

Magic Era 471

Chapter 471: Magic Trick

“Sirs, Can I trouble you to arrange fifty tents. A batch of people are on their way...” After arriving at the camp, Lin Yun looked for Ida and Yuri. He had become used to delegate trivial matters to the two of them, and the two never complained.

“Eh? Fifty tents...”

Ida and Yuri were both stunned and bewildered, they clearly knew that apart from asking the Ancestral Land for help, the young mage had no way to find helpers, yet, they clearly heard the young mage say that a group was coming over, ‘What’s going on?’

“Is there a problem?”

But Ida and Yuri didn’t have time to think as Lin Yun’s voice already echoed, startling the two awake and making them nod like children, “No problem, no problem.”

“I shall trouble you then...”

Lin Yun gently nodded and then a book with a thick aura of death appeared in his hand. He chanted a profound incantation, causing spatial fluctuations to appear as a Planar Path was formed. Then, one mage after the other came out of the Planar Path.

“High Mages...”

Ida and Yuri were flabbergasted, they understood that these must be the batch of people Lin Yun just mentioned. But as more and more people came out of the Planar Path, the two were completely stunned, with their insights as Archmages, they could naturally see that the mages coming out were all High Mages!

And more importantly, these High Mages didn’t give the feeling of ordinary High Mages, their auras were so powerful. Although they were only 1st Rank High Mages, it would be hard to find anyone below 5th Rank High Mage that could defeat them. Even if it was hard to believe, it was the truth.

In fact, it wasn’t as if Ida and Yuri hadn’t seen such special High Mages in the Ancestral Land, but for fifty of them to appear at once completely stunned them, they could only look at these High Mages with shock.

That was fifty High Mages...

And all of them were far more powerful than their own rank. Every force in Noscent would consider such people as targets worth nurturing, they would inevitably become Archmage powerhouses in the future, yet, fifty of them were now gathered together, this was freakish.

They even felt that although the two of them were Archmages, they wouldn’t have a chance to win against these High Mages, they might not be able to last long before thoroughly failing.

This was a bit scary...

After all, they were only at the 1st Rank, and it looked like they advanced recently. Just how frightening would it be once their power rose up?

Ida and Yuri didn't dare to imagine.

Although they really wanted to know where these High Mages came from, as they thought about it, this was most likely another one of the young mage's secrets, thus they didn't ask much and quickly left to have the fifty tents arranged so these people could settle in.

Soon, the news about those fifty High Mages spread through the camp and caused great waves.

A shadow flashed in the jungle not far from the camp, rushing to the Flame Demon Fort at an extreme speed.

At this time, five people were sitting in the meeting room; Planar Legion Commander Thorne, as well as four high ranked members of the Planar Legion, three Archmages and one Sword Saint. These people had followed Thorne in his campaign over the Raging Flame Plane for many years and had all greatly contributed to the Merlin Family.

"That Mafa Merlin is truly making troubles. How long has he been in the Raging Flame Plane? Yet he is already doing something so preposterous..."

The word sent by the Ancestral Land yesterday had thoroughly angered Thorne and he hadn't been able to sleep properly. That huge flickering word appeared in his mind from time to time, he truly couldn't understand why the Ancestral Land was backing Mafa Merlin.

How could the contributions that Mafa Merlin made to the Merlin Family compare with his own?

They clearly couldn't.

During those years, he repeatedly went through countless battles as the supreme Commander within the Raging Flame Plane, reaping huge benefits for the Merlin Family, even going through a few life-threatening situations.

As for Mafa Merlin?

He returned to the Merlin Family half a year ago and not only didn't make any contribution to the Merlin Family, he instead ran amok in the Elder Council a few months ago.

"Yeah, and now he gathered troops to make a move on the Ghost Valley..."

"He is quite interesting, doing such absurd things. I wonder what kind of expression the Ancestral Land's people would have if they learnt about this..."

The few high ranked powerhouses discussing within the meeting room had disdainful expressions, they clearly looked down on Lin Yun's current actions.

"Haha, I didn't expect him to be so bold..."

Hearing his few subordinates comment on the young mage, Thorne's ashen expression was slightly alleviated, he exposed a cold smile, "Being bold is good, but he has to be self-aware. Relying on five

hundred Great Mages to take over the Ghost Valley is just dreaming. Even if I lent him fifty High Mages, the result would be the same...”

Thorne had long since been looking forward to the young mage leading five hundred Great Mages to attack the Thawing Fire Tribe, at that time, he would inevitably have a good show to watch.

But at this time, hurried footsteps could be heard as a middle-aged High Mage rushed into the meeting room, a poor expression on his face.

“What happened?”

Thorne suddenly frowned. This middle-aged High Mage was naturally familiar, he was someone Thorne had dispatched to monitor the five hundred Great Mages of the Ancestral Land. He had been reporting the situation almost every day for the past two months.

“Sir Thorne, fifty High Mages appeared in the camp next to the Ghost Valley...” The middle-aged mage was panting roughly, disbelief on his face. He had been hiding in the jungle camp, but when he suddenly found out those fifty High Mages, he rushed to the Flame Demon Fort.

“What?”

Thorne was stunned when he heard the news, he froze for a dozen seconds, ‘High Mages, and not just a dozen, but fifty of them!’

‘How could Mafa Merlin get fifty High Mages out of nowhere?’

‘This is illogical...’

After all, the Planar Legion stationed in the Flame Demon Fort was under his firm control, although Mafa Merlin was a Commander, he simply couldn’t mobilize them, ‘Just how did these fifty High Mages come to be?’

‘It couldn’t be a magic trick...?’

For the first time, Thorne felt that the situation was escaping his control. Even within the Planar Legion he commanded, there were few High Mages, they only amounted to over two hundred, and they were the main force of the Planar Legion. The amount of High Mages at Mafa Merlin’s side was worthy of his attention.

He wouldn’t feel at ease unless he could determine the origin of these High Mages.

He then thought of some of the implications. Two months ago, Mafa Merlin went to the Dark Moon Fort and remained there for an entire morning. Even though he kept questioning, Mafa Merlin wouldn’t tell him his purpose in visiting the Dark Moon Fort. Although he raised the suspicions that Mafa Merlin was colluding with the Black Tower back then, he didn’t have any proof. And as two months quickly passed, nothing wrong happened. It was to the point that this matter was no longer on Thorne’s mind.

But now, the sudden appearance of fifty High Mages at Mafa Merlin’s side immediately made him suspicious as to whether the Black Tower was actually backing Mafa Merlin.

If it truly was the case, then it might actually be a good thing for him.

The Ancestral Land had been siding with Mafa Merlin until now, but Thorne didn't believe that they would turn a blind eye and not severely punish Mafa Merlin if Thorne used this opportunity and found a clue proving that Mafa Merlin was colluding with the Black Tower.

Loyalty was the most important thing in forces maintained through bloodline like the Merlin Family. If a family member colluded with outsiders and harmed the Merlin Family, then no matter even if he was a member of the Family Council, he would face the pursuit of the entire Merlin Family.

As he thought of this, Thorne stood up with a sneer on his face, hastily exited the meeting room under the puzzled expressions of his subordinates, before leaving the Flame Demon Fort to rush to the Ghost valley.

He soon reached that camp.

With his power as a 5th Rank Sword Saint, he could clearly sense that it was just as the middle-aged man said, there were over fifty High Mages' fluctuations within the camp. Although he walked towards the living quarters with a calm expression, he couldn't help being startled. There was truly fifty High Mages after all..

After entering the living quarters, Thorne saw many familiar faces, including Leon, Ross, and many others. His gaze then fell on the young mage and a smile appeared on his face as he said in a good-natured tone, "Haha, High Mage Merlin, such a coincidence..."

It felt as if he was greeting an old friend.

But...

How could he be friends with Mafa Merlin? What kind of friend would fight until their last breath.

Mafa Merlin piercing his son's Mana Whirlpool and turning him into a cripple was something he would never be able to forgive.

In fact, he was doing his best to endure the anger boiling within his heart as he spoke.

Nothing could be done about it, he really couldn't clash with the young mage, after all, how could he learn the origins of those fifty High Mages if he made a fuss or directly attacked?

He could only endure...

Once he was certain that these High Mages were back-up from the Black Tower and had conclusive evidence, this young mage wouldn't be able to escape the death sentence.

Thinking of this, the smile on his face became even more sincere.

Chapter 472: A Few Dozen

"Turns out to be Sir Thorne, I didn't know you came all the way over here, is there something you need...?" Lin Yun suddenly squinted, he could see that Thorne was acting a bit weird.

“Haha, it’s nothing, I just came to take a look...” Thorne laughed, his eyes sweeping all over the place, using this attitude to face the young mage made him very uncomfortable. After a few minutes, he turned back towards Lin Yun and said with a dull tone, “High Mage Merlin, I remember you had five hundred Great Mages and ten High Mages, how come there are suddenly fifty more High Mages, what’s going on?”

Although Thorne looked very calm, his heart wasn’t calm at all. He was staring at the young mage, trying to get something out of his expression. But to his disappointment, the young mage was extremely calm and didn’t panic.

‘Could it be that those fifty High Mages aren’t from the Black Tower?’

‘How could this be...’

‘Then where are those High Mages coming from?’

Thorne didn’t believe that the young mage could perform such a magic trick.

In any case, he had to figure out the origin of those High Mages!

“Haha, nothing to be baffled about, a batch of Great Mages recently broke through and thus there are fifty new High Mages...” Lin Yun scratched his cheek as he said with a smile. He then cast a scrutinizing look at Thorne, ‘These High Mages had barely appeared two hours ago and he already appeared, he should have come here to figure out where they came from.’

Lin Yun hadn’t lied, those fifty High Mages had just broken through.

“High Mage Mafa, don’t make fun of me, even if it was advancement, so many people advancing to High Mage within two months is a bit incomprehensible...” Thorne smiled insincerely, inwardly cursing, ‘Even if you are giving me a half-hearted answer, at least give me a decent one, even a fool wouldn’t believe this...’

“I’m not making fun of you...” Lin Yun scratched his cheek once again as he forced a smile. He then remained silent, he wasn’t planning on explaining, this concerned the Demiplane as well as some outrageous things. Even if he told Thorne, the other side might not necessarily believe him.

“Good...” An angry look appeared on Thorne’s face, he sneered at Lin Yun, no longer keeping up appearances, “I see that you don’t dare to speak, is there some hidden secret...? Does it have something to do with the Black Tower?”

After probing, Thorne was able to ascertain that the identities of those High Mages of unknown origins couldn’t be exposed, otherwise the young mage wouldn’t cover it up like this.

It might be related to the Black Tower.

Whether in the open or hidden, he would search for clues and report to the Ancestral Land.

After all, it wasn’t a trivial matter if the young mage was really colluding with the Black Tower, it would inevitably harm the interests of the Merlin Family.

“Haha...” Lin Yun rolled his eyes.

“High Mage Mafa, what do you mean by this? You don’t dare to answer my question? Tell us the origin of those High Mages, use facts to prove that you aren’t colluding with the Black Tower and betraying the Merlin Family!” Thorne had a strict gaze as he stared at Lin Yun.

Lin Yun didn’t even feel like rolling his eyes this time.

Insults and contradictions weren’t the most hurtful, disregard was. A vein twitched on Thorne’s forehead as his anger reached an extreme. But just as he was about to flare out, a silhouette rushed in.

“High Mage Mafa, that Beastman army stationed near the Ghost Valley is launching an offensive on our camp...” The newcomer was Yuri, he was anxiously looking at Lin Yun as he made his report. After finishing his report, he noticed Thorne on the side, and an embarrassed expression flashed across his face before quickly disappearing.

“Alright, I got it...” Lin Yun smiled and waved his hand, not thinking much of it. In fact, he had already sensed the approaching army through his Magic Array.

He then led the group out of the living quarters and prepared to lead his troops to meet the Beastmen army.

Following his command, the mages within the camp all rushed out of their tents and gathered together shortly.

At the same time, on the other side of the battlefield was the young Raging Flame Beastman with flickering red runes, Yass. After ordering the attack, robust Raging Flame Beastmen riding Ashen Wolves brandished their long swords as they rushed over from different parts of the jungle, charging towards the camp.

Near a thousand Raging Flame Beastman Wolf-Riders rushed out of the jungle with imposing momentum, flooding the whole camp in an instant.

The young Raging Flame Beastman, Yass, was leading the assault. In his eyes, this battle was already won and these humans would all be exterminated.

The Thawing Fire Tribe had stationed an army to defend the Ghost Valley all year round, remaining in deadlock with the Merlin Family. Over the years, the Merlin Family and the Thawing Fire Tribe had several bitter battles for the Ghost Valley, but no one seized the Ghost Valley in the end, thus this deadlock remained.

As for this cavalry unit stationed at the Ghost Valley, usually they were under the lead of Yass’ teacher, Lazart. In fact, over a month ago, they had noticed something wrong as the humans were moving about in the vicinity of the Ghost Valley. They sent a few people to check and discovered a group of human mages stationed in the depths of the jungle, organizing an army.

However, during a reconnaissance operation, Yass inadvertently discovered a few acquaintances within that group of humans. It was those few human mages he had met that night in the Ghost Valley. Back then, his teacher told him that he wasn’t a match to those human mages, making Yass feel uncomfortable.

This was simply absurd, those human mages were only High Mages, killing them would be very easy for him.

He suggested sending troops to eliminate that human army many times to his teacher, but his teacher didn't agree, thus, Yass could only endure helplessly.

Up until his teacher, Lazart, was recalled by the Tribal Chief. The control of the cavalry unit naturally fell into Yass' hands, and after his teacher departed, he prepared to eliminate the human mage army. He had already investigated the power of that army, there was roughly five hundred people and their power was below average, nearly all of them were Great Mages.

This kind of force could only be considered terrible, he was 100% confident he could eliminate them. After thinking over the battle strategy the day before, he summoned close to a thousand Wolf-Riders and had them go in four different directions to surround the camp.

Moreover, he planned to capture those few High Mages humans and bring them back to the tribe. At that time, his teacher would acknowledge that there was nothing particular to those few humans.

Yass was looking forward to it.

“Rumble...”

Blazing auras collided with dazzling spells as sparks burst out of the battlefield. In a flash, the thousand of Wolf-Riders engaged with the Human Mage Legion. But then, Yass, who was leading the cavalry, suddenly discovered something wrong. The power of these human mages was different from his expectations.

A few dozen tyrannical auras rose up from the center of the camp, followed by magnificent spells engulfing those Wolf-Riders. A large amount of Wolf-Riders didn't even have time to scream before turning to ashes.

At this time, Yass was completely stunned, he was in disbelief. The information gathered mentioned five hundred Great Mages as well as a few High Mages... Yet he could feel that those few dozen imposing auras belonged to High Mages, and very formidable High Mages at that.

“Damnit...”

Yass ruthlessly cursed, he originally thought that this human army of five hundred Great Mages would be destroyed by his thousand Wolf-Riders, but a few dozen High Mages suddenly appeared among the humans.

It wasn't a few High Mages, there was a few dozen of them!

‘How come there are so many powerhouses...’

But Yass didn't have much time to think in the heat of the battlefield. After those High Mage powerhouses made a move, a formidable flood of spells covered his army, killing more Beastmen every moment. Anxious, Yass let out two fierce roars and ordered a retreat. He then jumped from his Ashen Wolf, the dark red flickering runes on his two meter-tall body increasing his speed to his limits.

After roaring, Yass crazily fled. He didn't even look behind and only stopped a dozen minutes later, when he could no longer feel any sign of activity. While panting, he looked behind and felt a chill. He had truly charged into a disaster this time. Of that one thousand Wolf-Riders participating in this battle, none managed to survive. It only lasted thirty minutes, yet Yass was the only survivor.

Yass was terrified, cold sweat dripped down on the ground. He was the reason behind this huge loss, he almost couldn't stand straight when thinking about it.

After two hours, the muddle-headed Yass returned to the Thawing Fire Tribe and found his teacher, Lazart...

"Yass, you are back? What happened to the Ghost Valley?" Lazart looked at Yass, suspicious and bewildered. The Tribal Chief summoned him the day before to discuss some matters, and Lazart had given Yass control over the cavalry unit before leaving, cautioning him to be careful, over and over again.

"Teacher, I, I..." Yass was stammering, pale, he was completely terrified. From youth to adulthood, he had been a very successful military genius, this was the first time something like this happened to him.

"What happened in the end! Tell me..."

Seeing Yass' expression, Lazart's face turned gloomy, he realized that something major happened, otherwise his disciple wouldn't look like this, "The army was attacked by the humans and suffered a great loss? I won't blame you if that's the case, you are still young after all, you don't have much experience in leading..."

"That..."

Beads of sweat dripped down Yass' forehead and he simply couldn't bother to wipe it clean. He nervously looked at Lazart and recounted everything, not hiding anything.

Chapter 473: Cannon Fodder

"Damn it..."

Lazart's expression kept worsening as Yass explained everything, a vein started twitching on his forehead. He really hadn't expected Yass to actually charge into this disaster. He roared, upset, "Do you know what you did? Before I left I repeatedly warned you to not let it go to your head and not mobilize the troops without my command..."

Lazart was truly mad, his finger was almost poking Yass' nose. It was clear that this Prophet was extremely angry.

How could he not be.

None of the elite Wolf-Riders had been able to escape, Yass was the only survivor. And that cavalry unit was a great part of the force stationed in the Ghost Valley, such a huge loss would have an impact on the Thawing Fire Tribe's forces.

Even if he doted on Yass, he couldn't help reprimanding him this time...

Most importantly, this matter was very serious, even if Lazart was one of the exalted Six Great Prophets of the Thawing Fire Tribe, a loss of a thousand Wolf-Riders was very hard to account for.

"Teacher, I, I... I made a mistake. But, those humans are too crafty, they obviously had only five hundred Great Mages and a few High Mages, yet a few dozen formidable High Mages suddenly appeared..."

Yass was pale, it was the first time he had seen his teacher so angry, and he was really panicking at this moment. He was looking at Lazart with a fearful expression.

"Enough! Shut your mouth!"

Lazart ruthlessly glanced at Yass, before remaining silent. He clearly knew that since it had escalated to this stage, there was no point in remaining angry. The crucial point was looking for a way to solve this issue. No matter what, Yass was the disciple he was proud of. Although he made a mistake this time and cost the tribe a huge loss, as his teacher, he had to help sort this mess.

If the tribe punished him, Yass would definitely be done for...

Thinking of this, Lazart's expression eased up a bit. He looked at Yass and said with a grave tone, "Get back and reflect!"

After Yass left, Lazart let out a deep sigh, worry visible on his face. Sorting this mess wouldn't be easy...

The loss was disastrous, a thousand Wolf-Riders had been exterminated and Lazart wouldn't be able to explain if there were no results, he would end up being severely punished. But if he could get a control over the Ghost Valley, he would be able to recoup the losses.

This plan appeared in Lazart's heart...

But, the difficulty in carrying out such a plan was pretty high, after all, the battle over the Ghost Valley had been in a deadlock for countless years, without domineering power, it would be very difficult to thoroughly control the Ghost Valley.

'It looks like I can only let him make a move...'

Lazart sighed once again, it looked like he had made up his mind as he got up and left his dwelling. After some time, he arrived at a hidden location.

He chanted a long and profound sentence in Ancient Beastman. As he chanted, the dark red runes on his body fiercely flickered, followed by the earth shaking.

...

At this time, the fierce battle near the Ghost Valley had finished. The legion of mages roamed the battlefield, burning the Raging Flame Beastmen's bodies while checking their spoils of war.

Everything was proceeding in an orderly manner.

Lin Yun stood in the middle of the camp, looking at the busy mages. Almost everyone had happy expressions on their faces, after all, the losses had been minimal while they greatly weakened the power of the Thawing Fire Tribe.

As for Thorne who was standing on the side, he had a very sour expression, and it was worsening as his gaze swept through those High Mages busy cleaning the battlefield.

He had originally come to the camp to make discreet inquiries as to the origins of those fifty High Mages, but the young mage gave him a half-hearted answer, not really answering his question. When the Thawing Fire Tribe attacked the camp, he didn't hesitate and participated in the battle, naturally not to assist the young mage, but to inspect the battlefield and observe these High Mages and see if he could find some details which would confirm that those High Mages were members of the Black Tower...

With these thoughts in mind, the battle quickly proceeded and Thorne kept observing these High Mages discreetly, but he soon discovered that those High Mages looked familiar, as if he had seen them before. That discovery shocked him.

Before the battle ended, Thorne remembered something. Two months ago, when the young mage returned to the Family Manor after disappearing for a few months, Thorne had encountered fifty puny Great Mages at the entrance of the Family Manor. Back then he thought that the young mage would lead those people to the Raging Flame Plane.

Now, Thorne understood why they looked familiar, it turned out that those fifty High Mages weren't dispatched by the Black Tower, but were in fact that batch of Great Mages from two months ago!

Although he didn't want to believe this, he was forced to recognize that those fifty shocking High Mages were in fact those fifty Great Mages he treated as "Cannon Fodder" two months ago.

He was stunned, this was too freakish, he could clearly remember that those Great Mages were pitifully pathetic when he met them, the strongest among them hadn't even reached the 5th Rank. Yet, in just a bit over two months, these cannon foddors advanced and unexpectedly became High Mages.

The most important part was that out of the fifty no one was left behind, every single one of them advanced to the High Mage Realm!

This could no longer be described as shocking...

At this time, Thorne recalled that before the Beastman cavalry unit attacked the camp, he had probed the young mage, and the latter's answer was that a group of Great Mages recently advanced. He hadn't believed him back then, he had thought that the young mage was just shrugging him off. But it now looked like it hadn't been a half-hearted answer, but a fact.

Thorne was currently looking at those busy High Mages, an extremely complicated expression on his face.

The troubled Thorne naturally didn't notice a few people rejoicing in his misfortune not far away. Although Leon, Ross and a few others looked calm on the surface, they were inwardly laughing, 'Never, even in you wildest dreams, would you have thought that those fifty High Mages were in fact the people you treated as "Cannon Fodder".'

In fact, they had been watching from the side since Thorne arrived to the camp and started making inquiries.

Now, seeing Thorne's sour expression, the few of them couldn't fight the smiles appearing on their faces. They couldn't help recalling what happened two months ago at the entrance of the Merlin Family Manor, when Thorne sneered at those fifty Great Mages and described them as worthless cannon fodder.

Reality was cruel...

The original 'cannon fodder' have already become genuine group of High Mages, and they weren't comparable to ordinary High Mages, even Thorne, a 5th Rank Sword Saint, might not necessarily be their match when they joined hands.

Lin Yun didn't intend remaining in the camp once the battlefield was cleared, thus, he immediately issued a command and made his mage army tear down the living quarters before the imposing legion marched towards the Ghost Valley.

It was worth mentioning that no one cared about Thorne Merlin in the process. As the army went away, Thorne was once again ignored. He had an ashen expression as he remained dazed in the empty area, feeling as if he had been slapped by the young mage.

In the end, Thorne started walking towards the Flame Demon Fort.

Lin Yun led his army to rush towards the depths of the Ghost Valley and they only reached the area half an hour later. Lin Yun had already dispatched people to examine the power of the Beastmen army stationed near the Ghost Valley. If there was no surprise, the thousand Wolf-Riders they had annihilated earlier should have been the main force of that army.

They could no longer pose a threat after losing their main force, thus, he dared to openly lead his mage army to the Ghost Valley.

In the past, the Merlin Family and the Thawing Fire Tribe never dared to enter the Ghost Valley in large numbers, after all, such an action would easily be met by an ambush from the other side.

But there was no such worry now.

After arriving at the Ghost Valley, the fighting style of the mage army had seen some changes, those fifty High Mages as well as the two Archmages, Yuri and Ida, became the main force of the army. As for the remaining five hundred Great Mages and the weaker High Mages, they were assisting, dealing with everything in their way as they moved towards the depths of the Ghost Valley.

Three days later, the remaining Beastmen troops in the surroundings of the Ghost Valley had been completely annihilated by the mage army. Some of them couldn't bear with it and tried to stop the mage army, but unfortunately, Yass had led a thousand Wolf-Riders to their deaths, making the army lose most of their power. As for the remainder, they simply couldn't stop the Caster Legion as they steadily moved towards the depths of the Ghost Valley. Only a small force managed to escape.

In fact, Yuri and Ida didn't even need to make a move, the fifty High Mages took care of everything, including handling the Raging Flame Beastmen.

The power displayed by these fifty High Mages was making people more and more shocked. In fact, Lin Yun's arrangements were to test the power of the High Mages. The Swift Star Mark Meditation Law Set and the Blazing Storm Magic Conducting Rune were very balanced, and when they combined their power together, even Archmages wouldn't have the confidence to face them.

Chapter 474: Show Your Face

However, Lin Yun knew very well that the fifty High Mages were only displaying a very small portion of their fighting potential, after all, they had advanced to the High Mage realm not long ago and their control of the Blazing Storm, this battle-type Magic Conducting Rune, wasn't perfect; moreover, they had yet to be well coordinated.

Naturally, these weren't issues, they only needed time and battle practice.

And during this time, the fifty mages didn't let Lin Yun down, the strength they displayed was out of the ordinary.

In the special environment of the Ghost Valley, the mana was so dense that it almost formed a mist, thus, countless powerful magic beasts resided there. Magic beasts over level 20 were very common. The worst time was on the second day, when over twenty magic beasts rushed out of the forest, all over level 20. But even then, those magic beasts weren't able to reach 30 meters from the army before being annihilated by the fifty High Mages.

As they went through battle after battle, those High Mages became more and more comfortable with their own powers and the Blazing Storm Magic Conducting Rune. They had significant improvements after every fight, after all, they had been meditating day and night in the Demiplane, absorbing the mana from within. The aura of the Ancient God had condensed within their bodies and completely transformed their talents. Their comprehension was a lot higher than ordinary people and they wouldn't be much inferior to the so-called young geniuses.

A heart-wrenching battle happened when they approached the depths of the Ghost Valley as a level 35 magic beast appeared. The battle lasted over twenty minutes until the tyrannical magic beast unwillingly collapsed under the siege of the fifty High Mages. Although the battle had been long, the fifty High Mages remained composed, not suffering a single injury.

The performance of these fifty High Mages was undoubtedly breathtaking, shocking even Yuri and Ida. Only Lin Yun knew that a level 35 magic beast wasn't the limit of these fifty High Mages.

As night fell, the Caster Legion halted their progress and looked for an open space to pitch camp. At that time, Ida and Yuri came over, worry plastered all over their faces.

"High Mage Mafa, we are sorry to disturb you when you are resting..."

"Haha, it's fine, Sirs, you came over at such a late hour, is there something on your minds?" Lin Yun smiled at the two, not minding it too much.

"Yes..."

Ida took a deep breath, hesitating for a few instants, before resolutely saying, “High Mage Mafa, such a big matter happened recently, the Thawing Fire Tribe should have already become aware of it and reinforcements could already be on their way and they might reach the Ghost Valley soon. We have taken advantage of them this time and annihilated almost the entire Beastmen army, while securing control of over half of the Ghost Valley. We should stop advancing and enter a defensive state to resist the reinforcements of the Thawing Fire Tribe...”

This was truly necessary in his eyes, he would have definitely done so if he was the Commander.

The Caster Legion only had three powerhouses above the High Mage realm; himself, Yuri, and the young mage. There was about sixty High Mages, while the rest were Great Mages. Although such a force was very powerful, it wouldn't be able to withstand the Thawing Fire Tribe.

Ida had participated in a few battles against the Thawing Fire Tribe and naturally knew how frightening the Thawing Fire Tribe's true power was. Apart from the six Great Prophets and the Tribal Chief, the tribe still had a large amount of powerhouses and elite troops. Even if the Thawing Fire Tribe suffered disastrous losses in the battle over the Ghost Valley, they wouldn't watch as the Ghost Valley fell into enemy hands.

They would definitely send help, it was only a matter of time.

The Caster Legion had annihilated one of their armies and occupied over half of the Ghost Valley, they had gained a lot from them. It could even be said to be the greatest gain of the Merlin Family in the last few dozen years. If they could fully defend and obtain Thorne and the Planar Legion's support, they might be able to keep control over half of the Ghost Valley.

But if they were greedy and kept moving forward, they might end up encountering the Thawing Fire Tribe's reinforcements. At that time, the Caster Legion might land in a predicament, and possibly even face destruction.

Because of this, Ida and Yuri spent the entire day worrying and came to see the young mage at night when the army stopped to pitch camp.

The consequences would be disastrous if the Caster Legion kept going...

“High Mage Mafa, you should know that our Merlin Family and the Thawing Fire Tribe had remained in a deadlock over the Ghost Valley for close to a hundred years. The Thawing Fire Tribe had never given up this battle. Although the losses of the army stationed there had been devastating, it wouldn't stop them, reinforcements would come sooner or later. I think it's better to be a bit more cautious...” Yuri was earnestly trying to convince him.

“Haha, there is no need to defend for the time being, we are continuing towards the depths, the farther, the better...” Lin Yun had a calm expression on his face. He softly waved his hand, as he said without care.

“This... This is unreasonable!”

Ida and Yuri almost choked, they were deathly pale. They looked at each other and could see the worry in the other's eyes, ‘What should we do?’

In the end, they could only try to persuade him, the young mage still had the decision-making power.

But if the young mage obstinately clung to his decision, something big would definitely happen.

The fruits of his previous victory would go up in smoke, and the gains would really not make up for the losses.

Just as Ida and Yuri planned on persuading him once more, they suddenly noticed the young mage frowning. The two were startled and didn't dare to utter a word.

Having been in contact with the young mage for a few months, they clearly understood that although the young mage was easy to get along with and would always have a smile on his face, a disaster was prone to happen if he was unhappy.

"Sirs, did you hear that sound?"

Looking at Ida and Yuri's expressions, Lin Yun couldn't help scratching his cheek as he bitterly smiled, he naturally knew what these two were thinking.

"Sound? That... What is that?"

Hearing Lin Yun's reminder, Ida and Yuri didn't dare to remain careless. As they listened carefully, they found out that there were some sounds coming from several hundred meters outside the camp. As they focused on them, they could discern a large amount of mana fluctuations and suddenly started sweating as they fearfully looked at Lin Yun.

"Thawing Fire Tribe's reinforcements..." Lin Yun still had a faint smile on his face. In fact, when he discovered these sounds, he roused his Magic Array to its pinnacle and he could perceive everything within a kilometer. He then noticed an approaching army several hundred meters away from the camp.

The power of that army could be described as monstrous.

Several thousands Raging Flame Beastmen were riding on Ashen Wolves, fiercely staring at the camp, ready to charge at any time. A hundred huge Wyverns were flying above them, with shocking momentum. The Raging Flame Plane's Wyverns were a bit different from Noscent's, they had fiery bodies emitting blazing auras.

Lin Yun already understood that this kind of Wyvern had far purer Draconic Bloodline than Noscent's Wyverns. They could also burst with fierce venomfire flames, which could be considered a weaker Dragon Breath. The weakest Wyvern would still be at level 20.

Unless one was a Sword Saint or an Archmage, they would definitely die when encountering a large amount of Wyverns in the Raging Flame Plane.

But a hundred of them appeared now...

Moreover, markedly tall Raging Flame Beastmen were sitting atop those Wyverns, holding spears flickering with cold lights. With Lin Yun's insight, he could naturally see that those particular Raging Flame Beastmen were equivalent to Expert Swordsmen just based on their bodies. If they threw their spears from high up, those below the High Mage realm would definitely be impaled.

Forty to fifty Raging Flame Beastmen stood at the front of the army, these Beastmen didn't have particularly robust bodies, but they emitted blazing mana fluctuations as their dark red runes flickered. Lin Yun had come in contact with the Raging Flame Beastmen a few times and could feel that they were powerful mages within the Thawing Fire Tribe, they could summon all kinds of Flame Elementals, and they would bring countless troubles once the battle started.

Lin Yun experienced the power of these Beastman Mages when he first arrived to the Flame Demon Fort, a mere ten hidden Beastman Mages had put the Merlin Family's Planar Legion under pressure. If it hadn't been for Lin Yun locating those Beastman Mages' accurate location, the Flame Demon Fort might have already fallen into enemy hands.

Lin Yun was a bit apprehensive, he hadn't expected the Thawing Fire Tribe to have such power hidden, there were close to fifty Beastman Mages and they were all at least at the High Mage realm, with over ten of them being Peak High Mages. There were even three Beastman Mages emitting extremely frightening mana fluctuations, not any weaker than an Archmage.

This line-up was formidable, it had the power to attack the Flame Demon Fort and take it over, provided Lin Yun wasn't there.

When compared to the human camp, there was a huge gap.

With no hesitation, Lin Yun left his living quarters, with Ida and Yuri behind him. He then sounded the alarm and one mage after the other rushed out of their living quarters, it took them only three minutes before they gathered.

After the Caster Legion assembled, a loud and arrogant voice came from the Beastmen side, "Human Commander, show your face!"

Chapter 475: Cleaned

Everyone's eyes focused on that Raging Flame Beastman. He was considerably powerful despite his young age, he was one of the strongest three of the Beastman army with power equivalent to an Archmage.

Yass was standing at the front of the army, calmly waiting with a cold aura after his arrogant shout. He had led a thousand Wolf-Riders to their deaths three days ago, that was the greatest humiliation of his life.

From childhood to adulthood, everything always went well for Yass, thus he felt he had to wash away this disgrace.

"That would be me..." Lin Yun stepped out with a smile.

"You?"

Although it was night, it was just a bit more dusky than day in the Raging Flame Plane, so Yass could clearly see the silhouette of the human mage several hundred meters away. This was a shockingly young mage who seemed familiar.

"I don't need to say much about your current situation, you should understand, right?" With the army standing behind him, Yass was full of confidence as he looked at Lin Yun, somewhat disdainfully.

"What do you mean?"

"Hmpf!"

Hearing the other side's answer, Yass snorted, a cold smile appearing at the corner of his mouth, "Crafty Human, you are dreaming if you think you can contend against our Thawing Fire Tribe, you would be able to persist for an hour at most with those cannon foddors. There is only one path of survival ahead of you, give up and surrender to the Thawing Fire Tribe, I promise not to make things difficult for you, how about it?"

In Yass' eyes, eliminating that army of mages was very easy with the power at his disposal. He felt that if those human mages were smart, they would surrender without issues, but he wouldn't mind ordering the attack if they acted stupid, they would die tragically under the paws of the several thousand Wolf-Riders.

Yass had been reflecting in the Thawing Fire Tribe a few days ago, the battle that caused disastrous losses for the tribe had been the result of his carelessness, after all, the appearance of those High Mages had been too sudden and he simply didn't guard against it and he was caught unprepared. But he didn't need to be so apprehensive now. If the other side refused to surrender, then even if they had a few dozen High Mages, death would still be the only outcome.

"Surrender?"

Lin Yun's expression became a bit strange, no one could understand what he was thinking at this moment. However, Ida and Yuri were as pale as sheets of paper, beads of sweat rolling down their foreheads, their eyes filled with shock. They clearly hadn't expected that the Thawing Fire Tribe would dispatch such a formidable army.

Several thousand elite Wolf-Riders, a hundred Wyverns as well as fifty Beastman Mages.

This wasn't something the mage army could contend against.

They believed Yass' words, the Caster Legion would be able to resist for an hour before being crushed.

But surrender?

Ida and Yuri didn't even think about it before tossing the idea away. Even if they had to die there, they still wouldn't consider surrendering to the Thawing Fire Tribe, because it wouldn't just be them getting humiliated, even the Merlin Family in Okland would become the ridicule of all major forces and they wouldn't be able to lift their heads.

"Yes, although you aren't very strong, you could barely be considered a smart person, so, how about it? Are you willing to lead your mage army to surrender to our Thawing Fire Tribe?" Yass had a smirk on his face as he threw a disdainful glance at that group of mages.

"Eh, shouldn't you be the ones surrendering...?"

"What are you talking about? Haha..."

In a flash, Yass' expression distorted, as if he had heard the world's best joke, he was laughing so hard he was shaking, 'To say something so ridiculous as us surrendering, he must be terrified.'

'No one in their right mind would say such a preposterous thing...'

"If you don't believe me, you can take a look behind you..."

Yass stopped laughing his head off when he heard Lin Yun's words, as if someone grabbed him by his neck choking any sound he might try to make.

At this time, Yass really couldn't laugh anymore, because he clearly noticed some disturbance at the back of the army just as the young mage finished his words. Before he could react, one frantic mana fluctuation after the other rose up as dazzling spells blossomed within the Beastman army, followed by countless screams...

"Shit..."

Yass was completely panicking, he didn't dare to believe it. Everything had been perfect, how come an army suddenly appeared at their back?

At this time, Lin Yun led the Caster Legion to launch their fiercest attacks on the Beastman army, especially the fifty High Mages, they would blast a large area every time they burst out. As for Lin Yun, Ida and Yuri, they rushed into the densest part of the Beastmen army. Red and blue lights shone as a bright moon rose up behind Lin Yun. As mana was poured in, a dazzling light burst out and countless low tier spells emerged, flooding the battlefield.

The force behind the Beastmen army was also fierce, countless powerful mages moved uniformly. Chants could be heard, echoing incessantly, followed by powerful spells with terrifying momentum killing groups of Raging Flame Beastmen.

In just a bit over ten minutes, the losses of the Beastmen Army were disastrous and the army was in disorder, the scene truly looked chaotic.

This originally formidable Beastmen army soon lost their ability to resist under the fierce attack and was gradually shrinking under the encirclement of the Caster Legion and the new force. Those Raging Flame Beastmen had nowhere to escape, and ultimately, the entire army was annihilated.

Then, the two armies worked to clean up the battlefield. At the same time, a few mages started walking towards Lin Yun, there was Weiss, Suval, as well as a few Archmages.

"High Mage Merlin, fortunately we weren't late..." Black Tower's Weiss greeted him with a smile, he was clearly satisfied by the outcome of this battle. After all, they had wiped out a rather formidable army, greatly weakening the Thawing Fire Tribe's strength. This would be a huge help in their decisive battle against the Thawing Fire Tribe.

The suddenly emerging new force was naturally the reinforcements from the Black Tower. The core members the Black Tower had sent this time included Representative Weiss and Suval, apart from this, there was still a few Archmages.

"Is this the power of the Merlin Family?" Suval walked over with a poor expression, looking at Lin Yun with hostility. Three hundred years ago, Santon Merlin had severely injured him and severed his magic

path, forcing him to remain as a 7th Rank Archmage. After returning to the Black Tower and obtaining a seat as Representative, he entered the Raging Flame Plane with the goal of using the power of the Black Tower to take revenge against the Merlin Family. But two months ago, the Merlin Family and the Black Tower officially became partners. On the surface at least, he couldn't make a move against the Merlin Family.

Seeing the Merlins, Suval who was full of hate simply couldn't look good.

"Mafa Merlin, is this how sincere your Merlin Family is?" Suval looked at those busy mages with a disdainful expression. Several hundred Great Mages as well as a few dozen High Mages, this kind of force was unpresentable for the Merlin Family, "Your Merlin Family dispatched only this many people to handle the Thawing Fire Tribe? If the Black Tower has to deal with everything, then we should be getting more in the loot distribution."

Suval naturally knew that the Black Tower and the Merlin Family's collaboration was in order to thoroughly control the Ghost Valley. If they eliminated the Thawing Fire Tribe, then this vast valley would fall in the hands of the two forces, and with a part of it, the Merlin Family's strength would inevitably rise slowly, this wasn't a result he was willing to see.

Since the collaboration between both sides was a foregone conclusion, he was powerless to change it. But looking for opportunities to suppress the Merlin Family wasn't very hard.

"Sir Suval, let's put this matter aside for now..." Hearing Suval, the smile on Weiss' face turned into a helpless expression.

In fact, before departing, Harren had looked for him and told him to do his best to respect Mafa Merlin during this collaboration. It would be for the best if a deep relationship could be established between the Black Tower and Mafa Merlin, and if there was a suitable opportunity, he should try to come in contact with the Heaven Rank powerhouse behind Mafa Merlin.

Thus, it didn't matter if the Black Tower ate a small loss in this cooperation.

Even if the strength of the army led by the young mage was a bit weak, it was still acceptable...

"Hmpf..."

Suval's expression was gloomy, he looked at Weiss before turning away and leaving.

"Haha, Sir Weiss..."

Once Suval left, Lin Yun and Weiss started chatting with smiles on their faces. While the two armies cleaned up the battlefield, the two of them discussed some details of the collaboration.

It didn't take long before they reached a consensus, and they then looked for a place to pitch camp. The next morning, the mighty force kept moving to the depths of the Ghost Valley. In fact, before the Black Tower's army arrived, Lin Yun's Caster Legion had already been controlling over half of the Ghost Valley.

And due to the fierce battle that happened the previous night, the Thawing Fire Tribe shouldn't be sending in reinforcements to stop them anytime soon, thus, it was the best time to take control over the Ghost Valley.

After three days, the two armies cleaned the entire Ghost Valley, there was not a single Beastman remaining within the valley, they all fell to the two major forces.

Chapter 476: Defensive Power

Thorne was seriously worrying within the meeting room of the Flame Demon Fort. He had received a report the previous day and learnt a shocking news, the reinforcements dispatched by the Thawing Fire Tribe had been annihilated overnight, not even one escaped.

Thorne was startled speechless when he heard that news. The information showed that the reinforcement were extremely powerful, made of several thousand Beastmen and countless powerhouses. These reinforcements could even pose a threat to the Flame Demon Fort.

Yet, such a tyrannical Beastmen army was annihilated overnight, this was unimaginable.

Thorne thought about it, he couldn't figure out which force had such frightening power that they could eliminate that Beastmen army, but he quickly associated it to the young mage leading an army into the Ghost Valley.

'Could it be related to him?'

'This is impossible...'

Thorne instantly denied this conjecture, the young mage's force only had about six hundred mages, and most of them were Great Mages. Although there was a few dozen powerful High Mages, the power of that Beastmen army could only be described as frightening, they definitely weren't their match.

'Then which force did it?'

But as Thorne was puzzled about it, a new report came through. After reading it, Thorne was no longer surprised, just completely shocked, as well as in disbelief.

The Caster Legion led by Mafa Merlin and the Black Tower collaborated and, within a few days, thoroughly controlled the Ghost Valley. The most important part was that they jointly eliminated the Beastmen army.

'Is this true or fake?'

Thorne didn't dare to believe this...

The Black Tower had always been doing everything the way of the mightiest, how could they choose to cooperate with puny Mafa Merlin? This was simply illogical. After all, the Black Tower was one of the two top mage forces of the Andlusa Kingdom, their formidable strength was hard to describe, their foundation dated a thousand years and they were more formidable than the Merlin Family. Thorne truly couldn't understand why the Black Tower decided to cooperate with the Merlin Family.

Although Mafa Merlin was one of the Commanders of the Merlin Family, he was actually controlling a very small portion of the Planar Legion. How could the Black Tower consent to collaborate with Mafa Merlin under such conditions.

There was definitely something hidden behind this...

Although Thorne felt that this matter was very strange, he also understood that Mafa Merlin had definitely done a great deed. Collaborating with the Black Tower to handle the Thawing Fire Tribe would definitely lower the risks and the losses. If everything went smoothly, the Merlin Family would inevitably have control over a portion of the Ghost Valley and would be able to dispatch youths there every year.

The benefits it would bring to the Merlin Family would be outstanding.

After realizing this, Thorne no longer hesitated and immediately issued an order to transfer most of the troops from the Flame Demon Fort and led the imposing army to the Ghost Valley. It was night when the Planar Legion reached the mage army's camp.

Following Thorne's arrival, the few domineering forces converged together.

Lin Yun wasn't surprised by Thorne's arrival, he felt that it was to be expected.

It was the Ghost Valley after all...

In the past few days, Lin Yun had been extremely busy. The two forces had cleaned the Ghost Valley once and were now in complete control of the entire Ghost Valley. Moreover, they had sent a large amount of powerhouses to make various arrangements in the valley. According to his agreement with Weiss, the two forces would head to the Sacred Mountain in five days to eliminate the Thawing Fire Tribe.

To be honest, Lin Yun had no interest in wiping out the Thawing Fire Tribe, his true goal in cooperating with the Black Tower was to control the Ghost Valley so he could unearth the Raising Dragon Array, and he had already practically succeeded. As long as he had the opportunity, he would unearth the Raising Dragon Array and accomplish his goal.

Unfortunately, he still had to respect the agreement, otherwise his relationship with the Black Tower would instantly sour.

They scheduled to go to the Sacred Mountain in five days, it was reasonable to say that he had more than enough time to dispatch some people to unearth the array, but he couldn't find a proper opportunity. He was cooperating with the Black Tower to jointly resist the Thawing Fire Tribe, they would have to act together during the day and he had to remain within the camp at night. However, the two forces had their own camps, even discreetly sending people to unearth the array wasn't quite possible, they would be noticed easily.

But Thorne leading some troops over was providing him with an opportunity. The camp no longer contained just Lin Yun's and the Black Tower's armies, it also had most of the force of the Flame Demon Fort, it was over a thousand people. For a time, the entire camp was in chaos.

When the camp calmed down, late at night, no one discovered that Lin Yun had already led the fifty High Mages, the three Merlin Cousins, as well as Xiuban, to the path he remembered through the dense jungle. After a few hours, they reached the location of the Raising Dragon Array.

To be safe, Lin Yun arranged a few soundproof force fields around as well as a few arrays that can block mana fluctuations. After finishing, he had the fifty High Mages start the excavation.

This was undoubtedly a huge engineering project to ordinary people, it would take a long time to reach a kilometer below the surface in the Raging Flame Plane.

But with the soundproofing force fields and the arrays, the fifty High Mages' tasks were allocated. A part of them used spells to bombard the ground, and once the earth was softened, the remaining people would dig. But even then, it took over two hours to dig a kilometer deep. At that time, the fifty High Mages were all dripping with sweat, exhausted.

"Go and rest..." Lin Yun gestured. These people had been casting spells for a very long time. Even with the era transcending Blazing Storm, it was hard to endure so much.

Once the High Mages started meditating, he used Lighten to go towards the depths. During the fall, he could sense the change of temperature in the surroundings.

The depths weren't dark, it was actually very bright down there, dazzling runes were flickering and shining. Soon, a huge and unimaginable array spread in front of Lin Yun, the countless runes forming complicated patterns and carrying a profound aura of mystery. At this time, he knew that the part on the ground had only been the tip of the Raising Dragon Array.

"Time to get started..."

Lin Yun had a very serious expression, even he, with his transcending knowledge, wasn't confident when facing the Raising Dragon Array. Although the theory behind the Raising Dragon Array had spread extensively during the peak of the Magic Era and countless powerhouses thoroughly researched it and analyzed all the details concerning it, the Raising Dragon Array never appeared in Noscent.

He fished out a crystal pen from his pocket and dipped it in Melting Snow Ink. He followed the steps from memory and quickly found a mana circuit at the edge. He then took a deep breath and lowered his crystal pen, planning on writing. But suddenly, a few dark red runes rose and tightly wrapped around the Raising Dragon Array.

'What's going on...'

Lin Yun was startled, he couldn't help withdrawing a few steps. The dark red runes' sudden appearance was beyond his expectations. A few seconds passed, but those dark red runes didn't attack him, they instead coiled around the Raising Dragon Array.

'Could it be a defensive power?'

Lin Yun frowned, this could be explained if this was truly a defensive force. After touching the Raising Dragon Array, he was able to feel how frightening the power contained within the array was. It was in no way as simple as a True Spirit array, if that defensive power wasn't there, then the power leaked by the array would be even more frightening.

To crack this Dragon Raising Array, he would have to destroy this defensive power first.

But the defensive power formed by those dark red runes gave him a very powerful feeling. He sent a wisp of aura into the array and calculated in an instant. This power was far stronger than he anticipated, he wouldn't be able to break through it with his current strength.

From the calculations of his Magic Array, even powerhouses like Star Sage Jouyi would have to spend a lot of effort to break this defensive power.

This definitely frustrated Lin Yun.

He had been busying himself for the last few months, he hadn't expected such an outcome. Even with his growth speed, he would still need some time before he could reach Star Sage Jouyi's realm, but he couldn't wait. He kept pouring mana into the Magic Array, incessantly calculating and analyzing.

He soon made a new discovery, the dark red runes forming the defensive power were filled with blazing aura. Maybe only with the support of an even more powerful blazing impact could the defensive power scatter. Naturally, this was nothing more than a conjecture, he had to put it into practice first.

But the conditions were troublesome, where could he find an even stronger blazing power?

Not long after, Lin Yun returned to the surface and had William's group return to the camp to bring him one person. Half an hour later, William's group came back, and along with them was a young Raging Flame Beastman, glaring and swearing at the group.

Chapter 477: Does Harren Know?

That Beastman was the young genius of the Thawing Fire Tribe, Yass. He led his army to destruction in the battle several days ago and was captured alive, imprisoned by Lin Yun.

Yass no longer had his previous graceful bearing. He was riddled with scars, and his aura was very weak. Any random High Mage would be able to take care of him.

"Rumble!"

As Yass cursed under his breath, a Flame Burst flew out with a long trail of fire and exploded in front of him. The surroundings turned silent as Yass was sent flying before landing heavily on the ground, becoming even weaker. However, Raging Flame Beastmen had innate resistance to fire magic, so Yass was still barely able to endure Lin Yun's Flame Burst.

"I hope you can sincerely answer my question," Lin Yun expressionlessly said as he looked at Yass laying on the ground, a few embers still flickering on his chest.

The suffering Yass didn't dare to say anything. He was looking at Lin Yun in fear for a while before nodding. 'How come this seemingly harmless human is so ruthless when he makes a move?'

"How much do you know about the Ghost Valley? It's best you tell me everything you know..."

"Eh... The Ghost Valley's mana is very rich. If we cultivate here, our rate of growth would be very fast." After saying this, Yass cautiously looked at Lin Yun, only to find him frowning with an icy gaze. Yass was instantly scared into a cold sweat and promptly added, "I, I still know a legend!"

"Speak..."

A long time ago, a rumor spread among our Thawing Fire Tribe. It was said that a frightening fiend was hiding within the Ghost Valley and that a disaster would happen if that fiend came out! Moreover, our

Thawing Fire Tribe apparently has a certain thing that can release the fiend from the valley. It is in our Sacred Mountain, but I really don't know what it is supposed to be," Yass blurted in fear.

"A certain thing, release the fiend... Sacred Mountain..."

Lin Yun waved his hand and had the others lead Yass away before he calmly pondered about it. The legend that Yass talked about might be an important clue. He could check the Sacred Mountain to find what he was talking about and see if it was related to the Raising Dragon Array. After all, the Chromatic Dragon Crystal was of great importance, so he couldn't let go of any probably leads.

He removed the soundproof force fields and the arrays before leading the fifty High Mages back to camp.

No major events happened during the next five days. Occasionally, Lin Yun and Weiss would discuss some of the details regarding the collaboration and how to reorganize this huge allied army.

Soon, the imposing army advanced towards the headquarters of Thawing Fire Tribe, the Sacred Mountain. The combined army was quite formidable. There were over ten Archmages, and they had powerhouses like Lin Yun, Weiss, Suval and Thorne. As for High Mages, there were a few hundred from the Merlin Family, and the Caster Legion brought by the Black Tower was entirely composed of High Mages.

Such a force could only be described as frightening. No Beastman could stop their momentum. Within ten days, the army made great progress, capturing four forts in a row.

These four forts had originally been under the control of the Thawing Fire Tribe and had always been occupied by formidable defenders, making them very hard to take over. Whether it was the Black Tower or the Merlin Family, they had attacked these forts quite a few times, but with no success. However, together, they managed to break through the four forts in just ten days.

This kind of result would make any of the other forces of the Raging Flame Plane jealous.

It could be said that these two major forces had attained the greatest victories in the fight over the Raging Flame Plane. The Merlin Family had been operating in the Raging Flame Plane for a few centuries but had only captured three forts before. But now, four forts of the Thawing Fire Tribe had been seized, and the spoils of war couldn't just be described as generous.

In fact, these four forts were the four natural barriers protecting the path to the Thawing Fire Tribe in the Sacred Mountain. Each fort had impressive defenses, but the allied army of the Merlin Family and the Black Tower was too strong. The Beastmen there didn't last long before their forts were broken though.

The allied army didn't give the Beastmen any chance to breathe. The day after they broke through the fourth fort, they reorganized and started moving towards the Sacred Mountain. After half a day, the army pitched camp thirty kilometers away from the Sacred Mountain. Everyone understood that a world-shaking war would soon take place. It would be the decisive battle between them and the Thawing Fire Tribe.

If the tribe lost, there would only be twelve tribes left in the entire Raging Flame Plane. This was the most crucial battle for them, and the Thawing Fire Tribe was bound to send all their most powerful forces to stop the allied army at the foot of the mountain.

Winning this fight would mean eliminating the Thawing Fire Tribe and fully securing those four forts and the Ghost Valley for the Black Tower and the Merlin Family, greatly benefiting these two major forces. In the future contest over the Raging Flame Plane, they would inevitably have the advantage.

The last pre-war preparations were ongoing within the camp. There had been a meeting between the Merlin Family and the Black Tower before the attack on the four fortresses. They had discussed the details of the battle as well as the deployment. Only four people were qualified to participate in that meeting: Lin Yun, Thorne, Weiss, and Suval...

The meeting room had been thrown together in a hurry, looking simple and crude, but none of them cared about these details.

Although Lin Yun had participated in each meeting, he rarely talked, since conducting a battle wasn't something he was proficient in. He had even taken the initiative to hand over the command of the Planar Legion to Thorne in the previous fights. It was the same during the meetings. Thorne and Weiss would be the ones discussing most of the time.

Although Suval's situation was different, he spoke very little like Lin Yun, just going through the motions of every meeting. However, the old Representative's eyes were shining today.

As Thorne and Weiss were discussing passionately, Suval put down the cup in his hand, glanced around at everyone, and then spoke his mind. "I have something to say! This battle is the final confrontation between our forces and the Thawing Fire Tribe. It is the most crucial battle, and no mistakes can happen. I have a suggestion that I would like to share with everyone. You should know that our forces commanded their own legions during the previous battles, causing unpreventable losses. Thus, my suggestion is to have this final battle led by one person."

He had no change of expression after saying these words. He picked up his cup of water and took a sip, before looking at Thorne on the other side of the room. "Thorne Merlin, the power dispatched by our Black Tower is far superior to your Merlin Family's. Moreover, I am a 7th Rank Archmage. There is no one stronger than me here, right? I was already a Representative of the Black Tower three hundred years ago and led forces through numerous battles. In the Black Tower, apart from Sir Harren, no one is more qualified than I am. Thus, I feel that I should direct the Merlin Family and the Black Tower in the final battle."

Suval had felt very depressed lately. The four forts had been broken through, and the army reached the Sacred Mountain, making him anxious. He didn't like it. If he didn't do anything, the Thawing Fire Tribe would be easily eliminated and the Merlin Family would obtain countless benefits. This wasn't what he wanted to see.

However, after thinking about it, he found a method that he could put into action in the final battle.

It was very simple actually... Just as he had said, the final battle was bound to be very difficult. They would face the strongest of the Thawing Fire Tribe, and any mistakes could cause inconceivable consequences.

It would be a lot easier to handle the Merlin Family if he could gain the authority to command the two armies. During the battle, he would casually give out some orders that would cause huge losses to the Merlin Family's Planar Legion.

It was for this reason that Suval asked for the commanding authority over the two forces for the final battle. In fact, he had no interest in commanding the battle, but he would have to do so in order to deal a blow to the Merlin Family...

"Sir Suval, this isn't good..."

Sitting across Suval, Thorne's expression became unsightly. Although the final battle was vital, he didn't want to give the commanding authority to a member of the Black Tower, just in case the other side had some selfish motives and would deliberately make poor decisions when issuing orders to the Planar Legion, causing huge losses in the process. After all, the battle was extremely important, and they would be facing their strongest foes yet.

He'd heard that this Representative Suval held a grudge against Santon Merlin...

"What? You think I don't have the qualifications? Or do you want the right to command for yourself?" Hearing Thorne's tactful refusal, Suval's expression suddenly became icy as he sneered.

"No, no... You misunderstood, Sir Suval." Thorne turned deathly pale. Beads of sweat began to appear on his forehead, but he couldn't wipe them at such a time. He could tell that this Representative with high prestige was dissatisfied with him.

To be honest, Thorne didn't dare to offend Suval.

So what if he had high status? As a Planar Commander in the Raging Flame Plane and a 5th Rank Sword Saint, he was still far inferior to Suval, who was a Representative of the Council of Seven and was far stronger than Thorne.

"Since you aren't opposing it, then I shall lead the Black Tower and the Merlin Family's troops..." Suval expressionlessly looked at Thorne as he reasserted his position.

But at that time, the silent Lin Yun suddenly hit the table, attracting everyone's attention. He narrowed his eyes and said, "Sir Suval, does Sir Harren know that you want the right to command?"

Chapter 478: Army Facing the Sacred Mountain

Suval's face turned ashen. He was speechless. He had come up with this plan to discreetly strike a blow against the Merlin Family as an idea he had come up with at the last moment. How could Harren at the Dark Moon Fort know of it? The young mage's sentence was a simple question, which normally wouldn't make Suval lose his bearings.

But this sentence poked at Suval's sore spot... It felt like he was being threatened with Sir Harren. Suval clearly remembered when Harren had reprimanded him and strictly warned him over two months ago. He would only be able to f*ck off back to the Holy Land if he provoked Mafa Merlin now.

“Haha, I think we should forget this matter...” Weiss saw that the situation was taking a turn for the worse and immediately interjected, a smile on his face. “After all, this collaboration is based on the premise that both sides are equal. It wouldn’t be good if one person from one force held the power to command both sides...”

After saying that, Weiss suddenly felt Suval’s murderous look. But he didn’t care. Harren had told him before leaving that after eliminating the Thawing Fire Tribe, Suval probably wouldn’t remain in the Raging Flame Plane.

In fact, Weiss didn’t have much of a choice in the matter either.

Harren had told him that a Heaven Rank powerhouse was most likely standing behind the young mage and that the Black Tower couldn’t rashly provoke such a person. Although Weiss and Suval didn’t have a peaceful relationship, he was still a member of the Black Tower. If Suval did anything too excessive and angered the Heaven Rank powerhouse behind the young mage, the Black Tower would definitely be in trouble.

The meeting went on for over three hours. Thorne and Weiss discussed the deployment of troops and other details, but Thorne was worrying quite a bit. From time to time, he would glance at the young mage from the corners of his eyes. He suddenly felt that this youth seemed more and more mysterious.

At first, the young mage came to the Raging Flame Plane and made some absurd moves that he had considered unacceptable, especially when he took over five hundred Great Mages near the Ghost Valley. Thorne had been sneering back then, thinking that the young mage was courting death by thinking he could make a move on the Ghost Valley with this many troops.

But it didn’t last long... It was like a loud and resounding slap. The young mage used some unknown methods to set up a collaboration with the Black Tower in order to eliminate the Thawing Fire Tribe and control the Ghost Valley.

What happened in the meeting earlier was even more unimaginable. Suval, an overbearing Representative of the Black Tower, wanted the right to command the Merlin Family Planar Legion, and due to Suval’s status and strength, Thorne couldn’t refuse. But when it seemed that Suval had succeeded, the young mage said a simple sentence which shut up the 7th Rank Archmage and had Weiss intervene to mediate the situation, settling this disturbance.

Thorne was still in disbelief. That was Suval, after all! Not many people in Okland would dare to offend him, yet the young mage scared him off with a simple sentence.

What had happened...?

Not only was Suval tyrannically strong, but he also had a colossus standing behind him, one of the two greatest mage forces of the kingdom, the Black Tower. But Thorne clearly saw that the domineering Suval drew back after the young mage’s words and couldn’t even come up with a response.

At this time, his expression was extremely complicated as he looked at the young mage.

With the end of the meeting, the allied army went through some reorganization and was deployed at the foot of the Sacred Mountain, finally meeting the Thawing Fire Tribe’s main forces. Raging Flame

Beastmen were spread everywhere in front of them, riding on Ashen Wolves or flying in circles on blazing Wyverns. There were also countless Flame Elementals, mostly Flame Crows covering the sky.

This battle lasted over ten hours. When the last Raging Flame Beastman fell, the allied army ended up victorious, even though they paid a heavy price. The annihilated Beastman Army had over ten Beastman Mages equivalent to Archmage powerhouses, as well as five Prophets, including the Great Prophet.

There were six Prophets in the Thawing Fire Tribe, and they were like a Council with the Great Prophet at their head. At the battle at the foot of the Sacred Mountain, the Thawing Fire Tribe lost five Prophets, and even the strongest Great Prophet had died in battle. The Thawing Fire Tribe was done for.

But... that mysterious Tribal Chief had never appeared.

Once the army cleared up the battlefield, they found vacant land at the bottom of the Sacred Mountain and pitched camp there, spending the day resting and regrouping. Weiss rushed to Lin Yun's living quarters and invited him to proceed towards the Sacred Mountain with him.

Lin Yun definitely had to go to the Sacred Mountain. Just the legend Yass talked about was worth taking a trip for him. Perhaps the only way for him to easily remove the defensive power around the Raising Dragon Array would be to find that thing he had talked about.

As for why the Black Tower was so interested in going to the Sacred Mountain, Lin Yun could easily guess.

That Peak True Spirit Totem had been left behind by an ancestor of the Thawing Fire Tribe. For countless years, this Totem was regarded as the token of the Thawing Fire Tribe's Tribal Chief, and only the successive generations of Tribal Chiefs were qualified to control it.

But the Tribal Chief hadn't appeared in the battle...

If the Black Tower wanted to get the totem, they had to go to the Sacred Mountain and find the Tribal Chief. Lin Yun also wanted to go there, so he naturally didn't refuse.

But, the Thawing Fire Tribe's Sacred Mountain was a very special place. Because it was nurtured from the source power of the Raging Flame Plane, it had a force that repelled all races that weren't Raging Flame Beastmen. Even a Great Mage might exhaust his power before he could crawl to the top.

The next morning, the two forces, with their own ulterior motives, proceeded towards the top of the Sacred Mountain. The number of people had clearly decreased. Only those at the High Mage realm or higher could come, so the Merlin Family only had a few hundred people, including Lin Yun, Ross, Leon, William, Thorne, and the rest. The Great Mages all remained at the foot of the mountain.

In contrast, there were more people from the Black Tower: Weiss, Suval, a few other Archmages, and the Caster Legion.

As the group moved forward, they could clearly feel the pressure from the World, but they were all powerful enough not to be affected too much. And the Thawing Fire Tribe, apart from one Prophet and the Tribal Chief, had been annihilated in the previous day's battle.

This was the first time in countless years that humans set foot in the mysterious Thawing Fire Tribe's Sacred Mountains.

It felt like staying in a stove. The surroundings were blazing hot, the soil was dark-red, and they could faintly feel the aura of Flame Elementals. It didn't take long for most of them to start sweating, as walking within the Sacred Mountain consumed two to three times as much energy.

But, they didn't meet any obstructions and couldn't see the shadow of any Raging Flame Beastman. It was as they'd conjectured: the Raging Flame Beastman Tribe had been thoroughly annihilated in the battle.

Lin Yun inwardly sighed as he walked on the dark red land. He could still remember when he was looking at the information within the Merlin Family Manor.

A millennium ago, most forces of Okland, including the Merlin Family, obtained the planar coordinates of the Raging Flame Plane and opened their Planar Paths one after the other, pleasantly discovering thus huge and unimaginably fertile plane. Then, the major forces sent many troops to gain control over the plane.

At the time, the Raging Flame Plane was ruled by the Thirteen Beastman Tribes.

The old information from the Merlin Family recorded in detail how powerful the original Thawing Fire Tribe was.

A millennium ago, the Thawing Fire Tribe was the same as today. The tribe had a Tribal Chief as well as Great Prophets, but the Tribal Chief at the time was a very frightening existence. Although he wasn't at the Heaven Rank, he was like Ancestor Oren of the Merlin Family, having the power to beat a Heaven Rank. As for the six Great Prophets, they weren't weak either. A few of them were equivalent to Peak Archmages.

In that period, no human force in the entire northeastern part of the Raging Flame Plane dared to clash against the Thawing Fire Tribe.

Moreover, the Thawing Fire Tribe would regularly dispatch a large number of elite Wolf-Riders and hundreds of Mages who would summon endless Elemental lifeforms to wipe out the intruders in the region, greatly affecting several major forces, including the Merlin Family, making them lose countless powerhouses.

But the Raging Flame Plane was too fertile, so the Merlin Family was unwilling to give up on it. To this day, the Merlin Family had struggled against the Thawing Fire Tribe for close to a millennium. The Thawing Fire Tribe slowly started declining ever since Santon Merlin emerged three hundred years ago and killed the powerful Flame Demon stationed at the Flame Demon Fort, leading to the Planar Legion taking over the fort. The tribe's power decreased year after year.

Until now, the Thawing Fire Tribe, one of the Thirteen Beastmen Tribes with foundations that were over a millennium old, was slowly pushed back in a month by the alliance between the Black Tower and the Merlin Family, losing four forts having a decisive battle when they reached the Sacred Mountain.

This news would cause a stir if it spread to Okland.

After all, the two forces completely eliminated the Thawing Fire Tribe after agreeing to work together. This also meant that they now controlled the entire northeastern part of the plane. And more importantly, there were no other Raging Flame Beastman tribes in that area. In the future, the two

major forces would be able to easily mine ore veins and also extract all kinds of resources, unlike the other forces from Okland, who had their hands tied while facing the threat of Raging Flame Beastmen.

Chapter 479: Sacred Land

Although that half of the northern part of the Raging Flame Plane was only comparable to Noscent's Andlusa Kingdom in terms of size, it contained at least ten times the amount of resources.

The Black Tower and the Merlin Family were bound to have a qualitative increase in power once they reaped the rewards of this battle, giving them a superior advantage in the fight over the Raging Flame Plane.

This was all due to the annihilation of the Thawing Fire Tribe...

After half an hour, this group reached the peak of the Sacred Mountain unobstructed. The trip had been extremely peaceful, but the environment there was even more dangerous. There were blazing airflows that carried the aura of fire elements within.

"High Mage Merlin, take a look at this..." Weiss, who had been walking alongside Lin Yun, wiped the sweat from his forehead as he exclaimed with a happy expression while pointing ahead.

In fact, Weiss had never relaxed ever since they arrived at the Sacred Mountain. He controlled a few Mage Eyes and discreetly scouted the surroundings. He was worried that the Thawing Fire Tribe's Chief had fled. After all, the Black Tower had acted against the Thawing Fire Tribe mostly because of that Peak True Spirit Magic Tool.

Although the Black Tower would gain quite a bit from eliminating the Thawing Fire Tribe, it simply couldn't compare to obtaining a True Spirit Magic Tool.

Since they came this far, he didn't want the Black Tower to incur a loss because of him.

"Hmmm?" Lin Yun was surprised at first, but he then let out a Mage Eye before being able to see the scene happening a kilometer away. There was a vast land with countless tents. This was the living area of the Raging Flame Beastmen, as well as the headquarters of the Thawing Fire Tribe.

A smile appeared at the corner of Lin Yun's mouth. Those weren't ordinary tents. They were all made of leather created from fire-type magic beasts and could withstand flames and high temperatures. Although they could only be considered ordinary materials, the number of tents was frightening. There were over ten thousand!

But they didn't seem to do much to them with magic. The magic beast leather had only gone through a simple treatment. If Lin Yun's Gilded Rose got a hold of the leather, they would be able to craft many different defensive tools, which would put the entire Andlusa alchemy market into chaos if he released them all at once.

"Haha, High Mage Merlin, your Gilded Rose should need these things right? It would be best like this... All of these tents should be sent to the Gilded Rose. Once they are crafted, you can sell half of it to the Black Tower at the market price. How about it?" Weiss clenched his teeth as he made this difficult decision. He naturally understood that this was giving a lot of money to the Gilded Rose, but he couldn't

do anything about it. Harren had told him to use this opportunity to deepen the friendship between the Black Tower and the young mage.

“Alright...” Lin Yun’s expression was a bit strange as he looked at Weiss, but he naturally wouldn’t refuse such a gift.

The group reached the tents not long after, and because they were made out of fire magic beast leather, the entire area was filled with the aura of fire elements. Roughly another ten minutes ahead of them, there was a huge tent.

That tent felt like an imperial palace.

Lights flickered as if countless mysterious runes were moving about, emitting faint mana fluctuations and looking extremely magnificent.

“This should be the tent of the successive generations of Tribal Chiefs...” Even the experienced Weiss couldn’t help being startled when he saw the tent. The foundation of the Thawing Fire Tribe was far richer than he had imagined.

Lin Yun could feel the simple and ancient aura, which had clearly settled after the baptism of countless years.

He couldn’t be sure, but the thing he needed might be hidden inside.

“Let’s go take a look...” Lin Yun’s heart was moved. Just as he finished his words, he rushed inside the tent. After entering, he discovered that the interior was extremely spacious, and mysterious Ancient Beastman Runes were carved in the surroundings. With a gesture, over ten Mage Eyes appeared out of nowhere and rushed to every corner.

“How is it?” Weiss and a few powerhouses also came in several minutes later, and Weiss couldn’t help but ask Lin Yun what he thought.

“Not here...” Lin Yun shook his head. His dozen Mage Eyes hadn’t found anything, and barely concealed disappointment could be seen on his face.

He did a thorough search, checking every corner once, but didn’t find anything valuable, not even finding any of the Tribal Chief’s tracks...

“How could this be...” Weiss looked quite perturbed. He cared about finding the Tribal Chief a lot more than Lin Yun. From the top-secret information the Black Tower had obtained, that Peak True Spirit Magic Tool had been passed down through the Tribal Chiefs, so they had to find that Tribal Chief to locate it.

But they still had no news of the Tribal Chief right now.

Weiss couldn’t help feeling anxious...

“Don’t worry, it’s not as if there is no method left to us...” Lin Yun glanced at Weiss, inwardly laughing. After saying those words, he used the soul contract to get in touch with Xiuban and transmit a message. Not long after, Xiuban casually came in while carrying Carnage.

Moreover, he wasn’t alone. He was dragging a young Raging Flame Beastman behind him.

“You, you... What do you think you are doing!?” The Raging Flame Beastman dragged in was naturally the young genius of the Thawing Fire Tribe, Yass. His aura was very weak and his body was filled with scars. He looked very miserable, and he roared as Xiuban dragged him in, but when he saw Lin Yun, his gaze filled with fear.

What he experienced half a month ago was a nightmare. He’d still had a trace of hope since he had only been imprisoned. He felt that since his teacher was one of the tribe’s six Great Prophets, he would find a way to rescue him.

But he was thoroughly despairing right now...

The recent events shocked him too much. The glorious Thawing Fire Tribe with over a millennium of history had been annihilated by these humans.

“I want to know where your Thawing Fire Tribe’s Tribal Chief is...” Lin Yun smiled at Yass as he spoke in a casual manner. The Tribal Chief was Lin Yun’s only clue. That thing mentioned in the legend which could release the fiend of the Ghost Valley was supposed to be in the Sacred Mountain. Lin Yun hadn’t found it, but the Tribal Chief might know some secrets.

“Haha... You want to know?” The despairing Yass had lost the poise of a young genius long ago. His face was completely distorted as he talked, and he even erratically howled with laughter sometimes while leaking intense hatred. “Damn Human, don’t even think of getting what you want! I’ll never speak even if you torture me to death...”

“Heh, well, I don’t want you to die for the time being...” Lin Yun frowned for a moment before a wry smile appeared on his face. He didn’t bother with Yass and instead rubbed the ring on his finger. “Lord Shawn, I got some work for you...”

The ordinary ring suddenly burst out with a bright light as the faint silhouette of the Ghost Wolf appeared.

Lord Shawn had become a Mid-Rank True Spirit Magic Tool after fusing with the Evil Dragon Eye and was a lot more arrogant than before. He came out from the Soul Walker and couldn’t help curling his lips.

“Merlin, did you seek out Lord Shawn to extort a confession?”

“I hope that guy can sincerely answer my questions. You don’t need to worry about the remuneration not being enough, how about three level 25 mana crystals?” Lin Yun squinted as he pointed to Yass, who was laying on the ground.

“Deal!”

As long as it concerned mana crystals, Shawn, as a Mid-Rank True Spirit Magic Tool, wouldn’t mind leaving his integrity back in the ring, especially when it had to do with the business of extorting confessions. That closed vertical third eye was emitting an evil aura as Shawn pounced onto Yass in his Ghost Wolf shape.

At that time, Shawn’s silhouette disappeared without a trace.

“Eh...”

Yass, who was originally lying on the ground with a distorted expression and a nasty smile, suddenly froze before shuddering and letting out a mournful scream. Yass truly wanted to die. The pain he was enduring simply couldn't be described with words! It felt as if a cruel hand was tearing his soul apart.

This continued for five minutes before Shawn's faint silhouette appeared once again in front of Lin Yun. He then swayed and laid down on his stomach on the side.

No new wounds had appeared on Yass' body, but his mind had completely collapsed. He was motionlessly lying on the ground, his eyes vacant and lifeless.

"Hmm, Lord Shawn, did you kill him...?" Lin Yun couldn't help throwing a sympathetic glance at Yass. This young Raging Flame Beastman still had value at the moment, so it would be quite problematic if he died.

"Rest assured, Lord Shawn knows how to do his job. I wouldn't let him die, you can ask what you wanted to ask now. If he still doesn't answer sincerely..." Shawn suddenly emitted a strange mana fluctuation.

But before he could finish his words...

"I'll talk, I'll talk, I'll say everything!" Yass suddenly shook, seemingly scared by something. He emotionally said, "Actually, I don't know where the Tribal Chief is, but I'm certain that the Tribal Chief didn't leave the Sacred Mountain. There is a place you haven't found yet, that is our Thawing Fire Tribe's Sacred Land..."

Chapter 480: Burning Valley

Combust Valley

"Haha..."

Lin Yun took out a few mana crystals from his pocket and handed them to Shawn. The latter was perfectly content and returned to the Soul Walker. Lin Yun then took out a potion, crouched down, and poured it into Yass' mouth. "Take us there."

"Yes, yes..." Yass nodded like a scared child.

His complexion gradually improved after drinking the potion and more than half of his injuries had recovered.

Yass stood up, but when he looked at Lin Yun, fear could be seen deep within his eyes. These past few minutes had been like a trip to hell. That pain was more terrifying than any torture, and just thinking about it made him shake.

His situation was already hopeless since the Thawing Fire Tribe had already been destroyed. He might be killed anytime, anywhere, but Yass didn't want to experience this kind of pain anymore.

If he could, he would rather choose death over going through it again.

Moreover, the Thawing Fire Tribe no longer existed, so there was no sense in hiding information concerning the Tribal Chief.

As he justified his actions, Yass' psychological burden alleviated quite a bit. After leaving the tent, he took the lead and guided the troops to a rugged path. After over half an hour, he stopped as they reached the so-called Sacred Land.

"It's here," the cowering Yass said before Lin Yun could even ask.

"Here?"

To be more accurate, there was a valley in front of them. Just from standing at the entrance, they could all feel the terrible temperature within. Those High Mages were all covered in sweat just from standing there...

And this was only the entrance.

Perhaps only Archmages could go inside and withstand such a high temperature.

Lin Yun and Weiss quickly discussed for a bit and decided to leave all their High Mages outside the valley and only send the Archmage powerhouses inside to explore.

In the end, the group was reduced to a dozen people...

"Let's go..." Once they were ready, Lin Yun looked at Yass and indifferently told him, "Lead the way."

"What..."

Yass was suddenly terrified, completely pale. He really didn't want to enter the Sacred Land, but refusing the young mage was worse than death. He struggled for a bit before forcing himself to nod and entering the valley with the dozen Archmage powerhouses.

"Ah!"

But Yass stopped just as he entered the valley. His expression greatly changed as he issued a mournful scream. His entire body shivered and the dark red runes on his body looked alive as they burst out with dazzling red light. His entire body glowed red and let off an immense amount of heat, which was followed by black gas coming out of Yass' ears, nose, and mouth.

"What is this...?"

The sudden, unforeseen event stunned everyone in the group. They were scared by this strange scene, and they didn't dare to believe their own eyes. They were all very powerful, but they hadn't noticed anything. There had been no fluctuations, but just as Yass entered the valley, he inexplicably started burning.

"Sure enough, I would be punished for leading outsiders to the Sacred Land..." Yass let out a mournful roar, his voice filled with dread and remorse. As he spoke, flames escaped from his mouth, and that fire quickly spread to the rest of his body.

After a few short seconds, Yass turned to ashes. That strange flame noiselessly stopped burning, as if it had never appeared in the first place.

The surroundings were completely silent, and everyone looked at the scene in shock. Although Yass wasn't particularly powerful, he still had the power of a 1st Rank Archmage. Yet, the flames that appeared directly took his life.

They couldn't help feeling a chill run down their spines and getting cold feet. Their eyes were filled with shock, as they couldn't believe that Yass, who had seemed alright just moments ago, would suddenly be turned to ashes. At this time, they were all filled with worry.

Even Lin Yun frowned.

"Don't waste time here, let's go find the Tribal Chief in the Sacred Land..." The pale Weiss clenched his teeth. Even if there was something strange about the Sacred Land, he wouldn't easily give up. They had already come this far, and the Black Tower had invested too much into it. Even if Sir Harren wanted to give up on the Magic Tool, he still wouldn't agree.

The group of Archmages slowly and carefully walked into the valley. It was filled with flames, and even the rocks under their feet were scalding. There were some exotic trees that actually grew in the fire with formidable vitality.

This was a world of flames, flames could be seen everywhere.

'Eh?'

When he entered the valley, Lin Yun could clearly feel that this place's fire elements were so frightening that they almost turned into essence. In all of Noscent and the countless planes, there might not be another place comparable to this area. Lin Yun estimated that fire spells would be greatly boosted here, and any of them would be promoted in power by two tiers.

For example, if he let out a Fire Dragon Spell here, it would burst out with power comparable to a 7th Tier Spell, even closer to 8th.

Although the people entering the valley had the power of Archmages, the high temperature was still making everyone frown.

If a High Mage had entered, he might already have ended up on the verge of death, or just died outright.

This was an extremely dangerous place.

Everyone was very cautious, and they relied on their instincts to slowly move further towards the depths. Blazing Flame Snakes kept attacking them, but at that time, the earth under their feet suddenly shook. The scalding rocks were silently collapsing as a terrifying aura suddenly rose up.

"Rumble..."

Following that deafening sound, a huge pitch-black fissure split the earth open, and extremely hot dark-red lava erupted from it, splattering the surroundings...

"Careful!"

Weiss let out a warning shout, reminding everyone. But he was too late. Some of the lava splashed at a 2nd Rank Archmage from the Black Tower who was close to the fissure, and he didn't have time to

evade it. He was terrified and the magic staff in his hands let out a dazzling radiance as he cast an Elemental Shield.

Just as that Archmage was about to sigh in relief, he heard a sizzling sound...

The lava splashing onto the Elemental Shield hadn't disappeared, but instead slowly melted the Elemental Shield. As the sizzling sound intensified, the Elemental Shield let out dark green smoke. It was shockingly dissolving at a visible speed.

Just as the Elemental Shield was about to be broken through, a pitch-black palm suddenly swept over and pulled the Archmage away.

A flame rose up, unveiling an incomparably huge silhouette. This was a Lava Giant that was several hundred meters tall.

Its body was emitting a blazing aura and leaking dark-red lava all over. Whenever it moved, lava would splatter around.

Everyone looked in disbelief...

The one attacking them was actually a Lava Giant!

Lava Giants weren't an issue, but the one before their eyes was too powerful! The lava it had just splashed out almost killed a 2nd Rank Archmage.

This was why they were in disbelief...

Most of these Archmages had remained in the Raging Flame Plane for a long time and had participated in all kinds of battles, so they weren't unfamiliar with Lava Giants.

Lava Giants were already considered Upper Rank Elemental lifeforms. They would often appear battles and the ones typically summoned by the Raging Flame Beastmen, although powerful, weren't able to threaten an Archmage. Usually, their strength was roughly comparable to that of a High Mage.

But the Lava Giant before their eyes far surpassed the High Mage realm...

What was going on?

Whatever the case, they didn't have time to think about this. Following that deafening roar, the lava covered the sky, falling down like rain.

That lava was frighteningly powerful. Even the Elemental Shield of a 2nd Rank Archmage couldn't resist it.

"Damnit, this is only a Lava Giant, how could it be so strong? It's at least level 35." Suval cursed. He placed his unadorned magic staff horizontally in front of his chest and started chanting a long and profound incantation.

At this time, an astonishing mana fluctuation rose up...

A bone-chilling aura spread and condensed into a large amount of ice in the air. The swaying Flame Snakes all dimmed quite a bit as the sky turned white. Cracking sounds echoed as the sky froze above their heads.

This was a 7th Tier spell used by powerful Archmages, Ice Barrier!