Magic Era 311

Chapter 311: Frost Giant

The average person might think that besides his astonishing strength, this Frost Giant wasn't anything special, but Lin Yun knew that this was the true shape of Elemental Incarnation: frightening speed, shocking power, and a mighty body. Every little movement would stir the surrounding ice elements. It wasn't far from the ultimate form of Elemental Incarnation.

The Elemental Incarnation that Hanson was displaying was even stronger than Lin Yun's. After all, Lin Yun had just entered the High Mage realm, so his control over his Elemental Incarnation was far from being complete.

"Drop dead!" The Frost Giant's roar made the surrounding ice elements stir frantically. Even Lin Yun's flames seemed to dim for a moment.

At the same time, the Frost Giant's hands slammed on the ground, creating a large hole and scattering a large volume of rocks in the surroundings.

After the heavy slam of the Frost Giant, the surrounding ice particles moved amidst cold gales, forming several dozen tornados in which chunks of ice were spinning. They instantly blocked Lin Yun's way out.

Moreover, this was only the beginning.

Hanson didn't stop after summoning the ten tornados. His ice-covered arm suddenly stretched, and a Frost Lance that was a few meters long shot out of his hand.

It was followed by a loud sound as the lance emitted a thunderous rumble. That kind of thunderous power would even amaze Dragons. With such power, the Frost Lance moved like lightning and only a blue gleam of light could be seen.

"Heavens..." Ross was stunned. A fight on this level far exceeded his understanding.

The power of a 5th Rank High Mage was no different from a baby in a fight of this level. Ross simply didn't have any opportunity to intervene and could only watch as Hanson summoned dozens of ice tornadoes and threw this overwhelmingly imposing lance at his younger cousin.

The power Hanson Charlotte was showing far surpassed Ross' comprehension. It was too powerful and too frightening. Ross simply couldn't imagine what his younger cousin could do against this Frost Lance.

Ross was stunned as the Frost Lance tore through the air.

'It's over, we are finished ... "

The only way his cousin might perhaps be able to hold up would be to use Runic Shield, just like William in the Merlin Family Manor.

But if the protection of the Runic Shield was used up this early...

Then his younger cousin wouldn't be far from being defeated.

'Be careful...'

Ross tightly clenched his hand, attentively watching that lightning-fast Frost Lance.

Immediately after, Ross heard a loud explosion...

"Fuck," Ross cursed, because he could hear that this was the sound of the Frost Lance hitting a shielding spell.

Sure enough, after Ross opened his eyes, he saw the Frost Lance turning into countless chunks of ice as it was blocked just in front of his younger cousin.

It really was a Runic Shield.

Ross closed his eyes in despair. Since the Runic Shield was out of the picture, the battle might have already been lost.

Because Hanson's control over ice magic was close to omnipotent in this Ice Elemental Incarnation form. He only needed to say one character for him to cast countless 3rd Tier Spells like Frost Lance.

And sure enough...

Just as the first Frost Lance burst, another one appeared in Hanson's hands, flying with the same lightning speed and thunderous rumble. The second Frost Lance tore through the air, aiming at Lin Yun.

Then there was a 3rd, and a 4th, and a 5th.

Each Frost Lance made Ross' heart sink, because he knew that his cousin's Runic Shield couldn't handle many more attacks. The next Frost Lance might tear through the barrier and pierce his chest.

'Sharp Mind! Sharp Mind! Faster, faster...' Ross' clothes were drenched in cold sweat, nervousness and anxiousness apparent on his face.

Sharp Mind was the only way for his distant cousin to stay in the fight.

Only by relying on Sharp Mind's calculation power could he optimize the consumption of the Runic Shield. Every second that could be gained would be very important in a battle of this level, it would give his younger cousin more time to survive and come up with a way to come back.

'Damn, why aren't you using Sharp Mind?!'

Ross couldn't understand what his younger cousin was thinking. Yet he was somehow resisting the crazy Frost Lance assault while dodging the ice tornadoes, and throwing some fire spells back.

It was an amazing performance!

Seeing this, Ross felt like cursing, 'There are tornadoes everywhere, Frost Lances in front, and your Runic Shield has already started to dim! What you should do is use Sharp Mind to gain time to be able to use a second Runic Shield, not waste time casting fire spells. What's the point of casting fire spells in such a situation?

'Are you trying to make some fireworks to celebrate Hanson's victory? Are you trying to prepare a barbecue feast for him?'

Ross had truly given up.

Ross originally felt that this young distant cousin had to be extremely powerful for him to be able to kill Stan Watson while he was under the Red Dragon Mercenary Group's protection. Even if he couldn't defeat Hanson Charlotte with that strength, he shouldn't be too far from being able to gain enough time to flee, right?

Now, Ross Merlin felt that he had been wrong...

Indeed, the strength displayed by that younger cousin truly was Archmage-level.

But from the way the battle was proceeding, that younger cousin's fighting skills were lagging far behind his strength. This was truly annoying... He had the strength but couldn't use it effectively, what did this mean?

'What a pity... I'm not strong enough...' Ross truly wished that he was the one with the power of an Archmage.

Ross believed that if he was the one using Elemental Incarnation, that battle wouldn't be so lopsided.

At least, his control and fighting abilities were far higher than those of his distant cousin.

If he stepped up onto the stage, he wouldn't end up in such tragic circumstances and have to just wait for his death. He had many ways to struggle under Hanson's hands, and even if he lost, he wouldn't lose so tragically.

Just what was this lousy performance...

He had cast a dozen seemingly random fire spells so far and shrouded the surroundings in fire. It did look very astonishing, but what was the point?

Hanson Charlotte's Ice Elemental Incarnation was that of a Frost Giant. It was a high-tier shape of Elemental Incarnation. Let alone turning the surroundings into a swathe of ordinary flames, even if the flames were extremely pure instead, the Frost Giant's body which rivalled Gods in toughness simply wouldn't feel them.

Unless these flames were powerful enough to defeat an Archmage...

But if he really could crush an Archmage, why would he let Hanson Charlotte be so annoying? With enough power, a simple Wind Blade would be enough to take Hanson's life.

'It's over, the Runic Shield's light completely disappeared....'

"Younger Cousin, use that fire Magic Tool quickly!" Ross was so anxious that he couldn't stop himself from shouting, at the risk of drawing Hanson's attention.

Unfortunately, Ross' shout was completely ignored. Whether it was Lin Yun or Hanson, they didn't even spare a glance at him...

At this moment, the protective barrier over Lin Yun's flaming form dissipated.

And Hanson was preparing another Frost Lance.

That Frost Lance might pierce Lin Yun's chest anytime.

But Lin Yun didn't seem worried. The ice tornadoes and the swathes of fire formed a hell of frost and flames.

"Mafa Merlin, I shall see how long you can keep supporting it!" Hanson Charlotte let out another roar as another Frost Lance was thrown.

This was the final blow!

"Ten seconds left..." Lin Yun's voice was so low that even Hanson, who was facing him, didn't hear it. The young High Mage faced this deadly Frost Lance and still had time to say something.

But, it didn't matter if the others heard his words.

Just as Hanson made a move, a dazzling light appeared on Lin Yun's body.

It was a Runic Shield!

Chapter 312: Sea of Flames

What happened?

Whether it was Ross Merlin or Hanson Charlotte, they both couldn't help being stunned when they saw that Runic Shield, it was illogical, how could a Runic Shield appear? The two were high mages, how could they not know of spells cooldown and mana exhaustion of channelled spells? Those were knowledge that every mage should know of, it was already deeply ingrained into the minds of Hanson and Ross, making them subconsciously react.

In the world of magic, some rules like these could never be changed, even for Heaven Rank existences, or existences surpassing Heaven Rank, as long as they hadn't separated themselves from the world of magic, they would never be able to change that rule.

Maybe some extremely powerful existences could reduce spell cooldowns, but completely ignoring it was impossible.

Not to mention, that young High Mage was far from being that powerful.

But what was the matter with that Runic Shield?

After all, the previous Runic Shield disappeared a handful of seconds earlier, so how could he be able to use a second Runic Shield?

This was terrifying.

If a mage had that kind of ability and always remain protected by Runic Shield... They would be invincible, a mage could completely ignore injuries and not fear to have their cast interrupted, this kind of mage would be too frightening.

This would be an existence that would break the balance.

'Wait…'

Ross suddenly noticed something, 'This Runic Shield is different from the previous one.'

'How could it be?'

Ross rubbed his eyes in disbelief.

'They truly are different!'

This time, Ross was convinced that he hadn't made a mistake. Indeed, that Runic Shield truly was different from before. The most obvious part was that light shining even more brightly. Countless runes condensed together forming that dazzling light which seemed profound and clear. The mana fluctuations emitted gave off an immovable feeling.

Indeed, that Runic Shield truly gave that feeling to Ross Merlin.

Unbreakable, immovable.

By looking at that Runic Shield, Ross truly understood how accomplished his younger cousin was.

Everyone knew that the might of a Runic Shield depended on the amount of runes condensed, the more runes were condensed, the stronger the Runic Shield would be.

The Runic Shield that just emerged could only be described as outrageous, Ross even felt that many Archmages might be able to form such a formidable Runic Shield.

In contrast, that Runic Shield earlier was just a joke.

'Could it be...' Ross was suddenly frightened.

'Could it be that the previous Runic Shield wasn't even a Runic Shield?'

'Yes, yes...'

This was the only reason which could explain why this distant cousin could ignore spell cooldowns and why the two Runic Shield were so different in terms of power.

'He hadn't used a Runic Shield!'

'But if he hadn't used a Runic Shield... What did he cast?'

'Did he use other shielding spells to forcibly simulate a Runic Shield?'

This possibility scared Ross...

If it truly was the case, then it would really be outrageous.

How could it be...

A High Mage could use Mana Shield, Elemental Shield, and Runic Shield, each one of them had their own distinctive features, so how could he forcibly simulate a Runic Shield?

'Wait…'

'Was that the Ice Fire Shield?'

This was a defensive spell rumored to be extremely malleable, but it was forgotten by mages most of the time because its weak points were too obvious, it had extremely harsh control requirements. The Ice Shield could resist physical attacks while the Fire Shield could block magical attacks, and it could only defend around the caster's body, making it incomparable to the other three protection spells.

But Ross knew that once a mage's control reached a certain level, the power of the Ice Fire Shield wouldn't that much inferior to the other three shields.

Naturally, being able to operate an Ice Fire Shield like a Runic Shield could only be described as shocking.

Ross' gaze was now quite complicated as he looked at his cousin.

And Ross wasn't the only one, it was the same for Hanson Charlotte.

The appearance of that Runic Shield scared Hanson Charlotte, he was frozen on the spot, the Frost Lance in his hands already shaped, but not thrown.

But there was no time for Hanson to daydream, after Lin Yun formed his Runic Shield, he remained unmovable with his unbreakable defense. The ice tornadoes whistled over from all directions like meat grinders, overturning the whole street.

But now, these tornadoes seemed non existent to Lin Yun

Lin Yun was surrounded by flames in a tyrannical posture and passed through the wall of countless ice tornadoes, the countless runes of the Runic Shield didn't suffer from the tornadoes, they were only shaken before recondensing once again. There wasn't any trace of chaos in the runes.

"How could it be!" Lin Yun tyrannical stance woke up Hanson. This Frost Giant roared in panic before throwing that Frost Lance, continuing the bombardment on Lin Yun.

But the lances didn't seem to have the same power, they fell on Lin Yun one after the other, not affecting him in the slightest.

"Just as I thought, ten seconds..." As the last Frost Lance flew through the flames, a devilish smile appeared on Lin Yun's face.

"What do you mean?" Hanson was startled. He had the upper hand as he kept attacking with Frost Lances, forcing that young High Mage to block with his Runic Shield, but for some reason, when he saw that young High Mage's smile, he suddenly felt alarmed. It felt like something dangerous was approaching.

But what was the danger?

Hanson Charlotte thought about it, but couldn't understand. He was quite safe, he could go forward and attack or retreat and defend. So what if that young High Mage managed to cast another Runic Shield? Runic Shield had no offensive property, and as time passed, it would sooner or later disappear. Hanson didn't believe that this young High Mage would be able to cast another Runic Shield.

Yes, the battle had already reached this stage, how could he still feel danger?

"Well, this spell's casting time is too long ... "

"Ah?"

Hanson was startled.

He then saw a flame soaring, and the dozens of scattered flames suddenly linked together, forming a true sea of flames spreading through hundreds of meters.

Before Hanson could understand what was happening, those flames swayed like the waves of an ocean.

At first, Hanson sneered because he felt that he wouldn't be affected by the flames with his high tier Elemental Incarnation shape, unless they had the power to crush him completely.

His power was coming from the Thousand Souls Sacrifice, that was a peak True Spirit Magic Tool, how could a twenty some years old kid be able to defeat him?

But Hanson stopped laughing very fast.

He suddenly discovered that this blazing attack had shockingly high temperature, and one wave was enough to melt over half of the ice on his arm.

"How could this be!" Hanson simply didn't dare believing this, 'How could a twenty years old kid summon such a formidable power!'

"Haha..." Lin Yun only chuckled, as he held his Spiritual Magic Staff across his chest. The Elemental Amber flashed and a large amount of mana began pouring into Lin Yun.

At the same time, the two Alchemic Mana Whirlpools began revolving.

Three flow of mana poured into Lin Yun's body, and the mana that was received and emitted was enough to make any High Mage despair. Even Lin Yun himself couldn't help showing a painful expression. Nothing could be done about it, there was truly too much mana pouring into his body, he couldn't support it even with the Magic Array.

But after the discomfort at the start, the results of that mana pouring into his body started appearing as the Magic Array crazily rotated.

As the Magic Array hastened through the increase in mana, the originally earth-shattering flames forcibly grew ten meters taller and instantly engulfed Hanson Charlotte.

Chapter 313: Hexagram Star Array

It gave the feeling of a raging fireplace, instantly burning through any matter, turning anything into more fuel to the fire. The ground was scorched red under the fierce flames, it didn't matter if it was made of stone or consisted of soil, they would both be completely burnt. Not only was the earth scorched red, the tall flames turned the sky red, there was no other color. That blaze was stifling.

"What... What are those flames!" The despairing Hanson shouted in a frenzied voice. He looked like a drowning man struggling desperately to survive, trying to escape this sea of flames.

But it was already too late.

Several hundred meters around them had been covered by Lin Yun's horrifying flames. Even if Hanson used the power of the Thousand Souls Sacrifice, possessing the power of an Archmage and a Sword Saint, he wouldn't be able to escape in a short term. The ice armor around Hanson Charlotte's body melted in an instant, exposing the inhuman black scales.

It could be seen how astonishing Hanson Charlotte's power was, the Sea of Flames could only be described as terrifying, it even melted the high tier Ice Elemental Incarnation shell in an instant, yet Hanson was still enduring in the sea of flames after recovering his monstrous form.

However his black scales turning red, just like a lobster being cooked, easily betrayed his difficulties. He let out a painful roar from within the Sea of Flames, trying to endure.

Hanson's legs fiercely stomped on the ground, scattering rocks and soil around, relying on his powerful body to charge a dozen meters forward.

A wave of fire rushed at him, forcing Hanson Charlotte to fall on the ground due to the blazing attack. The black scales that looked as if they had been cooked before now seemed to be melting.

But that monster's vitality was too shocking. That flame assault would be able to wound a Sword Saint, but Hanson Charlotte didn't seem to pay attention to the injury. He crawled up, and stomped the ground once again, propelling himself further. He was like an arrow flying forward.

A world shaking roar could be heard echoing in the Sea of Flames, and although Hanson was riddled with scars, the aura he emitted was extremely terrifying, he looked like an Abyssal Demon.

Ross was simply stunned as he looked at that scene from the sidelines. A fight of that level completely surpassed Ross' imagination. Let alone getting involved, he was worried about being hurt just being in proximity.

The power displayed by that monster was enough to make Ross despair. Ross had thought that the battle was over with that Sea of Flames, but he hadn't expected that after the Elemental Incarnation melted, Hanson would actually be able to rely on his own power to endure the flames.

How could this be possible...

Ross could only look on helplessly as Hanson was struggling and enduring the terrifying flames.

Moreover, it looked as if he would be able to escape the flames.

Hanson had originally been in the center of the Sea of Flames, but as he laboured while enduring the pain, he managed to reach the outer edge. He was now less than a hundred meters away from escaping.

Such a distance wasn't much to the current Hanson Charlotte, possessing both the power of an Archmage and Sword Saint. It was well within his reach and abilities.

'What could be done, what could be done...'

Ross Merlin knew that his younger cousin had been able to force Hanson Charlotte to this point because of all the traps he had laid before, leading Hanson into the center of the Sea of Flames.

But if Hanson Charlotte truly escaped, that fight would return once again to the beginning. At that time, his High Mage cousin wouldn't be able to beat that freak...

At this time, Ross' heart was heavy as he stared at the fiery scene in front of him, afraid of missing any details.

"Mafa Merlin, you can't keep me contained!" Hanson got knocked down by the flames once again. His wounds were completely exposed, burns covered his entire chest. Even some bones were exposed, yet neither such heavy injuries nor the burns all over his body managed to hinder Hanson's movements as he tried to flee the Sea of Flames.

His eyes were shining with a scary light as he stared towards Lin Yun, his gaze full of hate.

"It'll be your end when I leave these flames!" Hanson roared before rushing once again towards the outside. Hanson was less than thirty meters away from escaping at this time.

'Finished...'

Ross' face turned pale as he looked at the battlefield, his face filled with panic and despair.

Thirty meters weren't enough to stop Hanson Charlotte, and once he exited that Sea of Flames, that monster with infinite anger and hatred would burst out with frightening power. Ross didn't even dare imagining it.

But then, Lin Yun waved his hand and summoned Syudos.

"You aren't leaving this place..." Lin Yun's voice was slow and gentle, but it resounded with clarity for everyone present.

"Ridiculous!" Hanson was already at the edge of the Sea of Flames, how could he take Lin Yun seriously?

A mournful voice was heard as a huge hexagram star appeared under his feet. Under the rush of mana, the Hexagram Star Array's radiance instantly soared. Even if that dark red radiance was hidden within the Sea of Flames, it gave off a chilly feeling...

That was the Hell Hexagram Star Array.

Now, an astonishing power was converging above the Hexagram Star Array, and although that power had yet to burst, the aura it emitted was enough to make anyone feel suffocated. Even Lin Yun could feel it. If this power burst, it would bring huge trouble to him.

Thus, Lin Yun decided to not give Hanson an opportunity.

Lin Yun disappeared just as the radiance soared above the Hexagram Star Array.

Yes, he disappeared.

He only disappeared for a split second before reappearing in front of Hanson's body. This was Flame Flash!

"Hmm?" A dense sulfur breath came out of Hanson's nostrils as shock leaked out of his mouth.

Hanson didn't understand why this Mafa Merlin would come so close to him, after all, he had the power of a Sword Saint at the moment. Even an Archmage wouldn't dare to get close to a Sword Saint, let alone a youth who had yet to reach the Archmage realm.

'What is he planning?'

This abrupt change made Hanson, who had been controlling the Hexagram Star Array, distracted.

"I said, you aren't leaving." Lin Yun said still in that slow and gentle voice, full of confidence, making Hanson's heart tighten in response.

Unfortunately, Hanson didn't have time to think why the other side was so confident.

Because Lin Yun let out a Flame Shackle in a split second and shifted behind Hanson's body, the Upper Rank Flame Spirit in his hand transformed into a blazing cage which enveloped the Hexagram Star Array after being thrown on the ground. Syudos was no different from an Archmage in terms of strength, and after turning into a blazing cage, he burst with power that instantly pressured the Hexagram Star Array, no matter how hard Hanson urged the Hexagram, it still didn't listen to his orders.

"You..." Hanson Charlotte's voice suddenly stopped.

"You what?" Lin Yun remained unmoved, the book in his hand opening, and under the guidance of the Spiritual Magic Staff, the book quickly turned to the 6th chapter, "You really think that by putting on a devil skin you have the power of a Greater Devil?"

That was the new chapter Lin Yun got a hold of!

The thin and light Crystal Page. Under Lin Yun's urge, it burst out with shocking power.

Following Lin Yun's chant, numerous characters appeared on top of the Truth Chapter. They appeared one after the other, and each character seemed to carry outrageous power. Each character seemed to have their own life as they flew out of the True Chapter and quickly gathered in the sky before transforming into huge runes whose power would make anyone despair.

"What... What is this!" Hanson Charlotte was truly scared this time.

These huge runes not only contained shocking power, most importantly, that power made Hanson feel afraid, that was the feeling of meeting a predator.

Chapter 314: Greater Devil

It was the first time Hanson Charlotte had been so afraid since he obtained the power of the Thousand Souls Sacrifice. He was confident enough to duel Patriarch Ofran with the power of the Thousand Souls Sacrifice, but now, Hanson Charlotte felt terrified when was facing these huge runes, it was a fear coming from his bloodline and soul.

The best thing Hanson could do was rush to kill Mafa Merlin before that power burst out.

But then, Hanson realized he couldn't do so. He only understood now why Mafa Merlin spent so much time and effort to spread that Sea of Flames.

It was because this Sea of Flames made him invincible in his Fire Elemental Incarnation form.

He simply couldn't catch that High Mage who could Flame Flash anytime anywhere. This spacious Sea of Flames gave boundless maneuvering space to Mafa Merlin.

"Mafa Merlin, you are despicable!" Hanson Charlotte's roar echoed within the Sea of Flames.

Unfortunately, it was already too late.

Those huge runes had already finished condensing in the sky.

It looked like a huge disk, motionless above Hanson's head.

Lin Yun then shouted the last part of the incantation.

In a flash, the power of the Truth Chapter burst out. An explosion could be heard as those huge runes exploded on Hanson's chest one after the other.

"Aaah!" A world-shaking roar echoed, it was a mix of pain and despair.

It was rumored that the Truth Chapter could understand the origin of everything, under the cover of the Truth Chapter, all lies and disguises would disappear.

This naturally included Hanson Charlotte. He used the sacrifices he made in the past century to temporarily borrow the power of a Greater Devil.

When the Truth Chapter burst out, the black scales on Hanson's body started peeling off one after the other, fiercely bending. The long tail started withdrawing within his body as his body quickly shrank and the black smoke slowly scattered.

"No... No... No... This is impossible! You cannot do this!" Hanson's voice grew quieter and quieter as the terrifying Abyssal aura quickly dissipated to be replaced by despairing and fearful pleading.

But that didn't change the fact that his power was declining.

After a few seconds, Hanson regained his human form, gray hairs and wrinkles. Most importantly, he lost the abnormal vitality he had gained as a monster and was now suffering from the consequences of his serious injuries. Those long burns on his chest made him sink into a near death state.

"Nothing can be done about it, High Mage Hanson, you brought that upon yourself..." After saying that, Lin Yun conjured an Icicle and pierced Hanson's chest.

"..." Ross felt chilly when he saw this.

Ross was a hardened veteran, countless opponents died under his hands during planar expeditions, so how could Ross not know that truly frightening opponents couldn't be judged by their power, but by how skilled they were in killing.

And the younger cousin in front of him was definitely very proficient in that department.

It could be seen by how he finished off Hanson.

That could only be described as vicious and merciless. Ross would rarely see people killing so straightforwardly, disregarding and ignoring him, only raising his hand to cast an Icicle. So what if he had a backer or a huge background? It seemed useless in front of him.

This kind of person was the most terrifying.

If he could, Ross would rather never come in contact with that person for his whole life.

"Now you know. I didn't tell you who killed Stan Watson for your own good, you know..." After the fight was over, William leisurely came down from the carriage and gently patted Ross' shoulder, an entertained smile on his face.

William's mood was very good as he looked at Ross.

In his eyes, the current Ross was too similar to him when he arrived to Thousand Sails City. He had been like Ross back then and thought of himself as one of the core children of the Merlin Family with abundant power and an ambitious future. How could he treat a child born in Thousand Sails City as an equal?

But after being in contact with him for a while, he gradually discovered that this younger cousin was quite special, he kept frightening and shocking him until William became completely numb to it and managed to keep his calm when facing any situation involving his cousin.

"Ross, you have a long path ahead of you..." William returned to his carriage after saying that, leaving a dumbstruck Ross Merlin by himself.

Ross' mood was very complicated at this time.

How could he have imagined that this seemingly refined and wealthy cousin would be hiding such a frightening power? He had seen everything with his own eyes today, but if William had told him beforehand, he wouldn't have believed him... This was too freakish. Hanson had been a monster who had the power of both an Archmage and a Sword Saint, on pure fighting power, he would be close to a 5th Rank Archmage. This kind of strength could be considered top tier in Okland. Moreover, he had originally been accompanied by two 9th Rank Phantom Archers and a 5th Rank High Mage...

But the outcome...

The two Phantom Archers died under an Earth Rending Hand while Hanson Charlotte was pierced by an Icicle. No one would believe it if this information was leaked.

"Mafa... Cousin Mafa, you..." Ross stood there in a daze. But after saying those few words, he didn't know what to say and the atmosphere suddenly became awkward.

"We will talk about that map later." But to Ross' surprise, Lin Yun actually took the initiative to mention that matter before Ross could say anything.

Ross had already given up on the map at this point.

It's not that he didn't want it, but rather that he didn't dare to think about getting it...

He hadn't expected that his younger cousin would take the initiative to mention it when he had already gave up on it. This felt like walking on a road and finding a gold coin on the ground. Ross didn't know how to react, he stood there for a long time, not knowing how he should react before suddenly displaying a pleasantly surprised expression, "Thank you, thank you, Cousin Mafa, thank you..."

"Alright, let's go back first." Lin Yun patted Ross' shoulder but didn't say anything else, he didn't explain why he was doing that.

In fact, Lin Yun's reason for doing so was very simple. Ross could have fled during the fight, but he didn't abandon him and William. Just this was enough for Lin Yun to forget the previous issues and offer Ross a chance to discuss this map.

"Hmm?" Just as Lin Yun considered whether he should tell Ross Merlin that this map was leading to a very dangerous area, strange mana fluctuations suddenly spread through the area.

"Step aside!" Lin Yun pushed Ross Merlin away when he sensed these mana fluctuations.

Because these mana fluctuations were very familiar and very powerful.

If he wasn't wrong, these mana fluctuations should have come from a very powerful existence, and Ross would simply be courting death if he remained there.

Fortunately, Ross' reaction was very fast, Lin Yun pushed him and by going along with the momentum, Ross flew a dozen meters away.

Because Ross knew that something that could make his cousin nervous definitely wasn't something to be taken lightly.

Sure enough, as Ross retreated, black smoke rose up of Hanson's corpse.

This black smoke seemed alive, continuously twisting as if something was struggling amidst the smoke. What was more frightening was that the spreading smoke felt more powerful than Hanson Charlotte did. That evil and bloody aura even made Lin Yun take a step back.

Ultimately, the black smoke turned into a sinister face. That face looked similar from Hanson Charlotte in his monster form, but looked more malevolent and more frightening.

"..." Lin Yun held his breath as he saw that terrifying face.

'Sure enough... It came'

The Greater Devil Magic Tool Incarnation of the Thousand Souls Sacrifice which had been slumbering for a millennium truly had a wisp of power hidden within Hanson Charlotte's body. Now that its host died, the Greater Devil's attention gathered on them.

Greater Devils were lifeforms from hell, evil and bloodthirsty peak existences. They fed on flesh and blood and were the nightmares of almost all intelligent lifeforms. They were also very powerful, a peak devil could even kill a Heaven Rank powerhouse in Hell.

Chapter 315: Magic Ocean

But fortunately, Lin Yun knew that the Great Devil had been grievously injured and had no other choice than to become the Thousand Souls Sacrifice's Incarnation, which ended up falling into the hands of the Charlotte Patriarch, and was far from having recovered his power. At best, he had the power of a peak True Spirit Magic Tool.

"Eh?! A human mage?" The face formed out of black smoke looked at Lin Yun as it spoke with a hellish voice. "Let me see... Tsk, I never expected that such a young human mage would be able to kill my host..."

Lin Yun only took one step back as he collected the Upper Rank Flame Spirit. He tightly held his Spiritual Magic Staff and Book of Death while remaining extremely cautious.

"Oh? So it's like this... I understand..." The sinister face looked at Lin Yun for a long time before bursting out in unpleasant laughter. "It's that gem you hold, isn't it, Human Mage?"

"What gem?"

"Human Mage, that gem isn't something you should come into contact with, it'll bring disaster to you and your family. Hand over that precious gem and I'll give you a way out. Otherwise, when I find you, you and your family will end up weeping in the depths of hell."

"I don't know what gem you are talking about..."

"Looks like you chose to become my enemy, Human Mage ... "

"Tricks are useless!" Lin Yun stopped the conversation and poured mana in the Book of Death, letting the Truth Chapter come out with a dazzling radiance once again.

Countless runes appeared before their eyes...

"Shit, Human Mage, you dare attack me?!" That sinister face let out a world-shaking roar when those runes appeared. That roar was immediately followed by a surprised shout. "Impossible, how could you control this power!?"

"Hey, I know you are still slumbering in the Charlotte Family's Ancestral Land, you don't have much time..." Only Lin Yun himself knew that the pressure put on him by that Incarnation was equal to the Star Sage in terms of power. Even if only a part of his power had descended, this wasn't something Lin Yun could withstand.

The only thing Lin Yun could rely on was the Truth Chapter.

The Truth Chapter could see through all deceptions and get rid of all evil, it could be said to be the natural enemy of this kind of sinister monster.

Sure enough.

As Lin Yun crazily urged the Truth Chapter's power, the visage made of black smoke let out a fearful expression.

"Human Mage, your actions have prices, just wait and see. I'll come and find you in three months. When my true body comes, you and your family will end up screaming in the depths of Hell!"

After roaring, the sinister face dissipated in the air, alongside those strange mana fluctuations.

"Phew..." Lin Yun let out a long sigh of relief when it disappeared.

It looked as if Lin Yun only said a few sentences and roused the Truth Chapter, but the pressure he received was unimaginably high.

It was a Greater Devil!

An existence that was able to kill a Heaven Rank powerhouse!

Although only a part of its power descended, the rank suppression was there, there was a difference of at least two ranks between them, Lin Yun could barely bear the huge pressure.

Not to mention Lin Yun, Ross and William were a lot worse off.

"What was this?" Only when the face disappeared did Ross and William dare to walk over. The two were extremely pale and drenched in cold sweat. The pressure brought by that fierce face was truly too frightening. The two of them had been standing a few dozen meters away, feeling as if they would be swallowed by that strange power covering them if they weren't careful.

That wasn't a power just anyone could contend against.

"Nothing, let's return first." Lin Yun shook his head, unwilling to remain here for too long. The power the Greater Devil displayed here would attract many powerhouses, Lin Yun didn't want to end up in the middle of all this.

After a few hurried sentences, the three of them passed through the now ruined street and looked for a carriage in the distance.

The three of them only reached the Merlin Family Manor half an hour later.

After a simple rest, Ross got up and said goodbye, but he hesitated as he recalled the words his younger cousin said after killing Hanson and wanted to talk about the map.

Ross naturally didn't want to give up on the map.

But after experiencing this younger cousin's power, Ross felt intimidated. Ross was very nervous as he stood in front of Lin Yun and wouldn't take the initiative to mention that map.

Ultimately, Lin Yun looked at him and told him, "Sit down."

"Yes, yes..." Ross nodded and sat down.

"First, tell me what that map means to you."

"This..." Ross didn't think that this younger cousin of his would start the discussion by asking about his biggest secret. Once this was asked, Ross found things to be difficult.

Ross wouldn't have hesitated if it had been another question.

But this...

This was Ross Merlin's greatest secret.

Ross had always been suppressed by Stan Watson, he could only watch as the latter left him in the dust. He was like a nightmare, yet Ross wasn't despairing because he had a map that could let him become successful in an instant, that map would let him overtake Stan Watson, and all other geniuses, letting him reach the peak of the path of magic.

But now, his younger cousin was asking him to reveal his greatest secret. Ross hesitated for quite a while.

It wasn't that Ross was too suspicious...

But rather, that secret was too important to Ross.

This was related to Ross' future on the path of magic.

Everyone knew that Ross had only been part of the side branch of the Merlin Family, his bloodline wasn't very pure, he was still an ordinary Mage before twenty. But after twenty, he made huge progress and not only became a 5th Rank High Mage, he also had the most powerful Magic Conducting Rune of the Merlin Family, the Endless Spring.

But Ross knew that this was all because of that secret.

Or to be more accurate, because of a part of that secret, a very small part.

If such a small part could make Ross this powerful, then how high would he reach if he obtain the complete secret?

"Cousin Mafa, this..." Ross didn't know what to do as he stood there.

"It's fine, I won't force you to talk if you are unwilling." Hearing this, Lin Yun knew that this map was very important to Ross.

As for the details, Lin Yun didn't need to be concerned about it.

After all, could it be more important than Lin Yun's knowledge?

"No, no, Cousin Mafa, I didn't mean this..." Lin Yun hadn't expected Ross to be terrified when he shook his head, Ross thought that Lin Yun was offended and thus stopped pondering about it and immediately said, "Cousin Mafa, this map is linked to a secret that can transform the Endless Spring..."

"Ah?"

Lin Yun was surprised when he heard that.

At first, Lin Yun thought that this map might lead Ross to a treasure, or to a profound Meditation Law Set, but Lin Yun truly didn't expect that this could lead to a secret that could transform the Endless Spring.

After all, the Endless Spring was the most powerful Magic Conducting Rune of the Merlin Family, it could be said to be one of the top tier Magic Conducting Rune of the Andlusa Kingdom.

If it transformed it would become the Magic Ocean, the number one Magic Conducting Rune in the current era!

'But it should have already disappeared in the 3rd Dynasty...?'

It would once again appear at the peak of the magic era. When Lin Yun was choosing his Magic Conducting Rune, the Magic Ocean was one of the potential candidates, but chose the most formidable Magic Array.

But this didn't mean that the Magic Ocean wasn't powerful enough.

Even during the peak of the era, the Magic Ocean was powerful and famous enough to be rated as one of the top tier Magic Conducting Rune and countless mages would choose this Magic Conducting Rune.

But it simply couldn't compare to the Magic Array.

After all, the Magic Array was too special.

It was on a completely different level. The Magic Ocean couldn't compare with it, nor could any Magic Conducting Rune.

"You know, I've been a child from a side branch of the Merlin Family before and the bloodline running through my veins has been very diluted, not like someone like William who can progress fast on the path of magic. I won't hide it from you, I was still a 1st Rank Mage at twenty..."

"I did hear some people mention this and it felt strange, how did you..." William nodded on the side.

"Haha, it might be my luck..." Since he started, William continued his explanation after sitting down, "I originally thought that I would never become a Great Mage in this life. But I hadn't expected that I would discover a part of a Meditation Law when I went to the Palatin Library to copy a spell."

Chapter 316: Elemental Tide

"A part?" William frowned.

"Yes, a part of a Meditation Law. To be more precise, it was a third of a Meditation law Set..."

"What use is there in a third?" William didn't understand. Meditation Law Sets were different from spells. Spells usually consist of a few modules linked together. If one obtained one or two modules, even if they couldn't complete the spell, they would be able to use these two modules in other spells.

But Meditation Law Sets...

It consisted of Meditation Laws complementing each other, let alone two thirds, even a few characters missing could lead to the Meditation Law not working.

As he thought about this, William couldn't help doubtfully looking at Lin Yun but when he saw Lin Yun nodding, he didn't question it.

William didn't really understand, could a Meditation Law Set missing two-thirds of its content really work?

"First section of the Elemental Tide?"

"C... Cousin Mafa, you... You... How could you know!" Lin Yun's simple words made Ross stand up as he stood up in panic, pointing at Lin Yun while violently shaking.

"What's so strange about it..." Lin Yun shook his head with a smile, "There are seventeen Meditation Law Sets that could operate with two-thirds missing, of those, only three won't clash with the Endless Spring, those three are the Elemental Tide, the Scarlet Storm, and the Blue Moon Song. The Scarlet Storm would lead to the eyes turning red, and your eyes are normal, so it's definitely not the Scarlet Storm. As for the Blue Moon Song, well, you would already be a 9th Rank High Mage if you had it and you would have already gotten that map from him..."

"This..." Ross stood there in a daze while listening to Lin Yun's calm analysis. He only felt cold crawling up his back, this was too frightening. Just based on a few sentences, he managed to figure out his biggest secret. Ross felt as if he was standing naked in front of this younger cousin, he simply couldn't hide anything.

"Alright, keep going."

"Okay..." Ross composed himself before continuing, "My thoughts at the time were the same as William just now, I didn't see any use in a third of a Meditation Law Set. Even if that Meditation Law Set was very powerful, it was only a third. Even if it could work normally, what if a problem happened? I kept that Meditation Law Set for two years. During these two years, I strived to reach 5th Rank Mage, but in these two years, I only reached 3rd Rank Mage. It was then that I realized that I wasn't gifted enough. Even my teacher tactfully advised me to find another path. But I was unwilling to give up. I didn't want to give up..."

"I see, I understand..." Lin Yun nodded. Ross' circumstances were similar to that of the original Mafa Merlin.

"Thus, after pondering overnight, I finally picked up that Meditation Law Set. I decided to gamble. If I won, I would reach 5th Rank Mage, and maybe even Great Mage. If I lost, I wouldn't have to bother with it anymore, I decided to gamble everything on whether I would be able to continue on the path of magic or not..."

"And then you won the gamble."

"Yes, I won. In a few years, I kept progressing without being stopped, from 3rd Rank Mage to 5th Rank High Mage, it took me less than ten years. It was to the point that I began to be complacent with the help of that Meditation Law Set and the Merlin Family's strongest Endless Spring, I began to think that there was no genius in Okland that was more powerful than I was... Up until I entered the Raging Flame Plane and fought Stan Watson. I lost that fight miserably and was ridiculed by everyone, but I was unwilling! I thought of every possible way to become more powerful, but Stan Watson was progressing too fast. It made me despair. In the end, I returned to the Palatin Library and found a torn page in the area I found the Meditation Law Set..."

"Oh?"

"Through that page, I learnt that the Meditation Law Set I was using was the Elemental Tide. The Elemental Tide had 13 formulas, this was a top tier Meditation Law Set in Noscent, I would obtain terrifying power if I could complete it. But I only had the first section of the Elemental Tide, which was the foundation section. Moreover, that page mentioned a map which could lead me to clues to the complete Elemental Tide. But that map had been lost among the planes..."

"So you started looking for that map?"

"Yes..." Ross nodded, "A few years later, I kept actively participating in the Merlin Family's planar expansion, I walked through countless planes to look for that map mentioned in that torn off page, before finally finding clues in a Dark Elven Shrine while helping the Mercury Tower. There was the diary of an Archmage called Dean, and through reading his notes, I learnt that Sir Dean had also been studying the Elemental Tide, and the second section of the Elemental Tide. He was also looking for that map, and had made shocking progress. But unfortunately, he didn't find that map quickly enough and fell in the Gold Forest Plane, only leaving behind his diary. His last notes said that the map was most likely in the Raging Flame Plane..."

"No wonder!" Hearing this, William couldn't help have an understanding expression on his face, "No wonder you always asked the Elder Council to participate in the Raging Flame Plane struggle. At the time, we all thought that you wanted to take your revenge on Stan Watson. It turns out you wanted to look for that map..."

"That's right, it took a lot of effort to convince the Elder Council, but when I rushed to the Raging Flame Plane, I found out that the map had already been taken away by Stan Watson..."

When he finished, Ross suddenly bent down and bowed at Lin Yun, "Cousin Mafa, I know we had some disagreements. I apologize for what I've done. But can you let me have this map? Cousin Mafa, you should know that the Elemental Tide need to be learnt during the Great Mage realm, if you miss that period, the Elemental Tide would be nothing more than trash..."

"Elemental Tide?" Lin Yun smiled when he heard that, "Indeed, as far as I'm concerned, the Elemental Tide isn't important..."

"Thank you, Cousin Mafa." A happy expression appeared on Ross' face.

"But..."

"Eh?" The smile on Ross' face suddenly froze, "There is still a but?"

"Yes, as far as I'm concerned, the Elemental Tide isn't important, but I cannot give you that map like that..."

"Why?"

"Are you retarded?" William intervened from the side, "Why are you still not thanking Cousin Mafa."

"Eh?" Ross was confused when he heard that.

"..." If not for Lin Yun still being there, William would have already hit Ross on the head to see if it could knock some sense into it.

'Shit, are you really retarded?'

'Cousin Mafa is already making it very clear, the Elemental Tide isn't important to him, can you not infer what that means?'

"Shit, Ross, you should clean your ears, Cousin Mafa just said that the map is still useful to him..."

"But, but..."

"Forget it, you are too stupid..." William didn't know what to say.

'It's so obvious...'

'Cousin Mafa clearly said that the Elemental Tide isn't important, yet the map is. In other words, as long as Cousin Mafa is willing, he could let you obtain the full Elemental Tide Meditation Law Set anytime. How could you not see that? Is your brain even working? You could gain a full Meditation Law Set yet you can't see it...'

"I'm going to the Mercury Tower tomorrow. I might stay there for a few days. You should use that time to sort out the first section of the Elemental Tide so I can see whether I can help you complete it with the second and third sections. In any case, it's late, I'm going to rest..."

"Cousin Mafa, that map..." Lin Yun's silhouette already disappeared to the 2nd floor. Although Ross still wanted to argue, William managed to stop him on time.

"Ross, are you really a 5th Rank High Mage?"

"Yes, I am, what about it?"

"You should let me know how you managed to become one while being so retarded..."

"You are retarded!" Ross instantly answered.

"If you weren't retarded, how could you not understand what Cousin Mafa just said? Complete, do you know what this word means? Do you know what completing it with the second and third sections means? How could you not understand?"

"But the map..." Ross was still thinking of arguing when he suddenly froze, "Wait, you mean...Cousin Mafa can complete the Elemental Tide?"

Chapter 317: Gaugass King

"Yes, complete ... "

"How could it be possible !?" Ross was startled.

He had been practicing the first section of the Elemental Tide for a while, so how could he not know how formidable the Meditation Law Set was? It was hardly an exaggeration to say that if the Elemental Tide was completed, it would have at least thirteen formulas and be one of the top-tier Meditation Law Sets in Noscent. It would crush any of the core Meditation Law Sets used by Okland's forces, including the Cloud Tower's, the Black Tower's, Okland Magic School's, as well as all the others. None of them had a Meditation Law Set that could reach thirteen formulas.

Even the Black Horn chamber of commerce, which was a top tier force in all of Noscent, didn't have a thirteen-formula Meditation Law Set.

That Meditation Law Set could only be described as invaluable. Any force obtaining such a thing would treat it as their most important and core secret. If news of such a thing leaked, it would lead to a war that would result in the death of millions. Even a powerhouse like Jouyi would be drawn into such a bloodbath.

Ross had learned that this distant younger cousin was far from being as simple as he seemed to be. Moreover, the more he stayed around him, the more he felt that his younger cousin was unfathomable. Ross felt heavy pressure just by standing before him, because he would never be able to predict what kind of shocking action he would do next.

Just like in the battle earlier.

Ross hadn't expected such an outcome.

Two 9th Rank Phantom Archers and a 5th Rank High Mage quickly died, and Hanson, who incarnated that monster, gaining the power of an Archmage and a Sword Saint, still ended up being killed too. The only one left standing was his younger cousin. By himself, he managed to have four powerhouses stronger than him killed.

Whether it was wealth or power, everything made Ross feel terrible.

But, regardless of how formidable he was, Ross didn't believe that he would be able to complete the Elemental Tide.

This was too outrageous. Even if Heaven Rank powerhouses personally took care of this, they might not necessarily be able to complete a powerful Meditation Law Set like the Elemental Tide. His cousin Mafa was barely twenty, so no matter how unfathomable he was, how could he be more formidable than a Heaven Rank powerhouse?

"You don't believe me?"

"It's not that I don't believe... But, William, this is too... too..." Ross repeated the word a few times, but he didn't know what to say after that.

"I know you don't believe me..." William smiled. He stretched his hand out and let a flame appear. "Do you know what this is?"

"This..." Ross doubtfully examined the flame, but strangely, that flame seemed rather gentle, and didn't have an astonishing temperature. The scary part was that it had no trace of impurities, as if it had been condensed directly from the fire elements.

Thinking of this, Ross probingly asked, "This is your Meditation Law Set?"

"Yes, this is the Crimson Heart, a Meditation Law Set containing 9 formulas..."

"Nine formulas!" Hearing this, Ross suddenly understood.

No wonder William improved so much in half a year. He had advanced to the High Mage realm when he was originally a 5th Rank Great Mage, and his fighting strength wasn't much inferior to Ross' own. He even defeated him once.

In the past few days, Ross had been wondering how William had gotten such a powerup.

It all made sense now.

It turned out that everything was due to this Crimson Heart.

A nine-formula Meditation Law Set already surpassed all the Meditation Law Sets that the Merlin Family possessed. It even surpassed the first section of his Elemental Tide.

The first section of the Elemental Tide only had eight formulas, while William's Crimson Heart had nine.

Thinking of this, Ross suddenly asked, "You mean... Your Crimson Heart... Cousin Mafa... Cousin Mafa completed it for you?"

"No..." William shook his head.

Just as Ross let out a relieved sigh, thinking that he had guessed wrong, William explained, "Cousin Mafa taught me this Crimson Heart for practice. Once I get used to it, he will give me the true Meditation Law Set. It's a Meditation Law Set with thirteen formulas... Alright, alright, you don't need to show me such an expression, you didn't mishear, it is a thirteen-formula Meditation Law Set, which Cousin Mafa said he will be teaching me..."

"Heavens ... " Ross held his breath ...

"Now, do you understand what Cousin Mafa just said?"

"…"

"To tell you the truth, Ross, our cousin is a hundred times more frightening than you're imagining. Do you know Suyass of the Mercury Tower? Okland's most recent Archmage? He doesn't dare to talk loudly in front of our cousin. You heard of Karon? The future master of the Mercury Tower? He had to be respectful in front of Cousin Mafa. Has Karon ever been polite when talking to Patriarch Ofran? Don't think that there are no powerful people in Thousand Sails City just because it's a small place. Our cousin is far more formidable than you could ever imagine.

•••

Ross and William talked for a long time, and when the next day arrived, Ross was itching to look for his younger cousin to complete the Elemental Tide Meditation Law Set, but William dragged him away as he was about to knock on the door.

"Did you forget what Cousin Mafa told you yesterday? He told you to use the next few days to carefully sort out the first section of the Elemental Tide. What are you in a hurry for?"

"But I..."

"Listen here, keep the buts for yourself, I spent half a year in Thousand Sails City and learnt a very simple rule. Do you want to know what that is?"

"What is it?"

"Do what Cousin Mafa wants you to do, or else you'll definitely regret it."

"…"

Lin Yun left the Merlin Family Manor around noon, only taking William with him as Ross was left behind. This was mainly because Lin Yun wanted Ross to prepare the first section of the Elemental Tide.

He actually needed that step, because Lin Yun truly didn't remember the details of the Elemental Tide. Although he could find the Elemental Tide Meditation Law Set in the decaying library, this Meditation Law Set with thirteen formulas was of little value to Lin Yun.

The biggest effect of the Elemental Tide was the expansion of the Mana Whirlpool. If practiced in the Meditation Law Set, the mana Whirlpool could expand a hundred times. At that time, the mana that one could hold would be boundless, and along with the Endless Spring, or the advanced shape of the Endless Spring, the Magic Ocean, Ross would be able to never run out of mana.

Only...

At the time, Lin Yun's surroundings were very harsh, Noscent was on the brink of destruction, and the mana in the atmosphere had already been completely dried up. What use was there in having a Mana Whirlpool that was a hundred times larger? He couldn't absorb any mana, it'd be completely useless.

Thus, Lin Yun couldn't simply teach the Elemental Tide's Meditation Law Set to Ross.

He could only send Ross to sort out the first section of the Elemental Tide. The rest still had to be completed, so he would have to infer the 2nd and 3rd sections based on the first section.

"Oh right, Cousin, didn't you say that map led to a dangerous place?" The two had been sitting in the carriage for a long time before William asked something that had been bothering him.

"Indeed, it is very dangerous..." Lin Yun nodded, showing a wan smile. "But nothing can be done about it..."

"Eh?"

"I finally chose my Meditation Law Set," Lin Yun smiled and reminded him.

Because the Magic Array was too special, Lin Yun had never chosen his own Meditation Law Set. But he could no longer wait because his ten Magic Arrays had fused together. If he didn't choose a Meditation Law Set, dangers would remain on his magic path.

In fact, that matter was already in Lin Yun's schedule. Before leaving for Okland, he had started choosing among the many Meditation Law Sets he knew.

And what Lin Yun chose wasn't an eleven-formula, twelve-formula, or thirteen-formula Meditation Law Set. What attracted his eyes was a fourteen-formula one. That was Noscent's peak Meditation Law Set! Each part was deep and each Law was powerful, to the point that Lin Yun had spent a long time considering it and had yet to make his mind.

Up until today.

Lin Yun heard about the Magic Ocean from Ross Merlin and the existence of the Elemental Tide. He then realized that he might have the opportunity to challenge it again.

No, no, it wasn't the Magic Ocean and Elemental Tide.

The Magic Ocean couldn't compare to Lin Yun's Magic Array in terms of power, and although the Elemental Tide was powerful, it only had thirteen formulas.

But behind the Magic Ocean and the Magic Tide was hidden a famous Heaven Rank powerhouse who left his name in history.

In the middle of the third dynasty, a Heaven Rank powerhouse that would shake the entirety of Noscent appeared in Gaugass. That person was called Jason Wagrein, Gaugass' king, and was also known as the famous Prince Wagrein. He had been a close friend and rival to Emperor Zhantui for a long time. In his youth, he studied at the Okland Magic School together with Emperor Zhantui. Later on, he returned to Gaugass and declared its independence, bringing thirty years of chaos to the empire.

Chapter 318: Mysterious Law

For those thirty years, the empire was filled with the chaos of war. Almost everyone thought that the empire was in a hopeless situation, but Emperor Zhantui inherited the throne at the most critical moment, fought hard against the tumultuous situation and used an iron fist to suppress all opposing forces before walking with Jason Wagrein into the Tulan Mountains, staying there for a full three days.

No one ever found out what happened during those three days.

Three days later, Emperor Zhantui left the Tulan Mountains, holding the magic staff of the Gaugass King in his hand and ending the thirty-year war.

From that point on, Jason Wagrein never appeared again.

But strangely, even after several decades, Emperor Zhantui would refuse to admit that he defeated Jason Wagrein, and he would also refuse to acknowledge his death.

But one time...

When Emperor Zhantui was seriously ill, he said something strange about the Gaugass King. According to the people at Emperor Zhantui's side, Emperor Zhantui was saying that Jason had left and that he himself felt very envious.

These strange words seemed contradictory, as leaving clearly seemed to mean death. How could there be anything worth envying in that?

But the legend about the king of Gaugass spread throughout Noscent, and even this day, there were many traces all over Gaugass.

He was the most powerful Battle Mage in Noscent's history.

Ever since then, no Battle Mage reached his level.

In those years, he had already reached Heaven Rank when he entered the Tulan Mountains with the Emperor. Many people believed that he was at the peak of the Heaven Rank. Whether it was Gaugass' King or the Emperor, their strength far exceeded that of their contemporaries.

Especially the Gaugass King. Who knew how many mages studied him after countless years? This Gaugass King could only be described as terrifying. He almost exerted his dominance over an entire era, and if not for Emperor Zhantui being alive at the same time, the King of Gaugass would have been the most powerful person of that era.

The magic research conducted during the peak of the magic era was more developed than it was now.

Mages had already searched for some time and had ended up concluding that using the method of Battle Mages wouldn't work.

Although focusing on both the martial path and the magic path would lead to transcendent fighting power, the further they went in that direction, the harder it became to rise. In the thousands of years of Gaugass' history, countless Battle Mages had appeared, but only a few reached Heaven Rank, and the Gaugass King, Jason Wagrein, became unique and unmatched. Thousands of years of history led to this.

At first, the mages thought that it was due to Jason Wagrein's talent, but as the research continued, they gradually discovered that Jason's natural talent wasn't as good as they'd thought. This result tossed everything into disarray. In the next twenty years, mages kept researching this matter. They wanted to know how Jason managed to reach that level with his level of inherent talent.

There was almost no secret to be had in front of these crazy mages. Jason's life was excavated, every detail, every trivial matter. They were all scrutinized, and later on, the mages found out that Jason Wagrein's Meditation Law Set was very special.

Most of the mages only practiced one Meditation Law Set, and if nothing unexpected happened, that Meditation Law Set would decide the extent of their future accomplishments. Yet, a small part of the mages could have two or more Meditation Law Sets, or just like William, start with one at first before being taught a different one later. He would soon replace it with the thirteen-formula Meditation Law Set.

But even William Merlin could only master the latter Meditation Law Set. In other words, William would only have one.

However, Jason Wagrain, that Gaugass King, had three meditation Law Sets!

Yes, he truly had three!

The Elemental Tide set, which brought him frightening mana storage, and the Runestorm set, which gave him frightening power.

When that information was dug up, it created a stir in Noscent.

After all, whether it was the Elemental Tide or the Runestorm, they both had 13 formulas and would normally be unable to coexist. No mage could carry such a burden.

Thus, the mages became more focused on studying Jason Wagrain's power.

They discovered that the third Meditation Law set was key. In the thousand years of history in Noscent, it only appeared once, on Jason Wagrein. After the Gaugass King disappeared in the Tulan Mountains, no one else appeared with that Meditation Law Set.

It was quite funny.

That Meditation Law Set only had six formulas, and even if it was shown in the current world of Noscent, it would only be considered an inferior Meditation Law Set. It would perhaps be the kind that Lin Yun could have gotten from Seth as a student. Yet it was this Meditation Law Set that enabled Jason to use three Meditation Law Sets concurrently.

The results of that research made all of Noscent go crazy, and countless mages joined the ranks of the researchers, wanting to let this mystical Meditation Law Set reappear.

This was no joke.

Who didn't want to be able to use three Meditation Law Sets?

For hundreds of years, mages looked for everything related to Jason Wagrein.

But unfortunately...

There was still no result after several hundred years. Every single thing that happened in Jason Wagrain's life had been studied thoroughly, yet they couldn't find this mystical Meditation Law Set.

If not for so much information being clearly noted down, people would have forgotten that Jason Wagrain indeed had three Meditation Law Sets.

This drive for Jason's story continued for countless years. It was another several centuries before Sovereign of Death Sandro emerged and drew the attention away from the Gaugass King.

Naturally, that was another story.

In other words, Jason Wagrain's 3rd Meditation Law Set was another unsolved mystery of Noscent. Even Lin Yun only knew that the reason that Gaugass king reached such an outrageous realm was the 3rd Meditation Law Set's existence.

At first, Lin Yun wasn't very concerned with it.

But when Ross mentioned that the map might relate to the Elemental Tide, Lin Yun suddenly recalled that the complete Elemental Tide had been something the Gaugass King had mastered.

To be more precise...

It was the Elemental Tide and the Endless Spring forming a completely new Magic Conducting Rune, the Magic Sea. Once Jason obtained this, he became unmatched.

Ross said that they would likely obtain the rest of the inheritance by following the map.

To be honest, Lin Yun didn't really care about a complete Elemental Tide. As long as Lin Yun was willing, he could take out a more powerful Meditation Law. But Lin Yun felt that this map wouldn't just lead him to the Elemental Tide.

This was what he hoped.

In fact, almost everyone knew that the Gaugass King died in the Tulan Mountains.

And the map in Lin Yun's hands led in that direction, it led to the Tulan Mountains.

Tulan Mountains, Elemental Tide, Magic Ocean.

Everything pointed to the same person, Jason Wagrein!

It also pointed to that lost six-formula Meditation Law Set!

This tempted Lin Yun too much.

And which mage didn't want to be able to hold a lot more in his inventory?

Thus, Lin Yun firmly made his decision, resolving that he would visit the mountains no matter what.

Naturally, he had to make some preparations first.

Such as upgrading the Doom Staff.

"Cousin, we are finally here."

Just as Lin Yun was thinking of that, the carriage parked outside the Mercury Tower.

The Mercury Tower was situated in the north of Okland, near the land of Ice and Fire, Xiulan. This was the holy land of alchemists, standing tall in the verdant forest while the Yasen River slowly flowed down next to it. Green hills and clear waters stood at the foot of the tower. Alchemy puppets in humanoid form were standing guard at the entrance, looking seemingly sleepy.

But Lin Yun knew.

Each of these puppets held shocking power, and if the tower was invaded one day, these puppets would instantly activate. Under the firepower that they would rain down, even High Mages might not be able to escape unscathed.

"Hi, I am Mafa Merlin. I come from Thousand Sails City and was invited by Sir Karon. Could you please inform him of my arrival?"

"Please wait a moment." A respectful expression appeared on the guard's face when he heard this.

Soon, the guard led Karon over.

"Haha, Merlin, you finally came..." Karon welcomed Lin Yun warmly. "Unfortunately, some issues came up in the Gold Forest Plane and Teacher went over to deal with it. He would have been overjoyed to see you."

Chapter 319: Gold Forest's Changes

"Eh?" Lin Yun suddenly stopped when he heard this, and he gave Karon a strange look.

Although this was the first time Lin Yun had come to the Mercury Tower, he was familiar with both Karon and Suyass. He had heard quite a bit about the Mercury Tower's circumstances, so how could he not know that the Mercury Tower's puppet legion had already seized control of the Gold Forest Plane's surface? With the help of the Wood Elves, they were continuously nibbling at the underdark. Although the Elves from the underdark, also known as Drows, were fiercely resisting, their destruction was foreordained. It was only a question of time.

It could be said that the situation of the Mercury Tower's Gold Forest Plane had already been decided.

Under these circumstances, how could they still need Nolan to personally head over and take command?

'Did something happen?'

"It's nothing, just a trivial matter..." Karon shook his head with a smile, but his forced smile clearly hid a heavy expression.

"Haha..." Since Karon was unwilling to talk about it, Lin Yun wouldn't keep questioning about it. He chuckled before bringing up what he had come for. "In any case, Sir Karon, I came hoping that the Mercury Tower would do me a favor..."

"Oh?"

"It's like this, Sir Karon. I just obtained a batch of pretty good magic materials, but it would take me at least half a year to personally process it all, so I came to the Mercury Tower. I wonder if the Mercury Tower can help with these magic materials? As for the reward, I'll give 30% more than the market price for your work. The only requirement is that Master Alchemists have to be the ones processing these materials..."

"Master Alchemists..." Despite making preparations, Karon couldn't help holding his breath when he heard the main requirement. Needing Master Alchemists to process a batch of magic materials... This was enough to understand that those magic materials most likely had astonishing value.

'Hold on, magic materials...'

"Well, Merlin, I heard about a young mage throwing his wealth around at the Black Horn Auction and making Hanson Charlotte spit blood. Wasn't that you?"

"Hmm..." Lin Yun scratched his cheek, but didn't say anything.

"As expected, it was you..." Karon said before falling silent. Although he had already heard people say that this young mage was one of the richest people in the eastern part of the kingdom, he truly hadn't expected his wealth to reach the level where he could spend a few dozen million in an auction. This kind of wealth could throw the market into chaos, even in Okland.

"Well, the magic materials you earned indeed have to be processed by Master Alchemists. Let's go to my laboratory first so that I can expand my horizons. I've never seen a Star Gem this big..."

As the future master of the Mercury Tower, Karon's status wasn't much inferior to Nolan's. His alchemy laboratory was also located on the top floor. This wasn't just a symbol of status, as it also had the most advanced alchemy tools.

Even Lin Yun felt as if he was expanding his horizons by visiting Karon's laboratory. In comparison, Lin Yun's laboratory in the Gilded Rose wasn't even worth mentioning.

"Quite a big display..." Even the experienced and knowledgeable Karon couldn't help exclaiming after seeing these magic materials.

It was worthy of all the golds spent.

It was too shocking ...

Let alone that Star Gem worth 20,000,000 golds, the other six magic materials could all be counted as top-quality goods. Any of these items would cause a crazy fight between alchemists if displayed. After looking at them for a long time, Karon unwillingly pulled his gaze away from them.

"Alright, Merlin, how do you plan on processing these magic materials?"

"I already prepared the processing process," Lin Yun said while taking out a stack of paper. The writing was dense with all kinds of diagrams and characters. An ordinary alchemist would feel dizzy just looking at it.

It was to the point that even Karon's expression turned more and more serious over time as he looked through.

After no less than half an hour, Karon finally put down the stack of paper.

"Well, Merlin..." Karon considered how to say what he wanted before unhappily asking, "Merlin, do you plan on locking all of the Mercury Tower's Master Alchemists away with those processing plans?"

When Lin had asked for Master Alchemists, Karon had thought of arranging for one or two of them to handle the magic materials.

But after reading through the proposal...

Karon knew that his thoughts had been too simple.

He understood once that stack of paper appeared. The magic materials were only secondary, and the processing was key. The processing methods were very complex and left Karon feeling simply amazed. That Darkness Evil Python skin, for example... Normally, the processing of a Darkness Python's skin wouldn't be too complicated because it was naturally suitable for making defensive tools and because complicated processing could destroy the patterns.

But the processing plan before his eyes wouldn't be easy.

The young mage actually asked for the pattern containing the darkness magic to be peeled off.

Karon didn't dare to believe his eyes when he saw that request. He thought it wasn't possible.

But after reading the rest, Karon found out that this request wasn't made casually, the young mage actually wrote down a feasible method. Naturally, this method would be very troublesome.

Karon estimated that even if he personally took care of this, he would still have to spend two months on it, not to mention the Mercury Tower's other Master Alchemists.

Just one Darkness Evil Python Skin was that complicated, and the remaining five magic materials wouldn't be that simple, causing Karon to wonder if Lin Yun just wanted to occupy all the Master Alchemists of the Mercury Tower.

"I can't do anything about it, Sir Karon. In all of Okland, only the Mercury Tower is able to do this kind of processing. If you don't agree to help me, I can only put the magic materials in front of me and look at them..."

"Merlin..." Karon ignored Lin Yun's flattery and explained with an awkward expression, "It's not that I refuse to help you, it's just that your processing plans are too demanding. If we truly followed your requirements, it would take up the Mercury Tower's efforts for two whole months. This would have been fine in the past, but now..."

"What's happening now?"

"Let me tell you the truth, Merlin... The Mercury Tower ran into great troubles in the Gold Forest Plane, to the point that even Teacher had to go..."

"Is it that troublesome?"

"Yeah..." Since the discussion had come this far, Karon no longer hid the truth and smiled bitterly as he explained, "The situation in the current Gold Forest Plane is very complicated. The Wood Elves deserted the alliance and detained our four puppet legions. The Drows also went crazy and are doing all they can to attack the surface. It feels as if the whole plane suddenly banded together to frantically resist us outsiders. In a month, we lost several hundred puppets and seven Great Alchemists. Even Suyass was grievously injured..."

"This is quite serious..." Lin Yun couldn't help shaking his head when he heard that. The colonization of the Gold Forest Plane had almost been completed, and as long as they could remain united with the Wood Elves, they would have the power to nibble away at the Dark Elves and eventually gain control of the plane within ten years.

The Gold Forest Plane wasn't an ordinary plane.

That plane wasn't inferior to Noscent. It was rich in natural resources and had a vast expanse of land. As long as they could conquer the Gold Forest Plane, the Mercury Tower's power would take a huge leap forward. At that time, let alone the Andlusa Kingdom, they might even be regarded as a top force in all of Noscent.

The Gold Forest Plane was truly too important to the Mercury Tower.

Important to the point that they would use everything they could for it!

"Merlin, you see, this isn't quite possible at the moment..." After Karon finished his words, he felt that a direct rejection wasn't too good, so he proposed a compromise. "There are six or seven Master Alchemists left in the Mercury Tower now. I'll let them start first and help you with the simpler processing. Naturally, time is lacking, so I estimate that they can complete one in a month."

"Indeed, time is lacking." Lin Yun nodded. Originally, he planned to borrow the Master Alchemists of the Mercury Tower to finish the processing of all the magic materials within two months. That way, the Doom Staff and the Ten Thousand Spell Wheel would be completed at around the same time.

With these two Magic Tools, he would have enough confidence to go to the Aurij Mountains.

But now, the Doom Staff might take a while...

'Forget it, it's better to finish the Ten Thousand Spell Wheel first.'

"Alright, we shall do as you say, Sir Karon. Also, can you lend me this laboratory for a few days? I wish to borrow it to process the Star Gem."

"No problem. You can use any tools here. If you need anything else, send someone to inform me. I'll go now and help arrange the processing of your magic materials."

Chapter 320: Processing Plan

Lin Yun remained in Karon's alchemy lab for a few days, discarding all the disturbance of the outside world as he devoted himself to the processing of that Star Gem that he had paid 20,000,000 golds for.

This was a very difficult endeavor.

It was rumored to be the crystallization of a part of the essence of a star that fell. Although it was only a small part, this small part had the power of a world, which is what made Star Gems so precious.

To Lin Yun, the Ten Thousand Spell Wheel wasn't just a True Spirit Magic Tool. It was related to the Magic Array and the foundation of his magic path. The Ten Thousand Spell Wheel's embryonic form had already been completed, and now only needed the core to transform it. As for what stage it would reach after transforming, that would depend on the quality of the core.

The quality of a Star Gem couldn't be denied, considering it contained a bit of the power of a world. Lin Yun felt that this part was practically tailor-made for the Ten Thousand Spell Wheel. The Star Gem would let it reach the True Spirit Magic Tool realm, and most importantly, it would give a bit of world power to the Spell Wheel.

This bit of world power might not bring much influence at first, but as time slowly passed, and Lin Yun's strength grew greater and greater, there would sooner or later be a day where he would tread on the path to Heaven rank. At that time, this bit of world power would make it super convenient for him. It was hardly an exaggeration to say that by relying on this bit of world power, that path that Lin Yun would have to traverse would be greatly shortened.

This was the power of the Ten Thousand Spell Wheel. With the Star Gem as its core, it would let Lin Yun come into contact with world power a lot earlier than any Archmage would.

But...

It was also because of that bit of world power that the Star Gem's processing was too complicated. It couldn't be helped, as world power wasn't something Lin Yun could touch right now. He could only rely on his era-transcending knowledge and techniques to do his best to make up for the difference in ranks.

Lin Yun would normally need at least a month to complete the processing of the Star Gem.

But fortunately, he was in the Andlusa Kingdom's most advanced laboratory workshop. All the facilities inside this laboratory were truly excellent. It only took Lin Yun three days to complete the Star Gem's polishing and carving.

One shouldn't look down on the polishing and carving steps.

It was half of the processing already, especially carving the mana patterns. Since it had a bit of world power, the Star Gem was very sensitive to all forms of energy. If it was triggered, the Star Gem might release its power. Even Lin Yun wouldn't be able to resist the outburst of energy unless he had a Runic Shield active.

But the problem was that Runic Shields couldn't be kept up all the time.

Thus, he had to be very careful while carving mana patterns on the Star Gem. If there was a mistake, he would lose his life.

Lin Yun spent three days completing these two nerve-wracking tasks with the help of the advanced facilities.

He spent the rest of the day in a short meditation session before opening his eyes once again. He planned to look for a mana crystal when he heard a knock on the door.

"Come in." Lin Yun knew that the person knocking could only be Karon.

Sure enough, as the door was pushed open, Karon walked in with an unpleasant expression.

"Something happened?"

"Well..." Karon hesitated before saying, "Merlin, there has been a small problem during the processing of your Darkness Evil Python skin. I came to consult you regarding this and to see if we can alter the processing plan."

"Alter the processing plan?" Lin Yun frowned when he heard this. If he only needed to make an ordinary Augment, there would be no issue in altering the processing plan. It would at most lose some power or maybe alter a function... But the group of magic materials had to be prepared for a custom-designed Doom Staff. They were all part of a complete system, so if any of them had an error, the whole system would collapse.

"Yes, you see..." Karon fished some papers from his pocket and gave it to him. On the very top was drawn the Annihilation Black Hole Solidification Array. "After peeling it off with this Annihilation Black Hole, it can no longer solidify. Thus, I was wondering if we should inlay a Malin Ray to make up for the flaw caused by the Annihilation Black Hole..."

"No." After just a single glance, Lin Yun shook his head to reject Karon's proposal.

"This..."

"This is really impossible. Sir Karon, although the effects of a Malin Ray are more or less the same as those of the Annihilation Black Hole, as far as I'm concerned, if this cannot solidify an Annihilation Black Hole, the entire Darkness Evil Python skin will become useless to me..."

"Merlin, it's only using a Malin Ray instead, there is no need to object so fiercely..." Karon frowned as he heard Lin Yun's answer. He originally agreed to help as a favor, but now, solidification of an Annihilation Black Hole had already become too much. His Master Alchemist subordinates had already started becoming noisy because of it. They felt that this kind of processing was making things too difficult and a few of them even quit working on the project. When he managed to appease them with great difficulty and said that he would consult with the young High Mage and see if everyone could take a step back, he hadn't expected the client to be so unreasonable.

Lin Yun saw Karon's expression and understood the gist of it.

After thinking about it, Karon's reaction was quite normal.

In the end, he only had himself to blame for not considering the difference between the two eras...

Solidification of an Annihilation Black Hole wasn't considered too troublesome of a task during the peak of the magic era. Any Master Alchemist could do this. But the state of alchemy was currently countless years behind that era, making this a difficult problem for the current Master Alchemists.

Realizing this, Lin Yun softly sighed. "Well, Sir Karon, there is no problem with solidifying an Annihilation Black Hole, as long as..."

"Hold on..." Karon's expression changed before Lin Yun could finish his sentence.

He immediately fetched an eyeball-sized crystal ball from his pocket.

The crystal ball was flickering with a dazzling red light as it showed a scene, and a faint smoke filled the battlefield.

"Shit, something happened in the Gold Forest Plane. I have to go help right away. Merlin, if there is nothing else, you should stay in the Mercury Tower for now and we can continue this discussion on how to solve the problem of the solidification of the Annihilation Black Hole when I come back..."

"Ah..." Lin Yun felt worried when he heard that. Planar Wars could easily take months or years... If he waited until Karon was back, wouldn't he be wasting his time? He needed the Doom Staff to explore the Tulan Mountains... Thinking of this, Lin Yun immediately stopped the leaving Karon. "How about I discuss the problem of solidifying the Annihilation Black Hole with the Master Alchemists of the Mercury Tower?"

"Good, good, you go talk with them, they are in the laboratory underneath this one." Karon couldn't spend any more time on this and hurriedly left, casting the incantation to open the Planar Path before disappearing into the void.

"Hey..." Lin Yun was stunned. 'How could he be like this? I didn't even finish talking... Forget it, time to discuss the processing plans.'

Lin Yun sighed and gave up on his plan to charge the Star Gem to its limits. He hastily cleaned up the laboratory before leaving the room and going downstairs.

At this time, the laboratory on the lower floor had already stopped working due to the problem with the Annihilation Black Hole. When Lin Yun walked in, he only saw one middle-aged Master Alchemist watching the Dark Evil Python Skin attentively while thinking deeply.

"What are you doing?" Hearing the footsteps, the middle-aged man suddenly frowned before scolding, "Do you think this is a place that just anyone can visit?"

"Ah?" Lin Yun was stunned, and before he could react, the middle-aged man continued.

"What do you mean, 'ah'?" When he noticed that Lin Yun had yet to leave, the middle-aged alchemist's frown deepened. "Whose disciple are you? How could you not understand the rules? The alchemy tools here are the most advanced in the kingdom, all the magic materials here are invaluable. You could ruin something by carelessly coming in. You couldn't afford it if you broke something, hurry up and get out of here..."

"I am Sir Karon's-" Lin Yun started, originally wanting to say, 'I am Sir Karon's friend.'

But before he could finish his sentence, that middle-aged man interrupted him. "Sir Karon's disciple? Who are you trying to trick? You think I don't know that Sir Karon hasn't taken on a disciple in a dozen years? Tell me, who are you!? Why did you burst in here!?"

"…"

"What? You don't want to tell me? Good, wait till I catch you. I'll make your teacher come over. There are more and more people not following the rules, I want to see who taught such a kid..."

After saying that, the middle-aged alchemist stood up, before wordlessly raising his hand. The surrounding mana transformed into shackles surrounding Lin Yun.