

## Magic Era 1321

### Chapter 1321: Breakup

George squatted next to the green membrane of light with one hand stuck to it silently. Myers glared at George, and didn't say anything else. He simply approached Lin Yun, and managed a smile.

"Sir Merlin, well, do you have more of that potion—"

"No."

Lin Yun interrupted Myers before he could finish. Myers almost choked. His eyes glittered, and he didn't say anything else. He managed another smile.

"Sir Merlin, I've long heard that you are a great alchemist and one of the best Artisans. Considering your technology of potion making, you are already very close to becoming a Saint Alchemist.

"Could you make another bottle of the potion you just made? Just tell me the price. I will not bargain with you. If you can manufacture the potion, I'll purchase it from you on behalf of the Thorny Crown. We can sign a contract immediately..."

Myers kept a humble posture, and his eyes were turning bloodshot. He was greedy for the potion that could stabilize their unstable bloodlines. It was surprisingly effective on George. It only took three seconds for the potion to kick in. Furthermore, it had been several minutes since he took the potion, and his bloodline didn't boil or cause any trouble...

That effect would definitely make any warlock or mage who had transplanted the bloodline of foreign creatures greedy. They would pay anything for such a potion.

Had it not been for the obvious and unknown dangers outside, and that he couldn't defeat Lin Yun, he wouldn't have begged Lin Yun so humbly.

Even if the potion was an actual piece of sh\*t, and did not just smell more disgusting than sewage, those people would gladly swallow it with honey as long as it was effective.

They had transplanted other creatures' bloodlines for power, and turned themselves into something barely like human beings. What thing wouldn't they do?

Now that Myers was begging him humbly, Lin Yun was no longer as angry as before. Looking at the hope and passion on the faces of Myers and other bloodline transplanters, Lin Yun heaved a soft sigh.

"Sir Myers, seriously, I'm not short of money. I can also get anything that I want. This is not a matter of price..."

"The main problem is that the potion is very hard to make. Only the peak Artisans are able to make it. Also, the time limit for making is very short. If you exceed the time limit, the attempt will fail.

"Only an alchemist who's beyond a peak Artisan and on the way to becoming a Saint Alchemist, and who's familiar with bloodline transplantation, can possibly make the potion. I succeeded only because of luck.

"On the other hand, the potion isn't as effective as you think. In half an hour to one hour, the effect of the potion will be gone. Also, it is only useful in cases like Sir George's condition. It does not improve your combat ability or help with your research..."

Hearing that, Myers wasn't disappointed at all, nor were the mages around him. All that they needed was the ability of bloodline stabilization. The weaknesses of most mages who had transplanted foreign bloodlines were due to unstable bloodlines.

Even if the potion was only effective for an hour, or half an hour, it would decide whether or not they would survive a battle in critical moments.

No matter how flawed the potion was, it was as valuable to those people as a Heaven Rank potion was to an Archmage.

Lin Yun was trying his best to expound on the flaws of the potion. However, to his surprise, those people weren't disappointed at all despite all the flaws and the smell of the potion. Rather, it only made them want the potion more badly...

Were those people already in such a terrible condition? The bloodline stabilizer potion that he made in such a simple way was only an unsuccessful product. Yet, all of them considered it a powerful potion?

How had those people survived for so long? Did they all have the weakness of an unstable bloodline? Damn it. Their technology was even worse than expected. They were still in the early phase of bloodline transplantation...

Most people of the Thorny Crown who had transplanted foreign bloodlines had surely died because of their bloodlines, right?

Lin Yun regretted not exaggerating the flaws of the potion, even though the potion's effect he described wasn't even 1% as good as the qualified stabilizer potion.

"Sir Merlin, that's fine. The research on anything is always immature at the beginning. Your expertise in bloodline transplantation is far better than mine. Such a powerful potion will definitely be a landmark in the history of bloodline transplantation. It's a great achievement. You're too modest..."

"You're probably the only person who can make the potion right now. On behalf of the Thorny Crown, I'd like to purchase a batch of this groundbreaking potion for the price of Heaven Rank potion. What do you think?"

Myers didn't seem bothered at all, and was still trying to obtain the potion from Lin Yun. He even offered the price of a Heaven Rank potion...

Passion and excitement were all over Myers' crystal eyes. His face looked normal, but he had almost broken his own fingers because of excitement...

Was the Heaven Rank potion expensive? One bottle of low-level Heaven Rank potion could be sold for millions of purple gold. However, if he had such a groundbreaking potion, he would be able to continue his research, and the Thorny Crown wouldn't have to hide in the darkness. If the transplanted bloodline remained stable, he and his partners would be able to unleash their maximal combat ability anytime. Then, the Thorny Crown would be able to walk out of the darkness...

It was no big deal to spend some purple gold on such a potion. He was willing to pay any price as long as Mafa Merlin was willing to sign a contract and make deals with him.

If he had obtained such a potion earlier, no mages of the Thorny Crown would've perished due to bloodline instability in battles, and there would've been 100 more Heaven Rank experts in the Thorny Crown...

Myers was trying to convince Lin Yun. The other bloodline transplanters were all looking at them eagerly. Sunny was hiding behind everybody else, and staring at Lin Yun in silence. There was no telling what was on her mind. Sheldon grinned at Lin Yun with a passionate smile, as if he would do something if Lin Yun disagreed.

Myers was hopeful and humble. He was a level-5 Heaven Rank expert, yet he treated Lin Yun with great respect. He was already modest enough...

Lin Yun seemed to be touched, but there was helplessness all over his face.

"Sir Myers, alright, I didn't want to say this at the beginning, but it seems that I have to speak the truth now. The biggest problem about the potion is that I don't have enough materials.

"If I have materials, although it's difficult to make the potion and the success rate is low, I can always try. But I'm out of materials. I used up the last bit of materials that were supposed to be used for research. I wouldn't have used them if it weren't for the emergency. Fortunately, I was quite lucky, and I successfully made the potion..."

Lin Yun seemed to be explaining helplessly, and Myers was dumbfounded.

"You're out of materials? What materials do you need? I've gathered quite a lot of alchemical materials..."

There was surprise and delight on Lin Yun's face, as if he was happy he could study the subject again.

"Oh? That would be so great. I can try making the potion if I have the materials.

"I need Mantuolo Flowers, the Cat-Faced Grass's root, the liver of a living Kachou Beast..."

Lin Yun listed quite a few materials quickly. However, hearing the names of the materials, Myers felt like he had just been kicked in the head. He had seen only one of the materials, heard about another one, and didn't know anything about the rest...

Myers was quite frustrated, and didn't know what to say at all...

What could he do? There were no materials. The man promised that he could make the potion as long as he had materials. But without materials, even a Saint Alchemist wouldn't be able to do anything.

Not just Myers, the other people were disappointed too. None of them was in a good mood when their last hope turned out to be impossible.

Myers didn't say anything else. But Sheldon, who had been listening, sneered.

"Mafa Merlin, are you kidding? Even the knowledgeable Sir Myers doesn't know all the materials you mentioned. Where did you find them?"

"Also, you happened to have the last portion of materials, and you luckily made the potion successfully. If you don't want to make a deal with the Thorny Crown, you can just say it. We won't mind. Or maybe, are you taking us for stupid pigs because you want to get more things from us?"

Lin Yun became cold the moment Sheldon started talking cynically. Myers' expression slightly changed. The other bloodline transplanters put on a weird expression too.

Sheldon walked forward, and stared at Lin Yun with a scary expression.

"Mafa Merlin, you'd better be a lamb and sign this contract. That way, you may be able to get some purple gold. Otherwise, you'll know what a stupid decision it is to piss off the Thorny Crown!"

Lin Yun glanced at Sheldon casually, and then turned around and looked at Myers.

"Sir Myers and I have been having a pleasant conversation, and I didn't want to kill the atmosphere. If you're determined to know the answer, why bother asking me? You know it even better than I do.

“A dozen of the Gilded Rose’s material suppliers have terminated their cooperation with us. Some would rather give the Gilded Rose a huge compensation that equals their profits in the past decade than continue cooperating with the Gilded Rose.

“You should know why they did it better than I do. To prevent the material suppliers from cooperating with the Gilded Rose, one of the plantation families’ leaders was killed, and the others encountered death threats. Some of the family leaders suddenly changed their attitude, and insisted on terminating the cooperation with the Gilded Rose despite the objection within their families.

“The leader of the family that has access to the most important material for that potion has already been killed. Others don’t have the material. The Gilded Rose is short of even the ordinary materials, not to mention the special ones...”

After saying that, Lin Yun stopped talking to Myers. The latter looked quite terrible, and glanced at Sunny, who had been hiding behind the crowd in silence.

Sheldon’s expression changed, and he wanted to say something. However, he clenched his fists and gritted his teeth, without coming up with anything. The smart ones in the Thorny Crown glanced at Sunny.

Myers glared at Sheldon and Sunny angrily.

Sheldon is truly an idiot. I had finally got closer to Mafa Merlin, and he even wanted to make peace with us, until that idiot Sheldon provoked him again. It’s great now. Mafa Merlin certainly won’t make the potion again even if he has the materials.

Such a potion is only necessary for the people who have transplanted powerful creatures’ bloodlines like us. The others don’t need it at all. Mafa Merlin won’t be short of purple gold even if he doesn’t have the potion. With his expertise in alchemy, he could make a huge profit whatever he sells...

Sunny is truly an idiot. The Ring of Roses has been having problems ever since she and Emmy controlled it. It has left traces too many times. If the headquarters hadn’t helped clean up the messes, the Ring of Roses would’ve been completely exposed.

Those two idiots were bold enough to assassinate a material supplier family’s leader to deal with Mafa Merlin. Did they want to be struck by all forces?

Are they happy? The Gilded Rose has lost access to the materials. Even the material supplier family's leader is dead. Have the others already been mind-controlled by Emmy? Damn it. They've ended the hope of everybody in the Thorny Crown!

Did they have to find the soul of the unlucky family leader in the Plane of the Undead, and learn about the source of the material from his soul?

Myers looked awful, and the others of the Thorny Crown didn't look any better. After all, everybody in the Thorny Crown who had absorbed a foreign bloodline and advanced into the Heaven Rank alive was famous. Some of them were even Heaven Rank mages. They transplanted other creatures' bloodlines in the Heaven Rank to gain greater power, or to find the truth of magic.

They had all been hiding their trump cards, but they had a rough idea about what kind of special power each other boasted.

Sunny already informed them of her history with Lin Yun when she came, although she left out the details. Now that Lin Yun filled in the details, everybody immediately knew what happened, and even how Sunny did it...

A member of the Thorny Crown had ruined the hope for everyone in the Thorny Crown...

Sheldon gloomily stood aside, with a thin layer of smoke roiling on his skin. When he breathed, it sounded like bellows were working. He glared at Sunny with such fury as if he were going to kill her.

I have to get that potion, but it's impossible now. Sunny and Emmy ruined everything...

If I got that potion, I would have even greater power. I might've become even stronger than Myers. However, that's impossible now, all because of those two b\*tches. Their madness has jeopardized my interests, and stopped me from growing strong. I'm so angry...

Everybody fell quiet inside the wall. Nothing could be heard except their breathing.

Outside the green membrane of light, the crazy insects had given up. Not finding what they were looking for, they left through a few channels. All that was left was the broken stones and the magic crystals that had been dug out. Those magic crystals were thrown away like garbage. The giant insects obviously had no interest in them at all.

All the giant insects were gone. After three minutes, Lin Yun nodded at George, who had been sustaining the green membrane of light.

The membrane of light was gone, and everybody walked out of the narrow space. Seeing how casual and emotionless Lin Yun was, Myers was about to say something, but Lin Yun opened his mouth first.

“Sir Myers, there are more and more branches here. It may be dangerous for so many of us to gather together. So, let’s split up. The channels might have been dug out by those giant insects. They’re very complicated. It will be faster to explore them if we split up.”

Myers wanted to say something, but didn’t know what to say. Before he could say anything, Lin Yun had already picked a channel, and left with his people.

Myers turned around, and gloomily stared at Sunny. The glittering light in his crystal eyes let everybody know that Myers was already exasperated.

“Sunny, is there anything that you’d like to explain?”

Myers sounded calm, but everybody could hear his fury. This time, nobody stepped up and defended her. Even Sheldon, who had been taking her side, simply stood aside and waited quietly.

As a man who would sell his soul for greater power, he didn’t attack or kill Sunny for ruining his prospect of growing even stronger. He had already contained himself very well.

Sunny’s face and body were enshrouded in gray mist. Nobody could see her expression. It was not until a few seconds later that Sunny finally explained.

“Sir Myers, we didn’t know any of that...”

She looked around, and saw hate and dissatisfaction in everybody’s eyes. She didn’t know what to say, and simply stared in the direction where Lin Yun left, with vicious flames burning all over her eyes.

## Chapter 1322: Deeper and Darker

This is all Mafa Merlin's fault. How can he possibly know bloodline transplantation so well? That's impossible. The intelligence we've collected didn't mention anything of that sort...

How can that guy possibly...

If he knows bloodline transplantation so well, then is Emmy already dead? Damn it. She must be dead already. Mafa Merlin has surely found her weakness and let her die completely.

How is Mafa Merlin possibly able to make such a horrifying potion? Everything is screwed...

"Sunny, I remember that the headquarters decided to give the Ring of Roses to you and Emmy because we trusted your abilities. However, you never collected remarkable intelligence in the past years. You even left a lot of traces leading to the Ring of Roses several times.

"This time, you even retaliated against Mafa Merlin for the idiots of the Shadow Tower. You think you didn't leave any traces in your operations? Chances are that all the top forces of the Odin Kingdom know about you now.

"Also, how have you been working on intelligence? You didn't find anything about that potion? Stupid woman. Explain to the elders after the exploration!"

Myers pointed at Sunny's nose and roared in fury. Then, he picked a channel and left with the people of the Thorny Crown.

They walked into one of the channels. The black and gray mist on Sunny's skin seethed and then exploded, filling up the entire cavern. The ominous power of death spread out, and corrupted everything on its way.

"Mafa Merlin, I want you to die. You're doomed, you're doomed. You will die after being tortured. I will return my humiliation to you in double..."

Sunny roared furiously in the cavern. A few minutes later, Sunny sneered, and didn't follow the Thorny Crown's team. Instead, she went into the channel that Lin Yun just entered.

Leading Xiuban and Reina, Lin Yun passed through the caverns that were connected to each other by countless channels. This place looked like an enormous maze.

The previous cavern looked like one that led to the ground, but this one had a channel that slanted downwards. Any of the channels might lead deep underground.

It was just a disguise to fool the people of the Thorny Crown into thinking that he was preparing to return to the ground. It didn't matter whether or not they were tricked.

"Merlin, why did we split up with those people? Didn't you say that the exploration would be easier with those people?"

Lord Shawn was holding a large magic crystal, and biting it like a snack on Xiuban's shoulder. He then chewed its pieces and swallowed them.

Lin Yun was examining some marks on the ground. Hearing what Lord Shawn said, he chuckled.

"I went underground with them because I needed their power. Those people all have special abilities thanks to their foreign bloodlines. Their abilities ensured that we could enter deeply underground without going through any battle.

"Since we didn't fight, we never woke up the horrifying monster that's asleep. Right now, I'm certain that even if we have to fight for the rest of the journey, we won't need to use extraordinary power to combat our enemy.

"That's good enough. Besides, it won't be good if those people are still with us as we approach the deepest part."

Lord Shawn furrowed his brows, confused.

"Won't it be more dangerous as we go deeper? Why is it bad to have those people as helpers?"

Lin Yun shook his head.

“You’re wrong. The conditions here are special. The closer we are to the sleeping monster, the less dangerous it will be. We’ve already covered half of the trip. If everything goes well, we will arrive at our destination in a similar amount of time as we’ve taken to travel so far.

“From here, the deeper we go and the closer we are to our destination, the safer we will be. Do you remember the giant insects we saw?

“They’re the most dangerous creatures in the underground world. The insects we saw are of the lowest level in their society, and are only responsible for searching for food. Even if they find any food, they won’t be qualified to eat it. They have to move the food back to senior members of the society.”

As they talked, Lin Yun touched a mark on the stone wall and put on a smile.

“We’re quite lucky. I had a guess when I saw how weird the insects were just now, and I’ve confirmed it. The insects are in a food crisis. This happens to be a hunting season. They’ll all go to the ground, and hunt everything they see. Then, they’ll carry their prey back to their nest.

“One hunt may last one to two months. The insects we saw were just minions that were responsible for patrol and guard. Their departure, and the traces here, indicate that all the insects have left for the ground. We have plenty of time.

“Without those giant insects, if we encounter anything underground, we can deal with them with ordinary spells without using extraordinary power. Even if the guy underground is woken up afterwards, we’ll have enough time to go there.”

Lin Yun was in a good mood. The most difficult part of the trip was that from the surface to the underground world. There were simply too many monsters in the way.

If the battles had gotten too big, or if the underground monster had detected extraordinary power and woken up, it would’ve been impossible to march to the underground world.

There were a lot of restraints when fighting underground to begin with. If that monster woke up and couldn’t be taken care of, he would have to wait decades before the monster fell asleep again. Otherwise, it would be impossible to develop this plane...

With the bizarre-looking guys of the Thorny Crown's help, the most difficult part became the easiest. The rest of the journey was a lot easier. Since they hadn't woken up the monster yet, Lin Yun was confident of keeping it asleep as he went deeper. Then, it would be much easier to develop this plane.

He continued moving forward. He didn't encounter any underground creatures on the rest of the way, and only found some residues when he passed through the caverns.

The residues were all left when the underground creatures were torn apart by the army insects on their march to the ground. However, no bodies could be found, as all of them had been taken away as food. Even the blood had been cleaned up. Nothing would be wasted.

The residues that Lin Yun encountered were all left by the army ants during the cleaning or the march.

The rest of the trip was a lot faster. The channels and caverns underground were extremely complicated, and the gravity here was unstable too. It was impossible to just go straight downwards as he did at the beginning.

As the army insects marched to the ground, the marks they left behind were the best road signs. Even such insects couldn't tell directions in the underground world. They never got lost, because they could track down the marks they had left when they traveled earlier. Also, they had a huge population. It was unlikely for all of them to get lost.

The army insects had marched to the ground, so Lin Yun only needed to move in the opposite direction of the marks they left behind. The marks were the best navigation marks for at least half of the remaining trip.

The underground world was completely dark. Only the caverns had a bit of light thanks to the illumination of magic crystals. In such a place, one could easily lose track of time.

As they came closer and closer to the bottom, magic crystals were appearing in the channels that linked the caverns. There were also pure magic crystals in the caverns. Although they weren't nearly as good as the magic crystals that were condensed in Lin Yun's Demiplane, they sufficed for the need of magic battleships.

Those magic crystals would be qualified as the fuel in the reactors even in the most powerful magic battleships in the future.

Everybody moved onward in the darkness. All of a sudden, a ring of stone stings appeared around Xiuban, and closed to the center as the earth trembled, stabbing Xiuban's waist.

Instantly, weird magic waves appeared. The floor under their feet turned soft. At this moment, everybody realized that the stone stings were actually sharp teeth in a monster's mouth. There were at least hundreds of teeth on this ring.

The monster that looked like a rock had bitten Xiuban on his waist, and was exerting strength with its teeth, hoping to bite off Xiuban's lower body. Noises of friction burst out. The monster bit Xiuban's waist like a dog that was mauling a stone. In only one second, more than 10 of the monster's teeth had broken...

Realizing that the prey in its mouth was quite sturdy, the monster descended, and tried to pull Xiuban away.

Xiuban screamed loudly.

"Sir Merlin, help me! Please help me! Damn it, this monster is trying to eat me..."

Xiuban cried in panic loudly, but there was not the slightest injury on his skin where the monster bit him. He was about to be dragged into the soil when he laid his arms on the stone wall. His arms then became twice as thick. While crying for help, he exerted strength through his arms, and hauled himself as well as the monster out of the hole...

As Xiuban plucked the monster from the wall, the monster was still not letting him go. The monster looked like an enormous earthworm, except that its body seemed to be made of rocks. At least, it felt exactly the same as the stones around.

It didn't have eyes, nose, or ears, just a big mouthpart that was full of sharp teeth. Xiuban's legs kicked quickly inside the monster's mouth. In only a couple of seconds, he made an opening inside the monster's mouth, and broken stones were splattering out. There was no blood at all, even though the monster had a wound on its body.

Xiuban screamed and extended his mouth, smashing the monster's mouth that was still biting him into broken stones.

It was not until this moment that Xiuban finally stopped screaming. Touching his uninjured waist, and looking at the monster that was going to escape, he burst into fury.

“Damn it, you dare to mess with the great Xiuban? You think you can get away?”

Xiuban roared and hugged the monster's body, unleashing a terrifying pressure. Immediately, the monster was caught by Xiuban, and pulled out of the stone like an earthworm that craned its head from the soil.

The monster's body seemed to be made of circles of stones, and was plucked by Xiuban bit by bit. It was more than 40 meters long, and had another mouthpart that was full of sharp teeth on the other end. After it was plucked, it shivered and wriggled, attacking Lin Yun.

A tornado exploded inside the monster's mouth. Immediately, countless broken pieces were splashing out, and the monster's body collapsed into circles of ordinary stones.

However, such stones were a lot harder than the walls. There were also minced bodies inside the broken stones. Some of the bodies were so deformed that it was impossible what they used to be.

Those were all the undigested food inside this stone monster.

Dozens of meters away, Xiuban threw away the last stone in his hand, and rushed over angrily. He stomped every big stone under his feet, and reduced them to smithereens.

After that, Xiuban finally walked close with a bitter expression. He found his reaction a moment earlier too embarrassing.

“Sir Merlin, why didn't you help me? What if I got eaten? Why did that freaking monster attack me only?”

Lin Yun was smiling, and Lord Shawn was rolling on the ground and laughing loudly.

“Idiot, you’re the fattest one here. Do you think the monster would pick me over you? It wouldn’t have bothered to eat me even if I had walked right past its mouth...”

“That monster was an idiot too. It was just level-35. You’d have been too sturdy to digest even if it had swallowed you...”

Xiuban gloomily continued stepping on the stones, gnashing his teeth.

Lin Yun cast Mage Hand, and fetched a glimmering stone from a bunch of ordinary stones.

It was a very special material that was both a stone and a magic material. It could be very useful on some special occasions.

Such monsters were unique ones in this place. They were made of rocks, and could travel among rocks. They were exactly the same as the rocks around the explorers, and certainly couldn’t be detected.

Lin Yun wouldn’t have spotted it if it hadn’t shown up. Also, just like what Lord Shawn said, such monsters would only hunt for the biggest prey so that it could be fed up.

With Xiuban, who was almost 2.3 meters tall, being here, the rock monster wouldn’t have picked anyone else.

Also, the monster had mouths on both ends of the body. Even if its body was broken apart, it would recover very soon as long as part of it escaped. It wouldn’t be killed unless its two mouths were destroyed.

“Be careful, we’re approaching our destination.”

Lin Yun examined the environment, and warned everybody. In this place, the gravity was even more chaotic than before.

They sensed that the channel was slanting downwards, but the gravity made them feel that they were climbing. On the surface, the channel seemed to be upwards too.

After they passed through another three caverns, the gravity became more and more confusing when they passed the complicated channels. Even a Heaven Rank mage would've lost their way in this place.

Lin Yun kept throwing Mage Eyes to the channels between caverns, confirming his location by the reaction of the Mage Eyes. Also, he had already known the method of locating himself. He constantly calculated his location, and illustrated the structure of the maze to prevent himself from getting lost.

The deeper he went, the more difficult it was to calculate, and the more time he had to spend to ensure that he wasn't lost.

On the other side, Myers was traveling with members of the Thorny Crown, and discovered a lot of magic crystals, even though they only mistook them for high-purity mana stones that were never seen in Noscent. However, none of them really felt happy.

The Thorny Crown's main purpose in this new plane was not to seek wealth, but to find resources that could benefit and help them. That was what they were truly looking for.

If they didn't find anything that could help with their bloodline transplantation, they wouldn't feel happy even if they discovered an enormous purple gold mine. It was not unusual for people to starve with gold coins in their hands. If one couldn't buy things they needed, gold coins were just a common metal.

They had found a potion, which was better than any resources possible, and could cure them of their bloodline weaknesses. Yet, because of the Thorny Crown's own mistake, it was impossible for them to get the potion anymore.

Therefore, it was only natural that they felt upset. Even though Sunny had been left behind, and didn't keep up with the team, nobody cared about it anymore. They all wished that Sunny died, preferably in Lin Yun's hands...

## Chapter 1323: Nemesis

"Lord Myers, I think we've lost the way. We came to this cave more than three hours ago..." one of the bloodline transplanters, who had tiny scales on his cheeks and vague magic waves on his skin, said with an awful expression.

Myers was gloomily silent. He observed the cavern they were in carefully. It was indeed exactly the same as one of the caverns they visited earlier. The sizes and locations of the magic crystals in the cavern, and the colors and directions of the most eye-catching ones, were the same. Even the marks left by the giant insects were the same too...

More importantly, Myers had seen a magic crystal whose corner was broken. One of his companions had specifically broken it earlier. It couldn't be found in any other cavern...

A dozen seconds later, Myers put on a solemn expression.

"We've indeed got lost. We were here before. Have you found anything?"

The dozen bloodline transplanters around him each had their special abilities. However, none of them discovered that they had lost their way before...

"The gravity here is normal, so there's only one possibility: something is wrong with the direction of gravity, which probably changed at the turns or the entrances to caverns and channels, making it difficult to discover it. I think the caverns and channels here are probably all caused by the chaotic gravity..."

"There's wind here, meaning that this place is still connected to other places. We've been going in the opposite direction of the wind on our way here. It's possible that the wind here circulates differently from what we expected..."

"The marks and scents left by the giant insects have been helping us navigate too. They cannot possibly tell the direction here, either. Then how have they been traveling underground?"

All the bloodline transplanters expressed their opinions. Nobody discovered anything unusual. If they had, they wouldn't have gotten lost. Unfortunately, nobody had noticed anything...

Myers threw a mark at the entrance to each channel, and picked an entrance that they hadn't entered.

"Let's continue walking. It's impossible for us to leave if we stay here. We must confirm the direction leading to the ground first. If we cannot find the right direction, it will be impossible to create a channel to escape through the rocks..."

Myers looked quite calm. He was the leader, and certainly could not evince any panic or self-doubt, especially in such an emergency. For some reason, Myers thought of Lin Yun...

Mafa Merlin is definitely aware of this situation. He knows this plane better than all of us. His familiarity with this place means that he knows the deeper we go, the more chaotic the gravity will be, and the more likely we'll get lost.

We've traveled at least three days underground. No, maybe even longer. The time is flowing at a strange speed in this place. It's been such a long time, yet we haven't found any trace of Mafa Merlin. That's impossible.

So, they must be on a new level now, or rather a new depth, while we keep wandering on the same depth the whole time.

Damn it, if it weren't for Sunny or Sheldon, we would still have been with Mafa Merlin. Even if we hadn't obtained that groundbreaking new potion, we wouldn't have been lost here.

However, we've been completely stranded in this place. There's no telling if anything else will happen. There are no mother lodes here except the mana stones. Even the monsters are gone too. This place is quiet and creepy...

The Thorny Crown has changed. They're already lost in the pursuit of power. Have they forgotten the vow when the Thorny Crown was established?

Myers wore a bitter and helpless smile. He looked at George, with regret corrupting his heart like poison.

After such a long time, George's bloodline was still in perfect condition, which meant that the potion was even more effective than anticipated. Even though the original effect had expired, the potion also had a long-term effect that stabilized George's unstable bloodline, and even slightly increased the compatibility of his bloodlines.

A potion that could improve the stability of bloodlines for a short while like first aid would still be a groundbreaking item for the bloodline transplanters. It could save their life at critical moments.

However, if the effect was permanent, then the potion would be entirely different. The former potion was like a healing potion, and the latter potion was like a potion that could strengthen one's body. The latter could be a dozen times, if not hundreds of times, more expensive than the former in a store.

For the bloodline transplanters, the potion seemed to be from another age ahead of theirs...

Myers seemed calm, but he couldn't have been more regretful inwardly. Unfortunately, he couldn't say anything just yet, not until the exploration was over...

After the members of the Thorny Crown noticed they'd lost their way, and adopted pertinent methods to find a way out, it was a lot easier for them to find the right way. After all, they all had their own special abilities, which was why Myers had picked them for the exploration.

On the other hand, Sunny got lost too while chasing after Lin Yun. Unlike Myers and his partners, who were all preoccupied, Sunny discovered she got lost much sooner. She summoned a lot of Screaming Ghosts, and commanded them to enter different channels. It was much easier to choose after learning of the neighboring caverns in advance. At least, she wouldn't get completely lost.

But Sunny lost track of Lin Yun in the process. Everything was complicated in the underground world with the channels like those in an ant nest and the caverns.

Another several days passed. The underground world became even more spacious and weird. Apart from the caverns and channels, all the underground creatures vanished. There was no telling if it was because of the army insects, but the underground world became dead quiet.

It had been many days. As time went by, Lin Yun's heart became heavier and heavier. It had been at least 20 days, but he hadn't reached the destination deep underground yet. He found himself walking in the same channels that he had been through in the past days.

Every time he reached a cavern, he had to do a lot of calculations to choose the next channel. In this place, every cavern included more than six channels. If he picked a wrong one, he might end up in the same cavern later.

More importantly, his destination wasn't at the bottom, but somewhere special. It was pointless to go further downwards from here. Rather, he had to go to places where gravity was the weirdest.

“Merlin, we’ve wandered many circles in this place. Have you not found it yet? Aren’t you looking for the monster that’s deep underground? We cannot really develop this plane until that monster is dead. Isn’t that monster level-49? Are you sure you can take it down?”

Lord Shawn was holding a magic crystal, and his belly was round and full. He had been the most comfortable one over these days. He was free to eat the countless magic crystals in this place. In particular, as he entered deep underground, the magic crystals were very pure, and all contained a great amount of mana.

Unfortunately, they had stayed for so long in this dead quiet place that even Lord Shawn was getting upset.

Lin Yun was calculating with the help of the Ten Thousand Spell Wheel. Hearing what Lord Shawn said, he put away the Ten Thousand Spell Wheel, and rubbed his swollen head.

“Who says I’m going to kill that monster? I’m just going to ensure that it will never wake up.”

There was contempt on Lord Shawn’s face.

“Merlin, I know you’re very strong and you’re good at alchemy. But none of your methods will work on a level-48 or even level-49 monster. As soon as it wakes up, we’ll all be screwed.

“Never mind. Just look for it on your own, and send me back to your Demiplane. I think I’m too full, and I need a good nap for digestion...”

Lin Yun shook his head.

“No. We cannot open a Demiplane or a Planar Path in this plane. A Planar Path or a Demiplane will wake up that monster. We cannot let that monster wake up, or we will be in a lot of trouble...”

Lord Shawn was stunned for a moment. Then, he realized that Lin Yun had never opened his Demiplane ever since he entered this plane.

At this moment, a Screaming Ghost drifted into the cavern from a channel in the distance. Upon seeing Lin Yun, the Screaming Ghost let out a shriek, which surged towards Lin Yun as a blast.

Lord Shawn immediately rushed forward, and stabbed its claws into the Screaming Ghost, unleashing a stream of weird soul power. The Screaming Ghost was torn apart and dispersed, and a tiny bit of soul power lingered in Lord Shawn's hand.

“Hey, Merlin, you see what I've got? It's one of the Screaming Ghosts that the woman who has absorbed a hellish creature summoned.”

Lin Yun frowned. If the underground space was divided into floors, his destination would be on the minus fifth floor, and he was on the minus fourth floor. The people of the Thorny Crown should've been lost on the minus third floor. They could hardly reach the minus fourth floor unless they knew how to calculate the direction.

However, upon seeing this one Screaming Ghost, Lin Yun understood everything.

It must've been one of the many Screaming Ghosts Sunny summoned. Like the army insects, which had too large a population to get lost in this place, they could spread out and occupy hundreds of caverns at the same time.

Sunny was adopting the very same method. The Screaming Ghosts were her tentacles that had extended to dozens of caverns, so it was a lot harder for her to get lost. Also, it seemed that only one of the Screaming Ghosts had entered this channel...

When the Screaming Ghost appeared, Sunny had to already be aware of the location of this place. She might have even seen everything the Screaming Ghost had through the soul power.

“Merlin, this is the b\*tch's soul power—”

Before Lord Shawn could finish, the soul power had dispersed.

Lord Shawn immediately burst into fury.

“Damn it, that b\*tch tried to curse me with that bit of soul power. She's just a bastard who has absorbed the bloodline of a low-level hellish creature, yet she dared to curse the great Lord Shawn. Even the Lord of Hell doesn't dare to curse me. What an idiot...”

Furrowing his brows, Lin Yun comforted Lord Shawn, who had burst into fury.

“Alright, Lord Shawn. What did you find? Don’t tell me you didn’t find anything. That idiot was truly bold to place part of her soul power inside the Screaming Ghost.”

Lord Shawn was quite unhappy. As a Soul Walker who was best at manipulating souls, he had just suffered a soul curse.

“That idiot is in serious trouble. She dared to piss off the great Lord Shawn. She’s screwed. She suffered from the exact curse she cast upon me, and my Eye of Misfortune shone on her soul. She’ll be dead soon.

“Also, she seems to be alone, and not with the others of the Thorny Crown. Merlin, let’s kill that annoying woman.”

Immediately, Lin Yun looked rather awful.

“Let’s go. This place is too close to our destination. It’s possible that our destination is right nearby. We just haven’t found the right way to it.

“If we fight here, we’ll definitely wake up that monster, then we’ll be in serious trouble. Just ignore that crazy woman. What if she’s as crazy as the one earlier who was determined to die with us?”

Remembering the last crazy woman named Emmy, Lin Yun felt a strong headache. Lord Shawn pulled a long face, and seemed to be having a headache too.

Lin Yun was still rather scared when he remembered what happened. Who could’ve thought that the woman who had always been the mastermind behind the curtain would be crazy enough to sacrifice her soul to a devil? It was even more insane than suicide.

She could hardly die if she sacrificed her soul to a powerful devil lord, which would be already kindhearted if it only tortured her soul for several thousand years...

But that devil lord somehow terminated the ritual, and spat the soul that had been sent to its mouth. It was quite unbelievable.

Lin Yun hadn't quite figured out why the devil lord, which could be described as cunning, sordid, wicked, and all the other vicious words, would do such a stupid thing.

Those crazy women would do anything. They wouldn't hesitate to kill themselves if their enemy would die with them.

They were already deep underground, and it was very easy to wake up that monster. Lin Yun would rather not take the risk...

Lin Yun led Xiuban and the others onward through the zigzagging channels, crossing a dozen caverns. On the other hand, Sunny was screaming devastatingly while holding her head.

The rebound of the curse was even more terrifying than Lord Shawn expected. Black blood was gushing out of Sunny's eyes, ears, and nostrils. Soul power was dispersing from Sunny's body. Her soul was like a bucket that had a small hole, and her soul power was flowing away through the hole. There was no stopping it.

She cursed Lord Shawn, but the curse was bounced back at her. Also, Lord Shawn's Eye of Misfortune had shined on her soul with her soul power as the medium. Even greater trouble was underway...

Anything that was related to luck could be considered as the arrangement of fate. After Lord Shawn melted the Eye of Calamity with the Evil Eye, they were much more powerful than before. The two eyes were independent even on the evil dragon, which couldn't melt them when it was alive. After it was dead and its eyes were gouged out, they were always used as independent magic tools.

To combine the Eye of Calamity and the Evil Eye, a living creature was required. Also, it had to be capable of controlling the Eye of Misfortune. Only Lord Shawn could've done that.

Rumor had it that the fate of the creatures that the Eye of Misfortune saw would be changed, and misfortunes would befall them sooner or later. However, it was just a rumor. Nobody knew whether it was true, because it had never happened...

Even Lord Shawn didn't know what would happen if the Eye of Misfortune saw a creature's soul directly. He simply thought that Sunny would endure some pain, and Lin Yun thought that Sunny would only suffer from the recoil of the soul curse...

Nobody expected Sunny to be so miserable. In the spacious cave, Sunny held her head, and writhed like a banshee screaming without stopping. Her painful and nasty screams didn't stop until almost half an hour later. She held her head and rolled on the ground, trying to soothe the pain in her soul in any way.

After she screamed in agony for half an hour, the hole on the surface of Sunny's soul healed. After the wound healed, the agony from the depths of her soul dwindled and vanished. However, her body was still cramping beyond her control.

#### Chapter 1324: Heart of Stone

After lying on the ground for almost an hour, Sunny finally struggled back on her feet. The gray mist that wreathed her body had completely disappeared. There was red blood all over her dark red body. The cavern was filled up by an ominous vibe.

"Mafa Merlin, I will let you die! I will let all of you die! All of you will die..."

Sunny roared crazily, and summoned as many Screaming Ghosts as possible, not caring whether using too much power would wake up the underground monster. Sunny even suspected that there was no monster at all. She didn't care even if there were, because all that she could think of was revenge...

By absorbing the bloodline of a hellish creature, she had been given the power of hell and death and the power to control some souls. Naturally, it was impossible for her not to have any fatal weaknesses after being given such power.

Her soul was no longer pure, and her body was most vulnerable. She didn't even have the extraordinary power of a mage at all, or a strong body that many powerful warlocks had. She was formidable in certain aspects, but surprisingly vulnerable in other aspects.

Emmy had attracted a devil lord in hell exactly because of her special soul, which was no longer pure but still quite special. It was worth collecting for the devil lord that considered souls as collectibles.

Sunny had completely lost her rationality. She summoned the Screaming Ghosts, not caring about the consequences. Many other kinds of ghosts were mixed in among the Screaming Ghosts. They proliferated through the channels like a flood.

The number of the ghosts was shocking, but their level was too low. They were no different from the army insects earlier. The ominous vibe spread in the underground world along with the flowing wind.

On the other hand, Lin Yun wandered along a huge circle with his team, and suddenly felt wind from one of the channels. There was nothing wrong with the existence of wind, but its direction was strange...

“Reina, we were here a dozen hours ago. However, when we came last time, the wind flowed in the opposite direction. Right, am I correct?”

Lin Yun frowned and quietly examined the flow of wind. Ever since the beginning, he had been investing all his computation ability and attention into the calculation of the direction, and never noticed the flow of wind. The wind here seemed to be always circulating on fixed routes, and had never changed in so many days. However, after arriving at this place, Lin Yun suddenly realized something.

It was impossible for Lord Shawn or Xiuban to notice anything like this. Only Reina might have noticed it.

“The direction of the wind has indeed changed. Also, the temperature of the wind is slightly higher than before.”

Hearing Reina’s affirmation, Lin Yun put on a smile.

“Then I think I’ve found the direction. The change of the wind’s direction in this place only means one thing: we’re already very close to our destination.

“This is the monster’s breath. The closer we are to it, the more obvious it is. The change of the wind’s direction only means that the monster is exhaling instead of inhaling. It doesn’t breathe exactly the same as we do, but there are a lot of similarities. It inhales for three years, and then exhales for three years. We happened to encounter a change of the breathing pattern.”

Adding the wind direction and speed to his parameters, Lin Yun immediately figured out a route to his destination. Even though it was quite rough, it was enough for him to follow.

They continued moving forward. Very soon, everybody detected that the wind was blowing faster and faster, and the gravity was turning weird.

Walking in a channel, Lin Yun laid one of his feet on the wall, and put on a weird expression. He then raised his other leg and walked on the wall, but he felt no different from walking on the ground. Reaching the ceiling along the wall, he felt no different from standing on the ground, either. He raised his head, and saw that Xiuban and Reina were standing upside down like bats.

He came back to the ground from the other side of the wall, and didn't notice any change of gravity. Here, the gravity seemed to have lost its vector. As long as one stood on solid ground, gravity would be able to pull them down.

"We're almost there. The gravity here is in utter chaos. We're only 1,000 meters away from our destination."

Lin Yun was wearing a smile. This exploration had been smoother than expected. As long as he reached the destination, it would be possible to develop this plane. The magic crystals could be collected, the magic plants could be grown on a large scale, and it was even possible to let those giant reptiles produce special valuable materials such as the Golden Honey.

Half an hour later, they passed through another channel, and then took a turn. In front of them, there seemed to be a cliff and an enormous space that was at least 2,000 meters high ahead of it. Inside the space floated an enormous crystal that was 1,000 meters tall, and had to contain more than 100,000 facets.

The space was filled by gentle light. Copious mana had gathered into light of magic power in this place, and shone on the rocks and produced magic crystals everywhere. All the rocks in this 2,000-meter-tall space were covered in thick magic crystals.

Seeing the gargantuan crystal, everybody was astounded. Lord Shawn extended one of his claws, and pointed at it, stammering and shrieking.

"Oh my God, it's a mana crystal! A mana crystal! Such a big one!"

Hardly had Lord Shawn shouted loudly when Lin Yun set up a soundproof barrier, and put it on Lord Shawn's mouth.

“Damn it, Lord Shawn. Do you want to get all of us killed? We’ll be in serious trouble if that thing is woken up!”

Lord Shawn covered his mouth with his own claws. His eyes were shining so hard that they almost illuminated the environment.

“Damn it, this mana crystal is so big. How long will it take for me to eat it? No, it’s too big for me to bite. How can there be such a huge mana crystal? Damn it. Even the level-49 beasts, no, even the level-50 king beasts cannot possibly have such a huge mana crystal!

“Merlin, f\*ck, you already knew this, didn’t you? What’s going on?”

Lin Yun looked at the enormous magic crystal with obvious shock too. It was hard to imagine the shock without seeing the mana crystal in person. Even the biggest mana crystal in Noscent was only the size of an adult’s fist.

The enormous beasts that were hundreds of meters long only had mana crystals the size of a fist. Even the space beasts that were dozens of kilometers long only had heart cores the size of a human head.

Mana crystals were condensed from the power inside a beast. The stronger a beast was, the more mana it would condense, and the density would be higher, but its size wouldn’t necessarily be huge.

The quality of a mana crystal could indicate the level of a beast. When seeing a mana crystal, everybody could infer which level of beasts the mana crystal was from.

It was impossible to form a mana crystal without enough mana. The enormous mana crystal here was definitely on the Heaven Rank, and it wasn’t a normal Heaven Rank mana crystal. In terms of quality, it was at least level-48.

However, even the mana crystals of 100,000 level-48 beasts combined couldn’t be this big.

“It’s the mana crystal of that monster. Yes. We’ve been inside the monster’s body. This plane and the earth under our feet are parts of the monster’s body.

“The monster was likely a space beast, until it perished due to some special changes. However, the space and mana inside its body had surprising changes. The blue sun was the cause and catalyst of all the changes.

“The mana and space, plus the space beast’s enormous body, presented an opportunity for this special plane to be born. It turned into a special beast. After being illuminated by the blue sun for millions of years, it had a mana crystal and generated a soul. It is a special life, and also a plane.

“Everything in this place is part of its body. This is its core. Until we arrive here, if we wake it up, we won’t be able to develop this plane before it falls asleep again.

“Opening a Planar Path here will wake up this special life. Waves of extraordinary power might wake it up too. The closer we’re to its soul, the more dangerous it will be.”

Everybody gazed at the glamorous enormous mana crystal that was in assorted colors, stunned. None of them heard anything that Lin Yun said.

Nobody had expected that this plane was a special creature by itself, or that such a huge mana crystal had been born underground.

Lin Yun walked to the edge of the cavern. When the wind raged, he felt like he was in an ocean of mana. With his every breath, the mana inside his body was replenished. The mages below the Heaven Rank might be drowned in mana just by breathing here.

Looking around from the exit of the cavern, Lin Yun found at least hundreds more exits in the stone wall of the enormous round space. He walked out on the stone wall, and he was still like he was standing on the ground. As he walked on the wall, the enormous crystal was hanging above his head like the sun from every perspective.

When he entered the exits underneath his feet, his body would be automatically lifted to the vertical direction. He couldn’t sense the change of gravity at all.

“We’re but little bugs to this big guy. It doesn’t care about us at all. As long as it doesn’t wake up, all the creatures in this plane are just vulnerable parasites to it.

“It only allows such vulnerable parasites to live here. It ignores the inferior reptiles that live in this plane. Real intelligent lives cannot be born in this place. It won’t allow them to be born.

“Drink the potion I gave you earlier. I’m about to get started.”

Lin Yun took a soft breath, and swallowed a dosage of potion. Xiuban, Reina, Lord Shawn, and Xiusi all had the potion that Lin Yun made specifically.

Any creature was like a parasite to this plane, which might unconsciously reject them. What Lin Yun was trying to do might cause such natural rejection.

If the monster was woken up, then there would be bigger problems. This potion was meant to prevent them from being rejected as threats.

Walking out of the enormous spherical space, Lin Yun took out the materials he had prepared in advance, and set up an alchemy array. This place was essentially the head of the monster where the mana crystal was stored. All the caverns and channels were keys to the circulation of mana across the plane.

The soul of this unique life was asleep inside the mana crystal. When it breathed with mana, the air flowed through the soil, and carried the magic radiance from the blue sun to itself.

The entire earth was the body of this strange creature, so there were barely any minerals in it. However, the magic radiance from the outside and the surging mana inside had caused the countless magic crystals to emerge below the ground.

As long as the enormous mana crystal remained underground, then countless more magical crystals would be generated in this plane.

All Lin Yun needed to do was to set up an alchemy array, and cut off the mana crystal’s link with the outside world. Then, the monster’s soul would lie dormant forever, and this plane could be developed like a normal plane.

In the future, it would be impossible to directly establish a Planar Path in this plane, because the monster would be woken up every time. People would have to construct a massive city in the void.

In the end, the method to keep the monster's soul asleep forever was figured out. However, everybody was already used to that void city, which had turned into an important supply station in the boundless void.

Also, this plane was quite special. It wasn't just a plane, but also a creature that had a gigantic body. A Planar Path here would be unstable, and might cause side effects to the plane. So, it was given up in the end.

Lin Yun laid a foundation for the alchemy array in the spherical space. He raised his head, and saw the enormous mana crystal floating above his head.

When the foundation of the alchemy array was half set up, a Screaming Ghost suddenly emerged from out of the holes. It was about to scream when it saw Lin Yun, but a tiny bit of magic power arose and controlled it. In the end, the Screaming Ghost dispersed into nothingness...

Lin Yun took a soft breath. He almost had cold sweat on his forehead...

In the place so close to the mana crystal, any attack on the mana crystal might wake up the monster immediately. Lin Yun had reached this place so smoothly only because the monster hadn't seen any intruder, and wasn't very vigilant. Even so, he was setting up the alchemy array with his bare hands, and didn't dare to use any mana until the alchemy array was activated.

A level-25 Screaming Ghost was definitely able to wake up this monster over such a short distance...

Fortunately, he had discovered it fast enough, and destroyed the Screaming Ghost with pure mana.

When he eliminated the Screaming Ghost, Lin Yun remembered something, and put on an awful expression.

Now that one of the Screaming Ghosts had arrived here, Sunny couldn't be very far away. At least, she already knew the route to this place...

Three seconds later, countless ghosts erupted from 30 holes around that hole. 1,000 of them appeared in less than one second. Even more ghosts were still erupting from the holes without stopping.

Seeing so many ghosts, Lin Yun turned around and ran off. He knew that there was no stopping them. Now that so many ghosts had appeared in this place, even if they didn't attack at all, their aura of death was more than enough to wake up that monster...

Lin Yun had no time to care about not using magic power. Waves of mana glittered on his skin, and he jumped into one of the holes.

Immediately, the entire space was trembling. The gentle light from the enormous mana crystal suddenly became dazzling. The breath of mana was hastened too. A pure storm of mana was raised in this enormous spherical space.

The moment the storm was raised, half of the ghosts were torn into shreds. The storm became more and more powerful, and more and more ghosts were erupting from the holes.

All that those stupid ghosts could think of when they were attacked was to counterattack. They were determined to counterattack even if they couldn't find the enemy.

One of the Screaming Ghosts started screaming. Immediately, all of them were screaming together. Countless Screaming Ghosts launched a soul blast together. The purest blast was gathered, and mixed with the storm of mana in this narrow space, forming a terrifying tornado that would tear anything apart.

#### Chapter 1325: Outburst

The mana crystal in the center looked like a monster that would swallow everything. From each hole, a mixed storm was erupting, and moving towards the enormous mana crystal in the center.

The roaring gale was practically carrying everything forth in the narrow channels. Xiuban stabbed his hands into the wall to fixate himself. Reina stuck herself to the wall, freezing herself in the ice in a radius of several meters to avoid the storms.

Lin Yun, Lord Shawn, and Xiusi were also stuck to the wall. They were enshrouded in pure magic brilliance, which protected them like a smooth web.

Frightened, Lord Shawn had turned into the size of a hand on Lin Yun's shoulder, and was shivering while clinging on to his robe.

“Merlin, we should’ve caught up with that freaking bastard and killed her. Even if our exploration had failed because of that, we wouldn’t have been caught in this awkward position. Damn it, the monster has woken up. I can feel that its soul is awakening. Its soul is very powerful. It’s at least level-48. We’re doomed...”

Xiusi flapped his wings, and the power of space flashed on his body. He was about to escape, but Lin Yun caught him.

“Let go of me! Let go of me! Lord Xiusi is about to be eaten! Damn it, Lord Xiusi is about to be eaten...”

Xiusi cried at the loudest of his voice. As a special spatial beast, Xiusi had the keenest senses. He already detected that the monster was about to wake up...

Lin Yun looked rather awful, and grabbed Xiusi by his neck.

“Idiot, just lie down. If you want the monster to notice you first, just run. We’re inside this monster’s body.”

What Lin Yun said made Xiusi stop struggling. Indeed, he was a spatial beast, and was very familiar with space. However, it didn’t mean that he could do anything he wanted inside the body of another spatial beast. A monster that had turned its body into a plane would definitely swallow him the moment he escaped with the power of space...

The gales of magic power were raging. There was also a vague sense of rejection. The walls behind them seemed to be rejecting them. They were rejected by this space.

The moment the rejection force appeared, an opposite force emerged inside everybody’s body, and neutralized the rejection force when they collided.

The rejection force was gone. All they needed to do was resist the horrifying storm of mana...

The purest mana was horrifyingly powerful when it was gathered into a storm. Everybody had to use more than half of their strength to resist the storms.

In the spherical space, countless ghosts were pulled out of the caverns, and ripped to shreds. The power of death was annihilated by the abundant mana. The remaining soul power was torn apart again and again in the storms.

The soul power that the ghosts left behind dispersed continuously in the storms that felt like a millstone. Only the core essence remained in the end. Then, the last bit of the purest soul power was absorbed by the mana crystal.

Inside the mana crystal, massive and awe-inspiring soul waves appeared. The essence of the ghosts' soul power that had been ground and polished was swallowed by the soul inside the mana crystal.

As if it enjoyed the food, the horrifying attraction force became even more powerful. The ghosts were no longer erupting from the holes on their own, but were pulled by the horrifying mana violently, and then torn to shreds.

Inside one of the caverns, everybody who was still struggling to resist the storms was dumbfounded.

Nobody expected that the pure mana could be so horrifyingly and unreasonably powerful. It was true that one wouldn't need any tricks to win a battle when one was overwhelmingly strong. Everybody found it difficult to resist the rising mana.

"What a horrifying guy, and what a huge soul. Its soul is hundreds of meters tall. That's horrifying. It has eliminated the impurities in the ghosts' soul power just with mana, leaving only the purest essence to swallow."

"Damn it, Merlin, is it really an unintelligent monster? You must be kidding me. It's so skilled at extracting the soul essence with mana. Do you really think it's easy to deal with it?"

Lord Shawn crouched on Lin Yun's shoulder without caring about his image. He looked at the enormous mana crystal with fear glittering in his eyes. Xiusi, too, hid his head below his wings, and shivered like a scared pigeon.

Soul creatures were naturally awed by any other soul creatures whose level was significantly higher than theirs.

Countless ghosts were sucked out of the caverns, minced, polished, and swallowed. In a dozen seconds, at least 100,000 ghosts were sucked out and torn into pieces.

All of a sudden, 10 times more ghosts were erupting from the holes. Sunny, whose face was scary and covered in mud and blood, dashed out of the caverns too.

The Screaming Ghosts' screams and the devil's whisper echoed in the spherical space at the same time. Sunny laughed crazily.

"Mafa Merlin, Mafa Merlin... You're doomed. Just go to hell. Myers, that disgusting old fart, can go to hell with you. The great devil lord will definitely be interested in such a huge mana crystal. The soul inside it will be the most delicious dessert.

"All of you will go to hell. All of you will die..."

An ominous vibe spread out. The power that belonged to hell sprawled uncontrollably. Countless ghosts were showing up. Making use of the suffocatingly abundant mana, Sunny began to summon ghosts crazily. Those ghosts were minced almost the moment they showed up, but even more ghosts were then summoned.

When the ghosts died, their souls were shattered and transformed into a great amount of soul power. Even though the soul power was impure, it sufficed as fuel.

Countless ghosts appeared around Sunny, and gathered into a wall, blocking the terrifying mana storms. Even though 1,000 ghosts were torn to shreds every second, even more ghosts were summoned and killed.

The devil's whisper echoed in the spherical space, as if it sounded right next to everyone's ears. The whisper sounded rather excited. Spatial power was rippling, and the power of souls and magic were bursting out like boiling water.

A path to hell had been established with the suffocatingly abundant mana and the soul power of the countless ghosts. What was sacrificed was everything here, to allure a devil lord to arrive in person. As long as everything here was shown to a greedy devil lord, they wouldn't be able to resist the temptation.

Hiding in the cavern, Lin Yun looked at the scene, and his lips cramped.

That idiotic woman's soul had been corrupted by the chaotic bloodlines. Her brain had already been damaged. Why did nobody believe him when he said that? Could there be another explanation for the massiveness of the mana crystal if this plane wasn't a special beast?

She was summoning a devil lord here. Did she think that the devil lords were greedy and brainless fools? Even the greediest devil lord wouldn't accept the summoning into the body of a powerful beast.

In particular, that gigantic mana crystal contained a horrifying amount of mana, and the soul in it was about to wake up. Did that woman think that the devils in hell were her pets that could be summoned anytime?

Great. The monster was about to wake up. They would be in serious trouble...

"Xiuban, Reina, get prepared. The mana in this place is about to change. Let's seize this opportunity to retreat from this place. That monster's soul is about to wake up..."

Hardly had Lin Yun said that when he detected that the gales that were trying to pull them to the spherical space were gone. However, there were still terrifying storms in the spherical space that were tearing everything apart.

After the gales in the channels disappeared, Lin Yun immediately returned with his people, not caring what might happen in the spherical space.

In only a couple of seconds, the soul waves from the inside of the gigantic mana crystal became more and more violent, and the monster's soul was about to wake up completely. At this moment, Sunny had finished constructing the channel, and reached out to the devil lord that she had made offerings to many times. This time, she wasn't summoning the devil lord's power, but asking it to arrive—she was alluring the devil lord to arrive with everything here.

Inside the dark hell, the request of summoning came from the void. A vortex appeared in the sky above a splendid devil castle. The devil lord who was hiding inside the castle raised its ominous eyes, and looked at everything on the other side through the dark vortex.

The devil lord who was ensconced on the throne had already been sneering when it didn't see anything. After seeing the virtual pictures, the devil lord turned furious.

The horrifying storms of mana had gathered into illusionary curtains. However, it was still possible to see a gigantic mana crystal and a soul that was at least hundreds of meters tall through the curtains and interference. The unimaginable power of magic and soul that it contained seemed to be penetrating the virtual pictures.

Sunny's alluring request came with her whisper. She described how powerful the sacrificed items were, and declared that they all belonged to the great devil lord as long as it came there and claimed them...

"What a wretched reptile. You're trying to trick a great king again. All of those annoying reptiles should die. You think a great king is a brainless fool? You want to allure this great king to the most powerful part of a beast's body? If you want to fool me, you must pay a price!"

The devil lord roared furiously, and extended its claw, ready to tear apart the enormous summoning vortex. However, it suddenly remembered something, and sneered in disdain. A torrent of ominous power was filled into the dark vortex. It then smashed the summoning vortex and shattered it.

"Stupid reptile who tries to set up this great king, pay a price with your blood and soul!"

On the other hand, there was nothing but madness left in Sunny's eyes. Her summoning was accepted. A great amount of power was transmitted through the channel she constructed. Sunny implored the devil lord to arrive on her knees.

Above her head, a vortex was expanding. A few seconds later, power that looked like sticky ink gushed out of the channel, and disappeared into Sunny's body. She was instantly strengthened. Ominous power spread out in the spherical space like an explosion.

The madness in Sunny's eyes faded away, replaced by infinite fear. The black and gray mist on her skin was gone, and a lot of tiny cracks appeared.

She had risen to level 4 of the Heaven Rank in only two seconds, and she was still advancing. She reached level 5 of the Heaven Rank in only a couple of seconds, but her body could not endure such great power anymore.

Her power was still on the rise, but her body was already decaying. Her soul was also corrupted by the power from hell and riddled with holes.

“No... No... Great king, why? Why...”

Sunny stiffened. Feeling the greater and greater power inside her body, she was horrified. She had no idea why the greedy devil lord didn't arrive when she summoned it with everything here as temptation, but rather wanted to kill her across spaces...

It didn't just want her to die, but wanted her soul to decay and perish. All traces of her would be completely annihilated in the power of hell...

In only 10 seconds, Sunny already looked like a ghost that was wearing a green dry skin. Her soul was already rotten, but her body became even more powerful than before.

Bang...

With a deafening noise, Sunny's body exploded and her soul perished. All her power was unleashed. The horrifying power of hell was crazily corrupting and spreading.

At the same time, an enormous eye suddenly opened inside the massive mana crystal, unleashing 10 times more power of soul and magic. The power collided with the outbursting power from hell. Then, a horrifying storm of destruction entered all the holes in the spherical space.

The winds caused by the destructive power flew into the holes. The magic crystals in the channels were minced and melted in the storms too. Then, they were transformed into pure and powerful mana that joined the winds.

Instantly, all the ghosts and power from hell in the spherical space were annihilated. All the remaining things in the zigzagging channels were ripped apart and destroyed too.

In less than one minute, the winds had passed all the underground channels. There was a swarm of giant insects that didn't have enough time to dodge. When the winds passed them, it was as if they'd undergone erosion for millions of years, and they fell apart, turned into dust, and moved along with the wind.

An insect that failed to hide in the wall in time was ripped apart immediately. Its body's pieces had been shattered into molecules of dust before they hit the floor.

Inside one of the caverns, Lin Yun had set up an alchemy array. He dug a small pit inside the cavern, and sealed the pit with the alchemy array. He then let Reina add a layer of ice on the top of the pit. Then, everybody hid inside the pit.

The destructive magic storms passed through the zigzagging channels, and filled all the underground caverns. When they entered the cavern that Lin Yun was in, all the magic crystals on the walls crumbled into pieces. The mana in them was released, and joined the torrents.

The layer of ice that Reina set up was quickly thawed by the winds. Its thickness was quickly reducing. Even the cavern had been expanded by the winds. The channels that had been narrow earlier were significantly broadened too.

The storms that erupted from the spherical space were not weakened at all when they passed the caverns and channels. Rather, they became more and more powerful as the mana that was condensed in the magic crystals that were exposed to the air had all been released and joined them.

Lin Yun and his team were prepared. They happened to evade when the magic storms were the most powerful as they erupted from the spherical space, and when the magic storms were strengthened by the collapsing magic crystals. It wasn't too hard for them to survive.

On the other hand, the people of the Thorny Crown weren't so lucky. They were still searching for the right way to go further down when they encountered the destructive magic storms.

One of the warlocks, who had transplanted the bloodline of a beast that was good at telling the smell and directions, was picking the channel that they would take when he was suddenly hit by the storm that erupted from one of the channels. The destructive storms were even faster than magic waves, and couldn't be detected in advance at all.

When the horrifying magic storm hit him, his natural shield was like a piece of thin paper that couldn't block it at all. It was torn apart immediately. His mana protection was activated at the same time. Unfortunately, his mana was like a burning torch, and the destructive magic storms were like unceasing cascades that could extinguish any torch.

## Chapter 1326: Narrow Escape

The magic storms easily shredded his shield of magic power. They passed the blood transplanter's body ragingly. Devastating screams burst out, but there was nothing he could do. His body seemed to have suffered thousands of years' worth of erosion in this one second. The mana inside his body

was carried away by the horrifying magic storms. He was soon dehydrated and dried until he fell apart into countless pieces, just like a statue of sand that had been blown apart by the wind....

In only one second, the Heaven Rank blood transplanter died just like that. Even his body had been minced into the tiniest of pieces by the magic storms. His mana was also absorbed into the chaotic magic storms that were filled with destructive power. Then, inside this cavern which had a dozen channels, the same destructive storms were erupting from more than seven of them.

The colorful and glamorous magic storms erupted from the narrow channels like springs. Whatever was hit by the springs, be it the hard stone wall or the magic crystals that were exposed to the air, fell apart into pieces. After the magic crystals were shattered, the stable mana inside them would turn violent. Then, it would be added to the chaotic magic storms as additional power.

In less than two seconds, the entire cavern had been filled up by the chaotic magic storms. The experts of the Thorny Crown unfolded their shields, but their shields were all quickly declining like thawing ice.

Myers' crystal eyes glittered. He unfolded a crystal shield, and soon found a place to hide.

"Everybody, hide in that corner. George, quickly. Control the rocks and let us in."

Myers unfolded a crystal shield, which immediately transformed into a channel. Everybody passed through the channel in half a second, arriving in a corner that wouldn't be hit by any of the magic springs. This corner was the farthest from every place that was hit by the magic springs. Also, it was least vulnerable to the rolling magic storms inside the cavern.

Myers had keenly discovered the corner, and led everybody to it without hesitation. George activated his bloodline power, and let the stone wall collapse. A green membrane of light appeared where the stone wall used to be, and everybody hid behind the membrane. However, the magic storms outside were getting more and more powerful—all the magic crystals exposed to the air had been shattered, which strengthened the storms.

In only five seconds, George had already turned pale. In another two seconds, his face turned so red that it was almost bleeding. The smell of blood was spreading out as George was having a nosebleed. Even his veins became obvious on his skin. Inside his veins, a lot of clumps were wriggling. George's face became redder and redder, and he looked more and more powerful. However, there was greater and greater chaos in his power too.

“Dolores!” Myers roared. Then, another bloodline transplanter walked to the green membrane of light and extended her hands, releasing a curtain of water that was stuck to the green membrane.

Immediately, George lost control of the green membrane of light. His bleeding face was gradually back to normal. Then, it became pale again. In only a few seconds, he had already used all of his strength. He had to boil his blood in order to gain greater power. However, the power was too great for him to control. His body would’ve exploded if he hadn’t been interrupted.

George breathed heavily on the ground. He used his remaining strength to expand this pit and narrow its entrance so that he could buy more time for others. After all, his ability was about controlling rocks, and he was better at disguise than protection. If he narrowed the entrance of the cave, it would be easier for others to provide protection.

Outside the pit, the chaotic magic storms were continuing. The terrifying magic storms spread to other channels after they filled up this enormous cavern. However, even though they were moving away, the lingering magic storms were still dreadful.

In only one minute, the Heaven Rank expert who took over the defense was unable to continue. Sheldon stepped up to the entrance of the pit, which had been narrowed to two meters in width. The black smoke on his skin turned into dark hideous demon skulls that established a wall and blocked the entrance, resisting the magic storms.

Three minutes later, Sheldon couldn’t carry on, either, and had to ask for a replacement.

Half an hour later, everybody was unable to continue. They were never good at such pure clashes of magic power, which were more likely to make their bloodlines unstable than normal battles.

Everybody else had to take a rest except Myers, who was the last one. Myers solemnly walked forward, ready to take over the defense.

Although the magic storms had already been weakened, they were continuing. If even Myers couldn’t carry on any longer, and the magic storms remained as powerful, everybody would die here.

Looking at the magic storms that looked like colorful streaks of light outside of the pit, Myers wore a complicated expression. He silently reached the edge of the pit, and stuck his hand to the wall. Immediately, crystals spread out of Myers’ hand and formed a wall, blocking the entrance of the pit.

The last bloodline transplanter, who couldn't hold on any longer, fell on the ground, and breathed heavily with a trembling arm.

Myers was the strongest of them, and also their last hope...

The wall of crystals stood at the entrance of the pit. The destructive magic storms continuously surged towards the wall. When the seemingly gentle streaks of light brushed the surface of the crystals, the thickness of the crystals would be reduced by one-fourth. Then, Myers would have to release more crystals, and continue this war of attrition.

20 minutes later, Myers became pale, and his crystal eyes could no longer glitter in a fixed pattern. A lot of his mana had been exhausted. Even though he had much more mana than others in storage as a level-5 Heaven Rank expert, this war of attrition depended on the power of his bloodline, which was a burden for those mages who hadn't transplanted their bloodlines perfectly.

If things went on like this, his bloodline would be unstable. Then, he would be no different from anyone else. He still had more mana, but his blood would be boiling.

The magic storms outside had dwindled a lot, but not to the point where other people could resist them yet. There was desperation in Myers' eyes. He was struggling to continue, but his companions couldn't hold back their desperation anymore.

"We're going to die here. The monster that Mafa Merlin mentioned must've been woken up..." a bloodline transplanter mumbled in desperation. The others simply stared at Myers, who was still struggling in silence.

"When the terrifying magic storms arose, I detected the power of hell in them that belonged to Sunny. That b\*tch must've summoned the devil lord. If she hadn't, the terrifying monster that Mafa Merlin mentioned wouldn't have been woken up..."

"That wretched b\*tch must be already dead. Yet, the rest of us have to die with her..."

"Mafa Merlin is probably dead too. He must've traveled further than we did, and was closer to the origin of the magic storms. It must be Sunny's doing. She didn't believe what Mafa Merlin said, and invoked great power in the underground world..."

Immediately, everybody began to curse Sunny, venting their fury on her. Unfortunately, everybody was certain that Sunny had already been killed. It was impossible for her to have survived the storms on her own.

The magic storms were launched with pure mana, and were even more terrifying than most spells. Whatever boasted such an extraordinary amount of mana was at least a level-49 beast, and a rather powerful one.

Everybody cursed Sunny to ease their fear of death. Myers silently stared at the outside of the crystal wall, which had been reduced to half a meter of thickness from one meter. In every second, half a meter of crystals was corrupted by the magic storms. Myers had to refill exactly the same width of crystals every second to ensure that the crystal wall didn't collapse.

His blood was changing and boiling, and his eyes were cramping beyond his control. The excruciating pain from his eyes was escalating. Myers couldn't help but feel desperate...

Screwed. I'm completely screwed. There isn't enough time. My eyes are painful. They don't fit my body anymore. My blood is boiling. In 10 minutes at most, my bloodline will collapse, and I won't be able to continue resisting. Even if the others have been more or less recovered, they can only resist for another three minutes at most.

The terrifying magic storms outside are weakening continuously. Judging from the trend, it wouldn't be weak enough for them to resist until 20 minutes pass. However, in only three minutes, everybody will be torn apart by the magic storms. Even I will be unable to continue.

What kind of terrifying being was sleeping underground? The mana that it unleashes is already so powerful. Has it already advanced to level 50? Normal level-49 beasts couldn't have possibly influenced such a huge range with pure mana.

Did Mafa Merlin survive this powerful blast? His understanding of this plane is deeper than anyone else's. He must've made preparations for such a situation, right? However, nobody could've survived the storms.

No, Mafa Merlin is definitely alive. He definitely is. However, how did Mafa Merlin do it? How exactly did he survive the disaster?

Myers became absentminded, and suddenly thought of Lin Yun. However, excruciating pain disrupted his thinking. The crystal eye in his left eye socket cramped more frequently, and blood was flowing out. It seemed that the skin around his eye socket had been torn apart.

Agony flashed on Myers' face. He held his left eye with one hand, attempting to contain the boiling blood and the eye that was almost popping out.

However, a few seconds later, Myers' left hand, which was holding the eye, had been drenched in blood. The agony was even starting to pierce his head and his soul...

Gritting his teeth, Myers covered his left hand with crystals that were in the shape of a spoon. He then gouged his left eye out. The eyeball didn't look like a human eye at all, but rather a pure spherical crystal. Blood was dripping from it, making it look like a piece of warm glistening glass.

After gouging his left eye out, Myers suddenly felt that his boiling blood was eased a little bit, and he was no longer as uncomfortable as before.

It had been years since Myers had a fierce fight. He had never experienced such a serious bloodline incompatibility emergency, either. He had no idea that the incompatibility would be weakened if he gouged one of his crystal eyes out...

Holding the crystal eye, Myers was stunned. He remembered what Lin Yun said earlier that he didn't pay much attention to back then...

Damn it, how could I have forgotten that? Mafa Merlin has done profound research on bloodline transplantation. What he said at the beginning couldn't have been random. He meant it...

How did I forget that? Are the two crystal eyes a failed transplantation for me? Is what Mafa Merlin said true? Is it more suitable for me to have one eye?

However, we had never met before, and he never studied my eyes. How did he know that this was for the best? Was it not a speculation, or just a random remark?

Holding the crystal eye in his hand, Myers felt that his head was a mess. His bloodline was stabler than before, and it was easier for him to sustain the crystal wall. However, he was still unable to hold long enough.

Two minutes later, Myers gritted his teeth with a complicated expression, and aimed the spoon-shaped crystal at his right eye, gouging out the crystal eye that he had transplanted in his right eye socket.

Immediately, there were only two bloody holes left where Myers' eyes used to be. The two crystal eyes floated in front of him, and glittered in the same rhythm. It seemed that they were deeply connected.

For a Heaven Rank expert, they never saw things with just their eyes. They trusted their magic power even more. As a level-5 Heaven Rank expert, Myers wouldn't be blind even without the eyes.

Feeling the echo of the two crystal eyes, Myers wore a complicated expression, and gouged out the second crystal eye completely. His bloodline power was weakened, but its stability was improved.

After a few minutes of silence, Myers gritted his teeth, and summoned mana on his hand, enshrouding both of the crystal eyes. He pushed the two crystal eyes to collide with the power of magic and blood. They didn't crack or have any unexpected changes.

The two crystal eyes were completely melted into each other. He didn't even need to do anything. He only needed to provide the power of mana and blood, and the two crystal eyes melted on their own.

It was surprisingly easy. In only half a minute, the two crystal eyes were gone, replaced by an eyeball that seemed very lifelike.

The eyeball still looked like crystal, but there were whites and a hexagonal pupil in it. It seemed much stabler than before too.

Looking at the new crystal eye, Myers eventually put it in his right eye socket, with his expression constantly changing.

Immediately, the power of bloodline penetrated through the eyeball, and circulated in Myers' body. His unstable bloodline was immediately soothed. The hexagonal pupil on his eyeball was revolving slowly. Myers instinctively learned how to control his bloodline power, and how to combine his mana with it.

In only three seconds, Myers' boiling blood was stabilized. Compared to a moment earlier, he was almost fully recovered. It would be no problem at all for him to endure another half an hour. He wouldn't feel any discomfort...

He had lost an eye, but the things he saw with his new eye were even vividder than before. Furthermore, he could see the flow of mana and air clearly. The whole world seemed to have turned from monochrome to colorful...

Myers stood stunned for half an hour, until the raging magic storms outside could be resisted easily. However, he was too stunned to stop maintaining the crystal wall...

"Sir Myers, the magic storms have weakened a lot..."

Myers heard a voice, and finally woke up. His arm shivered, and the crystal wall crumbled into pieces. The winds that blew at everybody were no longer as powerful as before, and were just normal winds. Everybody here could resist them easily as long as they used some of their mana...

Myers ignored everybody else, and gathered a crystal mirror in front of himself. Looking at the reflection in the mirror and his hexagonal pupil, Myers felt that his hand was shaking.

"It's truly as simple as that. I only need one.... I only need one eye..." Myers mumbled as if he were crazy. He found it quite hard to accept, even though the result was quite great. In the crisis, he had simply wanted to try his luck, but the result was better than he could possibly imagine.

## Chapter 1327: Flight

I've studied the bloodline I transplanted for countless years, yet I don't know it as well as Mafa Merlin, who just casually looked at me, and made a comment that sounded like a joke. However, his casual remark has at least doubled the stability of my bloodline. I'm now able to develop my bloodline in other ways. This is the real plantation...

That's right. This is how the eyes should've been planted. Only one of the eyes is enough. One of them is more powerful than two of them combined were earlier. My research didn't strengthen the eyes, but weakened their power...

Terrifying. Mafa Merlin is truly terrifying. How well does he know bloodline transplantation? It's impossible to estimate his expertise at all.

The people of the Thorny Crown were standing around Myers. They were all worried to see that he was almost crazy. However, when they saw Myers' only eye that had obviously changed, they all knew what happened.

They, too, recalled what Lin Yun had said earlier, which sounded like a joke. However, that turned out to be a lifesaver for all of them...

"Sir Myers, what's the matter? Isn't it a great thing that you've found a way to improve your bloodline compatibility?"

"Sir Myers, don't worry. It may be just a coincidence..."

Everybody knew why Myers was so upset. As the best researcher of bloodline transplantation in the Thorny Crown, he didn't know his own transplanted bloodline as well as a person that met him for the first time did. That was definitely frustrating.

Myers took a deep breath, and then shook his head.

"Don't worry. I'm very happy. I'm very happy to see someone who studies a subject that other people cannot understand like we do. Also, Mafa Merlin is definitely much more knowledgeable than I am. He is better than all of us.

"I'm very glad to see this light of hope. Many times, I thought that it was impossible to proceed with the research on bloodline transplantation. However, I've seen hope, and a new horizon, which is a good thing for all of us.

"I believe you are all aware of the significance of this matter!"

Myers spoke in a low voice, and everybody else was quiet. However, there was passion on all their faces. They were excited to discover the light of hope on the desperate path of darkness. Nobody else could understand them...

Myers raised his head, and looked back at his companions with hopefulness on his face.

“Ever since we embarked on this path, there has been no turning back. We cannot see the road ahead of us. We cannot find the direction of light in the dark. There have been more mages who perished due to bloodline transplantation than we can remember...”

“They all collapsed on the road. We are the lucky ones. Thanks to the favor of fate, we are the few people who have reached the Heaven Rank, and I’m the luckiest one.

“We fumble our way forward in the thorns that are reddened by our blood. Now, I think it’s time we weave a crown with those bloodstained thorns, and wait for the final coronation...”

What Myers said made everybody’s expression change. Myers’ followers seemed quite firm, but Sheldon wore a cold smile.

Mafa Merlin is so strong probably because he has transplanted the bloodline of a certain powerful extraordinary creature. How else could he know bloodline transplantation so well? As long as I find his weakness, everything he knows will be an opportunity for me to grow stronger. Myers is too weak, and just wants to appeal to him.

The Thorny Crown is destined to walk in the darkness. Greater power is the guarantee of our safety. All our research is meant to let us grow stronger. It seems that they have forgotten that the Thorny Crown’s sufferings are all because we aren’t strong enough!

The key to the Thorny Crown’s narrow escape was the casual remark that Lin Yun gave when they encountered each other, which made Myers have complicated feelings and other thoughts. However, not everybody of the Thorny Crown thought the same.

The Thorny Crown had been corrupted. Or rather, some of its members were already corrupted. They were no longer pursuing the truth of magic, but rather pure power. They were willing to sell everything, including their own souls, for greater power, and certainly didn’t care about anything else.

After the outburst of the magic storms was over, the colorful streaks of light that rose to the sky from the ground like springs fell too. After the terrifying mana surged to the ground, the power of the storms plummeted.

Apart from the victims that were torn apart by the storms at the beginning, few other creatures died. All the creatures on the surface of the plane were hiding in their nests, trembling. The army insects that were hunting on the surface all dug a pit and hid there.

The magic crystals exposed to the air in the underground caverns and channels had all been minced by the storms, and pushed out of the ground as pure mana.

When the storms were underground, they were strengthened by the mana that was released from the magic crystals. However, the mana quickly dispersed on the surface, and spread across the plane as wind.

Since no more mana was erupting from underground, the storms lost their support, and gradually dispersed as pure mana. In only an hour, the mana density of the whole plane had been at least doubled. Many plants that weren't destroyed greedily devoured the abundant mana. A lot of them were mutating, and even evolving into new species.

The plants were fine. Even if some of them were destroyed, more of them would grow up soon. They had no idea what fear was. However, the beasts in the plane all detected that a horrifying being had woken up. They were still hiding and trembling in fear even though the magic storms were gone. None of them dared to go out.

Deep underground, Lin Yun didn't get out of the protective alchemy array when the storms came to an end. He simply waited in silence.

"Sir Merlin, the storms seem to be over. Are we not running?"

Xiuban squatted at the edge of the alchemy array with an awful expression. He looked at the empty cavern, where the exposed magic crystals were all gone. Only dust was left on the hard rocks. The previously glowing cavern was like a desert at this moment.

Lin Yun ignored Xiuban, and continued setting up the alchemy array. His previous alchemy array was the most protective. With Reina's ice, it wasn't a problem to resist the pure magic storms. However, what he needed to do next was more complicated.

He changed the alchemy array into another one in only half a minute. The new alchemy array wasn't just meant to resist magic power, but was for another purpose.

The magic storms outside ebbed faster and faster. Without the magic crystals to boost them up, they were quickly weakened as they passed through the zigzagging channels and underground caverns.

Five minutes later, the magic storms were completely gone. Dust fell and gathered into a thick layer on the surface of the cavern. In the spherical space deep underground, the mana released from the enormous mana crystal was getting peaceful too. Inside the mana crystal, the giant soul, which had transformed into an eye, was showing the light of intelligence too.

In only a few minutes, the light inside the enormous eye was replaced by fury. Its soul waves, mixed with the flowing mana, spread out of the spherical space along the caverns, reaching the surface and the entire plane.

In only one minute, Lin Yun put on a solemn expression. He took out another several bottles of potion, and sprayed it on everybody's skin.

A breeze arose in the empty cavern. It felt like a normal wind, but in the blink of an eye, it squirted through one of the channels, and filled up another cavern. Then, it moved on to other channels astonishingly fast.

The alchemy array emanated dazzling brilliance. Half of the 100 magic crystals that powered it exploded immediately and transformed into mana, making up for the alchemy array's consumption.

In only five seconds, all the mana in the 100 magic crystals was exhausted. Lin Yun solemnly added more magic crystals. Even so, he could feel that the gentle breeze was leaking through the hard rocks, and was eating away at the alchemy array like countless ants.

In only a few seconds, tiny cracks had appeared on the surface of the alchemy array, and the breeze leaked inside and reached everybody's skin. Instantly, the potion on everybody's skin worked and melted with the breeze. The potion they had ingested earlier kicked in too. The potions gradually melted with the breeze, allowing them to get accustomed to the intensifying waves.

In half a minute later, the alchemy array completely collapsed. The horrifying waves that were flooding in the cavern drowned the pit where they hid, but they weren't affected at all when the waves hit them.

Lin Yun was slightly relieved, and walked out of the pit.

"Let's get out. We're safe for now. However, it's impossible to proceed with our exploration. We won't come back to this plane until decades later. Let's just return to the surface first. I hope the people of the Thorny Crown are all dead, or we will be in trouble..."

They returned in the same way they came, this time a lot faster than before. It was difficult to find the right way underground, but it was much easier to come back.

When they passed two caverns, and entered the third one, ripples appeared on the wall, and many stone worms that had hideous mouthparts emerged, attacking everybody crazily.

At least 30 stone worms had crawled out of the wall. Their bodies had undergone amazing changes. Their stone bodies were covered in crystals that looked like diamonds and ice. Even the sharp teeth inside their mouthparts were coated in crystal too.

Xiuban roared and charged, brandishing Carnage that was wreathed in a yellow halo. He smashed one of the stone worms' head heavily, and broke it into pieces, which then fell on the ground. The crystals on its skin collapsed, and the pieces inside the worm's head were not the stones from before, but crystals that looked like stones...

Noises of collision burst out continuously. In only 10 seconds, Xiuban had smashed all the stone worms' heads apart. However, when they lost one of their heads, they didn't escape. They simply completely crawled out of the wall, and attacked with their other heads insanely.

After killing all those stone worms, Lin Yun frowned, and led everybody to move faster.

Before they entered this plane, Lin Yun had known where this place was the most special, and why no intelligent creatures were born in such a perfect environment.

The moment the monster woke up, the mana crystal would stop normal breathing, and start an outburst. Considering the amount of mana inside the crystal, it could cause terrifying storms of mana, even though it was just exhaling longer than usual.

Such pure storms of mana were completely unreasonable. It was impossible to resist them with anything else other than one's own mana. Furthermore, if one's own mana was of too low a quality, then it would be impossible for one to fight this war of attrition. One would be torn into pieces immediately.

The magic storms would also be boosted by the magic crystals that were exposed to the air, so the first outburst would definitely be unbelievably powerful. Nobody below level 7 of the Heaven Rank could possibly weather them.

After the initial outburst, the monster would completely wake up. Because of the massiveness of its body and soul, the awakening would take a long time. After it woke up, the first thing it would do was clean up everything in this plane. This entire plane was under its control. Considering the monster's terrifying soul power and magic power, it was very easy for it to control everything in the plane.

After all the creatures were under control, a purge would be initiated, and wouldn't stop until the last creature that the monster found to be a threat died. The whole plane would go crazy. The purge usually wouldn't end until all creatures went extinct.

The local beasts of this plane were weak, and had incomplete and vulnerable souls of parasites. That was the reason why they survived.

Whenever an intelligent creature was born, or if an extraordinary creature entered the place, the monster would immediately be woken up. It would mince and destroy all creatures that had complete souls. Their bodies would nurture the plane, and their souls would be torn apart and polished, and then swallowed by the monster's soul.

That was the monster's process of growth. It lay asleep and let the plane develop on its own. When the plane was developed to a level, the monster would wake up and reap everything. Then, it would fall asleep again, leaving the low-level beasts to procreate in the plane, and initiating another cycle.

The monster had existed for countless years. It was possible for intelligent creatures to be born in this place, but impossible for them to live. Every time a species that had the slightest intelligence popped up, a great purge would begin.

Obviously, now that the monster had woken up, it would start its instinctive purge and eating. The souls of the dozen Heaven Rank mages here were all the best food for the monster. Nobody could stop it from killing the invaders.

Controlling all of the invaders, and commanding them to enter the underground world, and jump into its mouth was the easiest and most effective way of hunting for the monster.

Frowning, Lin Yun led everybody to the surface quickly. This outburst was clearly more powerful than he'd expected. Not just the outburst of magic power, but the outburst of soul power was much more powerful than recorded.

Obviously, it was because the monster hadn't woken up in a long time. The magic crystals that had been condensed in the caverns were already exposed to the air. They had surely accumulated over hundreds of thousands of years.

The potion that could resist the monster's mind control was not entirely effective after it was swallowed. It had to be sprayed on the skin to serve as a barrier to prevent the control.

That was different from what was recorded in history books. Also, after failing to control the targets, the monster didn't try again. The waves had already spread out and vanished, which made Lin Yun feel ill at ease.

Even though the monster was incapable of launching powerful outbursts continuously, how could it abandon the delicious food so easily? That was not possible. The monster only had the instinct of building up its soul. How could it give up on the targets?

## Chapter 1328: Trap

The monster had reached level 48 and even level 49 with such instincts. It was impossible to infer the monster's level based on general knowledge of beasts. However, with such a method, it would be impossible for the monster to make a breakthrough to level 50. It would have greater and greater mana and a bigger and bigger soul, but its level would be stuck at 49.

While leading his team to move forward quickly, Lin Yun considered how the situation was different from the historical records. However, he could not think of any difference.

In the future, it would take thousands of years before the plane was truly developed after its discovery. During those thousands of years, the monster would wake up many times. This plane would almost be destroyed in battles. Only the beings above level 7 of the Heaven Rank could possibly remain immune to the monster's mind control when it was awake.

However, it was impossible to let the level-7 Heaven Rank experts develop the plane on their own. Resource collection and the plantation of magic plants required a huge number of laborers. Many experiments and research needed to be conducted on this plane based on its characteristics to invent new materials.

Even in Noscent's heyday, it didn't have so many experts above level 7 of the Heaven Rank that they could work as laborers. The alchemy puppets could be sent to do mining and even planting.

However, there were many things that they couldn't do. Human beings were necessary. The experiments needed to be conducted by mages too.

Lin Yun could not think of anything that was not mentioned in historical records. However, he was certain that this monster and this plane were different from those recorded in history...

Lin Yun led his team to the surface. In another direction, 1,000 meters into the underground world, the people of the Thorny Crown had all fallen victim to the attack. They were completely surrounded by a layer of crystals. When they opened their mouths, it could be seen that there were crystals in their nostrils and internal organs. Their bodies had completely crystallized.

Their power was almost exclusively based on their transplanted bloodline, which was the opportunity for them to break to the Heaven Rank. Their soul power was not even as good as that of the Heaven Rank mages on their level. How could they possibly resist the monster's control when they were defenseless?

They were all completely controlled. Myers walked in the lead expressionlessly. The survivors of the Thorny Crown followed him. They traveled across the channels and caverns, and went straight to the depths of the underground world.

All of a sudden, they stopped and turned around, returning to the surface of the plane. They moved much faster than Lin Yun and along a much shorter route. Under the monster's control, they didn't stop at all, and maintained a horrifying speed. They quickly passed through many caverns and channels, and reached the surface in only half an hour.

On the surface, an overwhelming number of insects had filled up the land. In the sky, a swarm of flying beasts was flapping its wings and floating like dark clouds.

The creatures that were natural nemeses stood next to each other. They had completely surrounded the entrance of a cavern that was 100 meters tall. They covered a radius of a dozen kilometers on the ground. Below the ground, a tremendous number of worms, insects, and underground monsters were surrounding the entrance through the channels, and narrowing down their circle.

The monsters, insects, and flying beasts were gradually acquiring the same aura. There was a layer of crystals on every creature's skin. Their bodies had crystallized too.

Myers led the experts of the Thorny Crown out of the cavern. They looked like human-shaped crystal statues when they walked out.

After they emerged, they stood along with the giant insects, and looked back at the entrance of the enormous cavern, waiting patiently.

All the monsters in the plane and the underground insects were controlled by the underground monster. There were also a dozen Heaven Rank experts of the Thorny Crown. They were all waiting for Lin Yun to show up, ready to surround and kill him.

Everything in this plane was under the monster's control. It knew which route Lin Yun would pick and where he would show up on the surface. This cavern was on the shortest route to the surface for Lin Yun. A lot of monsters had also gathered in the underground world. Lin Yun would be forced to return to this route even if he picked another one.

Traveling underground, Lin Yun encountered no obstacles at all. He was not even seeing any creatures. The escape had been quite smooth so far. However, Lin Yun realized that something was wrong.

“Hold on. Let's switch to another direction. Something is wrong. It's unacceptable to that monster that we're out of its control. Our souls are the most delicious food that it has ever seen. It will never abandon us. It will definitely try everything to kill us.

“As long as we die here, everything will be swallowed by the monster. Lord Shawn and Xiusi are pure soul creatures, which are irresistibly tempting for the monster. However, we haven't met any obstacles so far. There can only be one explanation for that. A trap may be ahead of us!”

Lin Yun furrowed his brows solemnly. The greedy devils, the brutal demons, or any other intellectual creatures might have let him go because they might take their losses into consideration and abandon pursuit.

However, this monster only had the instinct of killing and eating the intruders, no matter the cost. Or rather, it didn't know what cost meant at all. None of the creatures in this plane were cost for the monster.

The monster should and could only be commanding the creatures in the entire plane to attack him. If he was not facing any threat at this moment, the only possibility was that it had prepared a trap ahead, and was waiting for him to fall in.

That was the only reason why this monster wasn't doing anything.

Lin Yun abandoned the channel that he was going to take, and entered another channel. However, after he passed the channel and entered the next cavern, a tremendous number of insects erupted from the seven channels in the cavern. All the insects were covered in crystals, making them look like cased specimens.

However, those insects were even faster than before. They moved on their eight feet, which stabbed like iron needles. They left tiny holes even in hard rocks after they walked on them.

A tide of insects surged. Ripples were spreading out on the wall too. Many insects were crawling out of the wall, and baring their tiny and sharp fangs towards Lin Yun and his team.

In only three seconds, Lin Yun discovered that all the channels except the one behind him had been occupied by the insects. Also, one-third of this cavern, which was 800 meters long, had been crammed by the insects already. Those insects stood on top of each other like a swarm of ants that had gathered into a ball.

"Sir Merlin, we're doomed. Those guys have blocked the way. It's impossible for us to pass through them..."

Lord Shawn shrieked in panic. Although the creatures were no stronger than level 30, and could be killed easily, it meant that the monster had controlled everything, and they couldn't possibly win the battle of attrition.

Xiuban grabbed Carnage that was on his shoulder, and was about to charge with a smile.

"I can kill a dozen of those creatures with every smash. I'll kill as many of them as there might be..."

Lin Yun was quite solemn. In this place, and especially under such circumstances, it was impossible to escape through the Natural Demiplane. If they all entered the Natural Demiplane, the coordinates that were left behind would surely tremble, and it would be impossible to go back.

It was impossible that the monster which evolved from the body of a spatial beast didn't control any power of space in this plane...

Although there weren't a lot of insects, it was obvious that their route was under the monster's control, and that the monster was ready to reap their lives.

It was impossible to switch to a new direction. Even if they passed the giant insects, the monster would then surely chase after them. Then, they would have to fight the monster in the underground world, which was completely under its control.

It was better to fight on the surface, as the monster arranged, than to fight here. On the surface, there would be a better view anyway. It would be easier to notice the monster's arrangements. All they needed to do was take countermeasures.

"Let's go! We return to the surface on our old route! We cannot fight here! In here, we will be besieged and killed. Also, there's no telling if the Thorny Crown's people all died in the magic storm's outbreak. If they didn't, then they must've been controlled by the monster while keeping most of their combat ability. We don't have any advantage below the ground!"

Lin Yun returned to the channel that he just came from. Seeing Lin Yun going back, the controlled insects inside the cavern chased after him closely to the previous cavern, which had been mostly filled up by insects too, leaving only one of the channels empty.

Lin Yun didn't fight those insects. He simply moved quickly according to the route he planned. 10 minutes later, Lin Yun appeared in the enormous cavern on the surface. Behind him, the insects had climbed on each other, and formed the most splendid wall, blocking his way of retreat. Then, the insects charged and moved towards him like a torrent that was dozens of meters high.

Lin Yun took out the Draconic Staff, and summoned the Book of Ten Thousand Mantras and the Ten Thousand Spell Wheel. Immediately, a gate of flaming tornadoes that was dozens of meters tall arose, and spurted out gales and black flames. They surged out of the spacious cavern like a black hurricane.

Enderfa, on the other hand, controlled the Ten Thousand Spell Wheel, raising an elemental storm that turned into torrents in four colors to crush the insects behind everybody. The violent elemental storm tore apart the tide of insects like a tornado. Countless crystallized insects were caught in the elemental storm, and then torn into shreds.

The mana here was at least twice as abundant as when they arrived in the plane. Any spell would be much more powerful. The elemental storm, which carried purely destructive power, was even strengthened by three times.

The tide of insects that was catching up from behind was suppressed. On the other hand, the torrents that Syudos unleashed with the Book of Ten Thousand Mantras gushed out of the cavern, consuming more than 5,000 of the creatures that surrounded the cave.

The torrents ripped apart the beasts that looked like giant insects. The black flames ignited their remains, and burnt them to ashes very soon.

The black torrents of wind and fire spread from the entrance of the cavern. In only a few seconds, they had covered a radius of 1,000 meters. All the creatures in this range had been burnt to ashes.

Some enormous insects, which carried huge shells and looked like underground demons, were burning in the black flames, yet they were still charging at the cavern. Their bodies had been burnt up, but their remaining shells were still rolling towards the cavern's entrance. A second later, their glittering shells were burnt to ashes too.

There were also beasts that were slim and tall, and looked like gray mantises. Their arms were four glittering sharp blades. All of them hopped towards the cavern. Their bodies had been ripped apart before they landed, and their broken pieces splashed like rainwater before they were burnt to ashes.

Facing the torrents of wind and fire, the beasts that were mostly below level 30 were launching a suicide charge under the control of the monster.

The entrance of the cavern was the best place to surround and kill Lin Yun. Here, the beasts and experts of the Thorny Crown could display their maximal power without being restricted by the underground environment. Also, it was impossible for Lin Yun and his team to escape. They could only be exhausted to death...

The creatures in this plane weren't too powerful in general, and were below level 30 on average. Also, their population was much smaller than that of other planes. Still, there were way more than 10,000,000 creatures in the entire plane.

The beasts that looked like giant insects and surrounded the cavern had already occupied a radius of a dozen kilometers. Adding the flying beasts that looked like dark clouds in the sky, there were at

least 10,000,000 creatures here. If all the creatures in the plane were gathered here, there might be 100,000,000 of them.

Even though the strongest of the creatures had only just reached level 40, and the majority of them were below level 30, it was not difficult for them to kill a level-5 Heaven Rank expert in a war of attrition.

The reason why the Plane of the Undead was terrifying was its population. When two undead lords fought, it would be considered a minor conflict if they didn't send 100,000,000 undead creatures to slash each other for a couple of months.

If there were too many enemies, one would be easily exhausted and killed, unless one could crush a large area of them easily. Even though Lin Yun had a Natural Demiplane and almost inexhaustible mana, he might still be worn out. His soul power and his energy might be drained.

More and more insects were charging out of the underground world despite the fatal elemental storm. 100 insects were shredded every second, but they paved a path with their lives. They were catching up to Lin Yun against the elemental storm.

Outside of the cavern, the swarms of beasts were also approaching the cavern against the torrents of wind and fire that Syudos released.

The torrents of beasts and the torrents of wind and fire collided. Even though the beasts had crystallized, they were still burnt to ashes in one second. However, there were simply too many of them...

In only a few seconds, they had pushed hundreds of meters. Judging from the trend, they would soon break into the cavern, and fill up every corner of it.

"Charge with me," Lin Yun roared, and his Draconic Staff glowed. The Book of Death automatically opened too. Many Four Element Bombs were gathered and launched in barrages. Outside of the cavern, small mushroom clouds were blooming in the chaotic flames. The blasts spread out and tore apart the dense insects and beasts. The enemies that were further away were flung aside too.

After launching a wave of Four Element Bombs, Lin Yun spouted a series of law runes. Many four-element law runes were gathered in front of Lin Yun into a bomb that was more than five meters long.

In a swoosh, the bomb disappeared from the cave, and reappeared 1,000 meters away in the middle of the beasts. The horrifying power of destruction turned into a rising ball.

All the beasts within a radius of hundreds of meters were obliterated. An opening appeared on the top of the gigantic ball. Amidst rumbling noises, a black mushroom cloud rose to the sky.

There was not a living creature in a radius of two kilometers. Even the experts of the Thorny Crown had been knocked away too.. Only Myers, who had condensed a crystal shield in front of him, managed to stop after being pushed back for a dozen meters.

#### Chapter 1329: Battle

Myers, who had half-crystallized, floated in midair expressionlessly. He extended his hands, and many crystal pieces that looked like ice flowed around his hands before they covered the hands. Horrifying waves of magic power spread out. Law runes flashed around Myers' hands quickly, and quickly melted into his hands.

Dazzling brilliance emanated. Right at this moment, Lin Yun had just released a Four Element Bomb of laws inside the cavern. Then, he pointed the Draconic Staff at the Book of Ten Thousand Mantras, extracting a spell that emitted the light of four elements. His mana surged into the curse quickly. Immediately, another Four Element Bomb of laws was condensed. It was thrown to the place where mana reaction was the strongest.

When the spell that Myers gathered was about to be released, the Four Element Bomb of laws approached him. When it hit the horrifying waves around Myers, it suddenly exploded, imposing the destructive power on Myers' crystal shield.

Tiny cracks appeared on the surface of the crystal shield, but the latter wasn't shattered. On the other hand, when the Four Element Bomb of laws exploded over such a short distance, its blast was the most powerful.

The terrifying blast pushed Myers along with his shield into the sky. They had been blown hundreds of meters away in an instant. Rolling for a few seconds in the sky, Myers regained balance, and then launched the brilliance in his hands towards the cavern on the ground.

At this moment, Lin Yun had led everybody out of the cavern. They were 100 meters away from the cavern when the two dazzling balls that Myers released hit it.

Immediately, horrifying magic waves roared like a tsunami. The winds were raging, and the entire cavern was trembling.

The giant insects deep inside the cavern, not being suppressed by the elemental storm any longer, charged out of the cavern crazily. Countless insects were gathered, and rolled out like a ball of army ants.

All of a sudden, the cavern was filled up by dazzling brilliance. Noises burst out continuously, as if countless bombs were exploding at the same time.

Thick crystal stings rose on the wall inside the cavern. They were dozens of meters tall, and pierced from the ground. There were at least hundreds of them.

Instantly, the insects that were surging from the depths of the cavern were penetrated by the crystal stings. As more and more crystal stings appeared, the space between them was smaller and smaller. The insects that weren't penetrated were squeezed and killed too...

On the surface, crystal stings that were dozens of meters long burst out of the ground too. Almost in one second, the cavern had been filled up by the interconnected crystal stings. Outside, the same thick crystal stings were erupting around the cavern too. It looked as if a huge flower of crystal stings just blossomed.

Looking at the cavern and its surroundings that had been fully covered up by crystals, Xiuban was pale, and his lips were shivering. Even though his body was extremely sturdy, he wasn't strong enough to ignore the crystal stings, and he would've been pierced through if he'd been hit.

Tens of thousands of insects had emerged from the depths of the cavern, but they had all been wiped out in an instant.

The cavern, and the land around it, had been penetrated by the countless crystal stings. All the living creatures within a radius of hundreds of meters were killed instantly. Even the rocks had been squeezed into pieces too.

The blood gathered into a river, and flowed out of the gaps among the crystal stings. The stench of the sticky blood spread out like a bomb.

The nearest crystal sting was only a couple of meters away from the group. There was even blood dripping on the surface of the crystal sting that looked like a brilliant diamond.

Looking back at the crystal stings, Lin Yun had an idea, but he was immediately interrupted.

After his first attack missed, Myers immediately launched a new one. A crystal ball that reflected glamorous light fell from the sky, and suddenly exploded when it was still halfway down. The rain of crystal arrows darted from the sky, and covered a radius of 300-400 meters.

The crystal arrows hit Lin Yun's Fusion Shield, causing clinking noises. Those crystal arrows were terrifyingly penetrative. They were not a powerful spell, but their arrowheads penetrated Lin Yun's Fusion Shield easily. Then, the crystal arrows fell apart into countless pieces, and dispersed into glittering light.

The other experts of the Thorny Crown, who had been flung away in the explosion earlier, all joined the battle, and charged at Lin Yun. Besides the experts, there were also swarms of beasts that were coming at them.

Lin Yun took a soft breath, and spouted three runes of laws. Immediately, a black vortex appeared behind Lin Yun, and quickly gathered into a gate that was more than 10 meters tall and 20 meters wide.

Flames burst out of the gate, and fell dozens of meters away. The flames gradually died down, revealing 50 legion mages. All the 50 legion mages had red hair and wore crimson robes. They looked like shadows that were burning in the flames.

The moment the 50 legion mages appeared, flames automatically started burning around them. The elemental flames quickly raised the temperature.

Ever since the four laws in his Natural Demiplane began to have derivative laws, the 50 legion mages had been learning laws there. Lin Yun's demonstration allowed them to learn by almost melting into the laws of fire. Such a method let them grasp laws at an astonishingly high speed.

Starting from the level-5 Archmages, they would need to grasp the power of laws to advance to higher levels, and the accumulation of mana was no longer as important as learning laws.

As long as one learned enough laws and accumulated enough mana, one's level would soar quickly.

The 50 legion mages didn't even have to choose the foundation of their laws. It was the pure law of fire. However, they learned different branches of the law of fire. They had grasped almost all of the branches.

After years of studying, and since it was unnecessary to worry about mana in the Natural Demiplane, the 50 legion mages were almost unified. When they gathered together, they were almost a complete projection of the law of fire.

Kurumu, who was the strongest, was a peak level-8 Archmage. The weakest of them was a level-7 Archmage. When the 50 legion mages gathered, they could already demonstrate the terrifying power of the legion, even though it was not nearly as dominating as the Burning Legion in the future...

Nevertheless, nobody below level 3 of the Heaven Rank could resist the legion mages alone!

After the legion mages were pulled out, an iron torrent gushed out of the gate. Countless alchemy puppets charged out. The weakest of them was at level 30. They were the prototypes that were manufactured earliest, and could only be used as cannon fodder...

The puppets that were manufactured later were all above level 33—mostly in level 35. Some of the powerful puppets were even at level 38 and level 39.

In only a dozen seconds, 5,000 iron soldiers had charged out of the gate, and the torrent didn't stop flowing at all. It seemed that countless more iron soldiers were waiting to join from the other side of the gate.

Lin Yun hadn't dared to open the Planar Path to his Natural Demiplane or fetch anything, because he had been afraid that it would've woken up the monster. He didn't need to be afraid anymore, because the monster had already woken up.

After opening the gate, Lin Yun flew to the sky and confronted Myers, who was the biggest threat. He wasn't too worried about other enemies.

Myers and Lin Yun fought in the sky. On the ground, Sheldon, who had crystallized, was the strongest. He was the first to return after being flung away. Xiuban grinned and charged at him with Carnage.

Reina fought five crystallized bloodline transplinters. Myers was the strongest of the people of the Thorny Crown. He was in level 5 of the Heaven Rank. Sheldon was next. He was at level 3 of the Heaven Rank. However, he had transplanted many of the demon's body parts, and the longer he fought, the stronger he would be. His combat ability could even reach level 4 of the Heaven Rank.

Then, Sunny was at level 3 of the Heaven Rank. Despite her fatal weakness, her combat ability was actually greater than that of normal level-3 Heaven Rank experts. The other bloodline transplinters were mostly in level 1 of the Heaven Rank.

Reina could easily fight five of those level-1 Heaven Rank mages at the same time. She wanted to fight more, but the other seven enemies had been claimed by the legion mages...

More than 30 alchemy puppets had charged out of the gate, and the number was still rising. Apart from the cannon fodder, even the weakest of them were in level 33. When they collided with the crystallized beasts, they were like a burning dagger that had stabbed into cheese. It was a one-sided slaughter.

When the tireless and fearless iron army confronted the beasts that were also countless and fearless, a gory battle began...

The army of alchemy puppets were separated into a dozen units that cut through the beasts. Every second, thousands of crystallized beasts were torn into shreds. Broken crystals were everywhere on the ground. Rivers of blood were running. The gores made the mana violent here. The dark clouds in the sky were driven away.

Killing and destruction never stopped. In the sky, the flying beasts that covered a dozen square kilometers like clouds swooped. On the ground, tens of thousands of alchemy puppets raised their arms, and activated their weapon system.

Instantly, countless red rays of flames and blue rays of frost darted towards the sky in streaks of light. When the light gathered, it looked like a pillar of red-and-blue light that was 1,000 meters thick had shot into the clouds.

Collapses, explosions...

Remains of the flying beasts fell from the sky. A rain of crystals and blood took place in a radius of several kilometers. It was so loud that it sounded like a storm...

The battle continued. The iron army of 100,000 alchemy puppets had all been deployed on the battlefield. They were not even all of Lin Yun's stock. In the factory in his Natural Demiplane, alchemy puppets were being manufactured day and night. As his research proceeded, the manufactured alchemy puppets would be stronger and stronger.

100,000 alchemy puppets versus tens of millions of crystallized beasts, with a level gap of almost 10 levels. The army of alchemy puppets was slaughtering their enemies. However, due to the huge population of the crystallized beasts, it had losses too.

Still, the losses were negligible compared to the deaths of the crystallized beasts...

Observing from the sky, it could be seen that the beasts had crammed the land. However, in the middle of the gathered beasts, more than 30 blades were spinning and moving, sometimes clockwise and sometimes counterclockwise.

One blade could not mince all the crystallized beasts around. But then, the blade next to it would mince the survivors. The puppets had formed circles large and small, reducing the number of the crystallized beasts quickly.

The spell-casting alchemy puppets, seated in the center of the circles, cast spells crazily. They attacked the flying beasts in the sky and those on the ground multiple times more effectively than the melee puppets.

At the same time, the legion mages, who hadn't been deployed in a long time, fought the seven bloodline transplanters, who had been controlled by the monster and crystallized, but their combat ability wasn't affected. Rather, they were even strengthened by the crystallization, which minimized the negative influence of their transplantation.

The legion mages gathered together. Kurumu floated in the sky, with 20 companions standing on the ground, 20 spreading out above his head, and 10 connecting all of them.

Flames were burning furiously. Crimson light was emanating. It was like a tree of fire that was 100 meters tall had appeared. The mages at the bottom were the tree's root, those on the top were its crown, and Kurumu and the other legion mages in the middle were the trunk.

The furious flames spread out, and the crimson brilliance gathered into the shape of the fiery tree. Fiery runes were hanging on the tree's branches as its leaves, making the 20 mages in the sky look like the tree's fruits.

The flames spread from the bottom of the tree to its top, and then gradually expanded horizontally. A law rune surfaced in the center of the fiery tree's trunk.

The law rune was revolving slowly. It seemed to have absorbed countless fiery runes. The power of every flame had been reflected in it.

The seven controlled bloodline transplanted cast spells and attacked. They raised a frost that suppressed the flames like a blue billow of ice.

Kurumu raised his staff, and the strange law rune in the trunk glimmered. Immediately, the flames on the crown rose quickly, and gathered into the head of a gigantic monster that was 100 meters long.

The monster's head flew out, and swallowed the icy billow. Immediately, the monster's head became dark. It wasn't cooled down at all, but much hotter than before. Its heat was even slightly twisting the surroundings.

A second later, the monster's head opened its mouth and exhaled. Then, it grinned, as if it had enjoyed a piece of delicious food. Then, it flew to the sky, and swallowed the bloodline transplanter who made use of the power of ice.

After the bloodline transplanter was swallowed, a lot of ice was raised on his skin, freezing him into ice. The monster's head bit it in its mouth, and continuously scorched the ice, melting it. However, even more coldness arose from inside the ice, sustaining it.

The monster's head bit the ice as if it was enjoying a candy. It floated in midair and grinned, as if it was intelligent. It didn't fight any longer.

As for the other bloodline transplanters, they all made use of their own methods. Earthquake, sucking blood, burning mana, venomous corruption, mind-shrieking...

The side effects of bloodline transplantation had been minimized after their crystallization. Besides, they were under the monster's control, and it didn't care about the side effects at all. It was using their greatest power.

However, their power didn't have any effect when it hit the fiery tree that the legion mages had created. The root of the fiery tree was holding on to the fire element, not the earth, so the earthquake didn't work at all. Everything inside the fiery tree was fire itself. It couldn't be destroyed by the power of earth.

Then, the bloodline transplanter who boasted the power of earth fell on the ground due to the bombardment of flames. One flame after another was condensed above his body and exploded, causing pits around his body. The blasts of the flames smashed him like Xiuban's hammer, knocking him consecutively into the soil.

#### Chapter 1330: Duel to Death

The warlock who had transplanted the bloodline of a vampire could not break the fiery tree's defense at all. Besides, the fiery tree was already a projection of the law of fire. He certainly couldn't suck any blood from it...

On the contrary, the fiery tree launched flames back at him. The flames turned into a cage, and burned this guy who reeked of the stench of blood. He would've been burnt into ashes if he hadn't been making use of the power of the rivers of blood on the battlefield...

Burning mana was absolutely useless too because the flames on the fiery tree were powered by mana to begin with. They were actually burning the warlock's mana. As more flames were burning, more of the warlock's mana was incinerated.

With the fiery tree as their support, and plus the magic crystals that Lin Yun had prepared for them, the legion mages could easily defeat a level-5 Heaven Rank expert in a war of attrition, not to mention a warlock only in level 1 of the Heaven Rank...

The venomous poisons had been burnt up before they approached. The mental shriek was blocked by the fiery tree.

The seven warlocks who had transplanted their bloodlines had been either suppressed or trapped. They would be burned to death when their mana was neutralized by the flames. Then, they would be restrained by the fiery tree...

In a dozen minutes, all the seven bloodline transplanters had been suppressed. Had it not been for the monster's control and protection and its mana support, they would've all been burned to death.

On the other hand, in Reina's battle, three of the five bloodline transplanters had been sealed in transparent blue ice. Inside the ice, even mana had been frozen. Their power was frozen too. The horrifying fridity kept everything inside the ice the same. There were even flames that had been frozen.

One of the remaining two bloodline transplanters had been impaled on the ground with black ice spears in his limbs. Before he could break free, another couple ice spears had flown out and penetrated his shoulders and thighs. The terrifying power of ice spread out and stiffened his body. His blood had been frozen before it gushed out.

The last bloodline transplanter had turned into a half human and half beast. He looked like one of the tiger hybrids. He had dashed to Reina, and was tearing Reina's ice shield crazily with his sharp claws.

The attack was futile. Also, when other bloodline transplanters were controlled, bloody flames arose on the skin of the man. His bones seemed to be cracking and expanding too. He expanded dozens of times in one second, turning into a monster that was dozens of meters tall. A violent and terrible aura rose around him crazily. He advanced to level 3 of the Heaven Rank instantly.

Reina seemed rather surprised, and then frowned. Silver light glittered on her body. She transformed into her original self—a Frost Dragon. She wandered in midair, and spouted icy brilliance.

The monster that was ablaze with bloody flames charged. The crystallized beasts that were in its way all withered and rotted when the bloody flames touched them, as if their vitality had been burnt up instantly.

Reina opened her mouth, and spouted a mouthful of icy brilliance. Her absolute zero breath hit the terrifying monster immediately.

Instantly, the monster was covered in ice. After he took another two steps, the bloody flames on his skin were extinguished. He stood on the ground like an enormous ice sculpture...

There was barely any suspense in the battles of the legion mages and Reina. The dozen bloodline transplanters of the Thorny Crown had all been suppressed. If they hadn't all crystallized from

inside to outside, and if they hadn't wielded the power of the Heaven Rank, they would've been killed instead of being suppressed.

The iron army of alchemy puppets had already completely blocked the violent beasts. Like an enormous mincer, the iron army continuously reaped the lives of the gigantic insects that were charging forward. They couldn't break through the line of defense no matter what.

The battle between Xiuban and Sheldon was the fiercest. After bathing in the Ancient God Blood, Xiuban was unable to make use of elemental or magic power. However, as his bloodline power increased, the Ancient God Blood had been completely melted into his system, and it didn't have any more restraints.

Although he could already make use of elemental power and even cast spells, Xiuban was the most familiar with the support and enhancement spells. He still counted on his physical strength in battles.

Sheldon, on the other hand, had transplanted the bloodline of a demon whose ranking was low among the 72 pure-blooded demons. He was a poor spell caster, but he had inherited the demon's strong body. Adding the demon's horns that he had transplanted, he fought like a real demon instead of a warrior who had transplanted a bloodline.

After Sheldon was temporarily controlled and crystallized, the side effects of his bloodline were suppressed. The monster didn't care whether or not Sheldon would be killed if he overused his bloodline power. He was surrounded by black smoke, and he had grown almost four meters tall. Demon power was gathering in his hand into a spear that was more than five meters long with the support of the monster's power.

Xiuban, on the other hand, had a skin that was glimmering with the color of blood. His eyes had turned bloodshot too. There seemed to be a layer of invisible flames around his body. The power of tornadoes helped him control his body like elves.

Carnage had been completely enshrouded in the power of earth. It turned black and brown, and weighed at least 1,000 tons. When it was gently waved, the air around it would be squeezed. Lightning was attached to its surface, carrying pure and horrifying power.

Holding Carnage, Xiuban charged at Sheldon, roaring and smashing him with a horrifying force Carnage was imbued with. Immediately, the air was trembling, and the mana and air that had dispersed in midair could not withstand the brutal force. They were all squeezed and exploded, causing noises around Xiuban. The cracking elements were rumbling.

Sheldon was expressionless. The demon horns above his forehead emitted vague black light. In the middle of the black smoke, Sheldon's body transformed again, and gradually turned into a demon. He released all of his bloodline power, and turned into a half human and half demon monster.

Facing Xiuban's attack, Sheldon held his enormous black spear with both hands. The spear had been covered in black smoke too. The demon power had been crystallized too, and transformed into a most terrifying weapon.

The spear, which looked like a black crystal, collided with Xiuban's Carnage. Immediately, all the mana, elements, and air within a radius of dozens of meters were pushed out. No sound could be heard. A glittering blast spread out from the point of impact.

Immediately, an enormous circle 1,000 meters in diameter appeared. The blast that rose to the sky disappeared, and the blast that struck the ground looked like a giant's blade that cut the ground brutally.

On the ground, an enormous gap that was several meters wide and hundreds of meters long appeared. The crystallized beasts that had been gathered where the gap used to be vanished. They were all torn apart by the horrifying blast.

After the enormous circle of blast spread out, the mana, air, and elements that had been pushed away rolled back to fill the vacuum. Xiuban and Sheldon had collided. Carnage and the black crystal spear were stuck to each other like magnets. Everything between them had been shattered. It was a pure collision of strength, which was even more terrifying than a collision of spells.

The two weapons were not really attracting each other; Xiuban and Sheldon were simply pressing them against each other, hoping to crush their enemy with their strength.

At this moment, whoever was unable to hold on and moved back would have to face not just their enemy's strength, but also the energy that had been accumulated in the collision.

The air and mana that had rolled back into the vacuum collided continuously, and rolled and retracted like a lightning ball towards the two men in the center.

The power that had rolled back hit Xiuban and Sheldon, and broke the balance. The two of them immediately turned into two blurry shadows and vanished.

The accumulated power burst out. Neither Xiuban nor Sheldon was able to resist. Both of them were flung away. A dark hollow spread out where they used to be, and collided with the power that had rolled back.

A deafening noise echoed, as if the sky had collapsed. There was nothing but darkness in a radius of several hundred meters. The space was like broken crystals and filled with cracked pieces. Then, the cracked pieces gradually reassembled and recovered.

In the sky, Xiuban and Sheldon reappeared. They were a couple of kilometers away from each other. The black spear in Sheldon's hand had crumbled into crystallized black smoke, and floated around him like grains of ice. Those grains of ice quickly assembled into another black spear.

Sheldon's crystallized body had tiny cracks because of the explosion, but it was quickly healing too. In only two seconds, he had completely recovered.

On the other hand, Xiuban was breathing heavily. The red light on his skin was burning like flames. The tattoo of the abyssal dragon appeared on his skin, and then slithered to his shoulder with a scary smile, gazing at Sheldon with craziness and brutality in its eyes.

Xiuban had been hit head-on in the explosion. He didn't even protect himself with the crystal dragon's bloodline power, but there were only vague marks on his skin. In the blink of an eye, those marks disappeared too.

Having absorbed the most terrifying dragon bloodlines and awakened his own dragon bloodline, and adding the power of the Ancient God Blood, Xiuban was already much sturdier than his level suggested. He was a tank that couldn't be destroyed.

Xiuban was most distinguished for his body's toughness, not his unbelievable physical strength. After he had advanced into the Heaven Rank and completed the transformation, his bloodline power and the Ancient God Blood had melted, making his body even more unreasonably invulnerable.

Xiuban would emerge unscathed even if he were to resist a level-9 spell with his body. The weaker level-9 spells wouldn't even be able to break his thick skin.

Although Xiuban was usually scared of death, and loved hoarding Health Potions, he forgot all those things in battles. The instinct in his blood made him forget everything except smashing his opponent into a pulp of meat...

His attack didn't really wound Sheldon. Xiuban looked quite angry, and his eyes were gradually enshrouded in redness. The power of the Abyssal Blood Dragon doubled his strength. Then, the power of the Three-Headed Golden Dragon emerged, adding a golden hue to his red skin. The Three-Headed Golden Dragon's power made Xiuban even stronger.

The most powerful Three-Headed Golden Dragon was even able to fight gods without being defeated. In terms of physical strength, it was definitely the best of all dragons.

The bloodline power of the Ancient Poison Dragon emerged too, and echoed with Carnage, which was made of an Ancient Poison Dragon's spine. As if the Ancient Poison Dragon were reborn, Carnage was empowered again and covered in glimmering light. It increased Xiuban's physical strength and his defense.

Xiuban's eyes turned completely bloodshot. That was berserk. Only beastmen with powerful bloodlines were able to go berserk twice.

After his eyes turned bloodshot, Xiuban completely lost his rationality. As if the animal in his heart had been woken up, all that he could think of was to kill Sheldon, and whoever stood in his way would be his enemy.

Even gods or Lin Yun would not be able to talk Xiuban into giving up the thought...

Suppressed roars sounded in Xiuban's throat. A terrifying aura was spreading in the air. Even the insane crystallized beasts on the ground seemed to have felt a fatal crisis. They were instinctively moving away from Xiuban.

Bang...

Sheldon smashed Xiuban's shoulder with his black spear, causing a deafening noise. The spear fell apart into smoke, and Xiuban's left shoulder slightly lowered. There was a shallow mark on it.

The next moment, Xiuban held Carnage in his right hand, and put on a scary smile. He grabbed Sheldon's right arm and pulled it, and then kicked his abdomen with his right knee. The crystals on

Sheldon's abdomen were cracking. More were condensing, but the new ones were broken quickly too.

Sheldon was not really wounded. Only the crystal defenses were broken. However, he still bent under the attack. Xiuban stabbed his left hand into Sheldon's abdomen like a sharp blade. Then, he flew upwards, and headbutted Sheldon with a crazy smile.

With a crack, one of Sheldon's demon horns broke. He was immediately stunned. Even the monster that controlled Sheldon seemed to be confused. On Xiuban's forehead, there was only a red mark. Even his skin wasn't broken.

When Sheldon was stunned, Xiuban appeared over him. He held Carnage with both hands, and smashed it against Sheldon's chest.

As if a lightning bolt was striking down, Sheldon was hit in the chest, and a tremendous number of crystals fell apart. Sheldon's chest collapsed, and his crystallized flesh exploded. Black smoke was gushing out too.

The black smoke spread throughout his body, and blood that looked like sticky ink gushed out too. Instantly, Sheldon turned into a complete demon. His face changed, and his broken demon horn grew back.

His back became even broader, and his hands became demon claws. His spine extended, and grew into a thick demon tail. Moreover, his legs had changed too, and looked like those of a fly. His feet had only three fingers left. He rose a dozen meters tall...

Even though he was turning into a demon, he was unable to resist that strike. He quickly fell to the ground like a meteor that was falling from the sky.

With a boom, smoke and dust spread out on the ground. There was a pit with a radius of 1,000 meters partly hidden in the smoke and dust. Around the pit, thick cracks stretched hundreds of meters from the center.

A pure demon power erupted from the pit. Sheldon was lying at the bottom of the pit. His chest had collapsed, and his skin had cracked. His ribs had been mostly broken too. From his cracked skin and flesh, it could be seen that his crystallized heart was beating fast, and that plumes of smoke were bursting out with his every heartbeat.

The crystallized pieces of his flesh voluntarily flew back to Sheldon's body, and his broken bones were reset on their own. Supported by the demon power, he was quickly healed.

Sheldon rolled his head, and raised it expressionlessly. He struggled back to his feet. But all of a sudden, a shadow had broken through the dust and smoke above his head. Carnage extended from the smoke, and all the smoke and dust were pushed aside, as if they encountered a raging gale.

With bloodshot eyes and a scary and crazy smile on his face, Xiuban smashed Sheldon's shoulder, holding Carnage so hard that veins were protruding on his arm.