

## Magic Era 1311

### Chapter 1311: Devil Overlord

*How easy to deal with. Is this what this ghastly woman is capable of? It's truly boring, unless I can tear apart her soul and see what's inside. She's the combination of a devil, a ghost, and a human being. She's a creepy and intriguing... bastard.*

Lin Yun was losing interest. When he made speculations, he unconsciously referred to his memories of the formidable beings he knew, so he was rather cautious.

As far as he remembered, the spiritual mages and the mages who had transplanted their bloodlines could be a lot stronger than others on their level. He thought he might get killed.

He didn't expect to meet a person who had transplanted bloodlines in the shabbiest way. Such transplantation had a stunningly low success rate, and couldn't strengthen the target significantly. She was nowhere nearly as strong as the crazy fellows he remembered.

She was a level-3 Heaven Rank mage who had only transplanted a low-level devil's bloodline. Lin Yun didn't plan to waste his time on her. He would simply kill her, and let Lord Shawn find answers in her soul.

A tremendous number of ghosts charged at Lin Yun overwhelmingly. Emmy's body was vague in the mist. Her soul power surged inside the mist, and charged at Lin Yun along with the ghosts.

Lin Yun stood there without moving at all. He simply unfolded a shield. The horrifying tide of ghosts caused a frightening shock with their screams and roars.

Ghosts, especially the weak ones such as the level-20 Screaming Ghosts here, would be killed by the extraordinary aura of a Heaven Rank mage if they reached one individually. However, since there were so many of them, it was possible for them to kill an expert with the advantage of numbers. Their soul-stirring screams could gather together. Each of them was like a brook that couldn't cause any harm, but if they gathered into a rising tsunami, they could be shockingly powerful.

The soul blast hit the surface of Lin Yun's fusion shield, and triggered jumping law runes, but that was it.

Lin Yun didn't even bother to look at the Screaming Ghosts that were charging like an enormous tide. Behind him, the three family leaders whom Lord Shawn just rescued turned around, and escaped in the blink of an eye.

With a scornful smile, Lord Shawn looked at the three family leaders who had vanished into the mist.

"Three idiots. This place has been locked down by soul power. It's not a normal space at all. You cannot possibly escape without killing this bastard. Stupid..."

After mocking them, Lord Shawn sat on Lin Yun's shoulder, not worried at all. As a soul creature that was best at manipulating souls and an extraordinary being that had become independent from a Magic Tool Incarnation, it was certainly not scared of the screaming ghosts.

"Mafa Merlin, go to hell! Go to hell! Get drowned in the infinite ghosts! Tear apart his soul! Tear him apart!"

Floating in midair, Emmy constantly emitted soul power, and summoned more and more ghosts. That was the power from her bloodline.

More and more ghost creatures appeared. Lin Yun heaved a sigh, and slowly rose to the sky. He then flew to the center of the mist against the tide of ghosts.

When the tide of ghosts approached within 100 meters of Lin Yun, those in the lead suddenly shrieked in fear, and fled back in panic as if they had met their natural enemy.

Instantly, those Screaming Ghosts were in complete disorder. They could not unite their aura or power any longer.

The Screaming Ghosts in the front ran desperately like a swarm of bees that had suddenly dispersed. None of them ever came within 100 meters of Lin Yun.

With a crooked smile, Lord Shawn glanced at the dense Screaming Ghosts.

“What a bunch of brainless fools. They’re bold enough to approach Merlin as such low-level undead creatures. Don’t they know that the strategy of ghost ocean doesn’t work on Merlin? Never mind. That bastard with chaotic bloodlines probably didn’t find out about that...”

Thanks to the power of Undead Predator, the number of enemies didn’t matter to Lin Yun at all. Those ghosts would crumble in fear the moment they approached Lin Yun, and didn’t dare to fight against him at all.

Those ghosts’ most horrifying power was actually most useless against Lin Yun. Even if there were thousands of ghosts, they couldn’t cause any harm to him. They might be able to do something if millions of ghosts gathered and let out soul shock together, but if they attacked physically by charging forward, they wouldn’t be able to do anything, either.

Hiding in the mist, Emmy summoned Screaming Ghosts without stop. She suddenly saw that Lin Yun casually penetrated the Screaming Ghosts, and was charging at her. She was immediately dumbfounded. She was unable to control those Screaming Ghosts at all. They all escaped crazily before they approached Lin Yun. That was their instinctive reaction. Nobody could do anything about that.

It was impossible for the brainless ghosts to suppress their instinct. They did know what fear meant at all. However, thanks to the power of Undead Predator, the fright that was deeply rooted in their souls was being awakened...

No matter what Emmy did, she could not change the situation. The greatest power in her bloodline was to summon ghosts. As long as she had power, she could keep summoning. She could summon more than 100,000 ghosts to help her.

Most people on level 3 and level 4 of the Heaven Rank would’ve been shattered into pieces by so many Screaming Ghosts, unless they were holy light mages.

Lin Yun flew all the way forward to where the ghosts were the densest. It wasn’t very easy to locate Emmy amidst such chaotic soul waves. However, he could track down the source of the Screaming Ghosts where they were summoned. Emmy had to be there.

As soon as he found Emmy, the battle here would be over.

Hiding in the depths of the tide of ghosts, Emmy kept summoning more of them. However, her face was gradually filled with desperation and frustration. No matter how many Screaming Ghosts she summoned, they didn't work at all. Looking at Lin Yun who was roaming through all the ghosts, Emmy completely fell desperate.

This couldn't continue. She had to let Mafa Merlin die that day. He already knew that the Ring of Roses was dealing with him. He was even aware of the Shadow Tower. If he investigated, he would definitely find the headquarters. Then, whatever happened afterwards, the Ring of Roses and the Shadow Tower would definitely be affected.

Her sister had already perished. The operation of the Shadow Tower was getting difficult. The Ring of Roses and the headquarters might get exposed too, which would be a serious problem.

Whatever price she had to pay, she had to kill Mafa Merlin here. Only when he died would everything be over...

Even if she had to die, she would ensure that Mafa Merlin would go to hell with her!

"Mafa Merlin, you're forcing me to do this. You'll regret. You'll regret for tens of thousands of years in hell while you're tortured. I'll be there, Mafa Merlin. I'll watch you tortured in hell..."

Immediately, an evil vibe arose. The mist within a radius of 3,000 meters was gone. On the ground, a black and gray altar that was 500 meters in diameter emerged from nowhere. It was in the shape of a hexagon, with the statue of a strange kneeling creature in each corner. The statues opened their mouths towards the sky, and blue fire was burning in their mouths.

This area of several thousand meters seemed to have turned into an independent space. The sky became black and gray, and so did everything around. An ominous vibe spread in this illusionary space.

Seeing the altar, Lin Yun's expression slightly changed.

It was a soul altar, which summoned real devils by offering one's own soul. Even though no target was specified in the summoning, the altar would still summon devils from hell, just like a smelly egg would attract a huge number of flies. Also, the weak devils wouldn't be summoned at all, as they would be killed by the stronger ones before they made it here.

The statues of different creatures on the altar weren't really statues. They were all real living creatures that had been turned into candles with evil sorcery. They were lighthouses in the darkness that directed the summoned devils on their way.

The altar was made of the bone pieces of various creatures in addition to a lot of strange materials. Judging by the screams and shrieks from the altar, a shocking number of angry souls had to have been sealed in it.

Such an altar would definitely summon a devil overlord, or one of the strongest devil lords.

On her knees in the center of the altar, Emmy cracked like broken porcelain. Her blood gushed out and filled the pattern through the circuits in the altar. Like a living creature, the altar came to life, and swallowed the blood that contained enormous power.

The altar seemed to be surrounded by mist. Lin Yun watched quietly, and knew that there was no stopping it. That was exactly the strange feature of the soul altar. Although it was very hard to make, it could hardly be stopped once it was made and activated.

What he saw was just a projection, or rather a shell. The real soul altar was one that purely worked with soul power. Unless a peak Heaven Rank soul mage were here to stop her, nobody could stop Emmy's summoning...

Around the altar, the countless Screaming Ghosts were all attracted to the soul altar while they shrieked. They had been torn into pieces while they were still flying, and they were filled into the altar as the purest soul power.

Emmy had completely turned into a deformed human-shaped vessel where blood was flowing out. Her body dried quickly, and fell apart into pieces in the end. Only the illusion of herself still kept kneeling.

"Merlin, we're in big trouble. That lunatic sacrificed herself. Although she was a bastard, her soul is definitely appealing in hell. I'm sure she'll attract many powerful devil lords who want to have a new kind of food. Also, so many Screaming Ghosts have been offered as nutrition too. We're in serious trouble. Where's that old man? Go fetch him..."

"If there is no choice, let's go to talk to the dean of the Starry Sky College, and ask him to bring a dozen peak Heaven Rank experts. It's the real self of a devil that's appearing this time..."

Lin Yun frowned and watched. He then shook his head.

"It's too late. We cannot stop it. When the devil appears for real, the experts in Neverwinter City will detect it immediately, and we won't have to do a thing. They're bold enough to summon a real devil so close to Neverwinter City. They're in big trouble..."

The Book of Ten Thousand Mantras, the Ten Thousand Spell Wheel, the Book of Death, and the Draconic Staff. Lin Yun took out all his magic tools. Light flashed on his skin, and his body was covered in dense magic tattoos. There was also a colorful rune between his brows.

The illusion of an ancient bronze scale appeared underneath his feet. He was strengthened by a purple dragon behind his back too.

All his power had been unleashed instantly. The projection of his Demiplane was slowly surfacing too. Even the Elemental Spirit King Incarnations that he couldn't make use of yet were released too.

Emmy's soul knelt on the altar, and shrieked crazy curses.

"Mafa Merlin, I'll be waiting for you in hell..."

While shrieking, Emmy's soul vanished from the altar. In the center of the altar, a black and gray vortex appeared, and expanded to 300 meters in diameter in the blink of an eye. A sharp hand that had three clawed fingers extended from the vortex.

"Ah, what a wonderful scent. This soul smells sweet and delicious. It's fascinating. There must be many other tasty souls in this world. Great. For the delicious food, I might as well take a trip..."

Crazy laughter burst out of the vortex. The space was shivering during the laughter. When the sharp claws moved, spatial cracks appeared, and the mana nearby was all corrupted.

“Merlin, we’re in big trouble. I cannot take care of a top devil overlord. He won’t show me any respect...”

The claw that extended out of the vortex was almost 100 meters long. Then, a black nose that looked like a hound’s appeared from the vortex. The devil overlord’s head was about to rise...

However, when the devil overlord showed its nose and part of its mouth, it suddenly stopped laughing, and it stopped crawling out.

Its enormous nose that was at least 20 meters tall sniffed, as if it was capturing the scents nearby. Then, it seemed to have detected something. In a swoosh, it withdrew its head as well as its claws.

In the dark and grim hell, a furious roar echoed throughout the world from a splendid castle that was built on a mountaintop in the middle of infinite black clouds, tearing apart the clouds, and causing thick cracks in the sky.

“The Elemental Spirit King! Damn it, the Elemental Spirit King again! Who’s trying to set me up? Damn it, this is a scheme. Who’s greedily coveting my throne? I’ll let him taste the flames of earth and suffer infinitely...”

The devil overlord rose from the throne and roared furiously.

Damn. Last time it was summoned, it didn’t show up in person, and it detected an Elemental Spirit King. This time, it had been summoned in person. Had it not been for its keen nose that detected the smell of an Elemental Spirit King who was hiding well, it might have been tricked.

What idiot tried to set it up? That was such a clever scheme. The yellow-eyed devil next door had to have done it. That was its scheme. It was trying to make use of the Elemental Spirit King to eliminate a competitor.

Right. That soul. That wretched soul was definitely bait. They might be hoping to make use of it again to attract the Elemental Spirit King...

Cunningness glittered in the devil overlord’s eyes that were ablaze with red flames. It realized something, and then spat out a soul. It spouted flames, and burnt the soul for a while before it slapped the soul out of the summoning gate, and then shattered the gate.

“What a bunch of idiots. They’re trying to set up their great king? You creatures are too stupid to understand the cleverness of a king!”

It shattered the summoning gate, and then closed the fortress, without emitting any of its aura...

On the other side, Lin Yun watched the soul being thrown out of the summoning gate, stunned. Emmy’s soul was paler, with lingering flames around it. It had been thrown out of the summoning gate, which was then shattered into pieces. Even the altar had been reduced to smithereens too...

“Merlin, wh-what’s going on? Has the devil thrown... thrown the soul back?”

Lord Shawn opened its mouth and stammered as it watched everything. It couldn't understand what was going on.

Devils were known to be greedy, cunning, and sordid, and greedy ranked at the top. That devil overlord declined such a delicious soul, and even shattered the summoning gate. Lin Yun had never seen or heard of anything like this. Nobody would believe him even if he told it to anyone. Only idiots whose brains had been damaged could tell it was just a joke.

Lin Yun was astounded and confounded. Even though he was very knowledgeable, he didn't think he was strong enough to intimidate a devil lord, which had no reason to do what it had done at all, unless there was something wrong with its head.

### **Chapter 1312: Closure**

"Maybe that devil didn't like Emmy's soul. Or maybe that devil is a good devil?"

Lin Yun proposed a theory that even he didn't believe. Lord Shawn rolled its eyes, and didn't talk. However, it seemed to be truly considering the possibility.

Even the holy light mages, known as the most sacred and devout people, could be corrupted. So, it was not entirely impossible for a devil to betray other devils, and turn into a good devil...

After the soul altar was destroyed, the soul space around the altar was destroyed too. Lin Yun took Lord Shawn up there, and Emmy's soul was floating there, stunned.

The soul altar had been set up smoothly. Countless ghosts had been torn apart as nutrition too. Everything went unprecedentedly well. In the end, she sacrificed her own soul, and invoked a real devil. Also, it was the real entity of a top devil overlord. Everything worked out so well that as long as the devil overlord showed up, it could 100% kill all the creatures here.

But things didn't turn out as she expected. Her soul was spat out after being swallowed by the devil, which even burnt her soul for a long time to prevent any useful information from being leaked out. She wasn't tossed back until all the aura that belonged to the devil lord was erased...

Emmy's faith collapsed. She was completely dumbfounded. It was like she had seen a devil who was even more sacred than a holy light mage. How could this devil overlord have abandoned its natural instincts?

Lin Yun looked at Emmy's soul, who had been completely stunned, with pity, and shook his head. He knew that she would rather die at this moment. The collapse of faith was even more painful than being tortured for tens of thousands of years.

"Lord Shawn, she's all yours."

Lord Shawn cackled, and turned into a streak of light. He tore apart Emmy's soul and entered. A dozen seconds later, Emmy's soul collapsed, and dispersed into spots of light. Lord Shawn flew back angrily.

"Damn it. That bastard's soul was almost collapsing. It had been burnt by hell flames too. Not very much information was found. I didn't find out why the devil overlord spared her..."

"Tell me what you've found."

“Do you remember the Shadow Tower? Two of the Shadow Tower’s members that you killed were related to her. Also, the Shadow Tower seems to be closely connected to the Ring of Roses too. They belong to the same organization.

“Back when you were in the Andlusa Kingdom, they couldn’t avenge themselves even if they wanted to. When you came to the Odin Kingdom, they decided to seek revenge. They made use of the Lodney Family and the Roosevelt Business Alliance, but to no avail.

“So, they decided to take action in person. I didn’t find the name of the organization they belonged to. Her soul had already half collapsed. It completely collapsed when I just exerted some strength.

“Anyways, they call it the headquarters. Someone in the headquarters controlled the Shadow Tower, and someone else controlled the Ring of Roses. Those two are very close, so they sent the Ring of Roses after you...

“They seem to be in the middle of something important, and don’t have time for revenge. They’ve already decided to give up, but this Emmy was unwilling to stop, and took action on her own. That’s all...”

Lord Shawn didn’t speak quite logically, but Lin Yun was able to understand him. He remembered a thing or two about the people of the Shadow Tower, but not their names. He only knew that he did kill them...

After Emmy died, the soul blockage in this place completely collapsed. Everything collapsed and dispersed. The mist vanished too. The castle and the herbs grown within a radius of several kilometers had all been destroyed. No Screaming Ghosts could be found anymore. The three family leaders had fainted in the destroyed gardens.

Wilder was lying three kilometers away like a dead dog. His face was as pale as a piece of white paper, and his soul waves were disorderly. There was no telling where Reynolds was. He had already disappeared.

Ignoring the three family leaders who ran off at the very beginning of the battle, Lin Yun flew to Wilder, and examined him. Wilder didn’t seem to have any wounds, but his pupils were dilating and contracting every now and then, indicating soul damage. It couldn’t have been easy for him to resist the crazy Screaming Ghosts for so long. As a steel mage, he was quite vulnerable to those creatures that precisely attacked the soul.

Lin Yun took out some mana water, and gave it to Wilder. A few seconds later, Wilder took a deep breath, just like a dead body that had come back to life. When he saw Lin Yun, he became even paler, and tried to explain.

“Sir Merlin, I truly have nothing to do with any of this. I’ve been set up...”

Lin Yun waved his hand.

“Enough. Go back to treat your wounds. I have other things to do.”

After saying that, Lin Yun left with Lord Shawn. Wilder was slightly relieved to see Lin Yun fly away. He had a lot of thoughts.

*I knew that Sir Merlin wouldn't be fooled so easily. He must've realized that I had nothing to do with any of this. I've been set up.*

*I don't know what happened. So many Screaming Ghosts attacked Sir Merlin in the end, but he has emerged unscathed, as if he didn't go through any battle at all. There were so many Screaming Ghosts that even the ancestor would've had a lot of trouble dealing with them.*

*But nothing happened to Sir Merlin at all. Emmy, that b\*tch, must've died. Did the sacrificial array she set up not work? Unlikely. I clearly sensed the aura of offering. There was also the vibe of a dreadful devil overlord. But it's all gone now. Sir Merlin has won...*

*How terrifying. Even the ancestor couldn't have gotten rid of the crisis so easily. However, Emmy has been killed so easily. There's nothing left of her...*

*Good thing that I didn't keep offending Mafa Merlin, or I would be as good as dead...*

*Sir Merlin didn't seize the chance to kill me. I should be safe now. As long as I don't offend him again, there won't be any grudge between us...*

Wilder put on a smile. Ignoring his soul weakness, he flew towards the Lodney Family unhurriedly.

A dozen kilometers away, Reynolds was observing from a hiding place. Seeing that Wilder was flying away unsteadily, and the mist around the manor had dispersed, he was greatly shocked.

*Damn it, wasn't a devil overlord summoned? Why is the battle over already? There's no ominous vibe left at all. Has the devil overlord been killed already?*

*Wilder is still alive. Mafa Merlin didn't seize the opportunity to kill him. It seems that he isn't as brutal as he's rumored to be. Damn it, I should've helped Mafa Merlin. It would've eased the tension between us, and the Roosevelt Business Alliance might've been able to get Universal Cores from the Gilded Rose again...*

*It's all screwed now. Even if Mafa Merlin knows that I was set up by Emmy, he won't make peace with the Roosevelt Business Alliance at all.*

*This was a chance to ease the tension. Maybe the Ring of Roses will retaliate. Well, I can warn them in the name of the Roosevelt Business Alliance. Summoning a real devil overlord outside of Neverwinter City was a violation of the rules. Yes, it will raise public indignation.*

Reynolds left quietly, and immediately made an announcement in the name of the Roosevelt Business Alliance after he came back.

He condemned the Ring of Roses for summoning a devil overlord outside of Neverwinter City, which failed but still corrupted the best herb gardens outside of the city.

Reynolds' announcement didn't mention the Gilded Rose or Lin Yun at all. On the other hand, Wilder also made an announcement in the name of the Lodney Family, declaring war on the Ring of Roses because the devil overlord they summoned almost killed him.

The announcements of the two major forces confirmed the event. Soon, the Starry Sky College sent investigators, who found the soul altar, the traces of a ritual, and even the traces of a top devil overlord.



Even though the summoning ritual somehow failed in the end, a lot of people were still scared. Neverwinter City was the biggest city in the north of the Odin Kingdom. If a top devil overlord had appeared next to Neverwinter City, it would've caused tremendous damage, and could've killed dozens of Heaven Rank experts.

After the Starry Sky College's investigators released their investigation report, the Ring of Roses could no longer exist in the north of the Odin Kingdom. Almost everybody had officially stated their rejection. The Starry Sky College and a few other important organizations together demanded the Ring of Roses provide an explanation for the incident.

The Ring of Roses had little influence in the north of the Odin Kingdom to begin with, and it could hardly continue operating here. Its remaining members all retreated.

Lin Yun stopped paying attention to any of that as many difficult problems had appeared in the research of magic battleships. Lin Yun had to solve the problems by himself. To create magic battleships and develop the new plane was the most important thing.

He couldn't count on others for raw materials anymore. Having his own source of raw materials was very important. It was also the biggest factor that restrained the Gilded Rose's development.

The Ring of Roses didn't do anything else, and Lin Yun wasn't anxious. Emmy was already dead. Also, this incident was likely to be Emmy's own decision. It was impossible for the Ring of Roses to step up and defend her. Besides, they seemed to have been distracted by something else that was more important...

The moment he reached the research center in the Raging Flame Plane, Lin Yun was surrounded.

"Sir Merlin, while the massive mana reaction furnace made of such materials is enough to power a big city, we don't have the fuel that it requires at all."

"Even if we make use of level-40 magic crystals, we can only unleash 65% of the reaction furnace's power. Even the best magic crystals can only provide 72% of its power."

"Not only is the consumption enormous, but it wears out the reaction furnace too. The overall performance of the magic battleship will be reduced by half. It doesn't meet our expectations at all..."

"Sir Merlin, the weapon system's design is basically fine. However, the choices of cannonballs and barrels are major problems. If the barrels are too long, they may be destroyed easily, but if they're too short, they won't have enough power. The cannonballs are a problem too. If they're accelerated too much in the barrels, they might explode prematurely..."

"Navigation is another big problem. Without a map, we may easily get lost in the boundless void..."

Surrounded by so many people, Lin Yun felt a strong headache.

"Stop. Talk to me in turns. Let's go to Fantexi's first."

He came to Fantexi and Pinocchio's lab, where an enormous reaction furnace had been fixed to the ground. The floor was made of the hardest mana-resistant materials to ensure safety and avoid interferences.

It was impossible for the reaction furnace to directly produce enough mana. Fuel was required to trigger reactions inside the furnace.

In this era, due to the limitation of materials and basic technology, it was difficult to create better reaction furnaces.

Fantexi took out two fist-sized magic crystals, and threw them into the furnace. Soon, the enormous amount of mana generated from the furnace was delivered to the entire research center according to the designated route.

The quantity of the mana was thousands of times greater than that generated from other level-3 Heaven Rank reaction furnaces.

Lin Yun stood nearby, and examined the changes inside the furnace carefully. He also read the data that had been recorded by machines. Soon, he frowned.

“It’s because of the impurities in the fuel. I’ll prepare high-purity magic crystals. Just keep studying while following the current path.”

Throwing dozens of magic crystals that were condensed in the Mana Lake in his Demiplane, Lin Yun put the matter aside.

The Mana Lake in his Demiplane contained the purest liquid mana, a lot of which had gathered into crystals. Those magic crystals that were made of purest mana were the perfect fuel for the reaction furnace.

However, there weren’t a lot of such magic crystals, and it was a great waste to use them as fuel because the magic battleships needed much more fuel than a few crystals.

Pure fuel could be found in this newly developed plane. It was one of the reasons why it got picked.

Leaving Fantexi and Pinocchio’s alchemy lab, Lin Yun went to the Firerock Dwarves’ weapon lab.

“Sir Merlin, we’ve made some progress on the research of the Hand of Destruction. We’ve improved our laser cannons with our findings to increase their shooting range and speed. They can be used as main weapons.”

“However, there is a problem regarding the electromagnetic cannon that you designed, Sir Merlin. According to the specs that you offered, we speculate that to ensure the power, the barrel of the cannon has to be extended to more than 5,000 meters, and even so, the cannon wouldn’t be as powerful as you described...”

The Master Alchemist was rather ashamed. It was rather humiliating that he couldn’t create a product when he was already given a model.

Lin Yun shook his head. He looked at the electromagnetic cannon they made. Its barrel was 500 meters long. Such a long barrel meant that it could be easily destroyed. If it was destroyed, then the electromagnetic cannon would be useless.

“I’ll take care of the cannonball problem. If we cannot lengthen the barrel, we will create an alchemy device, which will generate a mana barrel that will be more powerful and can be longer.”

“I’ll take care of the material problem. You’ll take care of the rest.”

The research continued. Lin Yun entered an alchemy lab, and experimented on the new materials he remembered.

It was impossible for him to find new materials that were readily usable, so he could only use new fused materials. Although he knew the percentage of the components of the fused materials, it wasn’t easy to mix them up, and create such materials.

After a month of research, Lin Yun finally created five kinds of new materials. Although they weren’t as perfect as he remembered, they were enough in this situation.

Handing over the materials to the alchemist team, Lin Yun simply left the matter aside. The Gilded Rose’s alchemist team at this moment was definitely one of the best in Noscent.

Although it didn’t have many Artisan Alchemists, and couldn’t compare to the alchemist groups that had a long history, it was already a good beginning.

Two months later, *The Intrepid* left the Raging Flame Plane, and appeared in the boundless void. It began to illustrate the map of the boundless void, and mark the dangerous spots.

The newly created magic battleships were experimented on and adjusted in the process. With *The Intrepid*’s protection, they didn’t encounter any danger in the process.

The three magic battleships were only 300 meters long. The dense alchemy patterns on their surfaces made them look like three absolute cubes.

Lin Yun simply left everything behind. He stayed in his alchemy lab for research, or studied the truth runes in his Demiplane.

Recently, he had made a lot of progress in the study of truth runes. He had studied almost 5,000 truth runes, and engraved all of them on the pillar. The essentials of his Demiplane had been evolving, but it didn’t really change.

The law of darkness was about to be born. Everything was developing fast.

### **Chapter 1313: Clash**

A month later, Lin Yun led a fleet of magic battleships towards the spatial coordinates that he had set on *The Intrepid*.

*The Intrepid* and the three magic battleships had accelerated for 10 days. Observing from the warships, one could see nothing but streaks of light. It was because they were too fast. Their routes were already set, and they all carried energy shields, so they weren’t afraid of asteroids on the way at all.

After a half month of voyage, they finally approached an area of space that seemed very desolate. However, the moment they emerged from the darkness that couldn’t be illuminated by light, they saw five iron warships 1,000 meters long in their way.

The five iron warships floated in the void 1,000 kilometers away from Lin Yun. That distance was basically the warship’s attack range.

Seeing the five iron warships and the marks on their surfaces, Lin Yun frowned.

The mark was a thorny crown, which was a simple pattern. However, Lin Yun didn't look well after he saw that.

The Thorny Crown was a mysterious organization with a complicated list of members. It didn't have a lot of official members, but all of them were excellent in one particular aspect. They were different from normal mage organizations, and were more like the Starry Sky College.

The Shadow Tower and the Ring of Roses both belonged to the Thorny Crown. After meeting Emmy, Lin Yun knew that the headquarters she mentioned were the Thorny Crown. Lin Yun was never worried, because the Thorny Crown was never interested in fighting. They pursued the truth of magic.

If the Thorny Crown learned that Emmy tried to summon a devil overlord, they would only punish the Ring of Roses for bringing trouble to the Thorny Crown. Anything that exposed the Thorny Crown to the public was a violation of the rules.

That was why Lin Yun wasn't too bothered by the incident with the Ring of Roses. This was the age of the Thorny Crown's early development. It had various sorts of members, such as the mages in the Ring of Roses who had transplanted other bloodlines, and the shadow mages of the Shadow Tower who performed assassinations with the power of shadows...

All in all, not many people liked them. They had been surrounded and attacked countless times. Everybody thought that they were annihilated, but a few years later, they would rise again.

They would certainly not retaliate against Lin Yun at the risk of exposing themselves. Lin Yun was quite positive of that.

He didn't expect to see the Thorny Crown's iron warships defending the safest entrance in here. Remembering the information that Lord Shawn collected last time, Lin Yun was greatly enlightened.

No wonder the Thorny Crown would stop hiding in 1,000 years. By then, they would be powerful, rich, and skilled enough for them to walk in the sunlight.

In history, this special plane was discovered exactly in this age. He simply didn't know that it was the Thorny Crown which had discovered it.

The more important thing that they referred to was probably the exploration of this plane.

However, they would have to wait for 1,000 years before they dared to walk in the sunlight, so their development of this plane couldn't be easy...

Lin Yun was considering these things. Without his order, the other people on the battleships didn't dare to attack. While Lin Yun waited, the Thorny Crown's five warships changed their direction, and aimed their weapons at him.

Energy cannonballs were thrown towards *The Intrepid* over a distance of 1,000 kilometers. Those balls of light were so dense that they seemed to be drifting towards the targets.

Seeing the scene, Lord Shawn grinned and laughed crazily.

“Oh my God, what have I seen? Are they planning to destroy *The Intrepid* with such attacks? Are they trying to drown us with those energy balls?”

“It will take at least 15 minutes before they hit us, right?”

Lord Shawn tilted its head and glanced at Pinocchio, who sneered in disdain and nodded.

“Considering the speed of their Mana Crystal Cannons, it will take 15 minutes before they hit our battleships.”

“Sir Merlin, should we dodge?”

Lin Yun was almost amused. Did those people think that the battles in the boundless void were the same as those in Noscent? They were using the Mana Crystal Cannons, which were for city defenses in Noscent, in the void...

It was quite remarkable that the energy cannonballs remained intact after crossing 1,000 kilometers. However, they didn't have a lot of momentum left. Even the newly made magic battleships couldn't be damaged by them, not to mention *The Intrepid*.

Lin Yun's group had been flying so fast on their way that any meteoroid they hit was much more powerful than those energy balls. However, none of the meteoroids was able to penetrate the magic battleships' energy shields.

“Magic Battleship No. 1, listen to my order. Destroy those five pieces of garbage.”

It would've been a waste to use *The Intrepid* against those people...

On the left side of *The Intrepid*, a magic battleship had openings on its two sides and bottom. Barrels that were almost 10 meters long extended from the battleships.

Immediately, a red streak of light crossed 1,000 kilometers almost in the blink of an eye, and hit one of the iron warships, followed by dozens more. They riddled the iron warship with holes in no more than 10 seconds. It was burning, and its reaction furnace was penetrated. It exploded, turning into flames.

Then, the laser cannons were aimed at the second iron warship, which was destroyed in no more than 10 seconds again.

Seeing that, the people of the Thorny Crown were dumbfounded. Their enemy had destroyed two of their iron warships in 20 seconds with the smallest ship...

The other three iron warships accelerated and fled crazily, but in only half a minute, another two of them were destroyed.

The last iron warship was fleeing at full speed with the remains of the two iron warships as cover.

The laser cannons were very fast, but they could not attack any longer in such a situation. Their power would be weakened by the remains. Also, if the distance was too long, their precision wouldn't be good enough.

“Adjust the laser cannons' perspective, and try the electromagnetic energy cannon.”

Lin Yun was quite satisfied with the result.

It had only been a couple of months. The weapons were already powerful enough.

After Lin Yun gave the order, an opening appeared on the top of Magic Battleship No. 1. A thick barrel that was 300 meters long surfaced. As mana was injected, the barrel glittered, and electricity flowed on the cannon like snakes, and gathered in front of the barrel. In no more than three seconds, they formed an energy barrel that was 1,000 meters long.

A cannonball that was only seven meters long was accelerated in the barrels, and thrown forth from the end of the electricity barrel quickly. The cannonball was so astonishingly fast that it appeared hundreds of kilometers away in only one second. At the end of the barrel, spatial ripples were spreading out. Tiny spatial cracks extended for dozens of kilometers.

A few seconds later, the remains of the two iron warships exploded, as if they had been torn into halves by a beast. The last iron warship that escaped was deformed. It was suddenly shortened by more than 100 meters, and a huge hole appeared in its end, but it was the front half of the battleship that exploded like a blooming metal flower.

“S-so powerful. That attack could definitely compare to the full-strength strike of a level-5, no, level-6 Heaven Rank expert. Their attack range is not so long.

“No, it cannot compare to a level-6 Heaven Rank expert...”

Fantexi was quite terrified of the power of the electromagnetic energy cannon’s attack. He knew that the cannon was controlled by a few Archmages. None of them were in the Heaven Rank...

They didn’t know what the magic battleships meant until they saw the real performance.

The iron warships were the best products that the big organizations could make. Also, it was believed that the bigger they were, the better. The iron warships were like moving continents where one’s every need could be satisfied. To sail in the boundless void and search for more planes and resources, the iron warships could sail for decades, if not hundreds of years at one time.

This age was the beginning of colonization. Besides the Planar Paths that were in Noscent, and those that could be found in the planes that they led to, one had to look for new Planar Paths in order to get to new planes, or the spatial barriers of the new planes.

Only if they found the barriers of a plane could they expect to break in. Nobody could tell what kind of plane it was until they entered it. They could only make speculations based on the hardness of the barriers.

If the barriers were as powerful as Noscent’s, then they had to be protecting a world with complete laws, and likely ferocious creatures.

The Planar Paths were miracles of planes anyway. The natural Planar Paths were even rarer. They could all be developed regardless of their size.

Most planes had to be searched for like needles that were on the bottom of an ocean. A lot of time would have to be wasted...

Even the best warships in this age were quite slow. When they sailed in the void, they were like floating asteroids. Every adventure would take at least 10 years.

Because of the iron warships' limitations, they could only exist for several decades. If they encountered any accident in the boundless void, they might turn into garbage in only 20 years.

That was an important reason behind the slow development at the beginning of the colonization age. How could they conquer and colonize without discovering planets?

The age of colonization didn't really reach its heyday until the magic battleships were invented and manufactured on a large scale.

Everybody was already shocked when they saw the magic battleships' horrifying speed at the beginning. They were even more shocked when they saw the magic battleship's outburst, even though the three magic battleships had all been created by them in person...

Fantexi's face turned red, and he was completely excited.

"So terrifying. The magic battleships will definitely change the paradigm of Noscent. They are just the most beginner-level magic battleships that we've created in our first attempt. They're not nearly as good as the magic battleships that Sir Merlin imagines."

"I always thought that I couldn't see Sir Merlin's designs come to reality by the end of my life. But they're even more powerful than I thought..."

"They're not magic tools, not alchemy puppets, just a congregation of alchemy devices without using the power of laws. Yet, they're as powerful as a Heaven Rank expert..."

Pinocchio, at the same time, had started calculating crazily. He recorded the data of the weapon system, and ran deductions with bloodshot eyes.

They weren't too excited about the speed, but the destructiveness meant a whole different thing.

Creating 1,000 such magic battleships meant having hundreds of level-5 Heaven Rank experts, which was enough to conquer any planet. They didn't have to approach any target. They only needed to send a fleet of magic battleships, which could easily destroy anything in a radius of hundreds of kilometers.

Even the most powerful iron warships in this age didn't receive too much attention, mainly because they were walking targets to any Heaven Rank expert, and would become enormous iron coffins. They could only serve as vehicles that made the explorations in the boundless void more comfortable.

If the iron warships could be better than regular level-1 Heaven Rank experts in terms of speed, defense, and offense, then everybody would invest into relevant research.

Unfortunately, nobody paid much attention to it at this moment. Or rather, they wouldn't devote a lot of resources to it even if they did...

Everybody looked at the remains of the iron warships that were drifting away in the void. None of them showed any reaction. They were so shocked that their heads went blank.

Standing in the captain room, Lin Yun looked at the incoming energy balls. Those were the attacks that the five iron warships had launched at first. They would hit *The Intrepid* and the three magic battleships in more than 10 minutes.

Fantexi was the first to calm down. He looked at the dense spots of light in the distance, and casually asked, "Sir Merlin, should we dodge the attacks?"

It was like a huge number of fireflies had appeared in the void, flying towards the warships. Because they were very slow, the magic battleships could easily dodge them. They could even destroy the iron warships first.

"That's unnecessary. Unfold the energy shields and move onward."

On the surfaces of the three magic battleships, a membrane of light surfaced, and enshrouded them. *The Intrepid* and the three magic battleships continued sailing.

A few minutes later, *The Intrepid* and the magic battleships collided with the hundreds of energy balls. When the latter hit *The Intrepid*, they blossomed on the surface of the vessel like fireworks, but couldn't leave any mark on it.

When the energy balls hit the magic battleships, there were blooming fireworks too. Ripples spread out on the surfaces of the magic battleships. All the attacks were like pebbles that were thrown into a lake. They caused nothing but some ripples, which soon disappeared.

Without changing their direction at all, the magic battleships had passed through all the attacks. Nobody on the magic battleships felt anything. The attacks that could've destroyed a city didn't damage the magic battleships' energy protection at all. They increased the energy core's consumption a little bit, but nothing more...

After passing through the attacks that were launched a dozen minutes earlier, Pinocchio screamed a bunch of data as if he had gone mad.

"Magic Battleship No. 1's energy protection was weakened by 0.3%, which was restored in three seconds. Its energy consumption was increased by 0.1%..."

"Damn it, in such a case, even 10,000 Archmages won't be able to tear apart the magic battleship's energy protection. At least a level-4 Heaven Rank expert is required to tear apart the protection with extraordinary power. But it won't last long. The opening will be restored in only a few seconds."

"Are those magic battleships really our work?"

Pinocchio read the data before his eyes in a trance. According to his calculation, the magic battleships he created had the energy level of a level-4 Heaven Rank mage, or a level-3 Heaven Rank mage in their peak state.

However, the battleships contained 1,000 times as much mana as a level-3 Heaven Rank mage had, and provided a range of protection 1,000 times greater than that of a level-3 Heaven Rank mage did too.

The only people who posed a threat to the magic battleships were level-5 Heaven Rank mages, who could make use of the extraordinary power of laws, and tear apart the magic battleships' protection so that they could shatter the magic battleships.



## Chapter 1314: Early Birds

However, level-5 Heaven Rank experts were extremely rare. An unparalleled genius had to go through endless suffering before they grew up into a level-5 Heaven Rank expert.

In comparison, it would only take a month to build one of those magic battleships. Adding the time needed for testing, in only three months, another magic battleship that was exactly as the three here would be ready for work!

Countless magic battleships could be built as long as there were materials. Besides, this was just the first batch of magic battleships. The future magic battleships would only be more powerful.

Even Fantexi and Pinocchio were blushing in excitement too. They had been devoted to alchemy their entire life. They wouldn't have been so excited if they had killed a void beast. However, now that their product had ripped apart a void beast easily, they were overwhelmed with the sense of achievement.

The crew on the three magic battleships all continued their research with bloodshot eyes, as if they had just taken exhilarants. The alchemists who were controlling the magic battleships all seemed to be doing something sacred, even though the controlling was very easy.

After a flight of almost eight hours, *The Intrepid* and the three magic battleships finally reached a spacious area that even meteoroids wouldn't pass by. This was the entrance to that plane, and the weakest part of the spatial barriers.

If it had been in Noscent, it would've been a natural Planar Path. Anyone could travel through it easily as long as alchemy arrays were set up to break the Planar Path.

This area covered several square kilometers. There was nothing around but the plane's spatial barriers. Although the power of the plane didn't leak out, there was a natural rejection force in this place that prevented meteoroids and other things from approaching.

This was the way to look for new planes in the age of colonization, especially those which were relatively complete.

The spatial barriers of two planes rarely echoed or overlapped. When they did, a natural Planar Path would appear. If they didn't overlap or echo at all, then no Planar Path would appear. It was possible to create a Planar Path if one had the fixed coordinates of the plane.

However, if the plane hadn't been found, it was hardly possible to get its coordinates...

When people searched for new planes in the future, they would mostly send magic battleships to search for the coordinates of the planes in the boundless void, and then set up Planar Paths. Then, it would be easy to enter the new planes.

The three magic battleships stopped near this unstable space. *The Intrepid* gradually approached the border of this unstable space. Spatial waves spread out like ripples. A black hole that was several kilometers in diameter appeared. The size of the hole was changing constantly, ranging from five kilometers in diameter to two kilometers.

Leading Xiuban, Reina, Pabiete, Lord Shawn, and Xiusi, Lin Yun unhurriedly walked into the black hole that was emitting waves constantly from *The Intrepid's* deck. The vessel had broken the spatial barriers,

so they could enter easily. If it hadn't, they would've had to tear apart the barriers on their own, and fixate the opening with alchemy arrays.

There was no time to lose. The instability of the spatial barriers indicated that someone had entered. Tearing apart the spatial barriers with spells would've been noticed. It was much easier to create a channel with the powerful? *The Intrepid*.

After realizing that someone had entered, Lin Yun didn't look very well. He had to abandon his previous plan, and led a few people in for reconnaissance.

The blue sky was cracking like broken glass. Then, it fell apart into pieces. A hole that was one kilometer in diameter appeared. Hardly had the spatial waves spread out when they were already suppressed by the cold wind at high altitudes.

After Lin Yun walked out of the hollow with Xiuban, Reina, and Pabiete, the hollow behind him slowly closed. Only black cracks appeared now and then.

"This place is so cold..."

Xiuban exhaled dizzily. Immediately, the air it breathed out was frozen into ice and fell down. Even the wind here seemed to have turned white because of the power of coldness.

They saw clouds 1,000 meters below their feet and the variegated earth through the openings in the clouds. There seemed to be countless flowers blossoming on the earth. They looked quite splendid from the sky. There was also an enormous glimmering tree.

In the sky in the east, an orange sun was setting, and in the west, a blue sun was rising. There were not only two suns in this plane, but they rose and set in different directions than the suns did in most planes including Noscent.

Looking at the rising blue sun from the high sky, even Lin Yun was slightly surprised. The orange sun was nothing special. It was just like any star that facilitated the growth of plants and warmed the earth.

However, the blue sun was emitting bright blue light, which was like magic brilliance. As the blue sun rose, the entire plane was soaked in an ocean of mana. Everything was enshrouded in the magic brilliance. Everyone who was standing in the sky felt that their mana was being replenished without them doing any meditation!

This rarely happened even in Noscent, except in places where there was abundant mana.

Lin Yun looked at the blue sun that was slowly rising. He had known that there was a special blue sun in this place, but he was still amazed when he saw it with his own eyes.

There were only a handful of planes that had a sun which radiated infinite magic brilliance. This was the only one that both had a blue sun, and was suitable for the survival of human beings.

Thanks to the natural conditions, almost everything in this plane contained mana. Even the most common weeds in this plane could be used as low-level mana herbs in Noscent.

"Merlin, something is very weird about this plane. I think my abilities are limited. I don't feel very comfortable about a world that's enshrouded in such brilliance. I think it's very dangerous..."

Lord Shawn turned into the size of a fist, and squatted on Lin Yun's shoulder. It stared at the plane hesitantly.

Lin Yun shook his head.

"That's alright. As long as we stay careful, and don't send too many people down here, this plane will be very safe."

Enderfa was floating on Lin Yun's right side, with all its three faces aimed at the blue sun, absorbing its brilliance greedily. Hearing what Lord Shawn said, all the three heads nodded at the same time.

"This plane is indeed rather strange. It has two suns, and one of them is spraying magic brilliance. It's definitely possible for terrifying creatures to be born in such a plane. We should be cautious."

Lin Yun shook his head.

"Don't worry. The strongest creatures in this plane cannot be better than level 42. What we should worry about are the people who came here ahead of us."

He led them to land on the ground. As they passed through the thin clouds, and approached the ground, the mana density became higher and higher. After the blue sun rose, the entire ground seemed to be glowing. Almost all the plants were absorbing the magic brilliance.

Peaceful mana waves were flowing everywhere in the plane. In such a place, the spells that one cast would be much more powerful. But at the same time, because of the overflowing mana waves, the other, weaker mana waves would be eclipsed.

Before they landed, a gigantic tree that was more than 300 meters tall suddenly started shivering. Many creatures whose wingspan was almost eight meters flew out of the crown of the tree. They looked like giant dragonflies.

Those giant dragonflies, like a mass of clouds emitting bright blue light, swooped at the intruders. Their tide of mana was almost visible. The blast of mana, together with the enormous dragonflies, made the mana waves in a range of dozens of kilometers even more unsteady.

The power of the countless dragonflies gathered, plus the abundant mana in the place, made them as strong as the Heaven Rank. More importantly, as more and more giant dragonflies flew out of the tree's crown, their power was on the rise.

Lin Yun remained unruffled. Xiuban grinned impatiently with Carnage on his shoulder. Reina, on the other hand, had already taken action. A blue law rune dropped from her fingertip. Immediately, countless ice crystals spread like a plague in a radius of several kilometers, making it snow in the area.

The snowflakes that looked like pieces of ice froze the gigantic dragonflies into ice sculptures that later fell to the ground upon hitting them.

After they fell over a distance of several dozen meters, they were minced into pieces by the surging tide of mana that they raised. Hundreds of them dropped encased in ice every second, which increased the range of snow.

In only three minutes, the swarm of gigantic dragonflies was gone. There were still snowflakes that were falling slowly. The area within the radius of eight kilometers had turned into a world of ice.

Lin Yun landed on the tree's crown with his followers. He saw a lot of burns on the tree. Needless to say, that was the doing of the people who came earlier. Each of the tree's leaves was almost eight meters long, and was a home to one of the gigantic dragonflies. Lin Yun walked in the crown for a few minutes, and found the place where the trunk bifurcated. There was a hole almost eight meters in diameter here. Some golden fluid was glittering in the hole.

"This is the Golden Honey, which can be made into several kinds of Heaven Rank potions. It can treat wounds and hidden injuries that normal medications cannot cure. It can also sort through your mana. It's very rare. We're lucky to find so much of it at one time..."

Lin Yun had a mouthful of the Golden Honey. After he ate it, he felt like he was in the middle of a hot spring, where his body was cleansed and massaged by a warm power. It was a precious item that could increase his potential.

Most of the enormous dragonfly-like creatures were below level 30. Those which were above level 30 were bosses. They had an enormous population, and could constantly reproduce with enough Golden Honey. Unfortunately, the productivity of the Golden Honey was not high, so the population of such creatures couldn't be too big. They would die without the Golden Honey.

Lin Yun took away 80 percent of the Golden Honey on the trunk. There were some larvae of the dragonflies left in the tree. The remaining Golden Honey should be enough for them to grow up.

"Merlin, why do you know this? Have you been here before?"

Enderfa approached Lin Yun with its three weird faces. It seemed to be asking a casual question, but it was almost sticking its three faces to Lin Yun...

Lin Yun ignored Enderfa. The usage of the Golden Honey had been detailedly recorded in the history he knew. It was impossible to hide the Planar Path to this plane. Anybody who found the entrance to this plane in the boundless void could come in.

In the future, a lot of organizations would compete over this plane named Munster. But in the end, nobody was able to claim it. They had to build an enormous fortress in the boundless void, and those who were qualified shared the resources of Munster.

By then, any organization would have the power to fight and sail in the boundless void. The magic battleships would already be popularized. Nobody could monopolize this plane.

Also, due to the uniqueness of this plane, they had to concede.

There were a lot of great local specialties here besides the Golden Honey, which would remain extremely valuable in Noscent's heyday when there were countless Heaven Rank experts. A piece of Golden Honey could be as valuable as the mana crystal of a level-45 beast that was its weight. The best Golden Honey was effective even for the experts who had ignited their God Fire.

"Merlin, this place is very strange. All the creatures' souls are damaged. The larvae, in particular, only have a small number of soul pieces..."

Lord Shawn grabbed one of the larvae, and injected its power into it. Immediately, the larva died, and its soul piece completely shattered the moment it was touched.

Lin Yun didn't say anything. He flew out, and examined the obvious battle waves in the distance with an awful expression. The long distance that the waves traveled over suggested that at least level-4 Heaven Rank experts were attacking, with extraordinary power and even something wicked.

"Let's find them. If they continue doing this, all of us will be in big trouble..."

Lin Yun looked rather awful. He took everybody to the source of the battle waves. They didn't arrive at the battlefield until spending an hour on flight. Here, the area within a dozen kilometers had been destroyed. The land was blackened, with smoke popping up. A heavy ominous vibe dominated the place. There were fire power, hellish power, and even the evil power of devils lingering in the mana waves.

The people who had fought here already left in the past hour. What remained here was only a hideous body that was 100 meters long. It was impossible to tell what it looked like when it was alive. It only had a skeleton and a dried skin that was stuck to its bones. It seemed to have died a miserable death.

The black ashes around suggested that its flesh had all been burnt up.

In the sunlight of the blue sun, the battle waves were like a storm in the ocean that could spread far away. Even though the waves wouldn't be able to hurt anyone after spreading 20 kilometers, they could still be detected.

Examining the traces in this place, Lin Yun frowned.

He was almost positive that the people of the Thorny Crown did it. They had surely accidentally discovered this plane during the exploration in the boundless void. Then, they sent for a lot of reinforcements, including level-5 Heaven Rank experts.

Judging by the waves here, he could tell that there were a lot of bloodline-transplanted warlocks. Some had transplanted devil bloodlines, one had transplanted a demon's bloodline, and some had even transplanted bloodlines of unknown creatures.

They were truly fearless. No wonder it would take 1,000 years before they could finally start developing this plane after the discovery. Such fearlessness meant suicide in this place.

What a bunch of idiots. This plane had a magical blue sun and all the necessary substances. It contained a terrifying amount of mana. Yet, most of the creatures that were seen here were below the Heaven Rank. Even the strongest individual had just reached the Heaven Rank.

Did those idiots not notice any of the anomalies? Yet, they were still blatantly using their wicked power. No wonder the Thorny Crown had never risen. They were truly stupid.

Lin Yun looked quite awful. He followed the traces of the Thorny Crown and chased them down. Enderfa was slightly puzzled at Lin Yun's reaction.

"Merlin, why are we chasing them?"

Lin Yun shook his head, and didn't say anything. He took out a few bottles of drugs, and gave them away.

“One bottle for everybody. Whenever you notice anything wrong, drink the potions immediately. There’s no time to explain. We have to find those idiots. If they continue, all of us will be in great trouble...”

### **Chapter 1315: Confrontation**

A few hundred kilometers away, a bunch of mages who wore all sorts of long robes were standing at the entrance of a cave. The land within several thousand meters of them had been blackened. The bodies of strange creatures, which had four wings and the heads of crocodiles, were lying on the ground. Black flames were spreading out slowly, and incinerating the bodies.

“Sir Myers, this plane is truly a blessing. We only came here by chance, yet this plane turns out to be as wonderful as paradise. It boasts infinite mana and resources. All plants here contain mana. There are even two suns.

“Most importantly, in such a favorable environment, there are only brainless beasts that are absolutely stupid. How wonderful. The waves from this cave suggest that there must be a lot of mana crystals in it. Also, the mana in them is very pure. They’re better than any mana crystals in Noscent...”

A tall mage, from whose body black smoke was popping up, was remarking on the great environment as if he were singing an aria, with a demon face and horns above his head.

In the center of the crowd, an old bald mage, whose eyes seemed to be made of pure crystals, stood quietly and gazed at the entrance of the cave. He was frowning hard, and wasn’t as optimistic as his partner.

The old mage didn’t say anything. Not far away, a female mage who was enshrouded in gray mist spoke with disdain. “Sheldon, have your brains been corrupted by devil power too? All the creatures we’ve seen here are horrifyingly inferior. Their souls are as incomplete as those of a reptile. Have you not noticed that at all?

“The mana here is so abundant. There’s even a blue sun that’s emitting magic brilliance. Do you really think that only those stupid low-level beasts are born here?”

Sheldon, who had demon horns, burst into fury. The smoke around his body shivered fiercely, and his voice turned cold and aggressive too. “Sunny, I don’t need you to remind me of that. The discovery of this new plane is so important, yet you’re the only person of the Ring of Roses who’s here. Where’s Emmy, that crazy b\*tch? You don’t take the orders of the headquarters seriously at all, do you? Could the Ring of Roses have thrived without the headquarters’ support?”

Myers, the old mage who stood in the center, coughed and interrupted their argument. “Enough. Stop fighting. This place is truly quite weird. Things are highly abnormal. Even the weeds here are full of mana. A lot of the weeds can even be used as low-level herbs, yet all that can be seen are beasts that aren’t very strong. That’s very strange.

“Also, the local beasts’ souls are weird too. Their souls are all as simple and vulnerable as those of reptiles...”

“Huh, something else is approaching. They’re strong...”

Myers turned around and looked at the sky in the distance with his glittering eyes that seemed artificial. A dozen seconds later, his partners finally saw a few black spots approaching quickly.

Another half a minute later, they discovered, to their surprise, that it was not local beasts, but a few human beings who were coming.

Lin Yun had noticed the entrance of the cave that was almost eight kilometers in diameter and the dozen mages who were standing there from a distance. He saw that all of them were in the Heaven Rank.

He paid attention to three people first. One of them was a male mage who had demon horns with black smoke popping up. It was easy to tell that this guy had surely transplanted some sort of abyssal demon's bloodline and its horns. That was why he looked so different from normal people.

Another person was the female mage who looked almost identical to Emmy, whom he had met before. Her body was enshrouded in gray mist, and could hardly be seen clearly. Needless to say, she was from the Ring of Roses.

The old mage in the center was looking Lin Yun in the eyes, as if his eyes could see through space. His eyes were artificial, and seemed to be made of crystals. They were pure white, and didn't have pupils at all. However, Lin Yun could tell that the old mage was staring at him, and his eyes were trying to penetrate him. When it failed, the power in the man's eyes became even greater.

A power that didn't seem very great but was highly penetrative surged, trying to cut into Lin Yun's soul and read his everything.

Lin Yun casually invoked a spatial law rune. Immediately, the air between him and the old mage was twisted. He couldn't be seen anymore...

"Mafa Merlin. It's Mafa Merlin. How can he be here? Sir Myers, that guy is Mafa Merlin. It was he who almost destroyed the Shadow Tower and the headquarters' plan! The Shadow Tower is still being suppressed by many families. If it weren't still somewhat useful to them, they would destroy the Shadow Tower without hesitation!

"Now that Mafa Merlin has come here, Emmy might be in danger. She might have even been killed. That's how he learned of this plane..."

"Also, our five iron warships that are in the void. Since they're already here, it's possible that the warships are already..."

Sunny's aura became more and more unstable. Her ominous aura spread out, and she spoke in a low voice that sounded like a devil's whisper. Her surging killing intent turned into gray mist that gathered into twisted faces on her skin and roared.

The black smoke on Sheldon's skin concentrated as he gazed at Lin Yun vigilantly, not because of the history between him and the Shadow Tower, and not because of what Sunny said. His hostility was simply because he saw Lin Yun in his plane.

The dozen Heaven Rank mages were all hostile and ready for battle. However, without Myers' order, nobody really did anything.

The weird light in Myers' crystal eyes was gone. They seemed to have turned into ordinary glass. He put on a solemn expression.

"Whoever they are, we must not let others discover this plane, which belongs to the Thorny Crown. Our research can be expedited if we have this plan. We can benefit a lot from the blue sun here."

Everybody understood what Myers implied after he said that.

Sheldon slightly bowed, and then disappeared, leaving thick cracks on the ground. His robe fell apart into pieces, and he rose from 2.2 meters tall to 4.5 meters. Unleashing an intense devil aura, he gathered a five-meter-long black spear with smoke in his hand.

Sheldon charged at the strangers rapidly. Even his body looked like an enormous spear that was emitting smoke.

Lin Yun looked at the scene coldly.

"Xiuban."

On Lin Yun's order, Xiuban dashed forth with Carnage without hesitation. With a roar, Xiuban's body expanded, and its eyes became bloodshot. It was surrounded by the stench of blood. Carnage was glittering and enlarging too.

The golden hammer and the black spear collided. Lightning appeared at the point of impact. It was not until after a second of impasse that an explosion finally burst out in the center of the clash. A circle of glowing light spread out instantly. Both Xiuban and Sheldon were blown away.

Xiuban rolled dozens of times in midair. Black and golden lightning kept slapping its skin. Its clothes had been torn apart, but there was not a wound on its skin.

After advancing into the Heaven Rank and melting all its bloodlines, Xiuban already had a unique bloodline that belonged only to itself. After the extraordinary evolution, it had already become unimaginably strong. It was truly impossible for it to even kill itself anymore.

There were already 18 gravity arrays on Carnage. Adding the power of earth that Xiuban made use of, the weapon weighed at least hundreds of thousands of kilograms in the battle. With the addition of Xiuban's horrifying physical strength, its every strike was as powerful as a smashing mountain.

After the fusion of bloodlines, Xiuban had one of the best bloodlines that was almost as perfect as an extraordinary creature's. The Heaven Rank only equaled adulthood. The fusion of a few dragon bloodlines even gave Xiuban an even greater ability. It could grow strong simply by sleeping...

Having been sleeping for such a long time in the Demiplane, and swallowing its abundant and pure mana, it had already advanced into level 2 of the Heaven Rank. Although it still could not beat Pabiete, the latter couldn't possibly destroy Xiuban's body, either.

Lin Yun was not afraid that Xiuban might be wounded by the bloodline transplanter at all. Xiuban couldn't be killed anyway...



Sheldon and Xiuban were both blown away. Xiuban was absolutely fine, but long tiny wounds appeared on Sheldon's skin. Blood flowed out and turned into black smoke, making the devil power around it even more powerful. The wounds recovered in only a few seconds.

Sheldon didn't win the clash. He was actually injured, and his opponent wasn't. He instantly burst into an outrage. Black smoke surged out of his body, and he roared loudly from the sky.

"Stupid beastman, I'm going to tear you apart! I'll tear you apart..."

While Xiuban and Sheldon collided in midair, Sunny turned into gray mist, and charged at her enemies too, sending out whispers from every direction. Reina flew out expressionlessly.

Law runes that looked like ice appeared around Reina. Immediately, the runes fell apart, and gathered into a cold blue ball of light that swept over everything within a kilometer of Reina. The gray mist and everything else in it, including the air and the mana, were frozen into pieces of ice...

After the mist was frozen, Sunny could not hide herself in it any longer. The ice crumbled, and Sunny had to show herself in the air.

The ice could not hide Sunny. Her body was completely exposed. Her skin was blue, with ugly veins all over it. She looked like a body whose blood had been consolidated. She had the face of a zombie too. There seemed to be a thin film on her eyeballs. Veins were protruding on her cheeks as well. The hideous stripes all over her body made her look like a zombie whose body hadn't fully rotten yet.

Her slim body was no longer alluring at all. Her whispers that sounded like the charms of a devil made her even more monstrous.

After her body was exposed, Sunny shrieked in shock and fury. Her sound waves spread out. The power of soul, the power of death, and the ominous power of devils appeared at the same time, shattering the ice around her.

The gray mist covered her body again. However, at this moment, Sunny seemed to be losing her rationality. She shrieked furiously and loudly like a banshee that had been infuriated. Behind her back, the power of death turned into a vortex, and countless ghosts were surging out of the vortex in a torrent.

A tremendous number of Screaming Ghosts were charging at Reina. As Sunny was a bloodline transplanting warlock, although she succeeded and received enormous power, the side effect was that her face was destroyed, and she looked like a monster.

That was absolutely unacceptable for a woman. She wasn't like Sheldon, who didn't care even if he had to transplant a demon's horns to make himself more powerful.

After her face and her monstrous body were exposed, Sunny immediately lost all her rationality. She had completely forgotten Lin Yun. All that she could think of was to kill Reina immediately...

Reina coldly floated in midair, and stared at Sunny with disdain. Facing the torrent of Screaming Ghosts, she didn't dodge at all, but simply charged towards it.

Blue halos of light spread out of Reina. All the Screaming Ghosts that were hit by the halos were frozen, and then dispersed.

Seeing that the torrent of Screaming Ghosts couldn't approach her at all, Sunny changed her strategy. She only sent some of the Screaming Ghosts she summoned to block Reina, and gathered the rest around her. When enough Screaming Ghosts were gathered, Sunny finally let out demon whispers. Strange whispers echoed in midair from all directions.

Hearing the whispers, the Screaming Ghosts gathered into a massive formation around Sunny, as if they had been summoned by a queen. All their power circulated in the formation, and then concentrated.

Sunny opened her mouth, and let out a shriek. Instantly, all the Screaming Ghosts shrieked at the same frequency as Sunny. A terrifying power was concentrating. A gigantic bubble that enshrouded Sunny and the Screaming Ghosts was appearing. The bubble became bigger and bigger, and contained all the power in it.

When Reina's freezing halos hit the bubble, the bubble fell apart, and the power that had been restrained so far was all unleashed towards Reina as a soul shock.

Facing such an attack, Reina finally stopped spreading the freezing halos. She roared with dazzling blue light glittering on her skin. Immediately, she turned into a graceful silver dragon that was 200 meters long. She didn't seem as strong as normal dragons. However, as she assumed her original form, a terrifying cold air froze everything around her. The coldness could compare to that in the dark void which had never embraced the sunlight. It seemed that even the flow of time had been slowed down.

Facing the enormous pure soul shock, Reina craned her head, and gathered power in her throat. Then, she opened her mouth, and let out a deafening roar. Immediately, the terrifying pressure turned into a blast that moved towards her opponent.

Her life essentials had already evolved, and she was as strong as the terrifying extraordinary dragons. She was extremely gifted as a dragon too. She was already formidable at this moment.

The soul shock that Sunny released was like a transparent blast that was pressing close in the sky. The dragon's pressure that Reina released was a pure soul spell too. It charged in the shape of an illusionary dragon, which easily tore apart the torrent of soul blast that Sunny had released.

Like a horrifying beast that was going against the current, the illusionary dragon tore apart the soul blast and charged at Sunny.

Immediately, Sunny screamed and was blown back, as if she had been slapped by a dragon right in the face. Green and red blood gushed out. Her Screaming Ghosts charged at the illusionary dragon, but exploded one after another.

They were low-level ghosts and pure soul entities, yet they dared to face the dragon's pressure. There couldn't be a second ending for them except for exploding into pieces.

After the collision, half of the swarm of Screaming Ghosts in the sky was gone. The remaining half stayed around Sunny and protected her. Blood was dripping from her eyes, ears, noses, and mouths nonstop...

### **Chapter 1316: Magic Electromagnetic Cannon**

"Damn you, bastard. I'm going to rip your face, hang your head on my bedroom door, and use your skin as a doormat..."

Sunny screamed in shock and fury. Her ominous aura spread out crazily. The vibe of death was rising too. More and more Screaming Ghosts were appearing...

Reina and Sunny were fighting, and so were Xiuban and Sheldon. However, Lin Yun remained still, and stared at Myers.

Myers didn't move, either, and simply gazed at Lin Yun. Behind Myers, a dozen Heaven Rank experts were protecting him. They ignored the other battles, and stayed around Myers like bodyguards.

Gradually, the atmosphere became more and more suffocating. Around Lin Yun, the Heaven Rank aura was spreading out. The mana that flowed out of his body was already half as much as the total mana of a regular level-4 Heaven Rank expert. The mana turned into water drops, and circled around Lin Yun.

Lin Yun held the Draconic Staff in his hand. The Ten Thousand Spell Wheel and the Book of Ten Thousand Mantras were floating on his sides. The Book of Death was in his left hand. The chains on the surface of the book had been broken, but the book hadn't been opened yet.

The illusion of a wheel that was dozens of meters in diameter floated behind Lin Yun. The wheel looked like countless overlapping circles. Infinite law runes were appearing and disappearing with the spinning wheel.

On his opposite side, Myers rose to the sky too, with a glittering colorful crystal ball in his hand. He simply gazed at Lin Yun with light spreading in his eyes like ripples.

After they confronted each other for almost 10 minutes, Myers finally opened his mouth in regret.

"Mafa Merlin, you're very strong. At least, you're the only mage below level 5 of the Heaven Rank that I cannot see through with my eyes. You're not even 40 yet, yet you're already a level-4 Heaven Rank expert. You're very gifted too.

"I'm told that you are a great Artisan who's not just good at potions, but also familiar with magic tools, alchemy puppets, and alchemy arrays. In many aspects, your alchemy expertise is even better than that of the Artisans.

"You've surpassed a lot of people in terms of theoretical research. You are a real genius.

"You might not know this yet, but our organization is called the Thorny Crown. The Shadow Tower and the Ring of Roses are both subordinates to the Thorny Crown. Unlike other mages, we seek the truth of magic.

"I'm not interested in the grudge between you and the Shadow Tower or the Ring of Roses. That's their own business. You haven't affected the Thorny Crown yet."

Lin Yun sneered coldly. The Thorny Crown was established thousands of years ago. Back then, it was truly a loose alliance founded by mages who pursued the truth of magic. The purpose of the alliance was just magic studies.

However, the Thorny Crown was no longer a loose alliance. It was an organization of deranged people who would risk anything to become stronger. Transplanting the bloodline of other creatures was never acceptable at this moment or in the future.

"I walk on a thorny road. The thorns are stained with my blood. I reach for the bloody thorns and weave them into a crown. May I be coronated with this crown at the end of the thorny road," Lin Yun read unhurriedly. Myers instantly seemed astonished.

"Why do you know the Thorny Crown's vow?"

There was disdain in Lin Yun's eyes.

"The Thorny Crown was founded for a glorious purpose. Many theories and studies today were actually started by the initial members of the Thorny Crown. Unfortunately, as they grew old and died, the Thorny Crown deteriorated. You've forgotten what the three founders set out for..."

The surprise on Myers' face was gone. The colorful crystal ball in his hand suddenly dazzled.

"Sir Mafa Merlin, allow me to introduce myself. My name is Will Myers. You may call me Myers. If we had met elsewhere, I would've invited you to join the Thorny Crown.

"But unfortunately, here I can only say that I'm sorry for your passing. This plane has to be the Thorny Crown's. It's very important for us. I'm truly sorry.

"You may not know the gap between level 4 and level 5 of the Heaven Rank yet. It's totally unlike the difference between previous levels. I know you're very strong, but your journey ends here. May you rest in peace, Mafa Merlin."

After saying that, Myers suddenly unleashed a horrifying aura. The illusion of a Demiplane appeared behind Myers. The horrifying aura dispersed the thin clouds in the sky. The air became daunting and suppressing. It seemed that all laws were helping Myers, and supporting him at this moment.

Feeling the pressure of pure laws, Lin Yun established a Fusion Shield. Still, he felt that he was restrained, and could only use 80% of his strength.

Facing such a strong man like Myers, 80% of his strength and 10% of it would be the same. If he couldn't unleash 120% of his strength, it would mean that he couldn't possibly fight him.

Examining the pressure, Lin Yun heaved a sigh. As expected, without the enhancement of his Demiplane that helped resist the laws, he was too weak to fight the man. Dealing with a level-5 Heaven Rank mage and dealing with an alchemy puppet on the same level were completely different.

No wonder level 5 of the Heaven Rank was a major threshold. The mages' domination started exactly from here. Above level 5 of the Heaven Rank, the distinguished mages would rank higher than all the other extraordinary creatures on the same level.

Apart from their wisdom, human beings were definitely the weakest among all creatures on their level. Their bloodline was too weak. However, above level 5 of the Heaven Rank, the restraint of bloodline would be completely gone, and wisdom would play a bigger and bigger part. When they reached the peak of the Heaven Rank, very few extraordinary creatures would be able to fight mages...

Examining the pressure, Lin Yun had to summon the projection of his Demiplane. The pressure of the power of laws was the greatest. He wasn't completely suppressed, because he wasn't much weaker. If he hadn't been able to resist the pressure, then the battle would've ended already.

The projection of his Demiplane that accommodated his understanding of laws appeared. He invoked the power of laws. The pillar glimmered, and projected the power of laws that had naturally evolved in his Demiplane.

Even though the laws that evolved in his Natural Demiplane couldn't be used at all without being grasped first, their protection was quite flawless.

When the projection of his Natural Demiplane appeared, Myers' pressure was resisted easily.

The competitions of laws were always direct and fierce. In the space between Lin Yun and Myers, belts of light were twisting and flashing. It was a pure clash of the power of laws. It almost seemed that there was an aurora shining and rising between them. It was splendid yet dangerous. Anything else that was caught up in it would've been torn into shreds.

Time went by slowly. It was not until three minutes later that the splendid aurora between Lin Yun and Myers was finally gone. The competition of laws had reached an impasse. Neither of them could crush their opponent with their power of laws.

Myers had mastered laws that were essentially more powerful than Lin Yun's, but Lin Yun grasped a larger number of laws. Also, thanks to the projection of his Natural Demiplane, he was almost invulnerable to the power of laws. He could barely attack with the Natural Demiplane, but his defenses were much higher than his level.

It allowed Lin Yun to fight on without being crushed and killed immediately. The competition of spells had just begun...

The moment the competition of laws was over, the colorful crystal ball in Myers' hand suddenly rose and circled around Myers, while he chanted uncanny curses. Law runes floated around him. Weird magic tattoos appeared on his skin and face too.

Immediately, crystal balls the size of fists appeared in front of Lin Yun. Those crystal balls came in all kinds of colors. The moment the crystal balls appeared, Lin Yun had such a horrible feeling of crisis that he fully activated the Magic Array and the Ten Thousand Spell Wheel. As his computation ability was boosted, countless data emerged in his eyes.

In the blink of an eye, Lin Yun had already picked a defensive strategy. The Book of Ten Thousand Mantras automatically opened, and he pointed Draconic Staff at one page, pulling a spell out of the book. The moment the spell appeared, it absorbed a tremendous amount of mana around him, and stretched the space near him.

At the same time, the crystal balls that Myers released all exploded. They seemed to be exploding in the exits of space, and transformed into crystal stings that were hundreds of meters long. Instantly, all the space in front of his eyes was occupied by the thorny crystals.

Like the sharpest spears, the crystal stings penetrated everything. When they collided, they caused spatial ripples, and then continued spreading onward.

The space around Lin Yun was still being stretched, but the crystals traveled fast in the space. The overlapping penetrative forces accumulated, and slowed down the stretching of space. The stretched space was penetrated and minced. Cracks and broken pieces were appearing everywhere.

Following the route that he had calculated with the Ten Thousand Spell Wheel and the Magic Array, Lin Yun zigzagged. Many spatial runes were floating around Lin Yun, twisting the space.

A second later, the seething mana suddenly eased. Lin Yun was quite solemn. There were crystal stings everywhere around his body. His Fusion Shield had been penetrated before it could react.

After the Fusion Shield was penetrated, it didn't disappear. The crystal stings that penetrated the Fusion Shield were surrounded by law runes, but the law runes didn't seem to be able to repair the Fusion Shield's damages.

Like the twigs in a bird's nest, the crystal stings crossed each other and caged Lin Yun. Some of the crystal stings that should've pierced Lin Yun's body were weirdly twisted and circumvented it.

That was because the space had been twisted. The crystal stings couldn't destroy the twisted space, and could only follow it. It seemed that the straight crystal stings were curved when they reached Lin Yun, but they became straight again after they passed him.

Looking at the dense crystal stings around him, Lin Yun had cold sweat on his forehead.

Magic Neutralization Crystals...

They were generated by the natural-born ability of certain crystal monsters in the Crystal Plane, which could destroy any magic shield, and penetrate anything in their way...

That old man had transplanted the bloodline of a crystal monster, and luckily succeeded. The crystals that he summoned with his spell were Magic Neutralization Crystals too...

If Lin Yun had released a shield instead of extracting a spell to expand the space from the Book of Ten Thousand Mantras after calculating with the Ten Thousand Spell Wheel and the Magic Array, he probably would've been killed...

Lin Yun had acquired this space expansion spell on the hill when he visited Agalon last time. He was inspired by the changed law of space in that place, and created this spell with his own understanding of space and magic. It was a defensive spell.

It could infinitely stretch the space around oneself. The enemy's attack, whatever it might be, had to pass through the stretched space first. The distance of one kilometer might be extended to a dozen kilometers or more. The spells that couldn't pass through the area couldn't cause any damage to Lin Yun.

However, the stretched space could be weakened by some spells, such as the Magic Neutralization Crystals, which were unimaginably penetrative. The stretched space could be easily pierced by the Magic Neutralization Crystals. The stretching was at least weakened by half.

The crystals all came to still. Lin Yun finally spouted new space runes. The space around him trembled, and was restored. All the crystals crumbled into countless pieces during the contracting and shaking of space. With an elemental outburst, all the pieces were flung backwards.

In the sky, the flower of crystal stings that covered a range of several thousand meters exploded. Countless broken pieces fell from the sky.

Lin Yun floated in the sky. His mana spread out, and dense law runes were floating around his body.

In the distance, Myers looked at Lin Yun in surprise, not expecting the latter to be still alive. The crystal stings resulting from the exploding crystal balls almost filled up the space within a kilometer of Lin Yun. There shouldn't be enough room for him to hide. The Magic Neutralization Crystals should've destroyed everything inside...

Yet, Lin Yun had emerged completely unscathed...

"Mafa Merlin, you're indeed surprising. I didn't know that you had grasped the law of space. But it's pointless. The crystal spells are not to be resisted by any shield..."

"I'm sorry to see you here, but you have to die here..."

With regret on his face, Myers continued chanting...

When Myers just started chanting, Lin Yun opened the Book of Death, invoking the power in the Element Chapter and the All-Encompassing Chapter. Another long spell emerged from the Book of Ten Thousand Mantras, and a lightning barrel 100 meters long manifested. A special half-a-meter-long cannonball was put into the barrel from the rear. After being accelerated by the electromagnetic barrel, the cannonball disappeared.

The 2,000 meters were almost covered by it in the blink of an eye. Facing the horrifying electromagnetic cannon, Myers didn't stop chanting at all, but the crystal ball that spun around him appeared in front of him, and invoked an arc-shaped shield.

The cannonball, glittering with lightning, hit the surface of the colorful crystal shield brutally, causing a horrifying explosion. The special cannonball exploded, and a lot of broken pieces were blown off the shield. The colorful crystal ball was flung aside too.

At the same time, after releasing the first cannonball, Lin Yun extended the barrel of the magic electromagnetic cannon by another 100 meters, and launched another cannonball.

Seeing that, Myers slightly changed his expression. His colorful crystal ball had been blown away, and couldn't possibly fly back in time to protect him before the second cannonball hit him. This cracked crystal shield certainly couldn't ensure his safety...

Countless pictures were replayed in Myers' head. A moment later, he put on a confident smile again.

That spell was very powerful. With appropriate materials, it was more powerful than normal level-9 spells even without extraordinary power. Unfortunately, its flaw was very obvious. The blast that the spell caused couldn't change its direction at all. It had to aim at fixed targets on a straight line...

What a shame. Mafa Merlin was truly a genius. This novel lightning spell seemed to be making use of a special power. Its casting materials were very special too. However, he was simply too young and inexperienced...

### **Chapter 1317: Truce**

In a battle of experts, no matter how powerful a spell was, it would be as useless as a level-1 spell if it couldn't hit the target. Only a spell that could achieve the planned effect would be a useful spell...

When Lin Yun launched the second electromagnetic cannonball, Myers didn't stop chanting. Horrifying magic waves were appearing around his body, gathering into the illusion of a crystal monster that didn't have limbs or head. It looked like a monster that was made of countless crystals, and had nothing but a torso. There were complicated magic patterns on the monster's skin and inside its body.

The second electromagnetic cannonball was launched. At the same time, a gentle breeze appeared around Myers. It wasn't very strong for a Heaven Rank expert, but it pushed Myers a meter aside like a pair of gentle hands...

The shift of one meter was enough for him to avoid the cannonball's head-on strike. All he needed to do was avoid the wind that the cannonball caused, which was negligible compared to the momentum that the cannonball carried. At least, it couldn't break the arc-shaped crystal shield.

With a smile on his face, Myers stared at Lin Yun in the distance. The illusion of the crystal monster behind him seemed to be gazing at Lin Yun in a special way too. Crystal flowers were rolling around Myers, and emitting dazzling brilliance...

This beginner-level usage of mana, which didn't even count as a level-1 spell, was enough to resist Mafa Merlin's powerful spell.

Mafa Merlin, a young man, probably could never understand that. A great spell should be one that could be applied well. If it couldn't be applied well, then it was just useless.

Unfortunately, he wouldn't have a chance to learn that. The passing of such a genius would be such a shame. If they had met elsewhere, Myers would've invited him to join the Thorny Crown. Unfortunately...

Once this spell was activated, it would be impossible for that man to dodge even though he had mastered the law of space. He would perish with space. What a shame.

With pity in his eyes, Myers closed his eyes, as if he didn't want to watch Lin Yun die. The illusion of the crystal monster behind his back emitted special waves, a sign that he was about to activate his spell...

Right then, the second cannonball had traveled through space, and was flying rapidly. It could never hit Myers if it had moved in a straight line. However, the moment the cannonball left the magic electromagnetic cannon, a spatial rune glittered on the surface of the cannonball, slightly twisting the space ahead of the cannonball during its flight...

Because of the deviation, the cannonball flew in a curve instead of a straight line, but it wasn't slowed down at all. It hit Myers' crystal shield precisely...

The crystal shield that had been cracked couldn't be recovered so quickly. Without the support of the colorful crystal ball, it couldn't possibly resist the second cannonball.

The moment the cannonball hit the crystal shield, the crystal shield broke into pieces like glass. The remaining power of the cannonball then hit Myers. In a grave crisis, Myers was unable to finish his chanting, even though it was so close to completion.

His body instinctively reacted by covering itself with a tremendous amount of crystals. He was fully enclosed in a large piece of crystal. The uncompleted spell was disrupted...



After hitting Myers, the cannonball exploded into pieces. The collision was too powerful when it hit the solid shield that protected Myers. The crystals that enshrouded Myers were flung back by the terrifying force too. They left a glittering belt of light in the sky before they crossed eight kilometers and crashed into a mountain...

The earth was shaking, and a pit 100 meters in diameter emerged in the middle of the mountain. At the center of the pit, there was a hole that stretched into the stomach of the mountain.

Flames and lightning bolts slithered around the pit. The beasts around the mountain all detected the terrifying force, and fled into the distance crazily.

Lin Yun flew over from the sky, and stared at the enormous pit while floating. He didn't attack again, but simply waited quietly.

Deep inside the mountain, the crystals that protected Myers were already cracked. There was a half-meter-deep dent on the front side, and tiny cracks spread into the crystals from the dent.

A few seconds later, the crystals crumbled and disappeared. Myers was pale and utterly shocked. Even his magic waves were rather disorderly. Underneath his skin, there seemed to be many worms crawling. Myers' face was first pale and now red. He didn't regain control of himself until a dozen seconds later, and the "worms" underneath his skin were finally gone.

He opened his mouth and vomited blood, which turned into bloody crystals in midair. Then, he raised his head again, with his crystal eyes glittering with disbelief and shock.

He hadn't expected Mafa Merlin to be so strong. That man had probably already made up for the flaw of his spell that could only attack in a straight line. The first spell was only launched to fool him. The second spell was the real fatal one...

*He's so smart. In no more than one second, he figured out the way to hit my body. He used the first spell to knock away my crystal magic tool, and the second spell to break my crystal shield. If I hadn't had a trump card, I would've been torn into shreds...*

*How did he do it? How could he have thought so much in only one second?*

Myers was shocked and befuddled. The battles between top experts were always tricky. It was barely possible to kill an opponent unless one had an overwhelming advantage. Even the most powerful spell would be useless if it couldn't hit the opponent or break their defense.

That was why he had transplanted the bloodline of the crystal monsters, which were extremely dangerous. He could easily destroy any mage's shield with the magic neutralization ability.

Also, thanks to the special crystal spells, he was very good at protecting himself too...

In order to kill an enemy, a spell had to hit the target and break their defense first. That was the only way to kill an enemy.

However, it was barely possible to perfectly notice every small change, and take the best reactions in a fierce, evenly matched battle. To display 120% of one's combat ability meant to be completely devoted to fighting instead of thinking...

Myers had no idea how he was hit in the head-on clash. Thinking about what happened in retrospect, Myers had cold sweat all over his forehead. He thought he had underestimated his opponent...

While Myers was wondering, another cannonball was shot into the hole, and exploded in the narrow space even more powerfully than it would outside. Myers' body was like a nail that was continuously pressed deeper into the mountain.

Like a living target, Myers was hit by three cannonballs in a row. The crystals that surfaced on his body were already full of cracks. His last line of defense would be shattered by one more strike. Even though he had other methods to protect himself, he didn't know how he could get himself out of this situation.

His arrogance was completely gone, replaced by seriousness. He considered Lin Yun as a worthy opponent.

When Myers was going to fight with his life on the line, there were no more cannonballs that came at him, only Lin Yun's casual voice.

"Sir Myers, are you going to take a nap in there?"

Lin Yun was slightly regretful. Facing the consecutive attacks, Myers didn't have any chance to dodge. Considering the frequency of the attacks, Myers would be killed by the cannonballs deep inside the pit.

Unfortunately, there wasn't such an opportunity. Myers was smashed into the mountain in a slant. From that angle, if Myers was hit by another cannonball, his body would penetrate the mountain, and fall out from the other side of the mountain. Then, it would be difficult to hit him again. It would be impossible to kill Myers with the last cannonball strike as well...

More importantly, after Myers had been knocked away, his Heaven Rank followers had already caught up, and it was impossible for Lin Yun to attack again. Even if he could kill each of those Heaven Rank experts in three seconds, there would be enough time for Myers to escape and fight back. Therefore, it was pointless to continue the battle.

Therefore, he might as well negotiate with the man. His main purpose in catching up with those people was to stop them from doing whatever they wanted, which would cause a terrible crisis if they didn't stop. Then, whoever came to this plane would suffer.

Lin Yun seemed to have made a concession. A dozen seconds later, Myers flew out of the pit. His robe had already become ragged. The colorful crystal ball flew close from the distance and circled him. Myers drifted in midair, and stared at Lin Yun solemnly. He was obviously vigilant, but he didn't attack again.

Myers surely didn't know that Lin Yun didn't kill him only because he was unable to. If they were to continue fighting for a couple of hours, then all of them would be on the losing side...

Calculating his position inside the mountain with the angle, force, and speed was something that nobody would do except Lin Yun who was running deductions with the Ten Thousand Spell Wheel...

Myers didn't realize that. He simply thought that Lin Yun wanted to negotiate a truce...

Lin Yun had proved that he was worthy enough to negotiate with. He remained casual, ignoring the Heaven Rank mages around him. Some of them were already eager to attack. Myers waved his hand.

“Stop.”

After stopping all the Heaven Rank experts under his command, Myers finally stared at Lin Yun solemnly.

“Sir Merlin, I admit that I underestimated you. Also, I had a chance to kill you.”

Lin Yun ignored what Myers said, and simply went on. “Sir Will Myers, I discovered this plane first. I’ve been here many times.”

Myers changed his expression significantly. Before he could say anything, Lin Yun continued, “Are you going to ask me why I have never conquered or developed this plane, or looted the resources here, if I discovered it earlier than you did?”

Myers didn’t say anything, and only listened quietly. It was a silent yes.

“You must’ve realized that the beasts in this plane are all of an extremely low level. At least, considering the mana in this mana and the blue sun that radiates magical power, a lot of strong extraordinary creatures should’ve been born in this place.

“However, in this place, there’s nothing but weaklings whose souls are no better than reptiles’. There are very few extraordinary lives. Even the strongest of them are only in level 1 or 2 of the Heaven Rank. They’re even weaker than the level-1 or level-2 Heaven Rank mages. However, all the beasts here are gregarious.

“Do you know why? Because for this plane, they’re exactly reptiles.”

Hearing that, Myers finally allowed his expression to change. Lin Yun didn’t explain further, but Myers understood. Those beasts equaled the reptiles in Noscent that even ordinary people could squeeze and kill easily. They were all insects below level 5...

In a plane that had developed normally, those creatures should be on the bottom level, and never be the main part. Planes like this one, which was full of reptiles with incomplete souls, were very rare. Those creatures were like worms’ souls residing in level-20 beasts’ bodies. The bodies were too powerful for the souls, so their souls seemed broken. Some were even just pieces...

There were no advanced creatures in this plane at all, or any creature that had the slightest spark of wisdom.

Considering the abundant mana in this plane and the blue sun that radiated magic power, even a stone might have been enlightened after receiving the sunlight for thousands of years.

However, there was no sign of intelligent creatures here at all, which was highly unusual and horrible. It was either because this plane had a fatal flaw that prevented such creatures from coming into being, or because this plane was so dangerous that no intelligent creature could survive...

As the chief elder of the Thorny Crown, and the most powerful man in it, Myers was not just strong, but also very accomplished in magic research. Although the Thorny Crown was much more corrupt than when it had been founded, they were still pursuing the truth of magic, even though some of them had redefined what the truth was...

Myers soon came up with a bunch of possibilities, and looked at Lin Yun with shock and suspicion. He was already convinced that Lin Yun had discovered this plane earlier and explored it well. Otherwise, he couldn't have realized the hidden problem with this plane.

Since it was impossible to kill Lin Yun and monopolize the plane, and because Lin Yun was obviously familiar with this plane, it was best to cooperate with him and explore this plane together.

"Sir Merlin, are you proposing to explore this plane as a team? How should we split up the things we find?"

Before Myers could finish, Lin Yun interrupted him peacefully. "Sir Myers, are you not exploring this plane for a special item that can alleviate the conflict caused by foreign bloodline inside your body?"

"Or are you just looking for treasures? If you're just looking for treasures, let's just split up whatever we might find. If you think treasures are more important than your lives, then I don't mind sharing the treasures with you."

Myers immediately changed his expression. The Heaven Rank mages around him who wore hoods and black robes were all disturbed too.

"How do you know!?" Myers cried in shock and fear. After crying that out, he finally realized that he lost control of himself...

Lin Yun glanced at Myers with disdain and sympathy.

"The crystal spells can only be grasped by human beings who boast special talents or bloodlines. However, they cannot use the Magic Neutralization Crystals like the crystal monsters.

"Plus the crystal defenses that you gathered around your body, is there another possibility except that you've transplanted a crystal monster's bloodline?"

"Your colorful crystal magic tool, your eyes, and the bloodline of your body are all from a crystal monster whose name should be Stark, right? Because the only sound it can make is something that resembles 'Star'. Also, since you've reached level 5 of the Heaven Rank, that Stark must've been in level 40, right? You transplanted its bloodline when you were a level-9 Archmage.

"What a shame. If I had been you, I would've kept one of my own eyes, and melted the two crystal eyes into one. It doesn't feel very good when your eyes shiver fiercely with conflicts of mana every day, does it?"

After Lin Yun finished, there was undisguised shock on Myers' face. His lips were shivering too. He gazed at Lin Yun, as if he had seen a terrifying being.

How did he know that? Nobody knew that. Where did he learn it? Had he figured out everything about his opponent during the brief battle a moment ago?

### **Chapter 1318: Cooperation**

**Translator:** Henyee Translations **Editor:** Henyee Translations

*Is his understanding of the transplantation of bloodlines even better than mine? How is it possible?*

*Are there other people who are studying the transplantation of bloodlines besides the Thorny Crown? No way. The Thorny Crown has studied that for 1,000 years. Nobody can be more familiar with the subject than it. But how can this man know so much?*

*He's probably already been aware of my weakness. He even knows at what time of the day my eyes aren't usable, which will result in a plunge in my combat ability...*

*He knows so many things that even the members of the Thorny Crown don't...*

"Don't look at me with such an expression. Did you think it's a secret that only you get to know? Transplanting bloodlines is a complicated and dangerous thing. More often than not, it's a desperate choice.

"It's not bad for you. Even though you've transplanted the crystal monster's bloodline, you're only using it as help, and still walking on the path of a mage. But look at this guy here, who has transplanted the bloodline of a lava giant. He cannot possibly advance beyond level 2 of the Heaven Rank.

"You cannot reach level 3 of the Heaven Rank without finding another lava giant whose bloodline is purer and who is in level 3 of the Heaven Rank. Then, you will have to hunt pure-blood lava giants who are at least in level 45 in order for you to advance into level 4 of the Heaven Rank.

"If you're truly lucky, there's a slim chance that you may advance into level 5 of the Heaven Rank. But that will be the ceiling. You cannot grow any stronger than that...

"Also, the lava giant you hunted didn't have a pure bloodline. It carried part of fire element creatures' bloodlines. So, you can only use 80% of your strength in battles, right?"

Hearing what Lin Yun said, a mage who was at least 2.2 meters tall and wearing a cloak and a black robe shivered. Then, he simply lifted his cloak, which had been enhanced with spells that blocked detection. Nobody could see his appearance without destroying it.

As he lifted his cloak, his face, which was purely red and looked like the cracked stones near a volcano, was revealed. His fire was like burning flames. His eyes were bloodshot too.

The man looked at Lin Yun in shock and fear. Around him, all the other black-robed mages turned around and stared at him. Myers looked at him suspiciously too.

The red-faced mage opened his mouth and spoke in a hoarse voice, as if his vocal cord had been burnt.

"H-how did you know..."

Every person of the Thorny Crown who had transplanted bloodlines of strange creatures had their own weaknesses. However, they never let anyone else know those weaknesses, because if other people knew their weaknesses, those people could easily come up with a dozen solutions to deal with them.

Myers was completely shocked, and so were the others.

It was understandable that this man knew Myers well because they had fought for quite a while. Experts had to reveal something in battles. If the man knew transplantation of bloodlines well, it was possible that he had inferred many things.

However, the mage, who had never attacked or even revealed his face, and who was wearing a special protective robe, had been seen through easily. That was horrifying...

It meant that if a battle were to burst out, those level-1 and level-2 Heaven Rank mages would be easily killed by Lin Yun, who could take advantage of their weaknesses...

The mages who were wearing cloaks took them off one after another, and showed their faces. Few of them looked like pure human beings. Most carried features of strange creatures. Some had green faces that carried scales, and some people barely had a face anymore.

Even the guys who had normal faces carried the features of other creatures on their bodies.

They were often despised because of their appearance, especially the weird-looking ones. They might be regarded as monsters instead of human beings.

That was why they had been hiding their bodies and faces. However, it was obvious that Lin Yun had a profound understanding of the transplantation of bloodlines, so they stopped hiding.

"Sir Merlin, let's explore this plane together. Whatever we may find, we only want things that will help us. The rest will all be yours, Sir Merlin.

"I hope we can discuss the transplantation of bloodlines when you're free, Sir Merlin."

Myers put on a smile, and seemed to have forgotten the clash just now. He resumed his calmness.

Lin Yun sneered inwardly. They only wanted things that would help them? That was ambiguous. Everything here was very valuable, and could be sold for a mountain of purple gold. They could buy anything with such an amount of purple gold.

Therefore, everything here could help them. What a cunning man...

But that was fine. This was just the beginning. Who knew what might happen. With those bloodline transplanters, it would be a lot easier to explore this plane...

"Then, Sir Myers, I hope we will cooperate well here," Lin Yun said briefly, without mentioning the discussion of the transplantation of bloodlines. Those people wanted to trick him and get all the loot here. That would never happen...

Myers was wearing a smile. The other mages were more or less hopeful too. Since Lin Yun had seen them through, his expertise in transplantation of bloodlines should be at least as good as Myers'...

Lin Yun and Myers struck a partnership after the brief negotiation. Then, they flew back with those black-robed mages. On the other side, Xiuban and Sheldon were still fighting. The longer Xiuban fought, the stronger he became. There was not a wound on his body. However, Sheldon looked quite miserable by comparison. One of his horns had been broken. Smoke was popping up, and blood was gushing out. His recovery ability was no longer keeping up...

If the battle went on, Sheldon probably would be smashed to death, even though he had transplanted a demon's bloodline...

On the other side, the battle between Sunny and Reina was coming to an end too. Reina had transformed into a human being, and was fighting at ease. Sunny was suppressed, even though her level was higher. She was only able to resist because she could still summon Screaming Ghosts. When she ran out of her mana, she would die.

“Alright, let’s stop. I’ve reached an agreement with Sir Merlin. We will explore this plane as a team.”

Myers’ words were sent to Sheldon’s and Sunny’s ears simultaneously. They saw that Lin Yun was standing next to the man too.

“Xiuban, Reina, stop.”

Myers and Lin Yun gave the orders at the same time. Xiuban looked at Sheldon reluctantly, and flew back with Carnage on his shoulder. Reina, however, simply flew back without looking at Sunny.

Sheldon, who was enshrouded in black smoke, roared and charged at Xiuban again, as if he had lost his mind, only to be smashed away.

Sunny also shrieked and commanded the Screaming Ghosts to launch suicide attacks. Unfortunately, they were all frozen into ice and cracked apart...

“You people of the Thorny Crown are quite persistent, aren’t you?” Lin Yun remarked casually, which made Myers look awful.

They were both leaders. However, Xiuban and Reina carried out Lin Yun’s order immediately, even though Xiuban already looked like he’d gone berserk.

However, on the Thorny Crown’s side, the two guys were still attacking after Myers gave the order...

The situation was rather awkward. Myers looked angry and unstable. At this moment, Sunny and Sheldon finally understood the command, and walked back gloomily. Sunny’s body was shrouded in vague mist that prevented her from being seen, but her aggression was obvious.

*Damn you, you’re lucky. But you can’t stay lucky forever. That stupid food convinced Myers. Just wait for it, Mafa Merlin, and that goddamn dragon. You will be in serious trouble...*

Nearby, the smoke around Sheldon was roiling and dispersing, revealing his body that had transformed into a half demon. There were distinctive demon features on his face, skin, and body. There was even a demon tail behind his back.

It was not until three minutes after the battle that Sheldon’s demon body finally returned to normal. However, the demon horns and the smoke around his body remained. The abundant evil power could barely be hidden.

Sheldon was wearing a cold smile with undisguised hatred in his eyes, as if he would attack again if he found a chance.

*What a bunch of idiots! You would’ve been torn into shreds if it weren’t for Myers. The more heavily wounded I am, the stronger I will become. When I completely turn into a demon, all of you will die!*

Sunny and Sheldon made Myers look rather terrible, but he could not scold them for that. After all, he was not the only leader of the Thorny Crown. Sunny and Sheldon, technically speaking, weren't his subordinates, either. The Thorny Crown had only been a loose organization of researchers at the beginning. It was better organized at this moment, but still not as hierarchical as some mage families.

Myers didn't say anything. Neither did Lin Yun, who simply glanced at Sunny and Sheldon.

He had confirmed the bloodline that Sunny had transplanted. It wouldn't be difficult to kill her if she dared to cause trouble. However, it was well-known that the demon bloodlines were hard to extinguish. Anything might happen as long as their souls weren't destroyed.

Lin Yun was even less concerned about Sheldon, who had transplanted the bloodline of a bull-horned demon that was one of the 72 pure-blood demons, but its level wasn't too high.

The man had mutated after the transplantation. The more he looked like a demon, the stronger he would be. However, by the time he completely turned into a demon, it wouldn't be easy for him to turn back. The more times he transformed into a demon, the more difficult it would be for him to recover.

In the end, he would turn into a complete demon. His soul, personality, and thoughts would be twisted. He would go crazy...

There was no need to be concerned about such a man who had sold his soul for more strength. He had lost his ego and soul, and would get himself killed sooner or later...

"Sir Merlin, which place should we explore first?" Myers spoke and ended the awkwardness. He had a deeper understanding of this plane's weirdness, and asked Lin Yun, who was apparently more familiar with this plane.

Lin Yun pointed at the enormous cavern in the distance.

"Let's go explore that cavern first. There's nothing that deserves attention on the surface of this plane except the beast and plant resources.

"However, let's not use extraordinary power after we enter that cavern."

Myers realized something, and didn't ask Lin Yun why. He simply nodded gently.

The surface of this plane was brimming with plant resources. All plants here basked in the sunlight of mana all year long. They had all mutated into magic plants. Almost all of them could be used as materials to make alchemy potions.

Any magic plant could be grown here. With the orange sun and the blue sun shining above, the herbs grown here would be much more effective than those in Noscent, and it would take much less time for them to grow. The hardest part of growing magic plants was the accumulation of mana, but that was the easiest here.

Those swarms of beasts were worthless. Except for the strange beasts that looked like giant dragonflies and produced Golden Honey, very few yielded special materials. Most could only yield magic crystals. Their bodies were barely useful except for being used as fertilizer.



Another kind of resource was not on the surface, but underground. The enormous cavern was the biggest entrance to the underground world. In the future, it would be the biggest entrance to explore underground mines.

The cavern was completely dark. A huge number of hairless monsters that looked like bats were stuck to the ceiling of the cavern. Sensing the intruders, the monsters shrieked and swooped. A mage who had green scales all over his face near Myers opened his mouth, and let out strange screams, emitting a special aura.

Immediately, the monsters in the front were ignited and burnt into ashes. Those in the rear all fled back in fear, as if they had encountered their natural enemy. They stuck themselves to the ceiling again, and shivered while covering themselves up with their wings.

Lin Yun looked at the mage, who had transplanted the bloodline of an underground beast that preyed on assorted creatures, including the monsters above his head. Those monsters, whose souls were as weak as those of reptiles, wouldn't dare to approach after feeling his aura and seeing the victims.

It was like when a tiger killed a few sheep, the other sheep in the herd would only escape or hide in fear, and wouldn't dare to fight back.

They moved further into the cavern, which became narrower and narrower. After they walked a couple of kilometers, the cavern became only 200 meters tall and 800 meters wide.

There were still a tremendous number of hairless monsters that stuck themselves to the ceiling with their heads covered in their wings. They fully covered the ceiling, and made it impossible to see any rock. They had occupied the ceiling all the way here. There had to have been hundreds of thousands of them.

Normally speaking, one had to kill half of those monsters to frighten them, and force them to abandon crazy attacks in order to move on, but it was a lot easier at this moment.

The technology of transplanting bloodlines of other creatures wasn't mature yet, and had an extremely low success rate. Even the lunatics of the Thorny Crown wouldn't do that unless they had confirmed that they'd run out of their potential, and couldn't advance further.

The people here were exclusively the elites of the Thorny Crown and the most successful bloodline transplanters. They had advanced into the Heaven Rank with the power of foreign bloodlines, or become even stronger. However, they all suffered from serious sequela.

That was inevitable. Most mages who had transplanted bloodlines of foreign creatures had only risked doing that because it was hopeless for them to enter the Heaven Rank. It was lucky for them to break into the Heaven Rank in such a way. However, by doing so, those mages would transform into warlocks who depended on bloodline power. None of the mages here had a Demiplane. They would rather spend time strengthening their bloodlines instead of learning laws.

By transplanting the bloodlines of foreign creatures, they had acquired abilities that human mages didn't have, which made them useful here...

It was an important reason why Lin Yun was willing to cooperate with Myers. The dozen members of the Thorny Crown all had transplanted bloodlines of foreign creatures. Many of their abilities were practical in this place.

At the very least, it was much easier than fighting their way forward...

After they walked for almost eight kilometers, the enormous channel finally stopped narrowing. It remained fixed at 100 meters in height and 300 meters in width. The channel seemed to be endless, and zigzagged all the way underground. Intersections were appearing too. Some of the side paths led up, and some slanted downwards.

When they reached the intersections, the hairless monsters they encountered earlier were all gone. There was an obvious aura of mana near the intersections.. In this place, the air seemed to have been corrupted by magic power.

### **Chapter 1319: Exploitation**

“Sir Merlin, which path should we take now? The left one or the right one? The path ahead of us seems to be slanted upwards. Also, I can feel the flowing wind. It may be leading aboveground.”

Lin Yun didn't say anything. He simply returned to the intersection of the three paths. An earth law rune appeared in his hand. Immediately, Lin Yun's hand became the color of soil, as if it were made of mud. He then stuck his hand to the floor. After that, ripples spread out on the floor, and Lin Yun gradually inserted his hand into it.

A few seconds later, Lin Yun plucked his hand from the floor, and walked 10 meters away. He then gently stepped on the floor. Immediately, the earth shivered, and a gigantic hole appeared. Looking down through the hole, there was another underground cavern. Here, the rocks were thinnest. After breaking the rocky wall, the cavern down below was exposed.

“Let's go. We'll go from here further downwards.”

Myers looked at Lin Yun in shock and suspicion.

Mafa Merlin seemed to know this place very well. He discovered another enormous underground cavern, and opened a channel towards it. Furthermore, he didn't destroy the structure of this place at all when he opened the channel. He had definitely studied this place.

However, he didn't seem to be familiar with this cavern on the way here. His subordinates didn't seem to have come to this place before, either. Then how did he know?

Had he studied this plane so deeply? What a horrifying man...

Myers was shocked and suspicious, but he didn't show anything on his face. Lin Yun led his team, and jumped into the hole that was only three meters in diameter. Myers and his people then followed.

Their purpose in exploring this cavern was to explore the ores of this place. No place was more suitable for that purpose than a cavern that led to the underground world.

They moved further down, but didn't feel suffocated at all. The air that was mixed with mana was still flowing in this place.

Moving more deeply, everybody was shocked to see the crystals that were embedded on the walls. Those crystals were glimmering softly, enshrouded in abundant mana. On the floor and above their heads, many crystals were protruding from the rocks too. The moment they entered this place, they found that the aura of mana was more abundant than before.

Myers was the fastest. As a mage who had absorbed a crystal monster's bloodline, he was most sensitive to crystals. The moment he landed, he emerged next to a blue crystal that was half exposed on the ground.

"Oh my God. Mana stones! Mana stones whose purity is horrifying! How can there be such pure mana stones? That's theoretically impossible! How can natural mana stones be so pure? Also, there are so many of them here..."

Myers was losing his cool. This cavern was more than 2,000 meters wide and 300 meters tall. There were a thousand visible mana stones. The smallest of them was the size of a fist, and the biggest was half a meter tall. Also, they were just the parts that were exposed to the air. Their actual sizes were probably twice as big. Furthermore, there might be even more such mana stones inside the walls.

Mana stones had a lot of usages. They could be applied to large alchemy machines, large mana reactors, Mana Crystal Cannons, magic tools that didn't require mana input, and even staves.

Also, the purer a mana stone was, the more useful it would be. They were much more precious than the mana crystals in beasts' bodies. Most mana crystals were focused on one kind of element, and their power wasn't pure. Only in case of the special beasts whose mana crystals had purely one type of magic power were the mana crystals valuable.

Mana stones, by comparison, mostly contained pure mana, and could be applied to a much wider range than the mana crystals from beasts' bodies. The pure mana stones could even be directly absorbed by mages to help with mana replenishment and meditation. They were very useful.

The mana stones here were of a horrifyingly high purity. If they were dug out, they would be much more useful than purple gold in Noscent. They could be exchanged for anything that one wanted.

Lin Yun looked at them coldly, and didn't say anything.

According to history records, the hole he opened wouldn't be discovered by accident until after the plane was developed for decades. Down from there, the underground cavern would be much more spacious. The channels that looked like a maze almost stretched to every corner of the plane, just like a natural channel.

Also, the items here weren't mana stones, but high-purity magic crystals like those in the Demiplane. They were basically the same, except that the magic crystals here were of a lower quality.

As for mana stones...

Hehe. They were not remarkable at all. There were only mana stones in Noscent. Very few magic crystals had ever been discovered. Even the largest mother lode of mana stones might not contain many magic crystals, which were always considered high-purity mana stones.

People like Myers certainly couldn't tell the difference...

The reactors in magic battleships mostly consumed magic crystals as fuel. All the mother lodes in this place could meet the magic battleships' demand.

Lin Yun had come to this plane partly for the materials here. More importantly, it was because there were barely any other mother lodes in this place. All the underground mother lodes contained magic crystals and similar ores.

Those were all the fuel that the magic battleships required. When the research on magic battleships went deeper, and when a fleet of magic battleships was established, then a lot more magic crystals would be needed. It would be a waste to use the purest magic crystals in his Demiplane as fuel for the magic battleships. Also, there weren't enough of them.

Lin Yun looked at the magic crystals calmly, partly because he had already been aware of their existence, and partly because the number of the magic crystals here was too low. Even the biggest of them was only half a meter tall. Most were only the size of fists. This small cave of crystals was not worth mentioning at all...

"What a resourceful plane. There are such big high-purity mana stones. Even the smallest of them is the size of a fist. Look at that one. It's half a meter tall. Oh no, it's almost one meter..."

Myers personally dug out the magic crystal that was half a meter tall. He looked at the magic crystal, which was emitting blue light, as if it were an ultimate treasure.

He examined it many times, and finally collected this biggest magic crystal with a smile. After he took it away, he finally remembered something, and looked at Lin Yun awkwardly.

"Sir Merlin, well, this mana stone is very important to me. The mana it contains is very pure and suitable for me. I'll just take it away. Sir Merlin, there are so many more mana stones. Just take whatever you need..."

After picking up the biggest magic crystal, Myers seemed to have become a lot more generous.

Lin Yun remained calm. He didn't even bother to scold Myers, who was already so excited with a half-meter-tall magic crystal. If the man saw a pure magic crystal that was dozens of meters tall, he probably would explode because of excitement.

"Alright, Sir Myers, just keep it if you like it. The rest of you, feel free to collect the magic crystals here if you like them. Just don't destroy the structure of the cavern.

"Xiuban, Reina, if you like the stones, you may dig them too."

Hearing what Lin Yun said, Myers' subordinates couldn't hold any longer. Sunny and Sheldon, who had always been angry with Lin Yun's team, put their grudge aside, and excavated the magic crystals.

Xiuban grinned in disdain.

What a bunch of idiots. Xiuban had seen better things. In Sir Merlin's Demiplane, even the best magic stones were just dropped in the lake. Nobody ever bothered to take them. Would Xiuban ever pick up such garbage? Look at those bumpkins. Were they mining with magic?

Reina didn't bother to look at the magic crystals, either. She, too, had seen a lot. In Lin Yun's Demiplane, the magic crystals had been laid at the bottom of the Mana Lake as pebbles.

In Noscent, a piece of Eternal Dark Gold the size of a fingernail might cause a battle between two Heaven Rank experts, but it was all over the Demiplane like garbage. They had seen too many great things to be attracted to those magic crystals...

Lord Shawn, however, seemed very interested, and grinned at the magic crystals. He had swallowed mana crystals and magic crystals in Lin Yun's Demiplane when he was out of mana. At this moment, the magic crystals were no longer as obviously useful to him as before, but he could still level up gradually by swallowing them.

Inside the Demiplane, it was impossible for Lord Shawn to swallow as many magic crystals as he wanted. His monthly food quota was fixed, and it depended on Lin Yun's mood.

*Damn it, those magic crystals don't seem to be of a high quality, but they're surely better than the mana crystals of beasts. Those smelly mana crystals are really terrible food...*

*However, I cannot dig them in person. Merlin didn't let me join the battle certainly because he considered me as a last resort against those idiotic bloodline transplacers...*

Rolling his eyes, Lord Shawn jumped to Xiuban's shoulder.

"Xiuban, how have I been treating you? I always gave you a hand when Syudos was mean to you. I informed you many times when Sir Merlin wanted to beat you up. Don't you think you should return the favor?"

Xiuban looked at Lord Shawn at a loss.

"Why can't I remember any of that? I only remember that you stole a roast leg from me last time, a bottle of potion last, last time, and you spoke ill of me when Sir Merlin beat me up last, last, last time..."

Xiuban frowned and counted. He had a headache very soon because he lost count of the number of lasts he said...

Lord Shawn, seeing that the people of the Thorny Crown seemed determined to collect all the magic crystals here, became anxious.

"Idiot, don't bother with the details. Stop counting. Help me dig those... crystals. I'll pay you with a bottle of Health Potion!"

Xiuban grinned and looked at Lord Shawn mockingly.

"Do you take me for a fool?"

"Two bottles! That's the most I can offer!"

"Deal!"

Reaching an agreement, Xiuban grinned, and started digging the magic crystals. It was easy for Xiuban to dig with his monstrous body. He stabbed his hand into the rocks as easily as if he was stabbing into sand. He dug out a whole magic crystal easily, and then continued digging others.

While digging, Xiuban grinned and glanced at Lord Shawn now and then as if he were an idiot.

*Lord Shawn is truly dumb. He's as dumb as those bumpkins. He's exchanging two bottles of Health Potions for those worthless stones that Sir Merlin uses as ornaments. He has been a lot more stupid ever since he got a third eye. It's possible that his brain is broken. Does he think I'm a fool? Will I be interested in the item that Sir Merlin isn't?*

*But never mind. Even I have only gathered a dozen bottles of Sir Merlin's Health Potions. I wouldn't mind getting two more. Lord Shawn is truly stupid...*

In only a dozen minutes, all the magic crystals that were exposed to the air in the cavern had been dug up. 80 percent were claimed by the people of the Thorny Crown, and the last 20 percent were claimed by Xiuban alone...

Having gotten so many magic crystals when the exploration just began, the people of the Thorny Crown were in a good mood. Even Sunny and Sheldon found Lin Yun's team much more agreeable.

After the digging, Lin Yun led the way forward. Inside the cavern, besides the new hole in the ceiling that Lin Yun had created, there were another couple of channels. He chose one that led downwards, and continued moving.

After moving for a dozen minutes along the zigzagging channel, they found themselves in another cavern, which was dozens of meters tall, 1,000 meters long, and 300 meters wide. This cavern was even more brilliant than the last one. So many magic crystals had been gathered on the walls that they looked like blooming flowers. There were a lot more magic crystals here, and they were even bigger. One of them was even three meters tall.

The people of the Thorny Crown were astounded to see so many magic crystals. Myers seemed enlightened, and glanced at Lin Yun, who had been calm all the time.

Mafa Merlin already knew this. He knew that there were a lot of such mother lodes, and the deeper they went, the purer and bigger the mana stones would be. He naturally wasn't interested in the mana stones they encountered at the beginning...

Myers thought for a moment, and realized many things. Although the magic crystals here were better and bigger, Myers didn't want to excavate them. After all, they wouldn't be going anywhere. The most important thing to do at this moment was exploration.

Hardly had they entered the cavern when Lin Yun frowned. He heard such frequent rustling noises that he felt his ears were ringing.

"Have you mastered Rock Disguise and Air Fusion?"

Lin Yun suddenly looked at one of the bloodline transplanters, who had rock for skin. His hands seemed to be made of stones, as if he were actually a rock puppet.

He was a bloodline transplanter who had absorbed a rock giant's bloodline, which gave him special abilities after it melted with the human bloodline.

Lin Yun unveiled the bloodline transplanter's special abilities easily. Myers' crystal eyes glittered, and he nodded at the bloodline transplanter.

“Yes, I have, Sir Merlin.”

Everybody else was puzzled. Even Myers was also wondering why Lin Yun suddenly asked that.

Exactly at this moment, the rustling noises became louder and louder. Everybody detected a strange wave inside the cavern that felt like a soul wave and a mana wave.

Lin Yun looked at the channels that the cavern was connected to, and frowned.

“Hide all of us with Rock Disguise and Air Fusion. Make sure that we’re completely unnoticeable, or we’ll be in big trouble.”

Before Lin Yun finished, everybody had heard the rustling noises loud and clear.

Myers nodded. They walked to a corner of the cavern, where the warlock who had transplanted a rock giant’s bloodline released his mana. Then, a dent that was 20 meters wide and five meters deep appeared in the rock behind him. Everybody walked into the dent. Then, the dent was covered in green light.

### **Chapter 1320: Smelly Potion**

Instantly, everybody seemed to have disappeared from the cavern. Their smell, mana, and aura of vitality were all locked in the dent. Also, observed from the outside, the green membrane of light looked exactly the same as the rock wall, without any flaw.

The rock giant warlock stuck one of his hands to the green membrane of light. From his hand, special magic power was spreading out and sustaining the spell.

A dozen seconds later, the dozen channels that the cavern was connected to were almost exploding. From every channel, a tremendous number of giant crimson insects were bursting out. Those insects looked like ants, but they were more than three meters long, and had forelimbs that looked like scythes. There were at least 100 sharp teeth in their mouths.

In only three seconds, those giant insects had occupied the whole cavern. The top of the cave and the walls were all filled up. They crammed the floor too. All of them were shaking their antennae, as if they were looking for something.

“Mafa Merlin, they’re just creatures no stronger than level 30. Is it really necessary to hide? If you’re scared, you can hide, but we are not scared at all!”

Sheldon stood there with his arms crossed. He sneered and looked at the dozen giant insects that were lying on the surface of the green membrane of light. Everybody saw the insects clearly in detail, and didn’t consider them a threat.

Sunny, on the other hand, sneered continuously. “Sheldon, you might not know this, but he has lived to this day exactly because he’s cautious enough to hide whenever he encounters anything until he confirms that there’s no danger. Even if those insects had been only level 5, he would’ve still hidden himself first...”

Lin Yun glanced at Sheldon and Sunny, and ignored them. Myers, who was standing nearby, immediately frowned.

*Are those two idiots who are willing to sell anything for greater power not aware of the situation? They're still starting an internal fight. Mafa Merlin knows this plane too well. If he's so cautious, there must be great danger.*

*Besides, Mafa Merlin's understanding of bloodline transplantation must be even greater than mine. There has never been much grudge between us to begin with. It's better to make friends with Mafa Merlin. As long as we acquire the bloodline transplantation technology from Mafa Merlin, we will become even stronger, and we'll make progress in our research. We may be able to figure out something new.*

*Yet, those two idiots are still provoking Mafa Merlin for no good reason. How stupid...*

"Sunny, Sheldon, shut up. Mafa Merlin definitely had a good reason for his decision. If you're not happy with it, you can go out."

Myers scolded Sunny and Sheldon, who looked quite terrible, but didn't dare to continue the provocation.

"Sir Merlin, you seem to know the insects well, don't you? Can you tell us more about them?"

Myers turned around, and looked at Lin Yun with an apologetic smile.

Lin Yun ignored Sunny and Sheldon. He was silent for a few seconds before he introduced the insects to Myers.

"Do you know army ants that swallow everything in their way? Those insects are the army ants of this plane. They spent most of their time underground. Their nest is underground too. Their forelimbs can rip apart spells, and their mouthparts can tear things apart and swallow them.

"Our shields, mana, bodies, and souls are all vulnerable to them. Also, their bodies are strongly resistant to magic. Their shells are very hard too. Although they're no stronger than level 30, they're just one of the squads that are looking for food.

"Whenever they find anything alive, they'll send a message back with their antennae. Then, in only three minutes, this cavern, and even the dozen caverns around, will be surrounded. Then, the insects will press close as their reinforcements arrive.

"By then, we will have to make use of Heaven Rank power in order to eliminate them.

"If we make use of Heaven Rank power, the caverns will surely collapse, and we can hardly escape. A tribe of such insects includes at least a million members. Which of you can kill a million of such insects here? Also, their queen must be in the Heaven Rank. There may be at least 10,000 of level-39 ones under her.

"More importantly, if we catch the attention of something by making use of extraordinary power, we'll all die..." Lin Yun explained casually. He even spoke the last sentence in a casual tone. However, everybody felt cold at the same time.

It was pure narration. He was only stating facts.



Myers' expression changed. Naturally, he realized that Lin Yun was not making a threat, but stating a fact.

Damn it, what was underground? What was it that was so dangerous that even Mafa Merlin thought he couldn't survive?

Was there a horrifying creature asleep underground? Any use of extraordinary power would wake up that horrifying creature?

Yes, that had to be it. That was the only explanation for this plane's weirdness. This plane had higher odds of being home to a powerful creature than any other planes. How could there not be an intelligent creature in this place?

Yes, there was an intelligent creature. A horrifying extraordinary creature, or species, was lying asleep in the underground world of this plane.

The closer they approached it, the more likely they would be discovered. If they made use of extraordinary power, the horrifying creature might be woken up, and kill everybody.

It was possible that intelligent species and creatures had been born in this plane, but all of them had been killed by that horrifying being...

"Sir Merlin, are you suggesting that some sort of horrifying extraordinary creature is asleep underground in this plane?"

What Myers said attracted everybody's attention. Not just the people of the Thorny Crown, but Xiuban, Reina, and Lord Shawn also looked at Lin Yun in surprise.

Lin Yun nodded slowly, and thought for a moment.

"It's very strong. In terms of level, it's probably between level 48 and level 49. If it's woken up, no creatures in this plane can possibly survive.

"Of course, those reptile-like beasts are exceptions. Not all of them will get killed..."

"I hope that all of you understand that we're here to explore for resources, not to get killed. To be more frank, if we wake up that horrifying creature, you will definitely perish. This entire plane is its territory."

Immediately, everybody fell silent. Even Sunny and Sheldon, who had always wanted to cause trouble, simply sneered in disdain, but didn't say anything.

Exactly at this moment, unusual waves emerged from the rock giant warlock. His mana waves became chaotic, and the green membrane of light had ripples.

The insects, which had searched every corner of the cavern, detected something. Their antennae were all shivering crazily, and all of them were waving their forelimbs while cutting the walls. The hard rocks were all crumbling under the cutting of the sharp forelimbs. In only a few seconds, the cavern had become significantly bigger. The walls had been reduced by one meter...

Outside of the green membrane of light, a dozen giant insects were digging crazily with their forelimbs, making broken stones fly about. The space where everybody was hiding slowly retreated under the rock giant warlock's control.

When those insects' forearms hit the membrane of light, they seemed to be hitting rocks. Those rocks were transferred from nearby or down below. Under the rock giant warlock's control, this space was completely hidden in the wall. Nobody could discover it.

That was the special ability of warlocks who had transplanted foreign creatures. It was impossible to do that with spells. They would've been discovered by the insects.

"Sir Myers, I cannot endure much longer. There's something wrong with my bloodline. I've been using it for too long. In three minutes at most, I won't be able to control it."

The rock giant warlock looked rather awful, and his expression changed continuously. It could be seen that his arms were transforming between flesh and rocks. Something was wrong with his bloodline fusion.

That was his shortcoming. He couldn't use the rock giant's bloodline power for too long. Take this spell for example. He couldn't use it for longer than 10 minutes. If he continued, his blood would boil, and the fusion would have problems. Then, his body would turn into a rock. His heart and soul wouldn't be able to endure the blast, and he would die...

Lin Yun frowned, and looked at the insects in confusion, wondering why this squad of food seekers would linger for such a long time. By common sense, they would leave after everybody's remaining aura had been swallowed.

By his estimation, the rock giant warlock should've been able to accomplish the task easily.

Lin Yun heaved a sigh. He didn't want the exploration to fail, either. If it failed, he wouldn't be able to explore or develop this plane until decades later.

He took out some Golden Honey and a bunch of other materials from his space ring. Then, a water ball the size of a football appeared in Lin Yun's left hand, with a vortex revolving fast inside. Lin Yun put all the materials into the water ball.

As the vortex inside the water ball revolved, the water ball changed its color. It seemed to have been subdivided into more than 30 layers, with a vortex revolving at a different speed on each layer.

The materials were squeezed into pieces in the vortexes, but their effects weren't damaged at all. The impurities were filtered out on the surface of the water ball.

Then, a fireball appeared in Lin Yun's right hand, and enshrouded the water ball. The impurities on the surface were burnt up. Complicated reactions took place inside the water ball. The 30 layers that were of different colors melted one after another until they combined into a kind of green fluid, which had complicated changes under the burning of flames, and showed different colors.

However, nothing could be seen from the outside. They could only see that Lin Yun was holding a burning fireball.

Everybody else was shocked. Myers' crystal eyes almost popped out.

*Is he creating a potion? Can you create alchemy potions in such a way?*

Everybody was astounded as they watched Lin Yun. In only one minute, the fireball was gone, and there was only some black thick fluid left in Lin Yun's hand. He looked at the rock giant warlock.

"Open your mouth."

That man had already been shocked. In his entire life, he had never seen anyone making alchemy potions in such a way. That fluid was black and smelly, but nobody doubted that it wasn't a potion...

Nobody thought that Lin Yun was just doing this for fun...

Hearing what Lin Yun said, the rock giant warlock unconsciously opened his mouth. Immediately, the black fluid in Lin Yun's hand was sent into his mouth.

Instantly, the man's face color became back to normal, but he looked so terrible as if he had just eaten dog sh\*t. While keeping one of his hands stuck to the green membrane of light, he extended his other hand into his mouth, trying to pull out what he just ate.

The rock giant warlock seemed frightened and nauseated. The other people had cold sweat too. They almost vomited just by smelling the fluid. They couldn't imagine what it would feel like to eat it...

"We don't have a lot of time. Just deal with it."

Lin Yun was rather satisfied with the potion that he had made in a hurry. Although he didn't have enough time, and the potion was definitely one of the worst that he had ever made, it was enough to resolve the urgent problem...

The rock giant warlock was still gagging in nausea, and didn't realize that the rippling green membrane of light had stabilized. However, Myers, with his unusual eyes, keenly noticed the difference.

"George, your arms are back to normal, and so are your face and your aura... Oh, damn it, your bloodline has been stabilized?"

Myers was shrieking in a different voice. He didn't look like a level-5 Heaven Rank expert at all, and was like an ordinary person who saw people flying for the first time...

After Myers shouted that, the atmosphere became weird. George, who had extended his hand into his esophagus, stiffened. He immediately withdrew his hand. Looking at his arm that had been restored and the green membrane of light, he opened his mouth, completely stupefied.

"Oh... I can't believe this... My bloodline has stabilized..."

After seeing that, George saw the expressions of his companions, and trembled hard. Noticing that there was some smelly black fluid left on his hand, he unhesitatingly put his hand into his mouth and bit it off, swallowing all the fluid. A second later, a new rock hand grew out of George's wrist.

Looking at his partners, George grinned and smiled innocently.

"It's gone. I've drunk it up..."

George seemed to be smiling innocently, but everybody could tell how proud he was of his new rock hand.

Myers was so shocked and regretful that fury was almost bursting out of his eyes and killing George.

That moron ate the last bit of the potion. Did he not know how important the potion was to them?

With any remnant of the potion, it would be possible to analyze what kind of materials were applied. Even though it was impossible to infer how the potion was made, it would be possible to create other potions that were less effective. But that moron...

Would they fight him for the potion residue that he took out of his mouth? Damn it, what an idiot...

Myers was almost infuriated. His chest was rising and falling, as if it might explode any moment. His mana waves were quite chaotic. The others all glared at George, as if they wanted to kill him immediately. There was no telling whether it was because George didn't leave any residue, or because they didn't get to taste it...

At this moment, George realized that the atmosphere was weird too. He tried to explain.

"I thought I had to swallow all the potion to keep all of us hiding. After all, none of us knows when those annoying insects will leave..."

Myers fell silent with an awful expression. The other people glared at George again. None of them said anything to George anymore. At moments like this, they needed George's ability. After all, the insects were still expanding the cavern crazily, and there was no telling when they would go...

Ever since they detected something unusual, the insects had been digging in the cavern, as if they would dig a dozen meters deep for the targets. They certainly wouldn't leave in a couple of minutes...

George's unstable bloodline, thanks to a potion that was as smelly as the sewage in a slum in a small city, had been completely stabilized. Judging by his aura, nothing would happen to him anytime soon.