

## **Magic Era 361**

### **Chapter 361: Thunder And Lightning**

“Hey...” Lin Yun discovered that after being put in his pocket, the Secret Wolf unexpectedly became content with its lot and stopped scratching and biting. Its howls even quieted down...

No, no, they weren't just quieter...

The Three-Eyed Secret Wolf now looked completely infatuated. It turned and flipped in Lin Yun's pocket as if it had found something fun to play with...

'This is a lot simpler...' Lin Yun thought for a while, but didn't understand. He felt that since the Secret Wolf's fighting strength was limited, and since it was bound by that ring of mana, it shouldn't be a threat.

After confirming this, Lin Yun looked into the distance again. Dean and the Thunderbird's attacks on the Wolf King were in full swing.

The Wolf King was truly powerful...

Lin Yun estimated that even if it wasn't quite Level 34, it was at least Level 33. Its strength was already comparable to Thorne Merlin's. Lin Yun felt that it would be a bit difficult even if he made a move himself, but Dean and the Thunderbird were actually blocking that wolf... – .c om

No, no, they weren't just blocking it.

Dean had made a crucial decision during the battle. He used the fact that the Wolf King couldn't disengage with him to have the mercenaries group up...

Yes, the hundred-man mercenary group had already been gathered together. They were now leaning against a steep cliff, facing the thousands of wolves advancing on them.

“Oh, that Dean is actually smart...” With one glance, Lin Yun could see that the mercenary group might have a chance to win...

It looked as if the mercenary group was being besieged by the pack of wolves, but they only needed to defend in three directions now, which was a lot better compared to before.

More importantly they had been separated by the Frost Wolves before, making it difficult for them to coordinate.

But it was different now.

The mercenary group had gathered together and, under Dean's orders, they were able to burst out with power that was almost twice as strong as before.

And Dean was very clever.

He had been doing everything he could to entangle the Wolf King, not seeking to directly injure it, but rather letting the mercenary group gather up firepower for an attack on the Wolf King.

This shouldn't be looked down upon.

There were a dozen Divine Archers, three High Mages, and a dozen Great Mages. The damage that such a group would deal would be far greater than that of an all-out attack from Dean.

'I was planning on doing them a favor before leaving, but it seems that there is no need for it now...' If Lin Yun couldn't understand the situation from this scene, he would be ashamed of himself.

The situation was very clear now...

Even if waves upon waves of Frost Wolves were advancing on the mercenaries, even if the mercenary group kept losing people, even if Dean was already riddled with scars...

All this would be exchanged for a heavy blow on the Wolf King.

The Wolf King that had been entangled with Dean had already been hit by two waves of attacks from the mercenaries, putting it in a far worse situation than Dean. — .c om

As long as the Wolf King died, the thousands of Frost Wolves would become headless chickens and the mercenary group would be able to reap their harvest.

Seeing this, Lin Yun already knew that this battle would end in the victory of the mercenary group.

It was good if they could win, since at least they wouldn't need his help.

Thinking of this, Lin Yun no longer hesitated and patted Xiuban's shoulder. "Let's go..."

"Eh..."

He Hasted the two of them, and they quickly left this area.

"Scoundrels, don't let me find you!" At this time, Dean, who was being attacked by Frost Wolves cursed. 'Inhuman, heartless, you see the mercenary group fighting here and you still leave? Are you a man or a beast?'

Unfortunately, a certain person had no problem watching others die. With the Three-Eyed Secret Wolf in his pocket and the Draconic Beastman following him, Lin Yun happily left the battlefield. A few minutes later, he found the three Merlins near the corpses of those magic beasts.

"How did it go?" Seeing Lin Yun returning, the three promptly welcomed him.

"Decent harvest." Lin Yun calmly smiled. No one could expect that this "decent harvest" was a Three-Eyed Secret Wolf that had only appeared a handful of times in Noscent.

After quickly hearing what had happened since they separated, the group of five looked up at the sky and saw that it would soon be dark. After a quick discussion, they decided to pitch their tents not far off.

A bonfire was set up between the few tents, and next to the bonfire was the continuously complaining Draconic Beastman.

"Why am I on night watch?" Xiuban was sitting next to the bonfire while gnashing his teeth, but he didn't dare to be too loud, out of fear of disturbing a certain person's meditation. "Aren't Beastmen people too? Don't we also need sleep?"

“Ah!”

Just when the Draconic Beastman cursed in a low voice, an exclamation could be heard from Lin Yun’s tent.

‘Shit!’ Xiuban jumped up in fear. He thought he had been heard and subconsciously covered his mouth while sneakily looking all over the place to check for Syudos.

But...

After looking for an entire minute, the Draconic Beastman didn’t see Syudos appearing or any movement from Lin Yun’s tent.

But the Draconic Beastman wasn’t too reassured, so he asked, on edge, “Sir, did something happen?”

“It’s fine, guard properly.”

“Oh...” The Draconic Beastman nodded before quietly sitting next to the bonfire, not daring to curse after being startled like this.

The Draconic Beastman simply didn’t know that the omniscient Sir Merlin was far from being as calm and collected as he imagined.

After returning to his tent, Lin Yun didn’t immediately start meditating. He opened his pocket to take out some food for the Three-Eyed Secret Wolf.

But Lin Yun was driven mad after opening his pocket...

Lin Yun had two pockets. The left pocket had arrays carved on it to expand the space within. This was a method commonly used by many mages. A mage needed to take a lot of things when setting out on a journey, but spatial items were few and rare in the current era, so mages used spatial expansion arrays instead.

But these spatial expansion arrays had a weak point.

They had to be unlocked every time they were opened.

It would usually require an incantation or a gesture.

This was indeed a bit inconvenient for mages because anything could happen in an instant in a battle, so no one dared to waste time. Unlocking an array might be fine normally, but in a fight, this split-second might be the difference between life and death.

Thus, most of the time, Lin Yun would put items he would usually use in his right pocket, such as magic tools, potions, or mana crystals. That pocket didn’t have any arrays carved on it. It was an ordinary pocket, and after capturing the Three-Eyed Secret Wolf, Lin Yun put it in this pocket.

But something happened as a result.

When Lin Yun opened his pocket, the Three-Eyed Secret Wolf was laying down, curled into a ball.

“No way...” Lin Yun suddenly realized that something might have happened.

And sure enough, after Lin Yun lifted the Three-Eyed Secret Wolf and checked his pocket, he turned dumbstruck...

The dozen mana crystals in his pocket had all disappeared.

The magic tools and potions were alright, but from the tooth marks, Lin Yun could see that they hadn't escaped the vicious attacks.

"Shit..." Lin Yun was a bit dumbstruck by the loss of those mana crystals. Those were usually used to replenish his mana, and although they weren't mana crystals of the highest level, there were still some mana crystals that were level 20 or more. Lin Yun was a High Mage, after all, so mana crystals under level 20 were meaningless to him.

But now...

A dozen mana crystals that were over level 20 had all disappeared!

This was a few million golds!

As for their whereabouts...

Needless to say, one look at the Three-Eyed Secret Wolf's belly was enough to understand.

Lin Yun helplessly stood there as he looked at the still sleeping Three-Eyed Secret Wolf, not knowing what he should say...

They had already been eaten, did he really have to make it spit them out?

"Hmm?" As he was twitching, Lin Yun suddenly discovered that the mark on the Three-Eyed Secret Wolf's forehead looked a bit off.

"What's going on?" Lin Yun suddenly got worried. He had just lost these mana crystals, and it wouldn't be funny if he learnt that this Three-Eyed Secret Wolf was actually a fake now.

"Awooo, owooo..." The Three-Eyed Secret Wolf was still dreaming. It was sound asleep after eating those mana crystals, rubbing its belly while making sounds in its sleep.

But a small change appeared on the imprint on its forehead.

Lin Yun could clearly remember that the imprint on had been red, it had been a small red dot that looked just like a drop of blood.

But now...

This "bloodstain" had turned into a strange symbol.

'What's this...' Lin Yun frowned as he carefully examined it, before becoming dumbstruck once again.

That bloodstain-like imprint on the Three-Eyed Secret Wolf's forehead was actually a Divine Rune that came from the source of all knowledge, the Ascian Dynasty!

Lin Yun actually knew that rune...

It meant Thunder and Lightning, the world-deafening thunder and the earth-rending lightning!

## Chapter 362: Python

Yes, that was the meaning behind Thunder and Lightning. Lin Yun clearly remembered the notes detailing the research of the Ascian Dynasty he had seen in the decaying library. Although the Divine Runes weren't perfectly reproduced, some of the important and simple runes were able to be translated, such as the four elements, Water, Fire, Wind, and Earth, or Thunder and Lightning, Light and Darkness, and so on.

Now, the character on the forehead of the Three-Eyed Secret Wolf was the character for Thunder and Lightning.

But why was it a rune?

Lin Yun thought about it for a while, but he couldn't understand.

The Three-Eyed Secret Wolf was a rare existence, one so mysterious that there was basically nothing written about it. If not for the story of the Mercenary King, there might not have been a proper record of a Three-Eyed Secret Wolf in Noscent.

But even in the case of the Mercenary King, most of the information detailed his world-shaking strength and painted his life in a legendary light, yet the Three-Eyed Secret Wolf at his side didn't receive that halo.

Otherwise, Lin Yun might have known that the Three-Eyed Secret Wolf had such a huge appetite for mana crystals.

'Hold on, mana crystals...' Thinking of this, Lin Yun suddenly froze.

He then shivered.

Of the dozen mana crystals, the strongest was the mana crystal that came from Vaughn's laboratory.

It was the one from the Alpha Thunderbird he had killed with Syudos...

Lin Yun remembered that one because the Alpha Thunderbird had already reached level 30, yet the mana crystal that it dropped had only been level 26 for some odd reason.

Lin Yun had once guessed that this might have happened because of the different environment in Vaughn's laboratory. Under the influence of some power, the Thunderbird broke through its own limits and display power past level 30. Lin Yun even guessed that this was due to the mountain range in the northern part of Gaugass...

Naturally, this was only a conjecture. The truth would have to wait until Lin Yun grew strong enough to go to that mountain range and investigate personally.

At the time, Lin Yun had checked and confirmed that this mana crystal actually possessed the power of Thunder and Lightning and had no other effect. To Lin Yun, mana crystals with less energy than spirit mana crystals were only suitable for replenishing his mana. Thus, after thinking about it, Lin Yun just threw that mana crystal into his pocket...

In the end, he had yet to use it to replenish his mana before it was eaten by the Three-Eyed Secret Wolf.

And after the Three-Eyed Secret Wolf ate those mana crystals, that red imprint on his forehead changed into the ancient Divine Rune of Thunder and Lightning, was it linked?

After thinking about it, Lin Yun felt that this might actually be the case...

Why else would its imprint change to that rune with such coincidental timing?

'But why is it a Divine Rune...' This was the part that Lin Yun couldn't understand. Although the Three-Eyed Secret Wolf was rare, it shouldn't be related to the Ancient Gods, right?

Why did the Divine Rune of Thunder and Lightning appear after it ate a mana crystal containing the power of Thunder and Lightning?

"Hey, what's going on in the end..." Lin Yun poked the belly of the Three-Eyed Secret Wolf, wanting to wake it up to ask.

But in the end, Lin Yun suddenly discovered that he had underestimated that guy's sleepiness.

The Three-Eyed Secret Wolf only waved its claw, as if it wanted to swat away the thing that was disturbing its sleep, before flipping its body to keep slumbering...

"You little..." Lin Yun cursed in a very bad mood, but he couldn't do anything about that guy.

It was clear.

That thing was special.

There were so few of them in Noscent's history that they were even rarer than Heaven Mages. Thus, Lin Yun dismissed his thought of making an invisibility cloak from it and was toying with the idea of raising it as a pet.

Lin Yun didn't dare to bother it right now.

Just in case he did something wrong.

Helpless, Lin Yun could only put it back in his pocket, but only after he carefully emptied the things in his pocket and put them into the other pocket.

Who knew if that guy would be hungry again after waking up?

It was fine if mana crystals were eaten, but magic tools and potions... Especially potions. The potions in his pockets had all kinds of effects, and if something happened to the wolf after it drank a potion, Lin Yun would have no time for regret.

The next day, the group of five passed the Aurij Mountain Range.

They then entered the range of the Tulan Mountains

Lin Yun could clearly feel the difference at this time. The Tulan Mountains were a brand new world. He had only set foot on the outskirts, yet they started to meet many magic beasts stronger than the ones on the Aurij Mountains.

Xiuban was still in charge of the assault, but the three Merlin Cousins also had to participate.

All the magic beasts were above Level 20 there, and they were roaming around in large numbers. Relying on Xiuban alone wasn't safe. One afternoon, the group even met a Level 30 Gold-Ringed Python. Without Lin Yun helping, the four of them spent a lot of strength and effort to force the Gold-Ringed Python back.

The group was already approaching the Traces of Misfortune and Lin Yun gradually felt some chaotic and exceptionally powerful mana fluctuations in the distance. Even the Magic Array seemed unable to bear this pressure and was constantly revolving.

Lin Yun knew that once they entered the Traces of Misfortune, they wouldn't encounter just a Gold-Ringed Python, but rather a Gold-Ringed Python King. Therefore, Lin Yun had no choice but to call Leon over. "Cousin Leon, you said that you knew a way to bypass the Traces of Misfortune..."

"Yes, but..."

"Hmm?" Lin Yun frowned, his expression becoming rather serious as he looked at Leon.

"Don't worry, listen to me first..." Leon was startled and knew that his answer had dissatisfied his younger cousin. He didn't dare to keep him in suspense and hurriedly explained, "The shortcut I talked about is not far ahead, but we might have to spend some time finding the specific location, as I lack a piece of the map..."

"Lack a piece of the map?" Lin Yun froze, before recalling something. He felt around in his pocket before taking out a piece of yellow parchment. "Take a look at this."

"Eh?" Leon had a bewildered expression as he took that parchment from Lin Yun's hands. After looking at it, a cheerful expression appeared on his face. "Yes, yes, this is it, Cousin Mafa, where did you get this?"

"I picked it up."

"..." Lin Yun's answer was bold and straightforward, yet Ross and William were both thinking, 'You picked it up off the corpse of Stan Watson...'

After getting the missing piece, Leon suddenly seemed excited as he fished out a few similar pieces of parchment from his pocket before putting them on the ground and assembling them to form a complete map.

"It's inside the valley!" An expression of sudden realization appeared on Leon's face. "We only have to follow this map and in three hours, we will be able to enter the valley. The entrance to the shortcut is there, and that is the only way to bypass the Traces of Misfortune and still pass through the Tulan Mountain Range!"

After gaining a clear direction, the group of five no longer hesitated. Xiuban was still charging ahead with the three Merlin cousins in tow. They kept charging forward, facing all kinds of magic beasts as they rushed for the valley.

The group reached their destination in the afternoon.

This valley was somewhat different.

Because of the existence of the Traces of Misfortune, the Tulan Mountains' surroundings had always been known for being desolate, but the scenery they could see after entering the valley was a sight to behold. A small river's gurgling, verdant and lush trees, a grassy lawn, and even the blazing sun above their heads felt gentle.

"There is actually such a place..." William had been fighting the entire way without a break, so when he saw such a place, an expression of contentment appeared on his face. He rushed to the stream of water to take some water to wash his face.

"Wait, don't move..." But Lin Yun, who was controlling a Mage Eye to investigate the valley, noticed William's actions and promptly called out to him.

"Ah?" William instantly froze.

"Get out of there, quick!"

"Oh, oh..." Fortunately, William had always taken his younger cousin's words to heart. Although Lin Yun hadn't had time to explain, William still retreated a dozen steps obediently.

And sure enough...

Just as William quickly retreated, a loud explosion came from the stream of water...

It was followed by a geyser shooting into the air...

Between the shock, almost everyone could see the huge, black shadow that had caused that geyser of water.

It was a Python that had been hiding in the stream.

It was frighteningly quick, and it travelled a dozen meters in a split second. Only a loud sound was heard as that sinister head rose in front of William.

William's nostrils were filled with a rank smell when the Python opened its bloody maw to bite into him...

### **Chapter 363: Second Ancient Tree**

"Shit!" William exclaimed as he paled. He retreated in panic, not being careful as to where he was running to. Before that sinister head even approached his body, William tripped on some rocks.

'I'm done for...'

The python's bloody maw fiercely opened as the sharp fangs flickered with a cold light. William despaired as the thick, fishy smell spread through the air. 'It's over... It's truly over...'

There had been so many dangerous magic beasts on the way, but he hadn't expected that he would end up in a python's stomach in a secluded valley because of a moment of carelessness. This was too ironic...



'I wouldn't have approached that brook if I had known...'

As William was filled with despair and regret, a huge force pulled him sharply back.

William wasn't able to even react as he was sent flying. He only heard a loud boom as two heavy sounds echoed. Two Flame Bursts leaving behind a trail of fire grazed William as they flew out.

"Rumble!"

"Rumble!"

( B oxnovel.c om ) The two Flame Bursts hit the python, and the injury forced it to let out a mournful wail.

Its several-dozen-meter-long body was exposed in front of them it slithered along. Two lantern-sized eyes watched everyone closely with a hateful look.

"Only a water snake. It wasn't content with staying in the water so it came ashore to court death!" Lin Yun coldly snorted while pointing at the python with the Doom Staff, which was followed by another Flame Burst.

The python was quite fierce. After taking three Flame Bursts in a row, it actually didn't retreat but instead used its astonishing speed to scuttle over to Lin Yun's group.

This crazy action was undoubtedly the most dangerous sort for a mage to deal with.

Regardless of how powerful a mage was, they would have to think of the consequences of having a powerful enemy close to them.

But what a pity...

The python's opponent was Lin Yun.

Lin Yun didn't seem to see the python constantly approaching. He didn't lay down the Doom Staff in his hand, and after casting his first Flame Burst, he followed up with a second, a third, a fourth...

In a short time, Lin Yun cast ten Flame Bursts.

The damage caused by a Flame Burst was shocking, not to mention the fact that he cast ten in a row while also aiming at the same spot. No matter how fierce the python was, after eating ten Flame Bursts, fear couldn't help replacing the hatred in the python's eyes.

The python twisted its body when Lin Yun cast his 16th Flame Burst, using its thick scales to cover its back and block the bombardment of Flame Bursts.

Lin Yun then did it a second time... And a third time...

And thus, a strange scene appeared in the valley. A human and a python were less than fifty meters apart, but the human stood still, holding his staff out while casting, while the python was repeatedly twisting and turning, resisting the attacks with the thick scales of its back. It looked just like a beast in a circus being directed by its trainer with a whip.

Moreover, that whip hurt...

Lin Yun never stopped casting Flame Bursts, they just kept flying one after the other...

They had the same casting time, the same rhythm, the same everything. They were simply identical copies. If a seasoned mage saw this battle, they might scoff. What kind of mage didn't know how to fight?

But...

Lin Yun was simply relying on this machine-like repetition to explode the thick scales on the back of the python, now having fired 47 Flame Bursts...

Then, the battle had no more suspense.

Lin Yun only used two Wind Blades and ended the fight.

The two Wind Blades cut into the open wound from a strange angle and instantly destroyed the python's insides.

The python never managed to get within fifty meters of Lin Yun!

Lin Yun hadn't felt any pressure at all from the start.

"This..." This was the 3rd time Leon had seen Lin Yun make a move.

The first time was when Leon ended up Mana Shackled.

The second time was when Lin Yun caused havoc in the Elder Council.

To be honest, Leon didn't have a good understanding of Lin Yun's strength. The first time happened too quickly, and the battle finished the moment it started. The second time, Lin Yun relied too much on the Ten Thousand Spell Wheel. The battle against Thorne had been too high-level and Leon simply couldn't understand it.

( B oxnovel.c om ) Thus, Leon only knew that his younger cousin was a very frightening person, but he didn't know how formidable he was.

But Leon understood now...

The strength that python displayed was at level 29 at the very least, and it might even be at level 30, yet it hadn't been able to retaliate in front of Lin Yun. The latter controlled the whole fight and with just Flame Bursts and two Wind Blades, he easily finished the fight.

That power was enough to scare Leon.

'I'm really wise...' Leon thought while inwardly rejoicing. 'Although I made a serious mistake in Thousand Sails City, I was able to realize it after returning to Okland and change my ways to maintain my stance in the Elder Council, I am really wise.'

If he hadn't been able to put down the grievances over what had happened in Thousand Sails City, if he'd tried to scheme against Lin Yun's property like Aube, he might have ended up just like Aube, a cripple with a shattered Mana Whirlpool.

No, no, he would have ended in a worse state...

He didn't have a father like Thorne Merlin...

Leon couldn't help shivering as he thought about it. 'Fortunately, I was clever enough to not set myself against Cousin Mafa...'

Leon couldn't help secretly admiring Ross as he took a glance at him. Ross was known to be a loner in the Merlin Family, but Leon hadn't expected that guy to react so quickly. He rushed to hug Lin Yun's thigh when he arrived, and whether it was due to luck or insight, they were both ten times better than Aube.

'It looks like only Ross can compete with me for the position of next patriarch...'

William was done harvesting the python when Leon had that last thought. There were only five of them. They weren't like the mercenary group they had encountered, which had a dozen Great Mages, so William's harvesting was relatively rough. He only gathered a few dozen scales with the strongest defensive power, and the valuable mana crystal. There weren't many valuable things among the rest.

"Strange..." William was holding the mana crystal in his hand with a suspicious expression. "This is the mana crystal of an ordinary Forest Python..."

"What else do you think it was..." Lin Yun smirked, not surprised at all by William's assessment.

"But, Forest Pythons aren't that formidable, right?" William couldn't understand.

In fact, William couldn't be blamed for making such a judgement.

The Forest Python was the most common and the weakest of the snake-like magic beasts. Usually, in damp and moist places, if any tracks of Forest Pythons were spotted, they were most likely weak, around level 10.

The strongest wouldn't surpass level 20.

But William had personally experienced the power of that python. It really was comparable to being level 30, or else William would have been able to take care of it with his strength.

"How could a Forest Python reach Level 30?"

"Because this place has a special environment..." Lin Yun replied, not really answering William's question. He let out a few Mage Eyes as he started a full investigation of this secluded valley.

After casting his 6th Mage Eye, Lin Yun looked at William and noticed that he was still confused.

"Have you forgotten about the Four Seasons Canyon?"

"Oh, the Four Seasons Canyon!" After being reminded by Lin Yun, William recalled the canyon that he had been able to explore after going to Thousand Sails City. Didn't he experience something that strange back then?

At that time, the magic beasts were just like this Forest Python, they broke common sense and reached a level that they shouldn't have been able to.

'Could this place be like the Four Seasons Canyon?'

“Cousin, this...” Hearing this, William suddenly got worried. That large battle remained fresh in William’s memories.

“Don’t ask me how, I don’t know...” Lin Yun’s Mage Eyes began exploring the entire valley little by little.

This kind of scouting brought some visible results to Lin Yun.

“Found!” Through the 3rd Mage Eye, Lin Yun quickly found a towering tree in the depths of the valley.

The thickness of the aura of life, the complicated array, everything was just like that ancient tree in the Four Seasons Canyon!

### **Chapter 364: Soul Injection**

‘Sure enough...’ Seeing this, Lin Yun knew that he hadn’t guessed wrong and that this place was exactly like the Four Seasons Canyon. It became a special place after being twisted by some kind of force.

But the formation of the Four Seasons Canyon was related to a fragment of soul of an Ancient God.

Then this...

Was it possible that a fragment of an Ancient God’s soul was buried in this valley?

As he thought of this, Lin Yun suddenly realized a problem... Although he had a fragment of an Ancient God’s soul, he actually knew nothing about such an unreasonable existence.

He had found that soul under the ancient tree of the Four Seasons Canyon, but under the strong protest of Lord Shawn, he threw it into his Demiplane, not paying attention to it for a few months. If it hadn’t been for this valley possibly having a second soul fragment, he might have already forgotten about this matter...

‘I wonder if it’s still there...’ After having William and the others rest, Lin Yun looked for a secluded location before opening the Book of Death to open a Planar Path...

The surroundings distorted, and Lin Yun set foot in the Demiplane once again.

A stunned expression appeared on his face...

“What’s going on?” Seeing everything before him, Lin Yun was a bit dumbstruck.

He clearly remembered that this place was a barren land last time he came, a few months ago.

But now...

The whole Demiplane was actually thriving!

Trees and grass were spreading everywhere, a river was slowly flowing through the Demiplane, a gentle sun was warming his head, and the air carried the fragrance of earth. The world seemed full of vitality.

The most frightening part was...

This all happened while the four elements were unstable and the Laws had yet to develop.

What did this mean?

Anyone with a basic understanding of Demiplanes knew that they could only nurture life after their laws were stabilized, because life couldn't be nurtured from chaos. Only when chaos turned to order could life bloom.

This was the most frightening part, because it meant that the power giving birth to all this was even above the Laws!

Lin Yun was already a High Mage, and his fighting power was comparable to that of an Archmage. He could be considered a powerhouse in Okland, but even Lin Yun had a vague and abstract grasp of the Laws.

What were the Laws? Laws were the power of the world.

Why was the Star Gem inlaid in the Ten Thousand Spell Wheel so precious?

It was because the Star Gem possessed a bit of world power.

Yes, only a bit...

But now, Lin Yun suddenly discovered that he would most likely face a power that was above the Laws.

The gap was too great...

Lin Yun felt afraid just thinking about it...

"Shawn, Lord Shawn..." Lin Yun called out. But when he didn't get his answer, he cursed, feeling a bit flustered, "Fuck, do you not even want to know how you'll die?"

Lin Yun was basically clueless about that Ancient God's soul fragment. The only reason he had accepted that decision was Shawn's suggestion..

He thought that since the four elements were unstable and the Laws had yet to be born, no matter how evil that Ancient God's soul fragment was, it wouldn't create any major trouble.

But he hadn't expected this situation. Yes, the elements were still unstable and the Laws had yet to be born, but that accursed Ancient God's soul fragment couldn't be understood. Under such circumstances, it actually gave birth to such thriving scenery.

But Shawn, who caused all this, kept sleeping, which truly infuriated Lin Yun.

"Hell, why is there the aura of an Ancient God?" While Lin Yun was stewing in anger, a voice came from the Ten Thousand Spell Wheel. "What are you doing?!"

"Don't bring it up," Lin Yun unhappily answered.

As he said this, the Ten Thousand Spell Wheel shook out of Lin Yun's body and Enderfa materialized into black smoke with three strange faces: a smiling face, a weeping face, and a serious face. The three faces were floating in the air with a strange aura.

Looking at those three faces, Lin Yun remembered the earth-shattering Dragon Roar that had echoed when the Ten Thousand Spell Wheel was completed.

"It truly is the aura of an Ancient God..." When Enderfa appeared, he wasn't able to hold back an exclamation. "Where is this, why is there the aura of an Ancient God here? What have you done!? Explain quickly! This is no joke, everything linked to Ancient Gods is taboo. They attract countless disasters to those who come in contact with them..."

"I know, I know..." Lin Yun looked at the thriving scene in front of him and truly felt unmotivated. "I only threw an Ancient God's soul fragment in here..."

"What!" Enderfa almost jumped up when he heard Lin Yun's words. "You, you... You threw... an Ancient God's soul fragment in here?"

"Yeah..."

"Heavens..." Enderfa was going insane. "Don't you know what Ancient Gods' soul fragments are?"

"I said, I know..."

"You don't know!" Enderfa angrily answered. "Had you known, you wouldn't have touched it to begin with!"

"So what's to be done now?"

"Leave immediately and never return!"

"This..." Lin Yun was a bit dumbstruck.

"What? You don't want to leave?"

"That's not it, I forgot to tell you, but this is actually a Demiplane..."

"..." Lin Yun's words silenced Enderfa.

Enderfa needed no less than a minute to recover.

"Tell me, what happened in the end..." Enderfa felt extremely powerless.

"It happened like this..." Lin Yun didn't hide anything and recounted everything from when he entered the Four Seasons Canyon up until he dug up that Ancient God's soul fragment under the Ancient Tree.

Enderfa listened very carefully.

He didn't say anything after listening, but the three different faces all seemed frozen. After no less than a minute, Enderfa let out a long sigh. "Of course you found that Ancient Demon's soul in the Four Seasons Canyon..."

"What? You knew about it?" Lin Yun didn't find it too strange that Enderfa knew about this Ancient "Demon's" soul fragment since it had been residing in the Four Seasons Canyon, near Vaughn's laboratory.

"Of course I know," Enderfa helplessly said. "Vaughn had remained in the Four Seasons Canyon because of that Ancient Demon's soul fragment."

"Oh?"

"I don't know much about the details, I'm only a Magic Tool Incarnation, but I know that Vaughn stayed all those years in the Four Seasons Canyon and would go out once a month. Every time he returned, he would carry the aura of an Ancient God. Moreover, Vaughn once used the Crystal Scale to perfect a shocking experiment."

"What experiment?" Lin Yun suddenly got curious.

"He wanted to inject a soul into an alchemy puppet..."

"..." Lin Yun held his breath when he heard that.

Soul Injection into an alchemy puppet, this was simply crazy!

Although some puppets in Noscent had intelligence, such as those three Heaven Rank puppets Vaughn owned, or some of the powerful existences of the Puppet Plane, they were mostly born with spirituality.

But having spirituality at birth was something different.

The birth of a puppet's spirituality was similar to the birth of a Magic Tool Incarnation. They were both the by-products of alchemy, but Soul Injection was another matter altogether. There had never been a successful case in Noscent's history, even during the peak of the magic civilization, even during the peak of alchemy. This was something simply impossible, or so it had been recorded.

"He... He succeeded?"

"I don't know..."

"You don't know?"

Even Enderfa didn't know... so it might have succeeded, or it might not have.

"During that time, I've been secretly guessing whether the Ancient God's aura soaking Vaughn had something to do with that experiment..."

"You..." Lin Yun swallowed with some difficulty. "You mean... Vaughn wanted... Vaughn wanted to use a puppet to resurrect an Ancient God?"

Lin Yun was startled by this development.

If this was true, then Vaughn was a pure lunatic, the craziest alchemist in history.

Ancient Gods were true taboo in Noscent. Even touching something linked to them would bring a curse or a disaster, yet Vaughn wanted to use a puppet to resurrect an Ancient God. If he succeeded, then Noscent's history might have been rewritten.

But, as Lin Yun was soaking in the horror, Enderfa's voice once again echoed.

"It wasn't something as simple as a resurrection..."

### **Chapter 365: Not Just a Resurrection**

"Not... Not just a resurrection?"

“This wasn’t all Vaughn wanted...” Although Vaughn had already died many millennia ago, Enderfa still had a hint of fear in his voice when he mentioned his name. “I once saw the design of a Heaven Rank Puppet that Vaughn had drafted...”

“Hold on...” Lin Yun felt something amiss when he heard this. “I didn’t hear wrong, did I? You said Vaughn drafted the design of a Heaven Rank Puppet?”

Lin Yun accentuated the words Heaven Rank.

“Yes, that’s correct.” But Enderfa replied in a natural tone.

“...” Lin Yun took a deep breath before forcing himself to calm down and ask, “You are saying that an Artisan drafted the design of a Heaven Rank Puppet?”

“Haha, an Artisan...” But Lin Yun hadn’t expected that these words would sound funny to Enderfa. He laughed for a while before being able to restrain himself. “You really believe that Vaughn was only an Artisan? Do you think that the alchemist that inherited the legacy of the Dark Sage, do you think the alchemist whose power shook the Empire for over a millennium, who made all Heaven Rank powerhouses unable to raise their heads, would only be an Artisan? Think about it, Vaughn took only three years to suppress the six Overlords of Crystal Island, how could he only be an Artisan?”

“...” Lin Yun was a bit dumbstruck when he heard that. Enderfa’s words completely toppled Lin Yun’s understanding of Vaughn. For a long time, Vaughn had already appeared in all kinds of records, and was always referred to as an Artisan. Although he was far more powerful than an Artisan, he still remained an Artisan.

In fact, Lin Yun had always thought it was odd.

But Lin Yun straightforwardly agreed when Lys asked him to join the joint expedition.

It was because Lin Yun felt that exploring the ruins of an Artisan was within his abilities.

But now, the Magic Tool Incarnation that followed Vaughn for millennia, Enderfa, was telling him that Vaughn wasn’t just an Artisan.

Not just an Artisan...

Then could he be a...

“Sai... Saint Alchemist?”

“This is something I don’t know about, I’m only a Magic Tool Incarnation...” But after Lin Yun threw this question out, Enderfa once again refused to answer and avoided saying anything concrete. “In any case, I saw him complete the design of that Heaven Rank Puppet...”

“Okay...” Lin Yun nodded but didn’t press the matter, because he knew that this strange Magic Tool Incarnation was hiding as many secrets as Vaughn. He decided to focus on the matter at hand.

“Continue with the part about the Heaven Rank Puppet.”

“Yes, when I saw Vaughn’s design, I noticed a very peculiar part. Vaughn left two interfaces in the Heaven Rank Puppet to be used for Soul Injection...”



“What?” Lin Yun wondered, ‘Two interfaces? Was Vaughn thinking of injecting two Ancient Gods’ souls?’

But then, Lin Yun thought of something.

‘No... It wasn’t for two Ancient Gods’ souls!’

How formidable were Ancient Gods? They could casually kill an Archmage with a vestige of their power, it would already be very difficult for a Heaven Rank Puppet to host the soul of an Ancient God.

But if it wasn’t for the Ancient God’s soul, then what was it for?

Lin Yun suddenly was startled when he realized the answer.

He looked at Enderfa in horror. “You mean, the other interface was put aside... put aside for...”

“Yes, it was put aside for Vaughn himself.”

“...” Although Lin Yun had guessed, hearing the answer still terrified him. He froze there for a minute before saying, “What a madman...”

Now Lin Yun finally understood why Enderfa would say that Vaughn’s goal wasn’t as simple as resurrecting an Ancient God.

Two Soul Injection interfaces, one for the Ancient God’s soul, and the other for Vaughn’s own soul.

In other words, Vaughn wanted to fuse his soul with the soul of the Ancient God.

Vaughn wanted to take over that Ancient God’s soul!

There had been many crazy alchemists in Noscent’s history. The most common ones were the ones that kept saying that this world was created by alchemy.

But there had never been an alchemist as crazy as Vaughn.

He was trying to take over an Ancient God’s soul!

This was simply horrifying...

“And then?”

“Then... He shouldn’t have succeeded...” Enderfa didn’t sound very sure. After saying that, he added a sentence to comfort himself. “Otherwise, that Ancient God’s soul fragment shouldn’t be in your hands...”

“That’s true...”

“But, Vaughn went to Crystal Island at the end...”

“...” Lin Yun’s face froze.

No one could be more clear than Lin Yun as to what kind of place Crystal Island was. That was the place where Gods fell. There was an Ancient God there, lying in eternal rest!

Several millennia later, every major force of Noscent would fight around Vaughn's treasury. A war that would sweep the entirety of Noscent would happen then, before Bane and his Book of Death would sweep countless powerhouses aside and gain victory for the Ivory Tower.

Then, the secrets of Vaughn's treasury had been completely sealed. Only several years later did people learn from some secret channels that the Ivory Tower obtained the corpse of an Ancient God from Vaughn's treasury.

Yes, the corpse of an Ancient God.

'Then what about his soul?'

Lin Yun didn't dare to think about it anymore...

"What should we do now?"

"It would be best if you immediately leave this place," Enderfa unhesitantly suggested. "Before you reach Vaughn's realm, you shouldn't try to come into contact with an Ancient God's soul, that is something that would bring curses and disasters..."

"But..." Lin Yun immediately hesitated. Enderfa's suggestion was telling Lin Yun to give up on the entire Demiplane. This would definitely be a huge loss for Lin Yun.

This was a naturally born Demiplane, it was malleable and had endless growth. When it reached its final form, it could even turn into a genuine world!

To Lin Yun, its value simply couldn't be estimated.

"What? Hate to part with it?"

"You don't say..." Lin Yun rolled his eyes. The number of people in Noscent's history that controlled a Demiplane could be counted on two hands. Who would be willing to part with it?

"In fact, you aren't completely hopeless..."

"Oh?"

"The Ancient God's soul fragment shouldn't have awakened yet, only a part of its power is leaking and bringing some change to this Demiplane. This change is bringing some benefits to this Demiplane. Just how much power does the soul fragment of an Ancient God possess? Even if it's only some power leaking, it will greatly speed up the growth of that Demiplane. In maybe less than ten years, you'll have a complete Demiplane."

Enderfa then paused before continuing, "Naturally, that is only if the Ancient God's soul doesn't awaken in the meantime..."

"It'll be over when it awakens..."

"You don't need to be so pessimistic. You see, these forests, these lawns, these rivers, they are all born from the power of the Ancient God. Every leaf, every blade of grass, every drop of water contains enormous power. Do you feel it? Your flow of mana is ten times faster here. I can tell you that even if

you search all of Noscent, you won't find a place more suitable for meditation. The efficiency of meditation is at least ten times greater than outside.

"I know, but.."

"I know, 'what if the Ancient God's soul fragment awakens?' In fact, you don't need to worry about this. I didn't tell you all this for nothing, it's not as if there is no solution..."

"What solution?"

"Vaughn's treasury!"

"Hmmm?" Lin Yun froze when he heard this. "You mean, there is a way to deal with this problem in Vaughn's laboratory?"

"Yes, if I'm not wrong, Vaughn went to Crystal Island in his later years because of that crazy idea. Moreover, there are traces showing that he found some ways to control an Ancient God's soul, or he wouldn't have staked it all against the Six Great Overlords and wouldn't have built his own tomb in Crystal Island..."

"That's true..."

"So you don't need to worry too much, you should actually use this power here to quickly increase your own strength. Who knows, when you explore Crystal Island, maybe you'll be able to find the methods Vaughn left behind."

"Alright, I know what to do." After hearing Enderfa's words, Lin Yun nodded and didn't say much more. He opened the Planar Path and changed surroundings, once again appearing in the secluded valley.

"Cousin William, write a letter to Faleau, tell him to take the chamber of commerce's mercenary group to Okland."

"Okay." William nodded and quickly used runes to write a letter. After being roused by mana, that letter written in runes immediately turned into countless rays of light and dissipated into the air. This was the Gilded Rose's own communication method. It was extremely fast and would be received by Faleau in Thousand Sails City in a few minutes at most.

## **Chapter 366: Found**

"Alright, the others are resting. Follow me, we have to go dig up something..."

"What thing?"

"Another piece of an Ancient God's soul!"

"..."

Enderfa told him that the Ancient God's soul fragment would only bring benefits and no trouble before it awakened. He suggested that Lin Yun should make use of this special environment to quickly increase his strength.

Enderfa's suggestion was fair.

But Enderfa didn't know that Lin Yun came from 30,000 years in the future.

After going through the baptism of the peak of the magic era and witnessing Noscent's destruction, Lin Yun's ambitions on the path of magic surpassed those of any mage of this era.

To the mages of this era, the Archmage and Heaven realms were their goals. Even a powerhouse like Star Sage Jouyi was only dreaming of one day standing in the Heaven realm.

But Lin Yun...

Lin Yun's ambition was far greater.

Archmages were everywhere at the peak of the magic era. Many Heaven Rank powerhouses also fell during that tragedy in the Tulan Mountain Range. Even these lofty existences standing at the peak couldn't stop falling alongside Noscent.

The world would fall after 30,000 years.

This might be a groundless fear to ordinary people, as 30,000 years was too far in the future. It was enough for ordinary people to reincarnate two to three hundred times.

But to a mage, and especially Lin Yun, this was a real problem.

Lin Yun was only twenty years old when he stepped into High Mage realm. As long as he didn't court a disaster, living a few hundred years would be easy.

And this was only for High Mages.

With Lin Yun's transcendent knowledge and experience, as well as his ten solid Magic Arrays, stepping into the Archmage realm and then the Heaven realm was only a question of time.

The lifespan of an Archmage was over a millennium.

Heaven Rank powerhouses could live over several millennia...

As for people like Sovereign of Death Sandro or Charles the Conqueror...

There had never been any mention in Noscent's history of powerhouses like them dying of natural causes.

This wasn't a dream for Lin Yun. As long as he didn't fall midway, there would also be a time when he would stand aloof, at the top.

In the end, Lin Yun would have no choice but to face the problem. He would have to either flee into a spatial crack like Sandro and Charles, or wait for the end of times alongside Noscent.

In fact, no matter which choice he picked, it would only be a decision made out of helplessness. Whether he fled or waited, he would be giving in to an unknown fate. No one knew what the outcome would be...

Lin Yun was unwilling...

Lin Yun wanted to truly control his own fate. If powerhouses like Charles and Sandro couldn't control their own fates, then Lin Yun would become stronger than them, he would become strong enough to do it.

To reach that realm, he couldn't walk on the paths taken by others.

Even if those people had created an unprecedentedly brilliant magic civilization.

Thus, Lin Yun had always been trying to push through his own magic path. It was like this with the Magic Array, and also with the Ten Thousand Spell Wheel. Every step Lin Yun took was done after countless deductions and careful deliberations, each step bringing him closer to his final goal.

Enderfa's suggestion was a good one.

But Lin Yun wasn't willing to just meditate in that environment. Mana gained by external means wasn't his own in the end. He might be able to rely on it to quickly grow and reach the Archmage realm, but what about after the Archmage realm?

What would he rely on to reach Heaven Rank?

Of course...

It was fine that he didn't need it, but there were people who needed it.

Thus, Lin Yun had William send a letter to Faleau.

The fifty Great Mages of his chamber of commerce had to be nurtured, and the unique environment created by the Ancient God's soul fragment was perfectly suited to their needs.

They originally were the ones with the weakest aptitude in the Merlin Family and might not even reach Great Mage realm within their lives. But they were fortunate enough to come across Lin Yun and be sent into his Bone Plane. After reaching the Great Mage realm, they felt as if they had already gained what they had been looking for.

They hadn't even thought of becoming High Mages...

How could they worry about stepping on the path to the Heaven realm?

With this idea in mind, his next decision was very easy. In any case, he would go to Crystal Island later to look for a solution, so he might as well dig up another soul fragment. One soul fragment was leaking so much power, so what about two?

That was all Lin Yun had to do now...

As six Mage Eyes kept sweeping every corner of the valley, a Hasted Lin Yun, followed by Enderfa, rushed towards that second Ancient Tree at an astonishing speed.

Lin Yun quickly found the second Ancient Tree, and sure enough, it was just like it was in the Four Seasons Canyon. This second tree was located in the densest area, and its surroundings seemed to be over-nourished. The towering tree's branches were insanely long, and from time to time, magic beasts would appear, each stronger than the previous one. Lin Yun spent a lot of effort dealing with the obstacles to stand in front of that Ancient Tree.

“Another True Spirit rank array...” The tree trunk was covered with numerous veined patterns. Lin Yun only needed one glance to know that this was a True Spirit array. However, this was no longer a problem for Lin Yun. He fished out a quill and a bottle of Melting Snow Ink from his pocket and carelessly said, “Enderfa, you control the Ten Thousand Spell Wheel and protect me.”

“Alright!” Enderfa knew when he should work and when he should laze around, he wasn’t like Shawn who would always haggle.

When the first drop of Melting Snow Ink fell on the tree trunk, the surroundings shook. All kinds of mana fluctuations started filling the woods.

It was followed by a Beast Tide.

But Lin Yun didn’t even turn to take a glance at what was happening behind him. He quickly wrote an abstruse rune on the tree trunk with the Melting Snow Ink.

Because Lin Yun believed that Enderfa could settle this...

Sure enough...

Enderfa didn’t panic when faced with that berserk Beast Tide. The Ten Thousand Spell Wheel displayed an entirely different style under his control, accurate and efficient.

Although it wasn’t bursting out with power when it appeared like how Lin Yun used it last time, the efficiency was shockingly high. It looked as if it was taking the life of a magic beast every time it revolved. There were no superfluous actions, no waste. Even Lin Yun, who was busy cracking the True Spirit realm array, had no choice but to acknowledge that such precise control wasn’t something he was capable of, when he noticed it.

It was because Lin Yun was the master of the Magic Tool...

But Enderfa was the Magic Tool itself!

After becoming its Magic Tool Incarnation, Enderfa became the Ten Thousand Spell Wheel. The relation between both was closer than that between the Magic Tool and its master.

And such a control style could only come from a Magic Tool Incarnation.

It took Lin Yun thirty minutes to crack that True Spirit array. By that time, small piles of corpses had formed around him. The floor was soaked in blood, while a thick, bloody smell spread in the atmosphere, lingering heavily.

“Tell William and the others to deal with these corpses...” Lin Yun could see with one glance that there was no lack of Level 27 and Level 28 magic beasts among these corpses. Although their power had been brought up by the power of the Ancient God, it wouldn’t influence the quality of the mana crystal, it would be too wasteful to leave them there.

“Yes.” Enderfa returned to the Ten Thousand Spell Wheel and used the method they had agreed upon to let out a magic signal to William’s group.

Meanwhile, Lin Yun summoned a few Rock Puppets and started digging under the Ancient Tree.

By the time the others arrived, Lin Yun was already half done. When the group saw Lin Yun standing amidst a pile of powerful magic beasts, they remained still for some time, not knowing how to react.

This was the gap...

Earlier, they had been fighting their way in; Xiuban, William, Ross, and Leon, they fought for two days and a night, and still hadn't killed half of the magic beasts residing in this area.

'Shit, humans really can't be compared to freaks...'

"Cousins, help me deal with the corpses of those magic beasts. Gather up all those mana crystals and bring them back to Okland. They should be worth a decent sum..." Lin Yun instructed them while commanding the Rock Puppet to continue excavating the second Ancient God's soul fragment.

"Sure, no problem." The three of them were used to this. They immediately started working hard when they heard Lin Yun's orders.

Soon, half of the corpses had been taken care of, and dozens of mana crystals of different levels were piled up together, shining like a rainbow.

At this time, Lin Yun also completed his unearthing. His revolving Magic Array could already sense that familiar mana fluctuation.

"Found it!"

Lin Yun was pleased. He ordered a few Rock Puppets to bring out that gem-like soul fragment of an Ancient God that also seemed somewhat similar to a mana crystal.

"Shit, no good!" But Enderfa suddenly cried out in alarm.

"What's wrong?" Lin Yun was startled.

"Throw it away, quick, throw it away! That soul fragment isn't completely dormant!" Enderfa's voice could be heard coming from the Ten Thousand Spell Wheel, full of worry and fear.

"Shit!" Even Lin Yun was scared when he heard that. Sure enough, that soul fragment did carry a strange aura.

It was a very strange feeling, ice-cold and burning hot, these two completely different feelings appeared at the same time. Lin Yun felt as if the soul fragment he was holding was both an ice cube and a fireball as these two feelings kept replacing each other.

The most frightening part was...

Lin Yun could faintly hear a deafening roar. That roar seemed to have come from a very far place, but also as if it echoed in his ears. It contained a unique and unchallengeable power and an aura that made Lin Yun feel as if his soul was being pulled away from his body. He couldn't exercise any control over his body... He couldn't even move one finger.

'Shit...' This was the first time Lin Yun was facing the power of an Ancient God.

## **Chapter 367: Destruction**

“Shit, run, run, you are in deep trouble!” Enderfa’s flustered voice came from the Ten Thousand Spell Wheel.

Black clouds suddenly covered the sky. Thunder boomed and gales roared... The world seemed to have suddenly darkened as the surrounding mana fluctuations were flaring up, and an invisible force was rising in the valley.

Lin Yun knew that this was the slumbering Ancient God recovering its power. That frightening and tangible pressure made Lin Yun breathless. This was the first time he had felt such terrifying pressure since coming to this era.

Too frightening...

Even the numerous frightening corpses he saw when he entered the Heaven Enlightening Plane didn’t bring such shocking pressure. After all, a corpse was a corpse, while what Lin Yun was facing now was the power of an Ancient God...

That was the most formidable power in all of Noscent. Even if it was just a remnant, it far surpassed what Lin Yun could endure now.

“Leave, quick!” Enderfa’s voice was filled with fear. This power was simply devastating to a Magic Tool Incarnation. Even if the Ten Thousand Spell Wheel was a True Spirit Magic Tool, it didn’t have the power to contend against an Ancient God. If the Ten Thousand Spell Wheel broke down, Enderfa would no longer exist.

That would be death for a Magic Tool Incarnation!

“Can’t run...” Lin Yun shook his head. As a mage, Lin Yun was far sharper than Enderfa when it came to sensing that power. Lin Yun could clearly feel that the entire valley had been enveloped by the power of the Ancient God. Even if he wanted to, he simply didn’t know where he could run to.

“Shit, shit, shit...” After being warned by Lin Yun, Enderfa seemed to realize that he had now fallen into a desperate situation. “I warned you that the soul fragments of Ancient Gods were the most evil things in this world, but you had to go and touch another one...”

“Alright, shut up!” Lin Yun shouted at the panicked Enderfa before turning to Leon. “Leon, you take the others to the shortcut, I’ll help you buy some time. Three days later, we will find some way to meet in the Tulan Mountain Range!”

“Then you...” It was the first time Leon saw power of this magnitude. He was completely scared out of his wits.

“Rest assured, I still have other methods.” Lin Yun patted Leon’s shoulder before putting the dozen mana crystals into his pocket. After thinking about it, he summoned Syudos. “Syudos, you are in charge of their protection.”

“Understood, Master.” Syudos turned into a ball of flames and unhurriedly floated behind Leon.



“That... Be careful.” Leon knew that he wouldn’t be able to help if he stayed behind, so he only nodded and led the other three out of these woods.

“Okay, Enderfa, we shall see if we are lucky enough...” After getting the others to leave, Lin Yun tightly gripped the soul fragment in his hand...

“I’m unlucky...” Enderfa’s voice was full of regret. He originally thought that this young mage had a boundless future and that by staying at his side, he would sooner or later recover to his peak. He’d even hoped that he would get to possess an actual body and no longer need to exist as a Magic Tool Incarnation.

But he hadn’t expected that this young mage with a boundless future was also a magnet for trouble. He would make him break out in a cold sweat every time. He went against a 5th Rank Sword Saint not long ago, and today he was shockingly triggering the power of a slumbering Ancient God.

‘If I had known earlier, I would have remained in Vaughn’s laboratory until someone else took me away...’

Unfortunately, it was too late to regret it...

Enderfa could only follow Lin Yun’s instructions and control the Ten Thousand Spell Wheel as he followed Lin Yun in bringing the soul fragment to the Demiplane.

“Heavens, you are still in the mood to stroll around in here?” When Enderfa realized that it was actually the Demiplane, he froze.

“Don’t be noisy!” Lin Yun shouted at Enderfa and began looking for the Ancient God’s soul fragment that he had thrown in there.

This was the only choice for Lin Yun. He could actually escape the valley by himself if he wanted to. But he wouldn’t be able to take people with him.

Thus, Lin Yun sent the others out first...

He wanted to stall for time until the others were safe. Only then would he be able to feel at ease and escape.

Lin Yun soon found the soul fragment that he had thrown in the Demiplane.

It was now laying in the center of that forest, emitting a rich aura of life. When Lin Yun found it, he could clearly see the surrounding trees growing at a visible speed.

Every tree within several hundred meters reached up to a hundred meters in height. They were thick and had dense foliage. Those kinds of trees grew in primitive forests untouched by humans, and they would often take millennia to develop to this stage.

But Lin Yun clearly knew that the forest before his eyes had grown in just a few months...

This was all due to the Ancient God’s soul fragment...

“Now, let’s see how good our luck is...” Lin Yun relied on the power of the Ten Thousand Spell Wheel to levitate in the sky of the Demiplane. After confirming the location, he let go of the soul fragment in his hand.

Then...

Lin Yun watched as that rapidly falling soul fragment seemed to be attracted by a strange power.

“Fortunately...” Seeing this scene, Lin Yun sighed in relief.

It looked like the two soul fragments did come from the same Ancient God.

“Let’s go, Enderfa...”

“Eh? Already done?”

“Yes, it’s done.” After saying this, Lin Yun once again opened the Planar Path and took Enderfa back to the valley.

The valley was still covered in black clouds and furious gales, but Enderfa could clearly feel that the terrifying pressure had already been alleviated by quite a bit.

“What’s going on?” Enderfa froze.

“Nothing. The two soul fragments hadn’t met for a long time and decided to reminisce first, temporarily leaving us alone for the time being...”

“Alright, get ready. We are leaving this damnable place...” Lin Yun estimated that the fusion should almost be complete.

Sure enough, just as Lin Yun said this, the power shrouding the valley once again became heavy. The thunderous lightning, the gales, the apocalyptic scene appeared once more.

“Hey, didn’t you say they were leaving us alone...”

“Yeah, for the time being,” Lin Yun unhappily answered as he fished out a crystal from his pocket before dipping it into a blend of Star Ink and writing on the tree trunk.

In theory, Lin Yun’s words weren’t completely wrong.

Lin Yun’s entire plan was simple.

Soul fragments coming from the same Ancient God would fuse once they met, and what Lin Yun was fighting for was that bit of time during the fusion.

This time could let Leon and the others safely leave this place while also letting Lin Yun carve an array.

Fortunately, Lin Yun’s luck was good.

Lin Yun soon completed an array on the Ancient Tree’s trunk. If Suyass were here, he would definitely be able to see that the array Lin Yun had just completed was the same one that had appeared in the Void Python.

That’s right, it was the well-known cheat array, the Fortune Box.

Now, the Ancient God's power had already covered the entire valley, and under the influence of that power, even Haste had its effect reduced, not to mention continuous teleportation spells like Flame Flash and Frost Flash.

Fortunately, there was a ready-made True Spirit array that could be used. By relying on the True Spirit array on the tree trunk, Lin Yun could just inlay the Fortune Box.

After completing the Fortune Box, Lin Yun immediately poured mana into it. Then, a surge of power came from the True Spirit array, and by relying on that power, the Fortune Box instantly activated. The forest, the plants, the Ancient Tree, all of it disappeared.

When Lin Yun opened his eyes again, the surroundings had already turned into a region of black scorched earth.

'I hope I didn't teleport too far...' Lin Yun looked at his surroundings, trying to determine his position, when he suddenly felt a terrifying magic fluctuation rising behind him. The burst of power could turn an Archmage into ashes in an instant.

'Shit!' Lin Yun turned in shock, only to see a huge pillar of light dropping from the sky, covering an area of over several kilometers.

It was followed by a loud rumble as a mushroom-shaped cloud rose into the sky.

The world then seemed silent. Lin Yun even thought that it looked like Noscent from the future.

'Such a close call...' Lin Yun wiped the cold sweat dripping down his forehead.

### **Chapter 368: Traces of Misfortune**

Lin Yun knew that the place destroyed by that pillar of light was the valley he had just been at, and that the pillar was definitely the power of the Ancient God.

For thousands upon thousands of years, the power of the Ancient God had covered the valley, but because of the soul fragment being buried underground, that power never erupted out. Lin Yun now took away that soul fragment and had it fuse with another soul fragment, involuntarily trigger the power shrouding the valley. As this power erupted, it destroyed the whole valley.

Thinking about it...

The valley was several kilometers wide. If he hadn't left the valley in time, wouldn't he have turned into ashes?

Too frightening...

Lin Yun still had goosebumps, his heart beating madly as he started examining his surroundings.

This was a black plain, covered in deep, endless fog. Even if one had the sight of an eagle, they wouldn't be able to see more than fifty meters ahead.

“How could I be so unlucky...” Lin Yun frowned. Fortune Boxes were so disliked because one could never know where they would end up.

Just like this black plain. This was a damnable place, and only that black fog could be seen. He simply couldn't orientate himself. No one would be able to avoid losing their way in such a place.

‘Hold on... a black plain...’ Lin Yun was startled as he thought of something. ‘A black plain covered in deep fog... Could this be the Traces of Misfortune? No way...’

Lin Yun was dumbstruck when he reached that conclusion.

‘That’s exactly the appearance of the Traces of Misfortune, isn’t it? ...Isn’t this too unlucky?’

Lin Yun had taken Leon along precisely because he wanted to avoid this place.

But he ended up here anyway...

This was quite troublesome...

Lin Yun’s expression became quite grim. The Traces of Misfortune were also called the scar of the Tulan Mountain Range. This was a truly cursed land, a black wasteland constantly covered in heavy fog. If an ordinary person came into contact with it, they would rot away and die. Even mages and swordsmen wouldn’t dare stay in this poisonous fog for too long because even mana and Aura would be corroded by that poisonous mist.

Only powerhouses like High Mages and Expert Swordsmen could rely on their mana and Aura to resist the assault of the poisonous mist.

Six hundred years ago, when the Black Tower was at its peak, they once attempted to conquer this cursed canyon.

The Gaugass Battlemages had yet to split from the Black Tower at the time. The Black Tower was truly at its peak as it overlooked the entire Andlusa Kingdom and could be considered the number one force. It even had two Heaven Rank powerhouses, over a dozen Archmages, and over a hundred High Mages. Such a force could sweep through Okland nowadays.

But even so, the Black Tower suffered some unimaginable losses in Traces of Misfortune.

At first, they had progressed very smoothly. The Black Tower’s luxurious lineup swept through almost all of the Traces of Misfortune, from south to east. They crushed countless magic beasts under their spell bombardment. The report of every battle would make its way back to Okland, causing a sensation.

But...

Just as the Black Tower thought that they would conquer the Traces of Misfortune, a disaster descended. All kinds of magic beasts started appearing, more numerous and stronger, just like a tide, coming wave after wave. The Black Tower kept crushing them at first, but soon, the Black Tower realized something was off. These suddenly appearing magic beasts seemed endless. No matter how many they killed, there would always be more magic beasts appearing, fiercer, bigger, braver...

That was the most bitter battle in the Black Tower’s history.

Several dozen High Mages sacrificed their lives in that battle. Six Archmages died and one Heaven rank powerhouse received grievous injuries, before falling within another a hundred years. This battle didn't enrich the Black Tower, it sapped its strength and laid the seeds which led to the split three hundred years down the line.

After three months, the Black Tower withdrew from the Traces of Misfortune and sealed away all the information, remaining tight-lipped about it. Besides the Black Tower itself, no one knew what they had met in the Traces of Misfortune.

The Black Tower's actions painted the Traces of Misfortune in a mystical light. It was already six hundred years since then, yet no force in Andlusa dared to challenge the Traces of Misfortune.

'How could my luck be so bad...' Lin Yun scratched his cheek, wondering what was going on.

In fact, it was wrong to say that he had bad luck, considering that he'd managed to escape unscathed from an Ancient God's explosion of power.

But it couldn't be described as good either... The Fortune Box sending him into the Traces of Misfortune couldn't be regarded as lucky...

'Fortunately, it's not too late...' Lin Yun calculated what time it was. There was still a decade left before that thing awakened. In other words, he wouldn't end up like the Black Tower, meeting endless monsters that made even Heaven Rank powerhouses fall.

But this was the only good news for Lin Yun...

'I really hope they recorded the date right...' Lin Yun tightly held his Doom Staff before softly casting a Light spell, relying on the gentle illumination to head north.

This was the direction of the Tulan Mountains.

Lin Yun now knew why the Traces of Misfortune were called a cursed land. This place was full of danger. In a short hour, Lin Yun fought seven times. Such frequency was incredibly high.

But this was normal in the Traces of Misfortune. All kinds of magic beasts were hiding amidst the deep, poisonous fog. They were tormented to madness by starvation and the toxin, and they would frantically attack once they detected the aura of a living being.

But the magic beasts able to live in Traces of Misfortune were all predators. They were surviving the poisonous fog by preying on the weaker magic beasts while surviving the incessant hunger. They were far stronger than ordinary magic beasts.

Even Lin Yun had a hard time in this black wasteland...

Another explosion echoed. Lin Yun couldn't even remember how many Flame Bursts he had released. The Ten Thousand Spell Wheel above his head was shining brightly as usual as runes rushed forth like a tide. Spells scattered around as runes flew in all directions, putting down one magic leopard after the other.

And in front of Lin Yun was a Level 30 Magic Leopard King.

This Magic Leopard King was over a meter tall and over four meters long. Its body was covered in a high quality fur that seemed like black satin, and even in a gloomy place such as the Traces of Misfortune, its luster could be seen flashing from time to time. Two fist-sized red eyes were attentively watching Lin Yun, fully of killing intent and madness.

The Magic Leopard King's speed was shocking. Even if Lin Yun used Haste to its limit, he couldn't keep up with that abnormal speed. It really was like lightning. If he didn't pay attention, it would close in and break the Ice Wall and Lin Yun's neck, with a single swipe. One hit would tear his body to shreds.

Lin Yun made a mistake when the battle started..

His Flame Flash was a split second too slow.

In that moment, the Magic Leopard King flashed behind Lin Yun and swiped down.

Fortunately, Lin Yun reacted quickly enough.

When he realized that his Flame Flash was too slow, he cast an Ice Fire Shield to protect himself, forcibly using the Ice Shield to block that swipe.

But even so...

The sharp claws of the Magic Leopard King instantly tore through the Ice Shield, making Lin Yun, who had managed to open the distance with Flame Flash, break into a cold sweat. If the claw reached his body, even if Lin Yun had all kinds of defensive spells cast by the Ten Thousand Spell Wheel, he would still be torn apart by the Magic Leopard King.

This was the most difficult battle Lin Yun had encountered after entering the Traces of Misfortune, with over a hundred Magic Leopards surrounding him and a Magic Leopard King, which reached level 30, eyeing him covetously.

Fortunately, he was Lin Yun...

Under the control of Enderfa, the Ten Thousand Spell Wheel burst with its full power. All kinds of spells kept pouring down. The light of the Star Gem and the Elemental Amber dimmed from the expenditure of energy. Lin Yun estimated that it would take a full day for this True Spirit Magic Tool to recover to its peak.

### **Chapter 369: Black Forest Python**

Lin Yun was barely able to withstand the assault of the hundred of Magic Leopards by relying on it.

As for the Magic Leopard King, he pushed Lin Yun into dangerous situations several times. But Lin Yun used all his power to temporarily suppress the Magic Leopard King...

After getting the upper hand, he still didn't dare to relax. He cast twenty Flame Bursts in a row, the explosions echoing one after another. He didn't dare to breathe, in fear of making a mistake that would lose him his advantage.

Lin Yun had already cast thirty Flame Bursts at this time.

Any 2nd Rank High Mage would have already used up all their mana. This was no joke, as Lin Yun completely exceeded his own casting abilities and his spell shortening transcended the rules of magic. It was like a machine being overloaded, placing a huge burden on his mana and his mind.

Even Lin Yun couldn't fight like this for long.

But now, Lin Yun had no choice but to keep using Flame Bursts to suppress the Magic Leopard King, not giving it any breathing room. If he stopped casting Flame Bursts, the Magic Leopard King would rush over at lightning speed to attack him. At that time, he would have to face the sharp claws that could easily tear through steel.

Lin Yun was now gambling...

He was gambling to see who would collapse first between him and the Magic Leopard King.

Flame Bursts kept being released, rousing the fire elements. Thirty-first, thirty-second, thirty-third, thirty-fourth...

Rumbles could be heard echoing constantly...

One after the other, the Flame Bursts blasted the Magic Leopard King. Deep noises and dazzling sparks filled the air, making it seem like only Flame Bursts existed in this world.

There weren't any more Magic Leopards in the firing zone aside from the Magic Leopard King, and furthermore, the dark ground was now emitting smoke after that bombardment.

Lin Yun kept casting, rousing his Magic Array to its limit, and pushing his casting as well as his spell shortening as far as they would go.

He cast a final Flame Burst, his fiftieth. The Flame Burst soared in the sky before falling onto the Magic Leopard King like all the previous ones. But this time, it was followed by a mournful and sinister wail. The Magic Leopard King's bloody eyes gradually dimmed as its charred body finally couldn't endure its own weight.

The Magic Leopard King's death triggered some great changes in the battle. The surviving Magic Leopards instantly lost their pillar of support, and fear could be seen in their bloody eyes.

Although Lin Yun had encountered many magic beasts ever since he entered the Traces of Misfortune, only the Magic Leopard King had been a real threat.

But it had now died...

He hardly paid attention to the fleeing Magic Leopards. The Ten Thousand Spell Wheel burst with terrifying power under Enderfa's control and massacred the Magic Leopards it targeted. The battle soon ended.

Only a dozen Magic Leopards managed to escape, while the rest were icy corpses collapsed on the ground.

His cousins weren't in the Traces of Misfortune, so Lin Yun had to gather his loot himself.

Fortunately, the level 30 spirit mana crystal kept his interest up as he cleared the loot. After cleaning up the battlefield, Lin Yun remained on the move because he knew that the bloody smell of these corpses would draw many more magic beasts over.

For three days, Lin Yun rushed towards the Tulan Mountain Range in the north. All kinds of magic beasts appeared on the road just like a rising tide. Lin Yun even forgot how many times he encountered magic beasts, but he felt that there were close to a hundred waves. Some had a handful of magic beasts, while some had about a hundred of them.

He even killed two magic beasts on the level of the Magic Leopard King, obtaining a total of three spirit mana crystals. As for the mana crystals over level twenty, he didn't even know how many he had.

His black robe was covered in bloodstains, but it was the blood of the magic beasts. Over the past three days, Lin Yun spent 99% of his time fighting in the Traces of Misfortune. This might have been his most difficult period since coming to this era.

Even fighting one of the three Sword Saints of the Merlin Family couldn't compare to this.

It was worth mentioning that fighting in such a difficult battlefield further increased his casting ability and his control over the Ten Thousand Spell Wheel.

The dense, poisonous mist seemed to thin as he progressed. He was getting through the Traces of Misfortune without suffering any mishaps. Now, he was in the edge of the black wasteland. Even after three days of continuous battles, Lin Yun didn't look awkward. The Magic Array was always revolving to its limits, making him unable to miss any detail in his surroundings.

This was the edge of the Traces of Misfortune. Although it wasn't as dangerous as before, anyone that was below 9th Rank High Mage could lose their life to a moment of carelessness.

A pitch-black python was coiled in the jungle fifty meters ahead. Its sinister triangular eyes were staring at Lin Yun, and it looked as if it was ready to dash forward.

A level 25 Black Forest Python.

To Lin Yun, who was on high alert, no magic beast could hide from him. A spark appeared in his hands as he got ready to insta-kill this magic beast. But he suddenly frowned. He looked in the distance and felt some mana fluctuations. He released three Mage Eyes and found four people with decent strength approaching, although they were still several hundred meters away.

A 5th Rank High Mage, 4th Rank Expert Swordsman, 6th Rank Expert Swordsman, and a 3rd Rank Divine Archer...

This lineup would be considered formidable even in Noscent, but they were in the outskirts of the Traces of Misfortune. To Lin Yun, this group was walking on the edge of a blade. If unlucky, they would meet a group of berserk magic beasts and possibly face destruction.

But, there were many people who liked to court disaster in this world, and Lin Yun didn't plan on meddling in the business of others.

"Black Forest Python!"



The young High Mage released mana fluctuations in the blink of an eye, raising an Ice Wall in front of them just by raising his hand while firing a dozen Frost Spikes at the Black Forest Python a few dozen meters ahead of him..

The young High Mage couldn't hide his joy as his eyes were fixed on the Black Forest Python, completely ignoring Lin Yun on the side. He was quite a skilled caster, and his fighting experience, as well as his power, was a bit better than Leon's.

The Black Forest Python who was getting ready to hunt suddenly got disturbed and naturally became angry. The cold aura spread for a few dozen meters and withered the forest in a split second. At the same time, a shadow flew out at a crazy speed, easily dodging the young mage's Frost Spikes.

But what awaited it were eight Frost Lances...

It didn't manage to dodge in time and was hit by two of them. Its bloody maw suddenly opened, and its snake tongue slithered as a pungent smell spread out. It spit a ball of poison at the young mage that had angered it.

It was the perfect time for a Runic Shield, and sure enough, the young mage cast it just as the Ice Wall collapsed, blocking five poisonous balls before it dimmed. The young mage's face was still expressionless as he used those five seconds he gained to cast a Fire Dragon spell, suddenly engulfing the Black Forest Python.

The Black Forest Python let out a mournful sound as it was hit by the flames.

A lightning-like silhouette flashed up with a sword that was erupting with flames and gave the fatal strike to that Black Forest Python. This was an extremely beautiful woman with a fair complexion and red hair reaching her waist. Looking at the python on the ground, she asked, "Orson, is this satisfactory? It took an entire day to track this Black Forest Python. This should be enough for a Great Alchemist like yourself? You rarely take out any potions, yet you always ask us to collect magic materials. Don't look for me for something like this next time..."

The Divine Archer and the Expert Swordsman caught up at this time. They saw the corpse of the Black Forest Python and couldn't help looking happy.

"Who are you?"

The happy young High Mage finally noticed the strange person not far from them. He was wearing a tattered robe covered in blood stains while holding an ordinary-looking magic staff. His mana fluctuations put him at about the 2nd Rank of the High Mage realm. Orson couldn't help frowning, disdain apparent on his face.

'A 2nd Rank High Mage dared to come here on his own... He truly wouldn't even know how he died.'

"I..." Lin Yun looked at the Black Forest Python before looking at this group of four. He hadn't planned on staying and only wanted to pass by, but just as he was about to respond, the young High Mage interrupted him.

"I know what you are thinking, you found the Black Forest Python first..."

The young High Mage noticed that strange-looking mage looking “greedily” at the Black Forest Python’s corpse and couldn’t help coldly snorting while looking at Lin Yun with disgust. “A rarely seen Level 25 magic beast, its entire body can be used as magic materials of considerable value. This isn’t something an inferior High Mage like you can take...”

“...”

Lin Yun was innocent, yet that young High Mage seemed to have mistaken him for someone coveting spoils of the battle.

‘This is ridiculous...’

### **Chapter 370: Orson**

“I am right, aren’t I? I advise you not to be too greedy! You are a mere 2nd Rank High Mage. So what if you discovered the Black Forest Python first? Are you even able to kill a Level 25 Black Forest Python? If not for us, you might have been swallowed by that Black Forest Python...”

The young High Mage didn’t even feel like looking at Lin Yun. He crouched beside the corpse of the Black Forest Python, soaking in his joy. He was a 5th Rank High Mage at the age of 29, while also standing at the peak of the Great Alchemist realm, just one step away from the Master Alchemist realm.

While stationed in the camp, he noticed the aura of a Black Forest Python and became overjoyed. The skin of a Black Forest Python was one of the magic materials he needed. It was very rare and might not even be available for sale even if he had the money. He had called a few friends and tracked the aura of the Black Forest Python.

They spent an entire day before finally finding the tracks of the Black Forest Python.

But, the strange looking mage was greedy beyond redemption. ‘He thinks that he would be able to kill it? Truly ridiculous! Even by relying on his pitiful strength as a 2nd Rank High Mage, he would have died if we had come twenty seconds later.’

‘He doesn’t know how to be grateful... Yet he still knows how to be greedy. Greedy people usually have bad ends...’

“To tell the truth, this rare magic material would never be able to show its true worth in your hands. Only in the hands of Great Alchemists like us could it turn into a precious magic item.”

After saying that, the young High Mage lost interest in this discussion and stood up. He didn’t even look at Lin Yun as he turned to his three companions. “Alright, Yilu, Hanks, Gauthier, we left the camp a day ago, we should quickly return to avoid worrying the others.”

“I think there must be a misunderstanding...” Lin scratched his nose, feeling that this situation was rather ridiculous. ‘Do I look like a greedy person?’

“Misunderstanding?”

The young High Mage only sneered. He felt that he had already made the situation clear. If that greedy mage obstinately persisted, they would have to settle this with force.

Seeing the state of that strange mage, he knew that he had experienced a fierce battle and wasn't in top shape. And then the Black Forest Python appeared next to him, yet he hadn't discovered it.

Moreover, he was only a 2nd Rank High Mage.

This strength wasn't sufficient.

"Orson, you really are misunderstanding."

The red-haired Expert Swordswoman went to Lin Yun's side, her flaming sword already sheathed. She didn't look at Lin Yun arrogantly like the young High Mage did, and she greeted him with a smile. "Hello, we are members of the Heaven Enlightening Mercenary Group, I am Yilu. My companion's words were a bit harsh, I hope you won't take offense."

"Mafa Merlin." Lin Yun looked thoughtfully at Yilu. He wasn't attracted by her good looks, but was instead considering something. 'The Temple Knights and the Heaven Enlightening Mercenary Groups appearing at the same location, how coincidental is this...'

Two of Okland's three strongest mercenary groups were here. This forced Lin Yun to pay attention to this matter.

"Merlin Family?" Yilu looked at Lin Yun with bewilderment.

After all, the Merlin Family was one of the three Great Families of Okland. Few people around didn't know about them. Yilu and the others weren't ordinary people either, as they were members of the number one mercenary group of Okland. It would be very strange if they didn't know of the Merlin Family.

"Yes." Lin Yun nodded to confirm.

"I think he is just a branch member. Why else would he look like this?" That young mage called Orson sneered before looking disdainfully at Lin Yun. He hadn't heard of a Mafa Merlin in Okland, so he definitely shouldn't be part of the main branch and probably didn't even have the qualifications to enter the Merlin Family Manor.

Orson knew of the three geniuses of the Merlin Family, those that could stand shoulder to shoulder with him. Apart from them, he didn't pay attention to anyone else in the younger generation.

And the direct descendants of the Merlin Family wouldn't be like him, showing such greed because of a Black Forest Python.

Orson's first opinion of Lin Yun was that he was someone who had never seen the world. If he had, why would he care about the magic materials from a Black Forest Python and miss the opportunity to befriend such important figures?

Orson was very likely to become an Archmage, and most likely also would become a vice leader of the Heaven Enlightening Mercenary Group.

A vice leader of the number one mercenary group of Okland was a very influential person, befriending him would be striking it rich...’That Mafa Merlin is so ignorant... Why else would he miss the opportunity to befriend me?’

“High Mage Merlin, your situation seems a bit bad...” Yilu frowned as she looked at Lin Yun’s robe. She could feel that the aura of that young High Mage was very chaotic. It seemed that he had gone through a fierce battle, and that his situation was critical. Thinking of this, Yilu fished out a valuable potion and handed it over to Lin Yun. “High Mage Merlin, you should drink this. May I ask where you are going? Our Heaven Enlightening Mercenary Group’s camp isn’t far. You can follow us back to camp if you’ve lost your way or if you wish to go back to Okland. After all, this place is very dangerous and not very safe...”

Like Orson, she thought that Lin Yun wasn’t an important branch member of the Merlin Family. He looked young and was a 2nd Rank High Mage, showing that his gift in the field of magic was pretty good. He would be among the best when compared to the talents of the Heaven Enlightening Mercenary Group, only a bit inferior to Orson.

Thinking of this, she couldn’t help trying to rope him in. A Merlin High Mage with good magical talent but who couldn’t gain the support of the Merlin Family would definitely not amount to much in the future. It wouldn’t be hard for him to become a captain if he became a member of the Heaven Enlightening Mercenary Group.

Giving him a precious potion and inviting him to the Heaven Enlightening Mercenary camp, this wasn’t treatment everyone could enjoy.

What she meant was very obvious.

Lin Yun’s brain would have an issue if he couldn’t understand.

But it turned out that she overthought.

“Thank you for your good intentions, Expert Swordswoman Yilu.” Lin Yun shook his head, refusing Yilu’s potion. His outer appearance aside, Lin Yun was actually doing quite well. How else could he rouse his Magic Array?

He didn’t like to owe others...

“Expert Swordswoman Yilu, I’d like to discuss something with you.”

“Hmm... What is it?” Yilu looked at Lin Yun with disbelief, thinking, ‘He declined! He actually declined! How could he decline?’

Yilu couldn’t understand, ‘Does he not put the Heaven Enlightening Mercenary Group in his eyes? This is impossible! Who knows how many powerhouses try to join the Heaven Enlightening Mercenary Group every year! There is no lack of Expert Swordsmen, High Mages and Divine Archers...’

“I want to hire you to lead me to your camp...”

With magic beasts all over his path, it was very inconvenient with Xiuban and his three cousins not around, but meeting the Heaven Enlightening mercenaries settled this issue.

He didn’t want to owe others, so he would hire them.

This was a business transaction.

Yilu had yet to speak when Orson rushed in front of Lin Yun in anger, pointing his finger at Lin Yun's face. "Can you afford our commission? Liyu said you could follow us to camp, how can you not differentiate good from bad? Who do you think you are? An Archmage? You want to hire us?"

"I didn't say I wanted to hire you..."

Orson's face suddenly turned ashen as he was rendered speechless.

"..."

Seeing Orson eating a loss, Yilu held back a smile. "Alright, High Mage Merlin, let's not talk about hiring. We will take you back to camp, and if you insist on paying our fees, then you can do as you wish."

The matter of the commission was set aside for now.

The chance to rope a gifted 2nd Rank High Mage into the Heaven Enlightening Mercenary Group was of utmost importance.

If he followed her to the camp, he would be able to see the power of the Heaven Enlightening Mercenary Group and might even take the initiative to ask to join.

Although magic beasts kept attacking, they met no troubles thanks to the mercenaries. The only problem was that annoying one in the group.

Many magic beasts slumbered under the cover of the night.

At long last, they reached their destination, a brightly lit, spacious valley. Makeshift tents spread as far as Lin Yun could see. To his amazement, the tents were built into a triangular formation.

'Is the Heaven Enlightening Mercenary Group not the only one stationed here?'

"High Mage Merlin, you should stay in the tent for the night, don't run around recklessly." Yilu could hardly hide her disappointment. Ever since the group of four came back from Traces of Misfortune, she kept dropping hints to Lin Yun on numerous occasions, yet that young High Mage remained unmoved and always changed the topic.

It was to the point that when he returned to the camp, Yilu's attitude had become cold.

That High Mage called Orson originally wanted to criticize Lin Yun, but was summoned just as he arrived.

"Our Heaven Enlightening Mercenary Group isn't the only one stationed here..." Yilu stopped and lowered her voice. "The Temple Knights and the Red Dragon mercenaries are also there, so you shouldn't run around. It'd be very troublesome if something happened..."

'As expected...'

Lin Yun smiled and feigned doubt. "Expert Swordswoman Yilu, what is happening in the Tulan Mountain Range? How come Okland's top three mercenary groups are all present?"

"Cooperation."

After saying this, Yilu planned to persuade Lin Yun to join her mercenary group once again. In her eyes, the Heaven Enlightening Mercenary Group was the best home for him. If he could get some contributions and gain some importance, then becoming an Archmage wouldn't be an issue.

But before she could say anything, Lin Yun stretched, looking exhausted.

“High Mage Merlin, you should go rest first. But remember my words, don't run around at night...”