier Spells, or in other words, spells on a level close to reaching the power of an Archmage.

“That thing is called the Sage Chapter? Forget it, its name doesn’t matter. As long as that thing came from the Death Garden, it can be used to handle these Spirit Warriors. Did you forget what kind of place a Death Garden is?”

“Wait, you mean...” With Shawn’s mention of the Death Garden, Lin Yun understood.

‘That’s right! The Sage Chapter came from that place!’

What kind of place was a Death Garden? It is the convergence of death energy. The Sage Chapter was born from boundless death energy, and it was even of a higher rank than Shawn. The death energy contained within could only be described as frightening.

At the same time, what kind of existence were Spirit Warriors?

The Spirit Warriors had been affected by the Bloodline Curse, turning their souls and bodies into spirits. What they loathed and feared the most was death energy.

If there was a sudden burst of death energy, these Spirit Warriors would definitely be affected.

The only problem was that Lin Yun didn't dare to assume that it would have a sufficiently large effect...

Lin Yun tightly held the Sage Chapter, but he couldn't help displaying a trace of hesitation on his face.

'This is no joke...'

The Sage Chapter in his hands was his last trump card, and if he wanted to release the death energy that was inside, the three Ultimate Spells would disappear. If he was still unable to split apart the Life Sharing Formation after that, Lin Yun truly wouldn't have any other chances to make a comeback.

He didn't have much time left...

The ten Spirit Warriors were already crossing the sea of fire, raising their huge greatswords once again. But Lin Yun couldn't use Elemental Incarnation again, so it would be hard to escape if they got closer.

"This better work!" Lin Yun bit his lip and cancelled the three Ultimate Spells in the Sage Chapter.

In a flash, a huge amount of death energy burst out. A thick gas condensed above the Dark Arena, and countless Soul Fires rushed out from the Sage Chapter. With world-shaking roars, they exploded in the center of the Dark Arena, transforming into a swarm of ghosts and skeletons. The entire Dark Arena looked like a sinister graveyard.

At the same time, Lin Yun brandished the Spiritual Magic Staff and started launching another ferocious wave of spells.

Chapter 122: Strongest True Spirit Magic Tool

Chant after chant, gesture after gesture, spells cast one after the other...

Lin Yun felt the mana in his body pouring out like a waterfall. He shuddered slightly when the mana within the Elemental Amber Ring was exhausted, and then began extracting the mana from within the Spiritual Magic Staff. The flow of time seemed to become hazy with so much happening. Lin Yun himself didn't know how many spells he'd cast.

A blood-curdling scream finally cried out in front of him.

After receiving a direct hit from a Flame Spear, the Spirit Warrior at the front finally collapsed. It immediately turned into a white light and disappeared from the Dark Arena.

"First one!" Only one Spirit Warrior died, yet this was the dawn of victory for Lin Yun.

The mana stored within the Spiritual Magic Staff started frantically pouring into Lin Yun's body. The incantations that had paused for a moment resounded once again in the Dark Arena.

Lin Yun couldn't use Elemental Incarnation again. Facing the swarming Spirit Warriors, his only remaining way to continue was to push his Magic Array to the limit. With his rich battle experience from

surviving at the end of the magic era, he was able to keep struggling in this life and death battle with the 9 badly injured Spirit Warriors.

Continuously attacking, defending, and controlling, Lin Yun did everything he could. He drank three Angel Potions and used seven Dark Fire Bullets. Even the mana of the Lava Dominator that he got from Lonald had been exhausted in that fight. It could be said that Lin Yun had taken out all his cards...

Ultimately, Lin Yun used a Flame Burst to finish this fight that had stretched on for three hours.

“Finally over...” Lin Yun had exhausted all his mana during this fight and had even cleaned out all the mana stored within the Spiritual Magic Staff. His mind was completely exhausted. Three hours of maintaining peak performance had drained all of his energy.

Lin Yun lowered his head just as the last Spirit Warrior turned into a light...

This had been his most exhausting fight yet. He was feeling more drained than how he had been after that half day of slaughter in the Death Garden. This fight had been so taxing that he couldn't even lift his head. He even felt like taking a nap and forgetting about the prince tomb and the Dark Arena.

Unfortunately, he was urged on by Shawn after lying down for a few minutes...

“Quick, quick, check your reward quickly, check if there is something that can let Lord Shawn immediately recover his powers!”

“If you want to check, then go check it, I want to sleep...”

“You have the cheek to talk back to Lord Shawn!” Shawn immediately flew into a towering rage, but after a fit of temper, he mischievously told Lin Yun, “You think that these ten Spirit Warriors were your last opponents? Lord Shawn didn't want to scare you at first, but since you are so ignorant, I'll reluctantly give you a reminder. Do you remember how many battles a gladiator had to win in the Empire to regain their freedom?”

“...” When he heard Shawn's words Lin Yun jumped up, feeling startled.

‘That's right! The gladiators from the 3rd Dynasty could obtain freedom after seven victories. Doesn't that mean that I have another battle to go through? Fuck, is this a joke?’

Thinking of the fact that he still had to go through another battle made Lin Yun want to cry. Ten Spirit Warriors had already forced him to go to that extent. Based on the usual practice of the Dark Arena, shouldn't his next opponent have the strength of a peak High Mage, or even... an Archmage?

“Thus, Lord Shawn is advising you to check the reward first. There might be something good inside that can let Lord Shawn directly recover. If that happens, you can stand aside for the next battle and cheer this Lord Shawn on.”

“...” Although Lin Yun disapproved of that arrogant True Spirit Magic Tool, he still looked forward to seeing those three chests.

After all, Lin Yun had already obtained a Spiritual level one-handed sword after defeating his 5th opponent.

Although this one-handed sword wasn't suitable for Lin Yun, the fact was that there was a genuine Spiritual Magic Tool in that chest.

Based on the rewards increasing after each fight so far, even if Lin Yun wouldn't receive a True Spirit Magic Tool, wouldn't he at least get a peak Spiritual Magic Tool now?

And that power would be completely under his control, not a shameless slacker like Shawn.

Lin Yun stood in front of the three chests. He raised his hand, but he didn't extend it, as he was still hesitating.

"Okay, okay, stop that now..." Lin Yun got a headache from Lord Shawn's harassment. 'I had some pretty good harvests after picking the left ones each time, so I might as well continue.'

Lin Yun reached out and opened the left chest.

And following that...

Shawn loudly cursed...

"Fuck, Barov, you are shameless, you dare to trick Lord Shawn!"

Honestly, it wasn't unusual for Shawn to be so angered.

Who would have thought that after killing ten Spirit Warriors, the reward would actually be an Inheritance Magic Tool!

Moreover, it was an incomplete Inheritance Magic Tool!

Shawn felt like crying. He had thought that after the elimination of the ten Spirit Warriors, the reward would be a peak Spiritual Magic Tool or even better, and once he absorbed the mana within, he would be able to recover at least half of his power. But all that was inside the box was an incomplete Inheritance Magic Tool!

It was a magic staff made of Ghost Wood, with a mana crystal of unknown level inlaid at the end. From the mana fluctuation, it was definitely an Inheritance Magic Tool. Moreover, the staff had three arrays, but they weren't connected to each other, and the mana source wasn't even activated. Anyone with discerning eyes could see that it was incomplete.

'Fuck, not only do you give out an Inheritance Magic Tool, but it's not even complete, Prince Barov, what kind of joke is that?'

Shawn was simply unable to restrain his anger, and he even tried to use a bit of the power he had just recovered to destroy this disgraceful Inheritance Magic Tool.

But before he could make his move, the staff was grabbed by Lin Yun.

No, he didn't just grab it...

Lin Yun held it as if it was a treasure and then put it into his pocket.

"Hey, are you destitute enough that you would grab anything you can? Even an incomplete Inheritance Magic Tool won't escape your hands? Seems like Lord Shawn should reconsider this... If I work for you

later, will you be destitute enough that you won't be able to provide the mana crystals needed by Lord Shawn?"

"I have to say, Lord Shawn, you truly have a poor insight..." Lin Yun shook his head, quite satisfied with the find. Getting such a treasure, how could Lin Yun not be in a good mood? Shawn's mocking didn't even feel as unpleasant as before.

"You know of that damn Inheritance Magic Tool? Quickly talk... Can it let me recover my power?"

"It can't, but I can guarantee that a year later at most, the power of that damn Inheritance Magic Tool will be superior to yours, Lord Shawn. How about we make a bet?"

"Nonsense!" Shawn burst out in anger.

"Then let's bet. If I lose, I'll immediately lift the master-slave contract. If you lose, you have to completely acknowledge me as your master."

"This..." Lord Shawn suddenly hesitated. He didn't believe that this incomplete Inheritance Magic Tool could surpass him in a year.

But after seeing Lin Yun's confident expression, he felt a bit uncertain.

As he thought about this, Shawn suddenly warned, "Careful! The 7th battle should begin soon!"

"Crap! Too quick!" Lin Yun hurriedly fished out a level 13 mana crystal from his pocket and clenched his teeth as he started extracting the mana within without any care for the fact that he might suffer a magic backlash from the impurities.

Fortunately, the 7th battle still hadn't started by the time Lin Yun was done, so for insurance, he grabbed a level 12 mana crystal from his pocket and continued replenishing his mana.

One, two, three, four...

After absorbing the mana from four mana crystals, Lin Yun's mana had already completely recovered.

But for some reason, the 7th battle still had yet to start...

"What's going on?" Lin Yun was at a loss. He wouldn't misremember the rules of the 3rd Dynasty's arena from the notes. Gladiators would regain their freedom only after the 7th battle.

'But I only fought six battles, why is the 7th battle so slow to start?'

"What are you standing around for, the doors to the Dark Arena already opened, or do you plan to stay for dinner?"

Shawn's sneering made Lin Yun's expression sink. "What is going on? Didn't you say the 7th battle was about to start? Did you deceive me?"

"How could Lord Shawn deceive you? As per the rules of the Empire, after clearing the 7th battle, the gladiators truly obtain their freedom. But your luck is very good, your 7th opponent just happened to be the unequalled Lord Shawn..."

"You?" Lin Yun froze, before understanding.

Shawn, as a True Spirit Magic Tool, was an existence able to contend with an Archmage. It would be reasonable for him to be selected for the 7th battle of the Dark Arena.

As he thought about that, Lin Yun remembered that the Great Mage from the Cloud Tower had written in his notes that he broke through the Dark Arena through heaven-defying luck. Now that Lin Yun thought about it, he could understand what that heaven-defying luck was...

The Great Mage might have been similar to himself. He had obtained the acknowledgement of the True Spirit Magic Tool before entering the Dark Arena letting him skip the 7th battle.

Otherwise, based on the battle against the ten Spirit Warriors, the 7th opponent would be comparable to an Archmage, and that was an existence that he couldn't deal with... No Great Mage could stand more than ten seconds against an Archmage. Lin Yun wouldn't be able to either, even if he had nine Magic Arrays.

It wasn't just the difference in power...

It was simply a battle between two different types of existences!

'Looks like my luck isn't as bad as I thought,' Lin Yun thought as he left the Dark Arena.

"Hey, Merlin, you still haven't told me, what is special about that damn Inheritance Magic Tool?" Just as they were leaving the Dark Arena, Shawn asked about the staff again.

"You won't understand even if I tell you..." Lin Yun said half-heartedly.

It simply couldn't be explained. Lin Yun couldn't tell this Soul Walker that what he dubbed as a "disgraceful Inheritance Magic Tool" would become a frightening existence a few millennia later. At that time, this staff would be known as the Strongest True Spirit Magic Tool!

Chapter 123: Reincarnation Eyes

T/N: Component -> Augment

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Of course, at this moment, this staff wasn't the famous Strongest True Spirit Magic Tool that it would become in several millennia.

In some notes, Lin Yun had read that thousands of years later, this Strongest Magic Tool had 28 alchemy arrays, as well as 17 various powerful Augments. It was an existence that completely toppled the alchemy system. An incomparably complicated structure, a frightening carrying capacity. The power of its complete form far exceeded that of any True Spirit Magic Tool of that time.

Unfortunately, it only existed in Noscent in that state for about a thousand years.

A thousand years later, its master died in an unknown plane, and although the Cloud Tower had forcibly snatched it back, it lost its power forever.

This Strongest Magic Tool became a common item from that point on.

However, alchemists never gave up on researching the Magic Tool even after it turned into an ordinary object. More than a thousand years later, the researchers came closer and closer to the truth, up until the silent Cloud Tower finally made their results public. It was all because of the mana crystal inlaid at the top of the Magic Tool.

It was the mana crystal of a Spirit Devourer Behemoth...

An adult Spirit Devourer Behemoth was basically an incomparably huge plane, and they would devour everything they could. Meteors, netherstorms, and even remains of dead planes were considered tasty food. No one ever hunted a Spirit Devourer Behemoth in Noscent's history.

Thus, the origin of this Spirit Devourer Behemoth's mana crystal was among the numerous unsolved mysteries of the magic era.

In short, the Cloud Tower relied on the mana crystal of the Spirit Devourer Behemoth to create the strongest Magic Tool of the entire peak magic era.

The mana crystal of the Spirit Devourer Behemoth didn't give formidable power to the Magic Tool, and thus that Magic Tool was only an Inheritance Magic Tool when it appeared. However, it brought unlimited potential to the Magic Tool.

Not to mention the rest, just the carrying capacity was enough to topple the entire alchemy system, able to handle 17 Augments.

That kind of carrying capacity even surpassed many Extraordinary Magic Tools.

Lin Yun knew that the complete Book of Death could hold 15 Augments, and this was already a peak existence among Extraordinary Magic Tools.

Naturally, Lin Yun also knew that it was too early to think about these.

What he held right now was only an Inheritance Magic Tool, and an incomplete one at that. Besides having a Spirit Devourer Behemoth's mana crystal and Ghost Wood, there were only three arrays, and not even one Augment.

Lin Yun still had a long way ahead of him if he wanted to make that Magic Tool reach the level it would have reached many years later.

Or he would have to spend a huge amount of money.

Let alone the rest, just the 28 alchemy arrays were enough to make Lin Yun desperate.

It eventually had an incredible count of 28 arrays! The amount of resources required to do that was enough to cause tens of the Flashing Gold chamber of commerce to go bankrupt. It would be amazing if he could make just one with his current assets.

And there were still 17 Augments...

Those weren't ordinary Augments. He knew that most of these Augments were True Spirit level. The lowest one was a peak Spiritual Augment.

Thinking about it, Lin Yun, along with Solomon, had spent over a million golds for a Spiritual Augment, and that was while everyone was unaware of its true value. If people had known it was a Spiritual Augment, the price might have doubled!

Given that an ordinary Spiritual Augment was like that, completing that Strongest True Spirit Magic Tool certainly wouldn't be a matter of one day or two.

Even Lin Yun would only dare say that it could surpass the Soul Walker after a year.

Naturally, this was purely bullying Shawn...

However you looked at it, Shawn's Incarnation was a Soul Lifeform, and it wasn't particularly powerful. What Shawn excelled at was creating all kinds of illusions as well as directly attacking his enemy's soul. It was unfair of it to compete in power against a genuine Magic Tool for attacking.

Lin Yun didn't even need to let that Magic Tool reach True Spirit level.

As long as he was able to make the Magic Tool's spirit appear, after reaching Spiritual level, its might would definitely surpass Shawn's.

"Too poor..." Thinking of the cost of the 28 alchemy arrays and 17 Augments, Lin Yun couldn't help sighing.

Lin Yun originally felt that he was rich enough when the Gilded Rose expanded and became the number one alchemy shop of Thousand Sails City.

But it now seemed that it was still far from enough...

'Whatever, I'd better find the Reincarnation Eyes first.'

After thinking for a while, Lin Yun put that Magic Tool back in his pocket and directly passed through the Dark Arena while looking towards the depths of the prince tomb. The terrain became more complex as Lin Yun went further in. The entire prince tomb felt like a huge maze.

With the addition of the various traps on the way, Lin Yun had a whole new understanding of the alchemy technology of the 3rd Dynasty. What about tens of thousands of arrows, what about mountains of daggers and seas of flames? Those were simply too inferior to be put in the prince tomb. Lin Yun gained a lot of experience this time. Various situations that would make people become frightened to death, various situations that would make people feel defenseless. This path wasn't the least bit more relaxing than the Dark Arena.

He had to remember the path he was taking while also guarding against all kinds of traps. Lin Yun felt his hair turning white from stress as he broke through the maze and reached a very spacious shrine.

Now, an altar was standing in front of Lin Yun. The altar was dedicated to the Haiba Dragon God, this world's Origin Dragon possessing a golden body, three heads representing the three Laws: Light, Darkness, and Chaos. Even if the one there was only a statue, the boundless might emitted still made Lin Yun feel the urge to prostrate himself.

"Dissipate!" Lin Yun coldly snorted and cast Spirit Defense.

As this world's first Dragon, how frightening was the power of the Haiba Dragon God... An ordinary Great Mage might have immediately fallen to their knees in front of that Dragon Might.

But Lin Yun wouldn't...

Because Lin Yun had personally viewed the records of the killing of the Haiba Dragon God. That was the first and last time that any mage of Noscent killed a God, letting the Light, Darkness, and Chaos Laws return to human hands.

Lin Yun didn't feel any fear or reverence for this God that would fall in the future.

After putting up a Spirit Defense, Lin Yun was finally able to withstand the Dragon Might. He began searching the shrine. Most people knew that the Haiba Dragon loved all kinds of riches. The shinier and more valuable something was, the more one would receive the favor of the Haiba Dragon God.

As a royal family member from the 3rd Dynasty, it was impossible for the prince not to know about that. In fact, wasn't there a huge amount of wealth in the temple in the Poison Fog Canyon?

But besides the altar, there was nothing inside this shrine...

'Did that prince suddenly change his faith in front of death?'

"Fuck, what are you doing here!" But while Lin Yun was racking his brain, Shawn, who had been focused on absorbing mana from mana crystals, suddenly exclaimed in surprise.

"I'm looking for something," Lin Yun absent-mindedly answered while creating a Mage Eye.

"The Reincarnation Eyes?"

"You know about the Reincarnation Eyes?"

"You are truly blind," Shawn disdainfully snorted.

"What are you saying..." Lin Yun was startled. Since Shawn said "blind" and not "idiotic", "silly" or "stupid", wasn't he implying that the Reincarnation Eye was already within his sight?

"Take a look at that statue's eyes."

Heeding Shawn's suggestion, Lin Yun promptly controlled the Mage Eye to check the statue on the far side of the shrine, and sure enough, as it got closer, Lin Yun noticed the statue's eyes. They felt alive, and they kept staring at the Mage Eye. A strange mana interference appeared immediately afterwards and the careful Mage Eye directly dissipated.

"Strange..." Lin Yun tried twice, and regardless of how much mana he controlled, or how many defenses he added, the Mage Eye couldn't approach within a hundred meters of the statue's eyes.

"Far too evil..." Shawn's voice sounded a bit disdainful, but for some reason, Lin Yun felt that his tone carried a hint of fear. "Did you know, when that lunatic Barov built this tomb, he was in the prime of his life. But ever since the tomb was established, Barov didn't leave and spent most of his time inside this shrine, chatting up with his God all day. Who knew what he was doing..."

"That evil?"

“More than that, Barov was even more frightening in his later years. The Empire’s most powerful man actually went crazy, would you dare imagine? That nearly omnipotent powerhouse going crazy... Barov killed all his subordinates and relatives and buried them within the tomb before removing all of my mana and trapping me forever within this tomb...”

The more he talked, the more frightened Shawn felt. In the end, he even shuddered a few times.

“Then what happened?”

“Then, then...” Perhaps because of the memory of his pitiable state, he flew into a rage out of humiliation. “How could I know what happened afterwards! After my mana was extracted, I naturally sank into a slumber. I can’t travel through dreams, there’s no way I could know what happened afterwards!”

Chapter 124: Creation

“And you have the cheek to call yourself a True Spirit Magic Tool...” Lin Yun had been listening to the most important part, but when it was suddenly cut short, he spat out some words of rebuke.

“In any case, this place is very evil.”

“Don’t talk nonsense.” Lin Yun unhappily disregarded Shawn’s opinion and started chanting incantation after incantation, which caused Mage Eyes to appear one after the other. In a short period, there were over a hundred Mage Eyes.

“I want to see how evil this place is!” Lin Yun sent his army of Mage Eyes ahead with determination. It felt like moths throwing themselves at lights, as these Mage Eyes would instantly pop like bubbles when getting too close to the statue.

But then, more and more Mage Eyes approached.

They were truly like moths, ignoring the deaths of their brethren to keep rushing towards that light.

In an instant, the some 70 or 80 Mage Eyes had already disappeared. But Lin Yun had yet to give up as he kept chanting, and Mage Eyes continued to appear in front of him before rushing at the statue.

Ultimately, one Mage Eye broke through and reached the restricted area within a hundred meters of the statue.

“Got it!” Lin Yun rejoiced before linking to that Mage Eye with mana.

That lucky Mage Eye didn’t survive more than three seconds before receiving a more powerful mana interference within the statue’s restricted area. Three seconds later, it disappeared with a bang.

But three seconds were already enough for Lin Yun.

This time, Lin Yun managed to get a clear look. Under the altar, there was surprisingly a huge alchemy array drawn on the ground in Shadow Ink.

'Thankfully, I was careful enough to check first...' Cold sweat trickled down Lin Yun's back. Arrays drawn with Shadow Ink were known for being hidden, able to even conceal mana fluctuations. The only way to distinguish them was from the traces left behind on the ground. If one wasn't particularly mindful, they simply wouldn't know that these things that seemed to be just leftover stains actually hid an astonishingly powerful alchemy array.

Fortunately, Lin Yun had noticed early on that this shrine was a bit too spacious and empty, and thus had insisted on using Mage Eyes to search the area first. As a result, he was able to avoid certain death.

Lin Yun had recognized that huge alchemy array on the floor...

It was an Artisan level Hell Array!

With Lin Yun's strength as a Great Mage, there would be only one end for him if he entered the Hell Array: death. The Crimson Fire from Hell would turn Lin Yun to ashes in an instant. That was a power that even High Mages couldn't resist for a moment, let alone a Great Mage like Lin Yun.

But everything was different after gaining those valuable three seconds.

In those three seconds, Lin Yun managed to find the Hell Array's mana sources.

There were a total of six mana sources, akin to a hexagram star, supplying the Hell Array. Lin Yun's plan was to destroy these six mana sources, which would result in the collapse of the Hell Array.

Destruction had always been easier than construction.

Lin Yun had stopped sending out Mage Eyes and started activating the Elemental Amber Ring on his hand to replenish his mana.

In a short few minutes, Lin Yun had cast at least two hundred Mage Eyes. Fortunately, he had only connected to the very last Mage Eye, the one that made it the farthest.

After replenishing his mana, Lin Yun cast Burning Flames, spreading raging flames over several dozen meters. Lin Yun then used Elemental Incarnation, and cast Flame Flash through the sea of fire to reach the side of a mana source.

Lin Yun pointed with his Spiritual Magic Staff and a Flame Spear shot out, instantly shattering the mana source. A large amount of mana scattered, but Lin Yun didn't care about absorbing it and instead cast Flame Flash once again to appear next to the second mana source.

And then the third, the fourth, the fifth, and the sixth!

The six mana sources were shattered in mere moments. The Hell Array shone for a bit before going dark...

At the same time, Lin Yun cast a final Flame Flash while in his Elemental Incarnation state.

The next second, Lin Yun appeared atop the altar.

Lin Yun was now able to confirm that the huge altar was completely empty. This discovery made Lin Yun frown. How could the altar that was used to consecrate the Haiba Dragon God in the tomb of a prince of the 3rd dynasty be empty?

In the 3rd Dynasty, failing to place an offering on the altar of the Haiba Dragon God would be enough to have Barov charged with the crime of blasphemy.

‘Could grave robbers have entered the tomb before me and stolen all the valuables?’ he wondered. ‘No, that seems unlikely.’

Lin Yun immediately rejected this possibility..

Because the Hell Array’s mana sources had yet to be destroyed. If there had really been a grave robber, how did they get through the Artisan level alchemy array without destroying the mana sources? Such a grave robber would have to be an Archmage.

But how could an Archmage be interested in the wealth, yet miss the true treasures?

To such powerhouses, wealth was secondary. More wealth couldn’t compare to an increase in their fighting strength.

Thus, the only possibility left might be extremely frightening.

Prince Barov, a member of the royal family in the 3rd Dynasty, was probably a heretic that did not believe in the Dragon God...

Lin Yun quelled his shock and began sizing up the statue of the Dragon God. From the altar, Lin Yun could now see the mysterious power within the eyes. It was dark and abstruse, but after looking at it for a bit, people would be unable to break away from it.

“Those really are the Reincarnation Eyes!” This was just like the information that came from the Cloud Tower thousands of years later.

Lin Yun knew that as long as he was able to reach these two eyes, his Magic Array would transform in a flash. This kind of transformation would make him reach five Magic Arrays in a short time and become an existence able to contend with High Mages.

Lin Yun stood on that altar and slowly extended his hands to reach for those eyes.

“Fuck, don’t randomly touch it! This place is very evil!” Shawn had long been traumatized by his miserable experience that had gone on for over a thousand years. Barov’s craziness in his later years had been because of that strange shrine, and now that he saw Lin Yun extending his hands towards the eyes, a hint of pleading could be felt within Shawn’s voice.

“It’ll be fine.” It wasn’t that Lin Yun didn’t know that this place was evil, but he had spent so much effort and energy. He hadn’t gone through all that to stop here, in front of the Reincarnation Eyes. No matter how evil, no matter how strange, it wouldn’t be able to stop him from reaching out.

To a mage, the temptation of power surpassed everything.

“Yo-You... Don’t regret it!”

As Shawn worried in a weeping voice, Lin Yun touched the Reincarnation Eyes.

Afterwards, endless darkness and desolation spread in front of Lin Yun's eyes. It felt as if time and space didn't exist in this place. An instant might have passed, or it might have been a millennium, when suddenly, a loud sound echoed and a black spot exploded out.

In a flash, Lin Yun saw a boundless world: mountains, rivers, oceans, deserts, followed by a Dragon's roar echoing in the sky. Lin Yun turned his head and saw a three-headed Dragon with a golden body flitting across the sky. Lin Yun watched as countless planes were born attached to that world, before countless races and countless creatures matured upon these countless planes.

'Holy shit...' Lin Yun froze atop the altar. Lin Yun didn't register when those scenes disappeared, but at this moment, his brain was filled with the scenes he had just witnessed. That was the birth of Noscent.

Lin Yun could even guess that the next step would have been the Gods and Devils walking on earth, and Noscent's first era...

Unfortunately, Lin Yun couldn't see it for the time being.

It was due to a blood-colored mist spreading around the whole altar just as his hands left the Reincarnation Eyes. The power of the Bloodline Curse suddenly surged in the shrine.

"Fuck, look what you've done!" Shawn exclaimed, sounding angry and fearful.

But Lin Yun ignored him and started incanting, casting one buff after the other, making himself reach a near-perfect state for battle because he had a feeling that he might soon be fighting an existence that was more frightening than ten Spirit Warriors.

It was the convergence of an extreme amount of Bloodline Curse Power.

Sure enough, as Lin Yun was finishing casting his buffs, three people carrying huge Magic Greatswords and Gold Essence armors were already rushing at this strange shrine.

"Fuck, those are the Guardian Puppets refined by Barov! You've caused some huge trouble!"

After Shawn's alarmed shout, Lin Yun noticed that the three warriors weren't really human, but were rather alchemy puppets with Magic Weapons and Gold Essence bodies.

After entering the shrine, these war machines rushed through the sea of fire and charged at Lin Yun.

"You jinx..." As he watched those three alchemy puppets rushing over, Lin Yun felt that this would be a very troublesome fight.

They definitely each had the power of 9th Rank Great Swordsman...

Chapter 125: 2nd Magic Array

This would be a truly bitter struggle...

Lin Yun had one of the strongest Magic Conducting Runes, the Magic Array. He had the Spiritual Magic Staff and the Lava Dominator, as well as the frightening buff of the Angel Potion. His fighting power had reached a level that would make any Great Mage tongue-tied.

But one thing shouldn't be forgotten: Lin Yun was only a 1st Rank Great Mage.

Indeed, he could kill someone of the same rank in an instant and could even dominate a 5th Rank, but it would become harder and harder to deal with people above the 5th Rank. Just like when he fought the ten Spirit Warriors in the Dark Arena earlier, they had put huge pressure on him and he had only been able to free himself from the Dark Arena by relying on the death energy stored in the Sage Chapter.

And now, Lin Yun was facing three enemies that were on par with 9th Rank Great Swordsmen.

A 9th Rank was a peak Great Swordsman standing at the door to advancement.

The difference in ranks between him and a 9th Rank Great Swordsman was big enough, but he also had to face three of them at the same time. Lin Yun normally wouldn't have had much chance of success.

But fortunately, he had already touched the Reincarnation Eyes before those three alchemy puppets appeared.

His Magic Array started transforming right after he touched them.

Right now, Lin Yun still didn't know what this transformation would bring him, but he had a faint feeling that the mana flowing within his body was moving a lot faster than before. The speed of Magic Array seemed to have risen quite a bit, and some of the spell combinations that he could only use in battle while relying on the Sage Chapter didn't feel as difficult now that he touched the Reincarnation Eyes.

But the most important part...

He could feel that his second Magic Array was in the process of being formed.

Lin Yun felt that he would have to first thank the Reincarnation Eyes if he came out victorious in this battle.

The three alchemy puppets instantly rushed up to Lin Yun and started the battle. No probing, no observing, just a fierce, storm-like offensive. Even the battle-hardened Lin Yun couldn't help feeling a bit flustered as he cast an Ice Wall in front of him. When he tried to gain some leeway to cast a few short spells, a greatsword emitting raging flames slashed over, crushing the Ice Wall with a crunching sound.

'So fierce...' Lin Yun paled. The power of these three alchemy puppets was actually higher than he had imagined.

He even held some admiration for the creator of these alchemy puppets.

Not only was their power and speed not inferior in any way to that of 9th Rank Great Swordsmen, but they had even solved the flaw of puppets being unable to use Aura.

The raging flames coming out from the greatswords wasn't inferior to a 9th Rank Swordsman's Aura. Such a thick Ice Wall was broken apart in one slash. At least three Ice Fire Shields would be needed to block a direct blow.

And Lin Yun soon discovered some sort of coordination between the alchemy puppets.

'They aren't giving me any way out...'

What kind of Control Rune could make alchemy puppets coordinate with one another like this? Didn't this need the skill of an Artisan?

Considering that the three alchemy puppets were equivalent to 9th Rank Great Swordsmen, if they could cooperate, then their overall combat potential could only be described as frightening.

This small miscalculation led to Lin Yun's Flame Barrier being released half a second too slow, with one of the alchemy puppets having already launched its attack. The raging flames from the weapon in its hand almost cut Lin Yun in half.

Fortunately, Lin Yun had noticed his miscalculation and reacted fast enough. He activated the Sage Chapter while casting the Flame Barrier and an Ultimate Frost Armor appeared a meter in front of Lin Yun.

Only a cracking sound echoed as the flaming sword fell heavily onto the Frost Armor.

This Frost Armor had already become an Ultimate Spell, displaying the power of a 4th Tier spell. But it still broke under the flaming sword. At the same time, a huge force struck Lin Yun, sending him flying a dozen meters away like a broken kite.

'Fuck, truly annoying...' Lin Yun righted himself and wiped the blood at the corner of his mouth. He then drank a health potion to recover.

This was the power of a 9th Rank Great Swordsman.

That was an Ultimate Frost Armor. It could block an attack from a Spirit Warrior, but it had actually disintegrated under the sweep of that sword, and the remaining shockwave sent Lin Yun flying.

If that sword landed on him...

After taking a small loss, Lin Yun put even more effort into trying to keep away from the alchemy puppets as he started casting all kinds of control spells: Slow, Bind, Ice Trap, Shadow Cage, all one after the other. He also mixed in the Lava Dominator's short distance flight ability from time to time, along with the Magic Array's Haste, only barely surviving the attacks from the three alchemy puppets.

The pressure was too high, and the offensive of the three alchemy puppets was too fierce. Aside from dodging and casting control spells, Lin Yun couldn't even stop to breathe.

As for counter-attacking... he was unable to...

The only thing Lin Yun could do right now was stall for time because he could feel that during his constant fighting and casting, his 2nd Magic Array was continuously forming, and it was even speeding up unconsciously. It had only been a condensation of mana at the start, but it now had the embryonic form of a Magic Array.

Even though the 2nd Magic Array was still very small...

No, this couldn't even be called a Magic Array, this was only a Magic Conducting Rune being carved from mana. But at this time, this was Lin Yun's best chance.

Once he had two Magic Arrays, Lin Yun's fighting strength would greatly increase. Even if the 2nd Magic Array didn't possess mana conducting ability or a melded spell, by coordinating with the 1st Magic Array, he would be able to make use of the two Magic Arrays to complete a simple Formation.

That was the Magic Array, one of the most powerful Magic Conducting Runes of Noscent. If he could complete a Formation, even if it was the simplest Formation, the power it would display could only be described as frightening.

Lin Yun was now gambling. He was betting on himself completing his 2nd Magic Array before exhausting his mana.

Fortunately, Lin Yun wasn't betting without assurance.

With the Elemental Amber Ring on his left hand and the Spiritual Magic Staff in his right hand, also embedded with an Elemental Amber, Lin Yun was able to use mana far surpassing any Great Mage and could almost compare to a 5th Rank High Mage purely based on the amount of usable mana.

The seconds ticked by, and only after twenty minutes did Lin Yun need to replenish his mana. He extracted the mana from the Elemental Amber Ring, the latter gradually dimming. A third of the 2nd Magic Array had been carved.

Another twenty minutes later, Lin Yun had to replenish his mana once again, while a bit over half of the 2nd Magic Array had been carved.

It looked like victory was within his hands...

But this was the most difficult period for Lin Yun.

The intensity of this battle far surpassed the Dark Arena's battles. Lin Yun's brain never stopped doing calculations, and his mind was strained to its limit. Whether it was his mind or body, they both were overworked.

Other Great Mages would have been unable to last longer than twenty minutes in such an intense fight, but Lin Yun had already lasted forty minutes, and it looked like he still needed to last quite a while longer to have hope for victory. This battle wasn't a battle of strength, but a battle of will.

Lin Yun relied on his exceptional will forged from surviving in the apocalypse-like end of the magic era to keep persevering.

Lin Yun couldn't feel the time pass. His forehead was already covered in sweat, his face completely pale like a ghost, and even his two-handed grip on the Spiritual Magic Staff seemed to be shaking. However, Lin Yun was still shockingly clear-headed. Each of his spells was extremely accurate and countered the alchemy puppets perfectly. It was as if he had turned into an extremely precise machine, barely surviving in the face of such a dangerous situation.

'Ten more minutes!' When the fight reached the hour mark, Lin Yun's consciousness was already turning fuzzy. What supported Lin Yun at the time was the fact that the 2nd Magic Array was on the verge of completion.

The last part had just been completed, and a brand new Magic Array had already been formed in Lin Yun's body. What he needed now was to activate this Magic Array.

Lin Yun fiercely gripped the Spiritual Magic Staff as a huge flood of mana poured into him, causing a shock that made him slightly feel the effect of a magic backlash. After suppressing that backlash by relying on his impressive control, the 2nd Magic Array within Lin Yun slowly activated due to the mana shock.

Chapter 126: Runic Shock Burst

Lin Yun felt a power quickly grow the moment the 2nd Magic Array activated. This was the power produced by the two Magic Arrays coexisting. At this time, he could understand the size of the gap between one Magic Array and two Magic Arrays.

It could be said that Lin Yun, who had only one Magic Array before, hadn't known what a true Magic Array was.

Only now that the 2nd Magic Array was completed was he able to feel a completely new world. The mana within his body circulated between the two Magic Arrays, feeling smooth and agile. It didn't need Lin Yun to deliberately guide it as it automatically formed a nearly flawless system.

The vast majority of Great Mages had to spend a lot of effort to refine their own Magic Conducting Runes from 1st Rank to 9th Rank, seeking this limber state where mana was like a part of one's body and would move with a thought.

Lin Yun was only a 2nd Rank Great Mage now, but he had already achieved this state that many 9th Rank Great Mages couldn't even reach.

This was the power of the Magic Array...

But Lin Yun cared more about completing a Magic Array Formation at this moment.

'Finally, time to retaliate...' As the 2nd Magic Array activated, Lin Yun used Ice Elemental Incarnation and burst out with power. With the power from this form, he froze almost the entire shrine into an icy cave. The three alchemy puppets were frozen into statues by the burst of Ice Spells cast by Lin Yun.

But he knew that it wouldn't last too long.

Maybe eight or ten seconds...

They would shatter the statues soon and he would have to resume the fight with the alchemy puppets once again.

Lin Yun took advantage of this short period of respite to combine the two Magic Arrays.

Along with Lin Yun's mana surging forth crazily, the surrounding mana fluctuations became fiercer. The carved runes of the Magic Arrays began quickly fluctuating. These runes were the foundation of the Magic Array as well as the source of Lin Yun's mana.

The usual Great Mage would do their utmost to strengthen their Magic Conducting Runes to give them greater power, but what Lin Yun was doing far surpassed these Great Mages. He used the Magic Array as a medium to arrange these runes, each arrangement producing a completely new power.

But this kind of arrangement also required extreme computational ability.

Lin Yun's Magic Array had quite a few runes, and each arrangement needed many calculations, which was also the real reason there were so few Great Mages possessing a Magic Array. In this era, no Great Mage could accomplish this besides Lin Yun.

Lin Yun held the Sage Chapter in one hand and the Spiritual Magic Staff in the other. The runes flickered wildly, and a large amount of mana converged in the shrine. The swirling gales carrying along ice fragments painted the shrine into a blizzard-like world.

Lin Yun chanted a long incantation, each word filled with unfathomable power, his voice reverberating within the swirling gales. A cracking sound resounded from the three statues just as he finished his last word. The shrine shook so violently that it felt as if the prince tomb was collapsing.

At this moment, ripples could be seen with the naked eye, radiating out violently with the three statues at the center.

That was Runic Shock Burst, one of the most basic Formations of the Magic Array. At the same time, it was the strongest spell Lin Yun could currently use.

After one Runic Shock Burst, silence filled the entire place. There were no gales whistling past, no more mana fluctuations, only the frozen statues and the collapsed Lin Yun. It felt as if time had frozen.

At some point, a snapping sound echoed, breaking this strange silence.

Then, more sounds echoed as cracks started appearing on the statues. The small cracks soon spread, turning into scars, before the statues shattered into pieces.

The ice shattered into pieces, and so did the three alchemy puppets.

The Magic Weapons, Magic Armors, and even the Gold Essence frames broke into fragments due to the Runic Shock Burst.

This was the power of this new ability.

"Wha-What... What the hell was that?" This kind of power was too frightening, to the point that Shawn's voice was filled with fear.

He wouldn't be so surprised if that kind of power had come from a High Mage, but Lin Yun was obviously a Great Mage, and furthermore, a Great Mage that just reached 2nd Rank. 'How could he control such a frightening power? Such power as a 2nd Rank Great Mage... What would happen if he became a High Mage?'

Thinking about it, Shawn fell silent...

"You wouldn't understand even if I explained..." Lin Yun didn't plan on clarifying everything for Shawn. That Runic Shock Burst had already used all of Lin Yun's mana, and he even lost a few of the recently carved runes.

It couldn't be helped, as the mana consumption of Runic Shock Burst was too frightening. When Lin Yun found out that he didn't have enough mana to use, he promptly chose to sacrifice a few recently carved runes in order to close out this harsh battle.

Now, Lin Yun's 2nd Magic Array was somewhat unstable. He had no choice but to use this time to once again carve the runes that had been consumed, or else he might end up being the one to hold the shortest tenure as a 2nd Rank Great Mage in all of Noscent's history.

Fortunately, the Magic Array had formed well after Lin Yun touched the Reincarnation Eyes, so carving the runes once again took significantly less time. It took ten minutes for Lin Yun to patch this flaw. He then stood in front of the statue of the Haiba Dragon God and put his hands on the Reincarnation Eyes once again.

But his expression suddenly changed.

Because no scene appeared in his mind this time.

'What's going on?' Lin Yun frowned. 'Could this be mana-related?'

He pondered on it and felt that this was the only possible reason.

When he had touched the Reincarnation Eyes earlier, his mana reserves were full. After the battle with the three alchemy puppets, his mana reserves had been completely depleted. This seemed to be the reason that he was no longer able to activate the Reincarnation Eyes.

'In any case, I might as well try again later.'

Thus, Lin Yun thought of how he should recover his mana. He was a bit dumbfounded when he found out that his Elemental Ambers were already empty, and that he was also out of mana crystals...

Of all of his recovery methods, the only one left was the increased mana recovery speed from the Angel Potion.

Lin Yun didn't know whether to laugh or cry.

The mana recovery speed from the Angel Potion would be a welcome boost during a fight, but when trying to refill all of his mana, it could only be described as trying to put out a fire with a cup of water...

If it wasn't for Shawn's determined resistance, Lin Yun would have made him spit out the mana he had absorbed.

Lin Yun shook his head with a wry smile before suddenly noticing the remains of the three alchemy puppets.

Sure enough, Lin Yun quickly found three level 18 mana crystals among the pile of parts!

'Worthy of being a prince of the 3rd Dynasty...' Seeing these three level 18 mana crystals, Lin Yun couldn't help feeling moved.

A magic beast with a level 18 mana crystal was already an existence close to the Monarch level. If put on Thousand Sails City's market, it might sell for 3,000,000 golds or more. But in this prince's tomb, it was used as the mana source for three alchemy puppets...

Relying on these three mana crystals, Lin Yun not only recovered all of his mana, but also filled his two Elemental Ambers.

After finishing this, Lin Yun touched the Reincarnation Eyes once again.

Lin Yun then knew that his guess had been correct.

It was indeed due to mana.

The boundless scenes once again appeared in Lin Yun's mind.

A short instant was the same as a millennium.

But when Lin Yun emerged from the scene shown by the Reincarnation Eyes, he heard familiar footsteps echoing out.

"Fuck!" Lin Yun's face darkened.

Sure enough, as he cursed, the silhouettes of alchemy puppets in the shrine once again, but there were five of them this time!

There was something Lin Yun had always been curious about. Why had that Great Mage who previously used the Magic Array only managed to reach the state of having five Magic Arrays with the help of the Reincarnation Eyes?

The Reincarnation Eyes could let someone experience reincarnation over and over again in a split second. This reincarnation wouldn't do anything to an ordinary mage, but for someone possessing a Magic Array, it was a long-awaited opportunity, because each reincarnation allowed the Great Mage to accumulate many more runes within their Magic Conducting Runes. The more runes they had, the more refined the Magic Array would become.

In theory, as long as they experienced enough such reincarnations, it was completely possible to reach nine Magic Arrays, and even fuse the nine Magic Arrays into one and become a High Mage.

So why didn't that Great Mage with his Magic Arrays continue the cycle of reincarnation?

Chapter 127: Raven Watson

Lin Yun now realized that alchemy puppets would most likely be drawn here every time the Reincarnation Eyes were touched, and moreover, these alchemy puppets would probably increase in number every time. It was only his second time touching the Reincarnation Eyes, yet he had attracted five alchemy puppets. Then, wouldn't there be over twenty of these puppets once he touched the Reincarnation Eyes for the tenth time?

Even if he had three or four Magic Arrays at that time, he would still have to flee in from so many of these alchemy puppets.

Moreover, Lin Yun wasn't sure that the following puppets would still be at the level of 9th Rank Great Swordsmen.

If they reached the power of High Mages, or even Archmages... Not to mention having 4 Magic Arrays, even five wouldn't be able to let him escape death.

'Thankfully, there are only five right now...'

Although there were two more than before, Lin Yun now had his 2nd Magic Array. His increase in power wasn't small. He was able to deal with the five alchemy puppets this time without too much risk.

But Lin Yun didn't dare to touch the Reincarnation Eyes again.

He didn't want to test his hypothesis just yet, but he was fairly certain that next time he touched the Reincarnation Eyes, at least seven puppets would come out. At that time, he would have to deal with seven puppets that each had the strength of a 9th Rank Swordsman. Even if he had two Magic Arrays and his 3rd Magic Array in the process of being formed, Lin Yun still felt too much pressure thinking about facing seven of them!

Fortunately, the creator of the alchemy puppets was very generous.

After Lin Yun dealt with these five alchemy puppets, he obtained five level 18 mana crystals. This was very important to Lin Yun because it gave him the ability to recover his mana, which would improve his survivability. As long as they kept supplying him, he would be able to keep fighting in this shrine for a very long time.

Moreover, Lin Yun could make use of these five mana crystals to arrange some alchemy arrays.

Although he could only craft a few relatively rudimentary alchemy arrays due to the lack of materials, no matter how rudimentary an alchemy array was, it would still give him an advantage in battle and raise his fighting power.

Moreover, the poisonous fog from the Poison Fog Canyon didn't reach this deep in the prince's tomb, so he didn't even need the Magic Spring potions. Lin Yun had a lot of time to form more Magic Arrays. So he wasn't in a hurry.

After completing all his preparations, Lin Yun also took a nap next to the altar. Once he was in peak condition, the next day, he reached out to touch the Reincarnation Eyes for the third time.

...

A month passed in a flash. Lin Yun hadn't appeared since, but the current Gilded Rose was already on the path to success. The old butler was taking care of the business plan, Faleau was in charge of the alchemy skills, and even William was there to organize the newly formed mercenary group.

Speaking of William...

That guy was doggedly hanging out at the Gilded Rose. He had ridiculed by Faleau quite a few times, but he still refused to leave.

William would sneer every time Faleau mocked him. 'You think I'm such an idiot? How many people would be given the opportunity to follow a Master Alchemist? And such a young one at that? He is definitely going to become an Artisan in the future, and at that time, if I can cling onto him, my name would definitely be recorded in history as one of his trusted aides... Leave? Only an idiot would leave...'

As for the Merlin Family, they still hadn't recalled William.

This way, William's standing in the Gilded Rose was a lot more stable. Every day he would put a lot of effort into training those fifty 5th Rank Mages. There were some unexpectedly noticeable results after a month of training. Although none of them ranked up, their fighting strength did increase by quite a bit.

Today was the same as any other day. William left for the Gilded Rose first thing in the morning after sending someone to notify the fifty 5th Rank Mages, intending to have them take care of two missions they had received from the Mercenary Guild to give them some real battle experience. A carriage parked near the entrance to the Gilded Rose.

"Business so early in the morning?" Faleau, who was nearby, looked rather pleased. After working at the Black Horn Auction House for so many years, he had some good insight. Just by looking at the decorations, he could tell that this was the carriage of a wealthy person. That kind of person could take out several hundred thousand golds casually.

"That's trouble coming to the door." William slightly paled, and his face seemed to be full of worry as he looked at the carriage.

"Cousin, you shouldn't be envious..." Faleau smiled as he brushed past William and welcomed the carriage that had stopped.

"Fuck, who is your cousin!" A vein twitched on William's head. "Did that annoying guy eat something that went bad? He always calls me "Cousin.""

Moreover, every time Faleau addressed him as "Cousin", he was looking at him with a strange expression. As if he wasn't just calling him "Cousin", but rather addressing him with a funny nickname...

William Merlin naturally didn't know...

Every time Faleau called him "Cousin", he would think of what Boss Merlin had said: "He might have hit his head as a kid."

"Hey! Wait!" After cursing by reflex, he noticed that Faleau had already rushed to welcome the carriage. He wanted to stop Faleau from going out.

But he didn't have enough time...

Faleau just reached the side of the carriage when a huge force hit him in the chest. The young Great Alchemist was ruthlessly sent flying back into the Gilded Rose. The sound made by his heavy landing even made William feel numb.

"How is it? Are you okay?" William rushed over and carefully inspected Faleau's condition. After finding out that he had only received some shock, he took a bottle of health potion from his pocket and handed it over, not forgetting to comment, "I did warn you that this was trouble."

"Fuck..." Faleau felt as if he had been hit by a heavy hammer. His bones were all aching. He regained the strength to curse after drinking the health potion.

“If you are fine, go stand to the side. Business dropping by... Thinking yourself clever...” William dropped a few unkind sentences before exiting the Gilded Rose and stopping in front of the carriage. “Raven Watson, although you are a 9th Rank Great Mage, did you have to be so heavy-handed?”

“This is none of your business, William Merlin. He had the nerve to approach my carriage without permission.” After saying this in an icy tone, a young man alighted from the carriage. He appeared to be in his late twenties and was wearing a well-tailored black robe with an exquisite silver lining on his cuffs. Just from the blazing mana fluctuations, it could be seen that it was a very rare Magic Tool.

There was also that Magic Staff embedded with a Scarlet Crystal Rock in his hands, pulsating with a mana fluctuation that seemed like it was breathing. This was definitely the sign of a Magic Tool having spirituality.

“...” William Merlin’s face froze. When he saw the carriage, he knew that it was definitely Raven of the Watson Family.

Only a fool like Faleau wouldn’t know the crest of the Watson Family.

A sharp sword crossing a staff.

There were no more than twenty Families and Clans in the entire Andlusa Kingdom that could use weapons as their crest.

And only the Watson Family was able to use a sword and a staff as their emblem. This was due to the fact that the Watson Family managed to have three Archmages and three Sword Saints.

This was something that even the Merlin Family couldn’t do.

Among the kingdom’s numerous Clans and Families, the Watson Family was considered the oldest. Their history traced back to the middle of the 3rd Dynasty.

They had many geniuses over the generations, a total of seven Archmages and Nine Sword Saints. It was even rumored that there was a senior figure from the 3rd Dynasty living in seclusion in the Watson Family territory, and that person was rumored to be a frightening existence who surpassed the Archmage realm.

In contrast, the Merlin Family was a relatively newly risen family that had begun their sharp rise after the founding of the Andlusa Kingdom. It couldn’t compare to the Watson Family in terms of lifespan. But fortunately, the number of geniuses appearing among the Merlin Family’s younger generations wasn’t any less than the Watson Family. An Archmage would appear within each generation, which allowed them to maintain a subtle balance.

But the struggle between the two Families never stopped. After more than a thousand years, it had spread to all fields of expertise: mainly in business, politics, and territory, but also to a lesser extent in resources, talents, fame, and even at dinner parties and auctions. Whenever these two families appeared at the same location, there would be a harsh conflict.

Such as this situation, the fight over the Nether Iron Vein.

The cause was an unconfirmed plane coordinate, but it raised huge waves when these two Families participated. The Merlin Family’s luck was pretty good as they obtained the news of the Nether Iron

Vein first and immediately sent William over, quickly coming to an agreement with Lin Yun. Soon after, a large amount of Nether Iron Ores came into the Merlin Family's hands.

But the Watson Family had survived from the 3rd Dynasty till now, so they naturally wouldn't back down from a fight.

After the Merlin Family made a move, the Watson Family quickly reacted and sent one of their heirs, Raven, to Thousand Sails City.

Raven's status was a lot higher than William's.

He was one of the three heirs to the Watson Family, and his strength had already reached the 9th Rank of the Great Mage realm.

Just based on that knowledge, it could be said that the Watson Family was certain to get a hold of that Nether Iron Vein!

Chapter 128: Choice

Sure enough, after Raven sent Faleau flying with a Tornado Impact, he directly entered the Gilded Rose.

At this time, Faleau was already sitting down on a chair. Even after he drank the health potion, the effect from the Tornado Impact had yet to dissipate. At this moment, Faleau still felt some pain in his chest and had some trouble breathing.

Raven stood in front of Faleau and looked at the young Great Alchemist with an air of condescending arrogance. "I heard you have a batch of Nether Iron Ores?"

"What? Nether Iron Ores?" Faleau naturally wouldn't willingly acknowledge this.

But this wasn't due to the previous Tornado Impact...

With Faleau's profit-seeking nature, if a business opportunity dropped by, let alone eating a Tornado Impact, he could even take slaps with a smile and still show his other cheek, reminding the other party not to forget about leaving a tip.

The problem was that Faleau didn't know what this person's goal was.

It didn't look like he was here for business, or else, would he start by beating down the seller first?

Boss Merlin wasn't here and Boss Pave had gone to Edge Rift, so in the Gilded Rose, the decision makers left were himself, followed by William.

William was unreliable, so Faleau felt that he should be extremely careful.

After Faleau's words, Raven's gaze turned icy. He raised the magic staff in his hand and a huge force fell upon Faleau. The same Tornado Impact, in the same location. Only a "bang" could be heard as Faleau was knocked off his chair and plastered against the wall.

The wooden chair split into pieces, and all that remained of it were the fragments that could be seen spread on the ground. Faleau himself felt as if a giant beast had rammed into his chest, and he immediately spat some blood.

“You have one chance left.” Raven made his way through the mess in the lobby, slowly walking closer to Faleau. He pointed his staff, and an invisible power grabbed Faleau and lifted him into the air. No matter how much Faleau struggled, he couldn’t free himself from that terrible binding.

“I’ll ask one more time, do you have a batch of Nether Iron Ores?”

“I... I don’t understand what you are saying.”

“Looks like you aren’t treasuring this opportunity...” An ominous glint flashed in Raven’s eyes. At the same time, the gem at the top of his staff flashed and a flame rushed at Faleau’s face.

This was a 3rd Tier Spell, Flame Imprint. Given Faleau’s current situation, he could only stare blankly as that flame flew closer to him before it finally exploded with a bang.

Faleau initially shut his eyes in despair, but after some time, he realized that he hadn’t been injured. He cautiously opened his eyes with a strange expression and noticed a pale William holding his own magic staff and channelling an Arcane Barrier.

And the one protected by that Arcane Barrier was the shocked Faleau.

At this moment, Faleau’s thoughts weren’t filled with joy of escaping disaster, but with a dispirited cursing. ‘Fuck! I won’t be able to raise my head in front of that scoundrel later...’

“Raven Watson! I advise you to leave here while you can. This isn’t your Watson Family territory, it’s not a place where you can act as you wish.” But William was only a 5th Rank Great Mage, after all, and using an Arcane Barrier to block a 9th Rank Great Mage’s Flame Imprint was a very strenuous action for him.

Just this clash was enough for William to turn pale from the exertion. Even the Magic Conducting Runes within his body showed signs of being rattled.

“With just you?” Raven glanced at William before bursting into a laugh. “If the one saying these words had been your older brother, I might have considered it. But you? William Merlin? I’ll give you a piece of advice out of respect for your older brother. Leave while you can.”

“You... What are you planning?”

“You should clearly understand what I am planning,” Raven drawled. “I also want that Nether Iron Vein, but I’m not as generous as your Merlin Family, taking out fifty 5th Rank Mages for a business transaction. You are besmirching the reputation of Okland’s Five Families...”

Raven continued while indicating Faleau. “This should be the owner of the Gilded Rose, that so-called Mafa Merlin? Say, if I let him choose between having his neck snapped or handing over the Nether Iron Vein, what do you think he will choose?”

“Mafa Merlin?” William was stunned when he heard this and then threw Faleau a pitying glance.

'Damn, who told you to keep calling me Cousin... And now here you are, getting shot while laying down...'

After sympathizing with Faleau, William was about to explain Raven's error when footsteps suddenly echoed behind him. A fierce mana fluctuation burst through the Gilded Rose's lobby.

A "bang" was heard as a Tornado Impact hit Raven's chest.

In a flash, Raven was sent flying. He was sent flying higher than Faleau had been, piercing through the ceiling before falling onto a table in the reception room on the 2nd floor.

"If I told you that you got the wrong guy, would you believe it..." Lin Yun slowly entered the Gilded Rose with a wry smile on his face as he raised his hand. A fierce mana fluctuation once again filled the room, and Raven, who had ended up on the next floor, was sucked back into the lobby. He was unable to breathe under that indescribable power, as if he had fallen into a whirlpool in the middle of the sea.

Raven's neck drew closer to Lin Yun's hand.

And Lin Yun wouldn't be courteous. He grabbed the neck of this 9th Rank Great Mage and lifted him easily, before ruthlessly smashing him on the floor.

Another loud "bang" echoed, making everyone feel numb.

Especially William. His eyes were wide open from shock.

This was a 9th Rank Great Mage...

This already far exceeded William Merlin's understanding. He was like a little kid in front of that Master Alchemist cousin of his, who seemed to be able to do just about anything he pleased with impunity. 'Wh-Wh-What kind of power is that?'

Last month, he had been slapped twice by his cousin in the Gilded Rose. Although William could admit that his strength was far behind his cousin's, at that time, he could still see that the strength of this Master Alchemist cousin was that of a Great Mage. But now, a month later, William didn't dare to make any quick judgements any more because of that power.

"Hi~ Great Mage Raven Watson, I presume." Lin Yun's stepped on Raven's face as he politely introduced himself. "Nice to meet you, I am Mafa Merlin. That's right, that Mafa Merlin who has to make a choice."

"Let... Let go." Raven's face was bloody, and he was laying down on the ground, almost unable to breathe. That Tornado Impact had nearly caved his chest in. If he hadn't sensed the mana fluctuations and been fast enough to cast an Ice Fire Shield to protect his chest, he might have already turned into a corpse.

Due to being heavily smashed into the ground afterwards, Raven could only feel like everything was spinning around him, his ears continuously ringing.

"Let go? What a good joke! You attacked one of my people in my Gilded Rose, and twice at that, and you also offered such a nice deal, yet you are asking me to let go? Do you think you are my cousin?"

"..." William inwardly scolded, 'Why am I getting shot while laying down?'

“Alright, Great Mage Raven Watson, you were looking for Mafa Merlin. I’m back, so I wonder what kind of choice you’ll be giving me now?”

“Let... Let go.”

“Okay...” Lin Yun noticed that stepping on Raven’s face was causing that Great Mage to be unable to speak properly, forcing him to go through great effort just to squeeze out a few words, Thus, Lin Yun retracted his foot and inquired, “Can you talk now?”

After struggling up from the ground, Raven groaned, “Mafa... Mafa Merlin, I came on behalf of the Watson Family...” He subconsciously retreated, as if he wasn’t standing in front of a human, but an overwhelmingly ferocious beast. After making sure that he was at a safe distance, Raven wiped the blood from his face before struggling to say, “I represent the Watson Family to present you an offer, we hope to buy the Nether Iron Vein in your hands.”

“If the choice you mentioned earlier referred to this, then I can tell you right now that I choose not to sell. And not only will I not sell the Nether Iron Vein, but I also won’t sell Nether Iron Ores to you either.”

“You...” An angry scowl flashed on Raven’s face, but it quickly disappeared because Raven suddenly recalled that the person standing in front of him was an existence even more unreasonable than himself.

Thus, Raven immediately decided to endure for now. After leaving that damned Gilded Rose, he would have his family dispatch two High Mages to see whether that damn Mafa Merlin would still dare to refuse to deal with them.

“Alright then, Great Mage Merlin...” Raven wiped a bloodstain off his face and after saying goodbye in a “regretful” tone, he planned to leave the Gilded Rose.

“Hold on...” But Lin Yun stopped him.

Chapter 129: Running

Raven snorted and thought to himself, ‘Sure enough, he doesn’t dare to offend the Watson Family.’

Hearing this “hold on”, a sneer appeared on Raven’s face. His family was one of the five Families of Okland, the peak force of the Kingdom, and the only one able to use a magic staff and a sword as their crest. Setting oneself against the huge Watson Family with this small Gilded Rose in the small Thousand Sails City was simply courting death.

‘You are regretting it now? You are afraid? But I don’t plan on giving you a chance.’

Raven didn’t turn back and kept walking towards the exit with a sneer on his face as he was counting in his head. Raven was sure that Mafa Merlin would take the initiative to hand over the Nether Iron Vein before he reached ten!

‘One, two, three... nine, ten!’

When Raven reached ten, he stopped, but he didn't turn around. He was now waiting, waiting for this Mafa Merlin to hand over the Nether Iron Vein.

In the end, Raven had waited... for a Flame Imprint.

Lin Yun's Spiritual Magic Staff was already pointing at Raven when the latter stopped, causing a flame to swallow him from behind.

A miserable shriek echoed out on Victorious Return Street.

Even if he was a 9th Rank Great Mage, Raven couldn't withstand a Flame Imprint unguarded. The raging flames exploded with a bang, covering the young Great Mage. Besides crazily rolling around on the ground to extinguish the flames, Raven was also yelling his lungs out.

This Flame Imprint burnt for no less than ten seconds before Raven managed to extinguish it.

But he didn't look human anymore. There wasn't a single place that had escaped the flames, his hair burnt into a mess, his eyebrows different sizes. A burnt, black face as well as a robe that one would see on a beggar. His arms and chest were now covered with quite a few blisters, making anyone who could see his appearance shudder.

"I told you to hold on and you still thought of escaping, you thought you could run away?"

After Lin Yun cursed, he had William help Faleau to the laboratory to treat his injuries. As for the cooked Raven, Lin Yun simply ignored him.

"..." Raven lay down there on the ground, not understanding what had happened to him. 'What was that "hold on"... It's not like he wanted to kill me, or else he wouldn't have used a mere Flame Imprint.'

But here, Raven remembered something.

'... Flame Imprint...?'

Raven finally understood. Flame Imprint was the 3rd spell he had cast after entering the Gilded Rose. Two Tornado Impacts and one Flame Imprint.

When Mafa Merlin appeared, he had used a Tornado Impact to knock Raven away, but he hadn't had the opportunity to cast that Flame Imprint.

In other words, that "hold on" was only to let him know that he still needed to take a Flame Imprint back!

'Fuck, would you die if you said a bit more?'

At this moment, Raven truly felt like crying. 'Can't you be a bit clearer with your words? It's fine if you want to return the Flame Imprint, it's only a 3rd Tier Spell. Could I, a 9th Rank Mage, not understand getting back at someone? But that "hold on" caused me to think you were begging for forgiveness, I was still feeling satisfied, waiting for you to apologize...'

He wanted to howl at the injustice of it all.

'Fuck fuck fuck, this is bullying!'

Raven was inwardly crying and cursing as he limped away from Victorious Return Street...

...

At this time, Faleau was being treated inside the alchemy laboratory. It was determined that he would probably be fine after recuperating for a few days.

“Cousin William, how is it going with the fifty 5th Rank Mages?” After treating Faleau’s injury, Lin Yun started inquiring about William’s work.

“Not bad, they completed many team assignments for the Mercenary Guild and their combat strength increased a bit. I estimate that the talented ones will reach 6th or even 7th Rank in half a year.”

“Half a year is too long...” Lin Yun shook his head. These 5th Rank Mages were his only troops. They would definitely be the core of the rebuilding of the Gilded Rose’s mercenary group. 6th or 7th Rank Mages might be able to handle ordinary team assignments, but that was definitely too weak to protect the growing Gilded Rose...

Ideally, his mage regiment would have at least fifty Great Mages.

Moreover, that was without using alchemy potions to forcibly rank them up. Mason was a perfect example. He forcibly became a Mage thanks to Ryan coming back from the Black Tower, but what was the result? He wasn’t any better than a Magic Apprentice when it came to fighting. He even had to eat some glass bottles in front of the newly transmigrated Lin Yun. Moreover, after the alchemy potion exhausted all his potential, Mason would never have any progress for the rest of his life. He would likely remain a 1st Rank Mage forever.

As for the Mana Baptism...

It simply wasn’t feasible to reproduce it, and not everyone had such poor body quality like Mafa Merlin, and not everyone had Lin Yun’s frightening mana control.

Even if all of these 5th Rank Mages had a bottle of Mana Baptism, it would at most improve the quality of their bodies and give them a chance to accumulate mana. As for becoming Great Mages, it would depend on their own talents.

What’s more, Lin Yun didn’t have fifty bottles of Mana Baptism.

Thus, he needed another way for this batch of Mages to grow and improve.

In fact, he had already thought of a method, but he lacked the crucial True Spirit Magic Tool. If Lin Yun didn’t misremember, that Magic Tool was currently in the Cloud Tower...

This was something relatively difficult to resolve. Borrowing a True Spirit Magic Tool could be hard, or easy. The easy part was due to the existence of the Magic Tool Incarnation. A True Spirit Magic Tool wouldn’t easily change owners, so there would be no problem with borrowing it as it could be returned anytime.

However, it could also be difficult, as a True Spirit Magic Tool usually was the foundation of a force. Making a deal to borrow a True Spirit Magic Tool could easily be misunderstood as wanting to destabilize a force’s foundations by causing trouble.

But Lin Yun wasn't worried. That True Spirit Magic Tool wouldn't run off. Before then, Lin Yun still had to spend some time to turn this batch of 5th Rank Mages into his own loyal subordinates.

Otherwise, Lin Yun wouldn't dare to use them.

After making up his mind, Lin Yun chatted a bit with William, mostly about how to use that batch of Mages. Once William left, Lin Yun called Faleau and fished out a few mana crystals from his pocket.

"Take these mana crystals and have the bunch at the alchemy workshop make some alchemy puppets for me."

Faleau reached out to take the mana crystals. "Okay, I'll immedi-" He wanted to say that he would be taking care of it immediately, but he suddenly felt a surge of mana coming out from those mana crystals. Shocked, Faleau almost dropped the mana crystals. He looked at Lin Yun with disbelief, "1-1-1.... 18? Level 18 mana crystals?"

"Yes, they are all level 18, six in total."

"My god..." Faleau's heart skipped a beat. A level 18 mana crystal would sell for about 3,000,000 golds on the market, and maybe more. He was now holding close to 20,000,000 golds.

He suddenly felt that following such a boss gave too much pressure.

It had only been a bit over a month, yet the Boss had killed six magic beasts close to the Monarch level. If the Boss disappeared for another few months, wouldn't he get rid of a few Monarch magic beasts?

'Forget it, don't think about it or you'll get nightmares...' he thought, before continuing out loud.

"Understood, Boss Merlin. I'll immediately take care of this." Faleau held the six mana crystals and started limping towards the alchemy workshop...

Fortunately, he left without looking back.

Had he turned around, he might have truly gotten nightmares, because Lin Yun had pulled a dozen more level 18 mana crystals as Faleau took his leave.

"Hey, Lord Shawn, isn't your mana crystal requirement a bit too high..." Lin Yun had forcibly taken six mana crystals from Shawn's claws to give to Faleau, but Shawn had resolutely insisted on keeping those last dozen mana crystals.

Although both sides already reached an agreement, thinking of the dozen level 18 mana crystals left in Shawn's hands, Lin Yun couldn't feel happy. Those were worth glistening golds, in his hands, it could all transform into two Augments for his Spirit Devouring Magic Staff.

"It seems like you don't want to help Lord Shawn regain his power," Shawn snorted. "Don't forget who helped you survive in front of those three High Mage alchemy puppets. Do you think that you, a Great Mage, would have been able to withstand three High Mages? Do you think the alchemy puppets left behind by Barov are foes you could easily confront? If it weren't for Lord Shawn pitying you and using a part of his power to help you deal with the three High Mages, would you still have the chance to stand here..."

“Yes, yes, yes, I know my wrongs. Lord Shawn, you can enjoy the mana crystals, here, enjoy them...”
Hearing Lord Shawn’s machine gun-like nagging, Lin Yun suddenly got a headache.

This was something Shawn kept repeating on the way back...

Moreover, it would take at least an hour before he would shut up. Lin Yun had been suffering from this tiring bombardment on the way back from the prince tomb, making him feel extremely irritated, and thus, that young Great Mage from the Watson Family had been the perfect victim to vent on.

Who knew what Raven Watson would think if he learnt about that...

Chapter 130: 100,000 Runes

The most annoying part was that what Lord Shawn said was entirely true.

Lin Yun really had relied on Lord Shawn’s help to come back alive from Barov’s tomb, so Lin Yun couldn’t say anything about that...

The mechanism of the Reincarnation Eyes and alchemy puppets truly had worked as Lin Yun thought. Each time he touched the Reincarnation Eyes, another batch of alchemy puppets would be alarmed, and each group would have one or two more than the previous group. There weren’t many at the start.

Thus, after each fight, Lin Yun only needed to rest for a few hours before he could touch the Reincarnation Eyes again. Lin Yun had already accumulated over ten thousand runes by the seventh or eighth wave. At the same time, he had formed the 3rd Magic Array.

With three Magic Arrays, he could already complete six Formations. Moreover, the might of each Formation surpassed the elemental Shock Burst.

But as Lin Yun’s fighting strength quickly rose, so did the number of alchemy puppets.

After Lin Yun touched the Reincarnation Eyes for the 15th time, the number of alchemy puppets reached over thirty. Against such a large number of puppets that fought with the strength of 9th Rank Great Swordsmen, even though Lin Yun had formed his 3rd Magic Array, it still gradually became more strenuous.

Lin Yun had no choice but to slow down his rhythm.

He would spend at least a day to digest and reflect before daring to touch the Reincarnation Eyes again.

After half a month passed, Lin Yun had already formed his 4th Magic Array.

But from that point on, Lin Yun felt like he was walking on a tightrope, as the fights had changed. Each time the alchemy puppets appeared, there would be no less than several dozens, and moreover, they wouldn’t be limited to the Great Swordsman type. There would always be one Great Mage puppet for every ten Great Swordsmen puppets.

This wasn’t as simple as just adding one or two puppets...

The appearance of a Great Mage puppet destroyed most of the tactics that Lin Yun had prepared. He had no choice but to rethink his plans. These were two completely different types of puppets, and just a tiny bit of coordination between them was enough to make the fight a whole level harder.

Thus, Lin Yun once again sank into a bitter struggle. It took him three hours to put an end to that wave of puppets.

He knew that with the appearance of that alchemy puppet, his future days wouldn't be as relaxed.

And he was right. After the twentieth day, Lin Yun would need to recuperate for two days before he dared to touch the Reincarnation Eyes again, and the battles he encountered were even more challenging. And in the final fight, among the puppets that were similar to Great Mages and Great Swordsmen, three High Mage puppets appeared.

Although Lin Yun had formed his 5th Magic Array by then and had the strength to contend against a High Mage, three of those puppets appearing at the same time still put him in a very difficult spot. In the end, he had to rely on Lord Shawn to lead him out of that fight alive.

So Shawn definitely had something to complain about.

Shawn had been absorbing mana from those mana crystals during that month and had recovered about 10% of his strength, but after helping Lin Yun out, the painstakingly accumulated power had been completely expended. So Shawn put forward a bold request, that all the level 18 mana crystals Lin Yun had obtained would be his to enjoy!

Lin Yun spent a lot of time and patience getting Shawn to leave him six.

But to Lin Yun, the mana crystals weren't the most important things.

His harvest on this trip was really amazing.

The greatest reward of all wasn't the Spirit Devourer Magic Staff, Shawn, or even forming his 5th Magic Array. His true reward was the huge amount of runes he had accumulated from touching the Reincarnation Eyes a few dozens of times.

He estimated that he had accumulated over a hundred thousand runes!

If this spread, it might even scare High Mages silly. For a mage, there were two kinds of important things to accumulate. The first was mana, and the second was runes.

Mana depended on meditation, while runes came from knowledge.

There were no easy shortcuts for these two kinds of accumulations, especially when it came to runes. It was like that for every mage, they would have to spend a lot of time and effort to let themselves possess more runes.

Because more runes meant stronger power.

And it was to an even greater extent when it came to Lin Yun with his Magic Array.

The amount of runes needed for the Magic Array would make any Great Mage feel desperate, but at the same time, the might of the Magic Array would make any Great Mage turn green with envy.

But now, even Lin Yun's Magic Array couldn't convert any more runes. After forming the 5th Magic Array, Lin Yun temporarily stopped, because he could feel that it was gradually becoming too difficult for him to control this kind of frightening power. He would have to spend some time to adapt to his power.

Lin Yun already had five Magic Arrays, and at the same time, there were still several tens of thousands of runes that had yet to be converted.

From the amount, it could be imagined how fierce the fights he had experienced in the prince tomb were.

Lin Yun believed that even the future Great Mage of the Cloud Tower couldn't compare to him when it came to the number of times he had touched the Reincarnation Eyes.

It could already be said that Lin Yun's path to becoming a High Mage was free of obstacles... All he needed was time.

Once he reached the High Mage realm, with nine Magic Arrays fused as one, he would even be able to fight an Archmage with Shawn in hand.

At that time, he would finally consider his power sufficient.

'Next time I go to the Bone Plane, I should look for a way to get the Book of Death...' After reminiscing about the battles in the tomb, he left the alchemy laboratory.

On his way out, he came across William coming back from the Mercenary Guild.

"Cousin! Wait!" William hurriedly called Lin Yun and warned with some concern, "That Raven Watson seems to be returning to Okland..."

"So?"

"I mean... After Raven Watson returns, the Watson Family might make a move. You know, the Nether Iron Vein in your hands is the focus between the two families. Raven Watson's return might bring some troubles to the Gilded Rose..."

William's worry wasn't without reason.

The power of the Watson Family in Okland even made the Merlin Family feel a bit of strain. If they really wanted the Nether Iron Vein, then let alone the Gilded Rose, even the Sage Tower would be under great pressure.

"You are saying that Raven Watson might bring other people over?"

"Yes."

"Good, let's guess who that Raven guy will bring over..." Lin Yun thought for a bit before telling William Merlin to take a seat. "I feel that he would bring two High Mages at most. There is no need to worry about those, I'll be able to handle them."

"Understood." William nodded.

Although a Great Mage talking about handling two High Mages sounded very strange, when thinking about it, this Great Mage wasn't just any Great Mage. Just earlier in the Gilded Rose's lobby, he had grabbed a 9th Rank Great Mage and dealt with him like he was punishing a kid. It didn't seem as farfetched when considering this.

"Naturally, we shouldn't rule out that the Watson Family might be extremely determined and have Raven lead a large group over..."

"Right, right..."

"But that's even simpler."

"Ah?" William froze, feeling rather confused. 'Why would it be simpler if a large group came over? Isn't a large group more difficult to deal with than two High Mages?'

"Think about it, if Raven Watson comes leading a large group over, what would Thousand Sails City's forces think? At that time, I might not even need to make a move, as those forces would resolutely handle them."

"This is also..." William thought about it and felt that it was sound reasoning, but he quickly recalled a very frightening possibility. "What if..."

"What if the Watson Family sends an Archmage?"

"Yes..."

"This is even simpler than dealing with a large group."

"Eh?"

"What would the Merlin Family do if an Archmage from the Watson Family came?"

"..." Hearing this, William immediately understood.

Indeed, what would the Merlin Family do?

After all, these two forces had struggled for a very long time. Although a balance was kept on the surface, in reality, they were already fighting to the bitter end. If the Watson Family sent an Archmage, then the Merlin Family would dare to destroy the Watson Family.

This was almost certain...

Under the endless struggles between the two Families, to dare send their most powerful fighting strength away was simply taking off one's pants to get fucked.

In fact, this was a common problem for all forces.

It was like that for the Watson Family, but it was also the case for the Ash Tower, the Black Tower, and others...

Each powerful force was faced with a similarly powerful opponent.

They kept each other in check. This was the current situation. If a force wasn't kept in check, it would have already unified Noscent.

Naturally, if one only had to move a finger to eliminate the Gilded Rose while conveniently grabbing the Nether Iron Vein, then there definitely wouldn't be any power that would turn down the opportunity. Let alone the Watson Family, even among the peak forces of Thousand Sails City, who would dare to say they'd never had such an idea?

The problem was that the current Gilded Rose already couldn't be eliminated that easily. Not to mention the huge wealth they brought in through the monopoly of the alchemy market in Thousand Sails City, the fact that there was also that unknown young Master Alchemist hidden behind the Gilded Rose was enough to stop them from acting recklessly.

The resources that a Master Alchemist could use were too horrifying...