

Magic Era 781

Chapter 781: Taking Advantage

With so many things happening, Zeuss' thought process had already changed, especially when he saw the end of their old adversary, Hoppet. Lin Yun had dealt with him and the Raging Flame Beastman army so easily that it made him even more resolved.

'We have to befriend Mafa Merlin and try to maintain that friendship. This is the best for the Watson Family.'

Green didn't even notice the kind nudging of the older generation.

He put on a fake smile and glanced at Lin Yun before casually talking with arrogance. "You are that Mafa Merlin? Hmm, being able to follow Sir Zeuss back here alive isn't too bad, your luck is quite good! The Black Tower's people didn't even have such luck."

'Sir Zeuss is truly magnanimous, actually leading that Merlin back. He should have let him die in that world. But from his tone, I guess that Sir Zeuss must be in a very good mood. His harvest must be better than I thought.'

Green's arrogant look was akin to a superior praising a subordinate.

Zeuss' expression instantly changed when he heard that and cold sweat started forming from his forehead.

'Damn it, what is that kid doing? How could he think that Sir Mafa is acting like my subordinate?'

Lin Yun's expression didn't change as he sat on his chair while watching indifferently.

But the more it went on, the more danger Zeuss felt. 'No good, I must make Green understand, that guy is definitely misunderstanding something.'

Zeuss didn't have time to say anything before Green turned back to look at him, his enthusiasm still as strong as before. "Sir Zeuss, since you are back, shouldn't we return? Staying here isn't good. Let's return to the warship, what do you say?"

Zeuss' face turned white as he stood up, startled.

"What? That warship? That's Sir Merlin's..."

Green had a smile on his face as he grasped Zeuss' hands and laughed out loud. "What Sir Merlin, Sir Zeuss is such a jokester. Didn't the Black Tower's people fall? Only Sir Zeuss returned from the exploration, so the reward must naturally belong to Sir Zeuss, it's our Watson Family's. As for this Mafa Merlin..."

After saying that, Green turned his head towards Lin Yun and snorted with an arrogant expression.

"Hmpf, the Merlin Family truly doesn't know what's good for them. Kid, Sir Zeuss saved you and helped you return. That was your good fortune, Sir Zeuss being so magnanimous and kind-hearted. Don't tell

me you are trying to get a share of Sir Zeuss' rewards? Such a greedy rat, you don't know how to be grateful. This was a cooperation between the Black Tower and the Watson Family, could it be that your Merlin Family still wants more? Aren't you afraid of bursting from eating too much?"

Lin Yun slightly frowned, and Zeuss' complexion became as white as a sheet of paper. He threw a pleading look at Lin Yun and promptly pulled Green to his side.

"Sir Green, how could you say this?" Zeuss hastily said, trying to clear things up.

But he was interrupted by the enthusiastic Green.

"Sir Zeuss, I understand, you are too kind, but kindness doesn't befit these rats. At worst, I can make the decision to compensate the Merlin Family with some mana crystals, since they followed you and weren't able to get anything, after all."

After saying that, Green took out a few spirit mana crystal and threw them on the table.

'Such greedy rats! No, even greedy rats can't be that stupid. They are actually using Sir Zeuss' generosity to satisfy their shameful greed. No, I definitely can't just sit and watch. I did hear that Sir Zeuss was very considerate of the younger generation, but the Merlin Family is too crafty! They are actually taking advantage of Sir Zeuss' kindness!'

Zeuss fearfully looked at the dozen spirit mana crystals on the table and explained to Lin Yun, "Sir Merlin, this is a misunderstanding, please don't mind this..."

'F*ck, I'm going to be killed by that fool! I thought he was a smart youth, how could he be so stupid? Not only does he not know what he is doing, but he is also making me look bad... Is he trying to get me killed? Snatching Mafa Merlin's Intrepid... Is he tired of living? Even if you dare to speak to Mafa Merlin like that, don't implicate me!'

Zeuss was extremely anxious, but it wasn't the kind of matter that could be said out loud. Who knew what that idiot would say?

As he thought of this, Zeuss grabbed Green's arm and quickly said, "Sir Green, you might be misunderstanding something..."

Zeuss forcibly accentuated the word misunderstanding, the hint couldn't be more obvious.

He also stared at Green while continuously making signals with his eyes.

Green enthusiastically looked at Zeuss, wondering why Zeuss cared about him speaking so nonchalantly, but he finally got a flash of enlightenment after seeing Zeuss' meaningful glance.

'I understand, Sir Zeuss definitely got something amazing that he can't mention, so he gave a part of the harvest to that Mafa Merlin.

'This is all in order to keep Mafa Merlin silent. If he didn't get anything, he might blabber to others and cause the Watson Family to suffer terrible losses from other forces.

'I'm really too young, Sir Zeuss thought the matter through and realized that we only needed to give something negligible to the Merlin Family. People would think that the greatest harvest was that warship.

'That way, nothing would get out. By giving everything but the warship to the Merlin Family, people would think that our Watson Family didn't get too many things and only had the warship.

'Although that warship was formidable, there is only one. Even if people were envious, they wouldn't have other thoughts.

'The target would be shifted to the Merlin Family, and they would be the one forced to handle those greedy wolves, while we would have the most valuable loot hidden away.

'Sure enough, Sir Zeuss is wise and farsighted. The Black Tower's people died, so their gazes would turn towards the Merlin Family if they wanted a part of the cake.'

Admiration and understanding could be seen on Green's face as he nodded at Zeuss.

"Sir Zeuss, I understand, I understand, rest assured."

Zeuss wiped his cold sweat and looked at Green. 'That young fool is clueless and thoughtless, but as long as he doesn't discuss this, I'll have plenty of time to explain to him after going back. I must warn him to never set himself against Mafa Merlin.

'That damned fool doesn't know how powerful Mafa Merlin is right now. I can't even see through his Rank since he advanced to the Archmage realm. The 8th Rank Arch-Warlock Hoppet was easily killed by him.

'Right, I must carefully instruct Green after returning. That fool knows how terrifying Hoppet is.'

"Green, is there another reason you came here? Did something happen while I was away?"

Seeing that Green was no longer talking about the loot and no longer targeting Mafa Merlin, Zeuss promptly changed the topic.

As if he suddenly recalled something, Green mentioned something regarding the Raging Flame Plane.

"Sir Zeuss, as you know, the kingdom has been controlling the northern part of the Raging Flame Plane while the southern part of the Raging Flame Plane is controlled by the Odin Kingdom. After so long, the defenses of the Raging Flame Beastmen have been continuously weakening, so every major power of the kingdom decided to cooperate.

Moreover, the Odin Kingdom also sent an emissary to discuss the matter of cooperation, and the negotiations went through. The forces of our kingdom will collaborate with the Odin Kingdom for the first time and will launch a general attack on the Raging Flame Plane. When the time comes, the Raging Flame Beastmen will be completely eradicated, and we will be able to start exploiting its resources."

After saying that, Green glanced at Lin Yun and rolled his eyes as he thought of something.

'Yes, Sir Zeuss is definitely hiding something, and it must be incredible loot. This Mafa Merlin must know some things, but he definitely doesn't know everything.

'Now, the kingdom is going to cooperate with the Odin Kingdom for the first time and will launch a general attack on the Raging Flame Plane. If the Merlin Family also participates, then won't that Mafa Merlin be the commander of the Merlin Family?

'Such a weak guy can actually become a commander? The Merlin Family is really too weak, but that's good for us. Such a weak Archmage would definitely become cannon fodder in that huge battlefield.

'When the time comes, he can just follow and be set up in a dangerous place together with the rest of the Merlin Family. After his death, how could Sir Zeuss' secret be spread?

'Moreover, after the elites of the Merlin Family fall, our Watson Family will seize the opportunity to snatch their fort. Once we've thoroughly captured the Raging Flame Plane, the Watson Family will have even more benefits, while the Merlin Family won't even know what happened.

'This is a good plan. Yes, let's just do that, let's make the Merlin Family participate even if they are weak...'

As he thought of this, Green stood up and looked down at Lin Yun with an arrogant expression while still acting like he was being charitable.

"Mafa Merlin, right? I heard you were the Commander of the Merlin Family? In that case, I am now formally notifying you that one month from now, you and the elites of your Merlin Family have to converge at the Storm Fort as an ally of the Watson Family, to participate in the general assault on the Raging Flame Plane.

"At that time, the Watson Family will acknowledge your identity as their allies, and no one will embarrass your Merlin Family. The rewards after victory will be distributed according to contribution. For the sake of Sir Zeuss, we will let you profit a bit."

Chapter 782: Unforgivable Sin

After saying his piece, he saw the frowning and anxious look of Zeuss and smiled.

'Sir Zeuss can no longer wait. He definitely wants to tell me something, and indeed, I should return to our Watson Family's Fort. Sir Zeuss will definitely return afterwards, as it's clear that he can't speak out loud right now.'

"Sir Zeuss, I still have documents to handle so I'll be returning first..." Green coldly glanced at Lin Yun and raised his head before turning around and walking out.

Zeuss' face was pale white and he was scared to death. He had almost rushed up to drag that guy out. 'F*ck, hurry up and get the hell out of here! Stupid kid, do you even know what you are doing? You would have already died if I hadn't kept throwing meaningful glances at Sir Mafa to plead for your life.'

...

Thorne was walking towards the large tent, his broken arm already restored, and although he still looked a bit pale, his injury had recovered.

Thorne felt his left arm with his right hand, and a grateful expression appeared on his face. He couldn't help being moved as he recalled the previous matter.

'Sir Mafa returned when I was in the jaws of despair. He is really like a deity. I thought I was dead, and just as I was planning on using my life for the sake of the Merlin Family, he unexpectedly came back.

'Hoppet, that powerful Raging Flame Beastman had been in charge of the Fireblade Tribe for so many years and was a peak 8th Rank Arch-Warlock, and moreover, he was a rarely seen Warlock proficient in Mind Magic. Yet, he was so easily killed by Sir Mafa.

'He is really too powerful, he reached that step in a few months... I still remember the time before he came to the Raging Flame Plane. Back then, he was still a High Mage, but he could already fight me to a tie.

'He crippled my son, but he gave him an even better Alchemic Mana Whirlpool.

'I thought he didn't have the ability to act as a Commander, but because of his arrival, the status of the Merlin Family in the Raging Flame Plane greatly increased while the other forces had to exercise restraint.

'I can no longer see through his Rank now that he advanced to the Archmage realm, but he definitely has the power of a 9th Rank Archmage. He is truly incredible. Sir Mafa might really have the power to lead the Merlin Family to prosperity.

'Since Sir Mafa returned, the Fireblade Tribe has been thoroughly annihilated and the survivors are no longer a threat. The Watson Family and the Black Tower's people have also restrained themselves. The arrogant attitude of the Black Tower and Watson Family's Commanders before was self-explanatory.

'Ha, I hope Sir Mafa always remains here. Only by remaining here could he keep them pressured.

'Moreover, the Health Potions Sir Mafa gave me are really effective. My bones have already recovered, and I only need a few days of rest to recover completely. If these potions were auctioned, they might end up selling at an extremely expensive price.

'Yet, Sir Mafa casually threw a few of them at me. Without those potions, I would have needed over two months to recover. The injury Hoppet inflicted upon me wasn't light.'

Thorne was filled with admiration and gratitude, and he even felt ashamed as he recalled what had happened.

He had just recovered 80% of his strength, and since there were no major problems, Thorne had rushed over in order to express his thanks.

But as Thorne quickly approached the big tent, Green arrogantly came out of the tent in high spirits.

When he noticed Thorne, Green immediately put on a disdainful expression.

"Thorne, I didn't expect you to be that lucky. You actually managed to come back alive! But what are you doing here? Are you unaware that our Watson Family has repelled the Raging Flame Beastmen of the Fireblade Tribe and completely annihilated them? Even if there are survivors, they will be arrested

and kept as slaves. This is truly foolish, for trash like you to actually become a Commander of the Merlin Family...

“Forget it, I’m in a good mood today. Sir Zeuss is a magnanimous person, so he doesn’t require you to repay him for saving your life. Since you didn’t die, take your Merlin Family’s people to go back and guard the Horn of Fertility. Although your Merlin Family didn’t do much, we will share a bit of the loot with you.”

As Green saw Thorne remaining on the spot with an angry expression, he immediately lost his good mood.

“Thorne, didn’t you hear me? What are you doing standing here?”

Thorne was enraged, his shoulders trembling as he pointed at Green and angrily shouted, “Damn b*stard! Don’t go too far, Green! You kept sending the Merlins to their death before and even sent me to throw away my life. There’s no way you didn’t know that Hoppet was a Peak 8th Rank Arch-Warlock. Weren’t you sending me to die?”

“F*cking idiotic b*stard, do you think we don’t know that your Watson Family and the Black Tower colluded with Hoppet to trap our Merlin Family? Hoppet revealed everything!”

“You didn’t even know you were being used by Hoppet! He set up a large-scale Teleportation Array, and if not for Mafa Merlin’s timely appearance, all the elites of the northern part of the Raging Flame Plane would have appeared in the Horn of Fertility! And let alone the Merlin Family, your Watson Family and the Black Tower would have also paid a disastrous price!”

“Damn b*stard, I did compromise in order to resist the Raging Flame Beastmen and I ignored the folly of you fools. But I regret it so much! I regret having compromised with fools like you. Not only were you killing us, but you were also even killing yourselves!”

Thorne was jabbing his finger at Green while angrily shouting. He had kept falling back and compromising during the past few months, which had made the Merlin Family suffer. This time, they almost let the Raging Flame Beastmen’s plot succeed because of fools like Green.

Now that his backing had returned, Thorne could stand up with confidence and speak without restraint.

Green was suddenly startled. He hadn’t known about Hoppet’s large-scale Teleportation Array, but that thought immediately flew past as Green was pissed off by Thorne’s words.

‘This damned weakling, he actually dares to speak to me like that?’

Green Watson glared at Thorne with killing intent as his mana started running rampant.

“Thorne, you actually dare to speak to me like that? Didn’t the Merlin Family teach you manners? Have you forgotten that you are standing in front of a 6th Rank Archmage of the Watson Family’s Ancestral Land? Is your Merlin Family trying to start a war?”

Thorne sneered and readied his greatsword as he looked at Green with disdain.

Compromising had gotten so many Merlins killed. He had no thoughts of compromising now.

Seeing Thorne getting ready to battle instantly enraged Green, and the mana fluctuations emitted from his body were like gales.

“Damned bastard, today I’ll teach you what the consequences of offending a 6th Rank Archmage are, what offending the Watson Family’s dignity actually entails!”

The enraged Green lost all reason as he quickly chanted a few sounds, and a red flame as thick as a person’s head ruthlessly flew towards Thorne.

After casting a Flame Burst, Green chanted the next incantation and formed an Ice Shield to protect himself.

Thorne swung his greatsword and slashed the Flame Burst. The energetic Aura tore the red ball of flames apart, and a Crescent Aura Slash immediately reached Green.

The Crescent Aura Slash ruthlessly slashed at Green’s Ice Shield, and a metallic screech echoed as sparks flew out. A faint crack could be seen on the Ice Shield, but the Aura Slash had already disappeared.

Seeing Thorne actually daring to counterattack, Green was in disbelief, but that disbelief soon turned into an even more intense rage.

‘Damn b*stard, you dare to attack me!? Looks like you think that the Watson Family is just a group of benevolent and kind-hearted people. F*cker, I shall teach you a lesson you will never forget! I’ll make you know that offending me is an unforgivable sin!’

Green took out his crystalline magic staff and pointed it at Thorne before quickly chanting with a sinister face.

A large number of Wind Blades appeared and formed a gale that swept towards Thorne.

Thorne roared, and an intense Aura covered his body. The sword in his hand was as light as a dead leaf as it flitted around, blocking all the Wind Blades.

He took advantage of Green’s casting time to send three Aura Slashes over.

Three loud crashing sounds echoed as numerous cracks appeared on Green’s Ice Shield, and after breaking through, the Aura Slashes kept flying towards Green’s body.

A Runic Shield appeared and blocked the rest of the power as the incantation he was rapidly chanting was completed.

A blue flame with a long trail instantly appeared in front of Thorne.

Thorne roared and filled his greatsword with Aura before blocking in front of him. A loud sound rang out as the blue ball of fire exploded against the greatsword with terrifying power, making Thorne look quite pale. It was unexpectedly followed by a second explosion from the blue flames.

Thorne groaned and spat blood, his body flying out like a broken kite.

He rolled a few times on the ground while keeping a tight grip on his greatsword, but was unable to stand up for a while. He hadn’t fully recovered from his original injury, only about 80% of his power at most.

Chapter 783: Challenge

Thorne was only a 5th Rank Sword Saint and his weapon wasn't particularly good, while Green was in perfect condition and was a 6th Rank Archmage with a True Spirit Magic Staff that could increase the power of his spells.

Green sneered as he glanced at Thorne with disdain.

"A piece of trash like you actually dares to make a move against me? How could an insignificant 5th Rank Sword Saint actually hold the title of Commander of the Merlin Family. Did your Merlin Family run out of people end up having to send trash like you? Even if you are relatively powerful trash, you are still trash!

"What are you looking at? You aren't convinced? Hurry up and fuck off, I'm ordering you to immediately guard the Horn of Fertility. Let your Merlin Family know that they should send another trash Commander."

Green Watson was loudly shouting, his arrogance visible on his face as he completely didn't care that this place was the Merlin Family's Flame Demon Fort. He coldly looked around at all the spectators.

'These stupid Merlins, daring to resist me! Hmpf, just you wait. You'll all die when the general attack on the Raging Flame Plane is finished. Not only Thorne Merlin, but even that Mafa Merlin. Anyone that is a Merlin will die!'

At this time, Zeuss and Lin Yun came out of the large tent. Zeuss had an embarrassed expression. He would have tried to stop the fight from breaking out if he'd been there when it started.

Lin Yun had a cold expression and didn't even pay attention to Green Watson. He turned to look at Thorne.

"Sir Thorne, how could you not have made a single bit of progress in the past few months? How could you serve as the Merlin Family's Commander when you are so weak? At least when fighting, you absolutely can't cower and give in. Who made you stop? Keep fighting!"

Lin Yun had a cold expression and his voice was icy like the winds of the north. On the side, Zeuss had opened his mouth, but ended up closing it with a bitter smile.

As for Green Watson, he burst out in a loud fit of laughter.

"Merlins only know how to talk big? How could a piece of trash like Thorne be my match? A 5th Rank Sword Saint thinks he can go against me? He's only still alive right now because I was being lenient. You are a group of idiots with no sense of propriety, are you trying to throw away your lives? Come, it doesn't matter if you come at me together, I'll wait."

Green Watson rolled his eyes as he stood on the spot, motionless. 'Ha, that Mafa Merlin is also an idiot, this is perfect! I'm not the one starting this fight, so if these Merlins can't take it, they'll be throwing away their lives! Yes, it would be for the best if I accidentally killed Thorne and Mafa together, it would be perfect, wouldn't it?'

Thorne stood up and wiped the blood at the corner of his mouth and bitterly smiled but didn't answer Lin Yun.

'I'm no match for him... Although that Green Watson is arrogant, he is very powerful and came from the Ancestral Land of the Watson Family. He received the best teaching possible and is already at the 6th Rank of the Archmage realm at such a young age, and he also wields a True Spirit Magic Tool.

'A 5th Rank Sword Saint can't compare to a 6th Rank Archmage. My injury had yet to recover and I got injured again. I'll only be able to display 70% of my power at most, so how could I be Green Watson's opponent?'

Lin Yun saw Thorne's inaction and sneered before casually throwing a potion to him.

"Try this."

The transparent bottle was filled with a pale golden liquid with a drop of blood floating in the center.

This was one of Lin Yun's rewards on the expedition. There was a drop of God Blood, and the golden liquid was a solution that could store God Blood without it losing its efficiency.

Thorne grabbed the potion and didn't care what it was. He knew that Lin Yun was a formidable alchemist, so he assumed that it was a powerful potion. He drank the potion and swallowed the drop of God Blood along with it. After a few seconds, he let out a loud shout and his originally pale skin seemed to be burning.

Blue veins appeared on his forehead, and the veins on his arms started bulging. A loud rumble echoed from his abdomen.

A violent aura was emitted from Thorne's body, and there was even a trace of God Aura in it. That God aura kept merging with Thorne's body.

Thorne's aura frantically rose. The strength he had lost because of his injuries had instantly been restored, while his strength, which had stagnated for a while, started growing.

Shock could be seen in Thorne's eyes. He could clearly feel his power continuously rising and his aura flaring up. His mind was clear, and he could feel a sort of barrier slowly dissipating.

The 6th Rank was right in front of him!

"Roar!" Thorne let out a loud cry as his Aura burst out.

His body seemed to be burning with a transparent flame as the bursting aura slowly congealed and condensed into a red crystal armor covering his body.

Breakthrough!

6th Rank Sword Saint!

The gap between the 5th and 6th Rank was extremely large. The 5th Rank could be reached from the 1st Rank over time through the accumulation of power.

But advancing to the 6th Rank from the 5th Rank Sword was the same for Sword Saints as it was for Archmages. They needed a different understanding for that jump. If they didn't have the required comprehension, they might never be able to advance.

After advancing to the 6th Rank, Sword Saints' originally fierce Aura Power could be controlled better and they could congeal their Aura into Aura Battle Armor, greatly increasing their defensive power. And with their increased control, their fighting strength also soared.

As Thorne grabbed his greatsword, his eyes were like burning flames. He felt that his current self could easily kill his previous self without suffering an injury.

'So this is the 6th Rank? So powerful!'

Green was endlessly shocked by this. He didn't know what potion Mafa Merlin gave to Thorne Merlin, but its effects were simply absurd!

It wasn't a temporary strengthening... Green was quite certain that this absolutely was a breakthrough!

Lin Yun had a calm expression as if he had been expecting this effect.

He had gained a lot this time, but the most fitting thing for Thorne was this drop of God Blood. Thorne had already been trapped at the 5th Rank for a while, so the power he had accumulated already exceeded the limit of the 5th Rank. He was only lacking a bit of comprehension and talent.

He only needed a little help in terms of talent and comprehension and he could instantly advance to be a 6th Rank Sword Saint.

Because of a fragment of a God's soul, the mana of Lin Yun's Demiplane contained the aura of a God, and this was a great help to those fifty mages with inferior talent. Those guys who were doomed to never advance past becoming Great Mages underwent shocking transformations.

They kept meditating under the God's aura and harmonized with it, thoroughly altering their talent and comprehension to an even more frightening level. These guys could even be described as geniuses now.

This change was only caused by the fusion with the God's aura.

Xiuban had bathed in that pool of Ancient God Blood. By giving up on his casting abilities, his body became outrageously tough, to the point that Dragons on the same level as Xiuban might not have bodies as tough as his. This was the transformation caused by the God Blood.

And swallowing a drop of God Blood gave Thorne a huge boost in his lacking areas, making those areas his best features now. Considering that, advancing to the 6th Rank was quite normal.

As he kept fusing with the drop of God Blood, Thorne's bloodline would change, his talent would increase, and his body would keep becoming more powerful. In the end, his Aura might contain a wisp of God Aura.

Everything related to Gods was powerful. With a wisp of Taboo Power, tearing apart mages' shields would be no different than tearing through paper.

At that time, Thorne's power would exceed his own rank!

Now, defeating Green Watson wasn't a problem.

"Green Watson, I, Thorne Merlin, challenge you!"

Thorne's body was covered in a red crystal Battle Armor, and the greatsword in his right hand was ferociously pointing at Green.

Green had a sinister expression and there was an ominous glint in his eyes.

'Damned trash, don't think that you are on par with me because you advanced to the 6th Rank! You fool, I shall let you know today how stupid it is to offend me, Green Watson. My spells will tear you to shreds. And as for you, Mafa Merlin, once I've killed Thorne, you are next!'

Green raised his staff and instant-cast a Flame Burst before quickly chanting an incantation and releasing an Ice Shield.

He was using the most orthodox tactic in a fight between a mage and a swordsman.

But this time, Thorne didn't block at all. With one stomp, he propelled himself towards Green Watson while tightly holding his greatsword.

The Flame Burst exploded on Thorne's back but barely made his body sway. His Aura Battle Armor was already powerful enough to disregard such low tier spells.

The greatsword was emitting a glaring light and Aura spurted out, but it immediately shrank into a three-meter-long light blade covering the greatsword.

Thorne suddenly jumped, and while holding the greatsword with both hands, he ruthlessly slashed down at Green's Ice Shield.

The huge light blade collided with the Ice Shield and intense energy fluctuations turned into gales that wreaked havoc in the surroundings.

The Ice Shield that could barely resist Thorne's Aura Slashes was getting filled with cracks at a rapid pace.

Thorne had swung his greatsword, and as he fell, his body rapidly spun around, causing a succession of sharp collisions to echo.

Chapter 784: Slap

The Ice Shield was blasted into a pile of fragments.

The huge blade of light ruthlessly slashed towards Green Watson's head, forcing him to halt his incantation in panic and instant-cast an Ice Wall before immediately raising a Runic Shield.

But the Ice Wall was torn apart by Thorne, and the blade of light transformed into an afterimage that slashed nine times at Green's Runic Shield in an instant.

A large number of runes circulated on the Runic Shield, flowing even faster every time Thorne's blade struck the shield. After nine blows, the Runic Shield collapsed and transformed into rays of light as it dissipated.

Green Watson looked at the greatsword slashing towards him with disbelief, his face filled with anger.

Thorne sneered. Just as he was about to hit Green, Thorne scattered his greatsword's Aura and switched to the back of the blade.

Green Watson was a prideful Archmage used to lording over others, and his body was even more powerful than his Rank, yet he couldn't completely endure such a terrifying blow.

He let out a miserable shout as his body flew like a broken kite. He was sent flying a dozen meters away and rolled on the ground for another several meters before stopping.

The originally smooth and elegant robe became dilapidated, and his styled hair was also left in a mess. He was covered in dust, and bloody scratches were covering his hands and head. His left shoulder, which had been hit by the greatsword, was fractured.

Thorne stood still as he held the greatsword, disbelief still visible in his eyes.

'I really defeated Green, and so easily...'

'Moreover, I can feel the increase in strength, and my body also seems to have been altered in some way. My talent... My talent grew!

'Doesn't... Doesn't that mean that I can still grow stronger? Doesn't that mean I have hope to advance to the 7th Rank?'

This pleasant surprise was so sudden that Thorne felt overwhelmed.

As for Green Watson, he suddenly remembered what happened after he stopped screaming and stood up while covering his left shoulder. He stared at Thorne and hysterically shouted, "Damned b*stard, you dare to injure me, you actually dare to do this!? You are dead, no one can save you! Do you know who my grandfather is? Let me enlighten you, I come from the Watson Family's Ancestral Land, the Ancestral Land!

"Thorne, you absolutely won't survive this day, and not just you, even that damned Mafa Merlin, today is your last day! Your entire Merlin Family will die, everyone will be buried because of you!

'You will all die, and not only that... All the Merlins will suffer and wish they could die. Your souls will suffer for all eternity in the Wailing River.

"Thorne, you are dead, Mafa Merlin, you are also dead!"

Green went crazy and yelled hysterically. He completely didn't care that he was in the Merlin Family's Flame Demon Fort right now. Not only did he want Thorne dead, but he even wanted Lin Yun and the Merlin Family to be thoroughly annihilated.

Zeuss had sighed in relief when he saw Thorne holding back his strike. As long as no one died, everything would only be a small issue. But hearing Green Watson announcing his future retaliation, Zeuss' face turned white once again.

'That damned moron, they already let you off, but you still plan on retaliating? And not only Thorne, you even dragged Sir Mafa in! F*ck, are you trying to get me killed?'

Zeuss' face turned pale. It was too late to prevent it, Green's declaration already echoed throughout the entire Flame Demon Fort.

At this time, Lin Yun frowned as he slowly extended his finger and pointed at Green.

In an instant, boundless runes gathered at Lin Yun's fingertip and instantly condensed into a glaring radiance, which soon transformed a ray of light that instantly hit Green Watson.

Green, who was still crazily rattling off his declaration of retaliation, immediately came to a stop and was stunned.

He then felt his own mana moving fiercely. It was as if there was a huge hole from which his mana was crazily escaping.

5th Rank Archmage... 3rd Rank Archmage, 9th Rank High Mage...

It only took a few seconds for the Magic Conducting Rune in his body to collapse and his strength to fall to that of a Magic Apprentice.

In the end, the last trace of his Mana Seed was like a small flame dispersing in the wind.

It only took ten seconds for all of his mana to thoroughly dissipate.

Green Watson's expression greatly changed: shock, anger, astonishment, puzzlement, disbelief...

He couldn't understand why Mafa Merlin dared to sneak attack him and cripple his mana, not even leaving him a wisp of his Mana Seed.

'Is that guy unafraid of death? Didn't he remain silent because he was afraid of Sir Zeuss?'

'How could he dare? How could he dare do this, isn't he afraid of the Watson Family's retaliation?'

'I want him dead, I must have him killed, I must make him regret being born!'

'Right, Sir Zeuss! That damned guy dared to attack me in front of Sir Zeuss and cripple me...'

At this moment, various thoughts emerged in Green Watson's mind, but the greatest ones were disbelief and anger, and just as he thought of Zeuss, Green became crazed and hysterical.

"Sir Zeuss, kill him! Kill him! That stupid rat actually dared to do this, he actually dared to do this! Kill him quickly!"

"And not just him, everyone here has to be killed, I want them dead, all of them have to die, all! Sir Zeuss, hurry up and attack!"

Facing Green's hysterical madness, Zeuss paled a bit and smiled bitterly.

'That damned fool, I already dropped so many hints, yet you foolishly couldn't understand them dared to threaten Sir Mafa in person?

'You are a f*cking moron... I've never seen anyone say so much in front of Sir Mafa without meeting a terrible end. Sir Mafa isn't a kindhearted person. He is normally quite sociable, but he'll never be lenient against his enemies...

'That damned fool not only caused trouble for himself, but he even drew me into it, and the Watson Family might even be dragged into a quagmire because of him.

'Can't you see? Is the current Sir Mafa still a High Mage?

'Even I can't see through him, who knows what Rank he is at? Damn it, that damned Hoppet managed to survive for many years and even managed to escape the chase of a 9th Rank Archmage, yet even he wasn't able to escape from Sir Mafa. Only a couple spells were enough to cripple Hoppet, to cripple a Peak 8th Rank Arch-Warlock!

'Is this person someone you can provoke?

'Not to mention that the Intrepid is completely under his control, and the mana crystal cannons on it are utterly terrifying. It made a mountain disappear with one shot!

'The Fireblade Tribe's army had been in control for so many years and even maintained an advantage over the three major forces after they started working together, yet they were annihilated in three minutes by Sir Mafa's Intrepid.

'And the three formidable races that had once been qualified to follow the Wisdom God all swore allegiance to Sir Mafa.

'The Dark Elves are innate casters, an entire race of mages, and even the weakest child is a Great Mage! They have two 9th Rank Archmages, one of whom is advancing at a rapid pace and might soon reach the Heaven Rank...

'The numerous Ash Beastmen have many Archmages, and their Demon Warlocks are very powerful...

'As for the Firerock Dwarves... It's an entire race of thugs. Just by looking at how they fight, even a Dragon would be torn to shreds by these thugs!

'That fool, Green, actually dared to threaten Sir Mafa and declare the entire Merlin Family dead! Do you want the entire Watson Family to die instead!?

'Damn it, by angering Sir Mafa, the Watson Family could end up flattened today. There is no need for the Intrepid to take care of it, just the restless Ash Beastmen would be enough to evaporate a few of our Family's forts...

'And also, my life was saved by Sir Mafa and my power was restored by him. Would I help you if this harmed the Watson Family and myself?

'Hell, what did the Ancestral Land teach this idiot...'

Zeuss' expression was terribly pale, but Green Watson was still hysterically screaming, so he had no choice but to step forward.

'If I let this fool keep being noisy, Sir Mafa definitely won't remain so good-tempered. He might have not killed him so far for my sake.

'This guy has such a great background and there will be huge troubles if he dies here. I can't let Sir Mafa make a faux pas.'

As he thought through all this, Zeuss ground his teeth, rushed in front of Green, and ruthlessly slapped him twice before immediately pulling him aside.

He didn't wait for Green to speak and used an impact spell to knock him out.

'Damn, I'm saving you. If it weren't for the sake of the Ancestral Land, I would have personally killed you!'

After knocking Green out, Zeuss smiled at Lin Yun and bowed as an apology.

"Sir Mafa, I'm really sorry, this guy... His brain doesn't function well, please don't take offense, I'll immediately throw him back. Rest assured, the friendship between the Merlin Family and the Watson Family won't be affected. I'll see myself out..."

Seeing that Mafa Merlin didn't stop him or get angry, Zeuss put in a good word for the Watson Family and promptly left with Green.

Zeuss rushed back to the fort controlled by the Watson Family. It would be useless if they didn't return... After all, the idiotic Green almost offended Lin Yun.

Chapter 785: Followers

Now that Green Watson was crippled, Zeuss had to return to clean up the mess.

The Merlin Family's side suddenly became stable. Thorne had ultimately advanced to the 6th Rank of the Sword Saint realm and was showing off his Aura Battle Armor every day. He was very grateful to Lin Yun and admired him.

The Merlins were also deeply grateful because Lin Yun had brought back such a huge harvest this time. The three races alone could fill an entire fort.

The Merlin Family had suffered heavy losses, and their overall strength sharply declined, but they could still control the fort because the Fireblade Tribe was crippled and couldn't threaten it.

The Watson Family and the Black Tower had recently been busy mobilizing for the general attack on the Raging Flame Plane, so no one had time to come to the Merlin Family.

The division of the Horn of Fertility also followed the original loot attribution.

Lin Yun took out three drops of God Blood, as well as an alchemical solution, and diluted the blood and divided it for the Merlins.

This was one of the main reasons that all of the Merlins in the Flame Demon Fort had a good impression of Lin Yun.

That day, when Green Watson showed off his strength, none of the Merlins dared to be angry or say anything. But then, Mafa Merlin had crippled Green Watson, and Zeuss was actually the one to knock him out, apologize, and carry him while gloomily walking away.

This felt like a release to most of them. The Merlin Family had been stifled ever since Green Watson came, but they were finally okay.

And all those who drank the potion gained a rank, and after that, they could still feel their strength continuously increasing.

After all, the family members that came here were ordinary family members, ones that weren't very talented. All the geniuses were being nurtured at the headquarters of the Merlin Family. Which of them would be willing to come to a dangerous place like the Raging Flame Plane?

Everyone here was battle-hardened and had accumulated enough power. The only thing restricting their advancement was their own innate talent.

With the potion prepared by Lin Yun, they had gained a trace of talent, and even their comprehension was upgraded. As a result, everyone ranked up.

The Archmages were killed during the assassination mission on Hoppet, and apart from Sword Saint Thorne, there were only two Low Rank Archmages.

The High Mage losses were the most disastrous, as they were wiped out. Most of those that remained were Great Mages.

They all gained a rank after drinking the potion and still clearly felt that they were improving.

That happiness couldn't be understood by those that didn't experience it themselves. To a mage, not making any progress for several years was even more unbearable than death.

Being able to progress was amazing.

Lin Yun knew that these guys' potential had been upgraded by at least a realm, and as time passed, after advancing to the next realm, their progress would slow down.

If the God Blood weren't so precious, and if Lin Yun had more of it, he wouldn't have been so stingy, only giving out three drops. He still needed enough for his mage subordinates.

But apart from that, many materials were also shared with the Flame Demon Fort so that they could create their own Magic Tools. After all, these materials were taken from the God Nation and were better than those from Noscent. They carried a wisp of the aura of the Wisdom Tree, and the results were outstanding. While forging Magic Tools, they would be half a rank better.

As he increased the power of the entire Merlin Family, Lin Yun would naturally not forget his fifty subordinates.

He couldn't help sighing when he saw his fifty subordinates.

They had originally been abandoned by the Merlin Family and had poor talent, destined to remain Mages all their lives. But now that they had absorbed mana with a God's aura and experienced the constant pressure, their innate talent completely changed.

They were all High Mages now. The weakest one was a 2nd Rank High Mage, while the strongest one was already at the 6th Rank.

The speed of their progress was shocking, and compared to the other clansmen in the Raging Flame Plane, these fifty guys were simply geniuses. Thorne was reluctant to send these fifty men to their deaths because he knew of their strength. There was no problem with having them hold the fort. They would grow stronger as time passed, and overall, it would make up for the losses of the Merlin Family.

Lin Yun could see that these fifty High Mages were well-coordinated, and when working together, they could even beat up Thorne, a 6th Rank Sword Saint.

Lin Yun ground his teeth. These fifty were his own followers. He used his hard-earned capital and took out materials he got from the God Nation, as well as fifty drops of God Blood, and refined a potion that would maximize the effect of the God Blood.

Their bodies originally carried the aura of a God, and the mana they had absorbed was already infected. As time passed, they might be able to condense God Blood on their own.

Now, with God Blood as their foundation, these guys would suffer no obstructions in the High Mage realm.

After advancing to the High Mage realm, the gap between them had widened, and the speed of their progress also slowed down. With Lin Yun's nourishment, they would all be able to advance to the 9th Rank of the High Mage realm in the future, though whether they could advance to the Archmage realm was unknown.

But a group of fifty 9th Rank High Mages was something very scary.

Besides forces like the Black Tower, there was no mention of a force that could come up with fifty 9th Rank High Mages. In some mid-sized forces, 9th Rank High Mages were at the peak of status and power.

A plane that had yet to be conquered like the Raging Flame Plane was very dangerous. Without talent, there was no hope of advancing to the Archmage realm. 9th Rank High Mages would definitely not be dispatched here en masse, as it would be a huge blow to any of these forces if they fell.

The members of the Merlin Family were basking in the light, and everyone had improved. Xiuban and the others also got a lot of benefits.

After this extremely long period of fighting, Reina had already reached the peak of level 38 and could break through at any time. Lin Yun previously copied many ice-related spells from the Book of Mantras and gave them to Reina, and Reina's eyes shone as the spells instantly disappeared.

Xiuban smiled as he carried a pile of potions and went to his bedroom to bitterly cultivate.

Enderfa was restless from being idle since the Ten Thousand Spell Wheel had been upgraded, and he was now hanging around the fifty High Mages every day in order to "help Merlin train his followers..."

Lin Yun had also replaced the puppet's components with extravagant materials from the God Nation. These could be used as materials for True Spirit Magic Tools, yet they were extravagantly used for the puppet's body.

The three races were also fighting every day in some large rooms of the Intrepid. They had been hostile for so many years. Although they wouldn't cripple or kill each other, they still found the others unpleasant and would never stop fighting.

With the potions allocated by Lin Yun, the power of the three major races also greatly increased. And although they were arguing every day, their relationship did grow better and better. The Dark Elves took out many fruits that made the Ash Beastmen drool, and the Ash Beastmen were no longer afraid of starvation, making them willing to give a large amount of valuable materials to the Firerock Dwarves.

The Firerock Dwarves, who had been restless, immediately built a forge and helped the Ash Beastmen and the Dark Elves forge some weapons and armor. It was said that after Russ defeated the Flame Dragon Warlord, he felt that the other side's equipment wasn't good and he was bullying him.

As everything was settled, Lin Yun impatiently locked himself into an alchemy laboratory.

Among the precious materials he obtained, the most valued things were the horn of the Horned Six-Tailed Fox, the Golden Behemoth's 3rd Eye, and the Rock Giant's Heart.

These three things weren't easy to process, and he wouldn't have a chance to try again if he failed, so Lin Yun didn't use them in that kind of simple and crude environment after receiving them.

He immediately started the processing once he got into the alchemy laboratory. These three things were extinct materials that could strengthen the Incarnation of the Draconic Staff.

There might not be such good materials in Noscent.

Although the power of the Draconic Staff wouldn't improve much, as long as the Purple Dragon Incarnation matured, the power of the Incarnation would double!

At that time, Lin Yun would be 50% more powerful when he had the support of the Purple Dragon Shadow and the Element Chapter.

Lin Yun's casting ability was already terrifyingly powerful, especially after advancing to the Archmage realm. 3rd Tier Spells and below were all Ultimate Spells.

And when using spells that were a bit more advanced, if he had the support of the Purple Dragon Shadow and the Element Chapter, the power of 4th Tier Spells would be comparable to Ultimate Spells.

Most 5th Tier Spells could also be strengthened to be comparable to Ultimate spells!

And Lin Yun's 6th Tier Spells would most likely have their power doubled!

Although the mana consumption of spells would increase exponentially, something like mana consumption wasn't a problem for Lin Yun with his Demiplane.

When the Purple Dragon Incarnation was successfully strengthened, Lin Yun would be like a human-shaped mana crystal fortress covered in mana crystal cannons!

Time kept passing by like the waves of the Wailing River, and soon, a month nearly passed.

The entire Flame Demon Fort had thoroughly changed. The decaying and murky atmosphere from the previous month had completely disappeared. Everyone felt reinvigorated and energetically positive.

There would be a large group of swordsmen with nowhere to vent their energy battling on the square every day, and Thorne would personally come over every few days.

Chapter 786: Messenger

Lars Watson looked around as he walked into the Flame Demon Fort, disbelief flickering in his eyes.

‘Damn, what happened here? Did the entire Merlin Family eat something wrong?’

‘Hey, isn’t that Geru Merlin? That guy was a 9th Rank High Mage last month, how come he’s a 1st Rank Archmage now?’

‘That guy had been stuck at the High Mage realm for twenty years, hadn’t he? How did he advance?’

‘And it’s not just him, there are a few others that weren’t as strong a month ago. How come they’ve advanced now?’

Doubt flashed in Lars Watson’s eyes, but he still felt disdainful. The Flame Demon Fort mostly had Great Mages. There weren’t many High Mages, and the Archmages had fallen... So how could that Geru advance to the Archmage realm?

It wasn’t as if they were all weak, but besides Mafa Merlin and his entourage, the entire Merlin Family here looked as if it would easily collapse. ‘Their Commander, Thorne Watson, is only a 5th Rank Sword Saint... I really don’t know what the Merlin Family is thinking. They are so weak, yet they think of sharing the benefits of the Raging Flame Plane...’

‘Truly a pile of trash, except Sir Mafa Merlin, of course. Sir Green was a 6th Rank Archmage from the Ancestral Land, but he was actually crippled by Mafa Merlin, and Sir Zeuss didn’t even help Sir Green out.’

‘After returning, the entire fort could hear Sir Zeuss scolding Sir Green, and people said that he was so angry that just a spurt of his saliva was enough to wash over Green’s face.’

‘That huge warship had been driven back here by Sir Mafa. I heard that this warship annihilated all the Raging Flame Beastman of the Fireblade Tribe in a few minutes... truly terrifying.’

‘Sir Green was incredibly stupid. Sir Zeuss repeatedly warned me before leaving that the Tribal Chief of the Fireblade Tribe, Hoppet, was personally killed by Mafa Merlin, and he was a Peak 8th Rank Arch-Warlock.’

‘And reportedly, Mafa Merlin didn’t have an especially good relationship with the Merlin Family upon his return. After coming to the Raging Flame Plane, the people there refused to comply with him.’

‘Truly a bunch of idiots...’

Lars Watson followed the guide in front of him and suddenly noticed a sleeping Beastman sprawled on his back atop a large tent, snoring loudly. His body was emitting a dangerous aura.

'Isn't that Sir Mafa's follower, Sir Xiuban? Truly powerful. It was said that he has followed Mafa Merlin for more than a year and, from a stupid Beastman, became a 4th Rank Sword Saint. But his aura feels stronger than a 5th Rank Sword Saint.'

'It was also said that a frightening Frost Dragon was also the follower of Sir Mafa.'

'Unfortunately, I'm from the Watson Family, so Sir Mafa would definitely look down on me, or else I would have thickened my face to become one of his followers.'

"You can wait here, Sir Mafa is working on an important alchemy experiment, wait until he comes out."

A voice interrupted Lars' delusion. Lars turned and arrogantly nodded.

Disdain flashed in his eyes as he watched the back of that person. Besides Sir Mafa, there wasn't a single Merlin that could be looked up to.

'Hmpf, the Merlin Family is filled with cowards and idiots. Seeing Sir Mafa's strength, they could only thicken their faces and pull him back into the family.'

Lars sat in the empty reception room, not worried at all. It was said that Mafa Merlin was also a formidable Master Alchemist that might have already advanced to the Artisan realm. Waiting on an Artisan wasn't an issue. Many people would actually hope for such an opportunity without ever receiving one.

After a dozen minutes, Lin Yun looked at the solution that kept changing in his beaker and nodded with satisfaction.

'Hmm, this still needs another half an hour before the next step. Let's meet with the visitor from the Watson Family.'

Lin Yun noticed his messy hair and filthy clothing, but he didn't care. Time was pressing, and he didn't have time to waste. After quickly tidying himself, he walked towards the reception room.

After pushing open the door, he immediately heard a shout. "Hmpf, who let you come in?"

Lars was coldly looking at this youth with a ruffled appearance. 'His clothes are filthy and his hair is a mess, he looks like he walked into the wrong room. He even entered without knocking, truly boorish of him.'

'The people of the Merlin Family's headquarters are becoming more and more embarrassing. No wonder they are all a bunch of trash. In this Flame Demon Fort, only someone like Sir Mafa can be considered a powerhouse.'

A trace of amazement flashed on Lin Yun's face, and he truly thought he had gone the wrong way for a moment. He even checked, but this was really the reception room.

Lars sneered as he looked at Lin Yun.

“You are really uneducated. You don’t even know how to knock after opening a door! I am the messenger of the Watson Family and Sir Mafa Merlin’s guest, I have an important matter to discuss with Sir Mafa, yet you are so bold as to come in like that. Is the Merlin Family that lawless?”

Seeing Lin Yun’s stunned appearance, Lars immediately looked down on him. ‘So stupid, you don’t even know how to apologize and leave? Forget it, for the sake of Sir Mafa Merlin, I won’t bother to bicker with that idiot.

“What are you looking at, why aren’t you leaving yet? What are you doing still standing there? Don’t you know how to show proper etiquette? You should apologize, leave, and close the door behind you.”

Instead of getting angry, Lars suddenly got the idea of properly educating that fool, so he kept chattering.

If it weren’t for the fact that he was worried about possible reprisal from the ill-tempered Mafa Merlin, he might have made that fool suffer.

Lin Yun was totally amazed at this person’s words, but then he looked at his clothes and understood why that guy had misunderstood...

“If there isn’t someone else called Mafa Merlin here, then the person you are looking for should be me...”

“... You see, apart from Sir Merlin, who else in your Merlin Family... Mafa Merlin... What, you are Mafa Merlin?”

Lars suddenly reacted to Lin Yun’s words.

His face turned as white as a ghost, and he instantly jumped up from his chair as he remembered what he had just been talking about.

“You... You are Sir Mafa Merlin... This... Err...”

Lars was terrified, and his legs were continuously shivering. Cold sweat was dripping down his back as if he was facing a Heaven Rank monster.

He recalled what Sir Zeuss had discussed with him, fearing that he would cause trouble:

‘Lars, after you leave, please do not offend Sir Merlin. To tell you the truth, the Tribal Chief of the Fireblade Tribe was personally killed by Sir Mafa, and very easily.

‘Sir Mafa isn’t like the weak members of the Merlin Family. If you want to die, please do not drag me into it. Sir Merlin has a good friendship with our Watson Family, and Watsons shouldn’t destroy this friendship, am I being clear? Do you understand?’

Lars was morose, feeling so scared that he looked like he was weeping. His mouth was wide open, but he was unable to talk properly. Sir Zeuss had said that offending Sir Mafa would result in an unsightly death that the Watson Family wouldn’t bail him out of.

“Sir Mafa Merlin, this... Err... I truly didn’t know it was you... Please... Please don’t mind it...”

Lars felt like sobbing. His hand was gripping the table tightly, and his legs were already shaking.

“What did Sir Zeuss send you for?” Lin Yun casually asked.

Lars hurriedly took out a letter from his bosom and put it on the table with trembling hands.

“Sir Zeuss sent me to deliver this letter... This... Sir Mafa Merlin, I really didn’t know it was you, please be merciful, that...”

Lin Yun waved his hand, disinclined to bicker with that scaredy-cat, lest he made him soil his pants.

Lars saw Lin Yun’s movement and felt as if the scythe of the Grim Reaper had left his neck. He rushed out, but because his legs were shaking, he ended up sprawled on his stomach. But he didn’t dare to stop, so he crawled up to deeply express his thanks to Lin Yun while crying before rushing out of the reception room.

After leaving, Lars’ face turned deathly pale, and without caring about his image, he madly rushed out of the Flame Demon Fort, as if he was being chased by a Heaven Rank monster.

Lin Yun didn’t pay attention to Lars. He waved at the envelope on the table, which opened, allowing a letter with polite wording to appear in front of him.

After a bunch of polite words at the top, there was only one sentence regarding the actual matter. It was time, everyone had to start converging towards the Storm Fort, and Lin Yun had to lead the elites of the Merlin Family hurry there.

With a wave, the letter turned to ashes, and Lin Yun once again returned to his laboratory. His important experiment was still underway, so he had no time to waste.

Lin Yun got into the laboratory and forgot about other matters. Meanwhile, an unexpected guest had arrived at the Flame Demon Fort.

A middle-aged man wearing a long, black robe and reeking of pride swaggered into the Flame Demon Fort, not even caring about the defenses.

As he walked in, the Merlins wanted to confront him and ask why he was here, but the middle-aged man immediately burst out with formidable mana. The mana fluctuations were just like gales that sent everyone within a few dozen meters flying away.

9th Rank Archmage!

Everyone was instantly alarmed, and the leader of the guard also understood who had come.

The number of 9th Rank Archmages in the entire Raging Flame Plane could be counted one hand, and a black-robed person reeking of arrogance and treating others like filth could only be someone of the Black Tower.

Chapter 787: Blackmail

The black-robed man was attentively watching the inside of the Flame Demon Fort, walking into it as if it was his own garden.

“Hurry, hurry and report to Sir Thorne and Sir Mafa, the Black Tower’s Barok arrived...”

Lin Yun was in the laboratory and had ordered that unless the Flame Demon Fort was about to be destroyed, no one should disturb him, so the Merlins naturally wouldn’t dare to disturb him. Considering this, they only notified Thorne.

Thorne looked quite upset when he heard this news.

Thorne hated Barok. The bitter experience of the Merlin Family for the past few months wasn’t only due to the Watson Family; the Black Tower also targeted the Merlin Family together with them.

Their original Commanders all went to that world and didn’t return for a few months, so those two forces naturally dispatched new Commanders. These people weren’t happy when they saw that the Merlin Family had gotten so much despite having only a 5th Rank Sword Saint as a Commander and being much weaker overall. This ultimately had resulted in them conspiring against the Merlins.

Although Barok hadn’t been there for long, he was very troublesome and rampant. The foolish Green Watson was an idiot with offensive words, but he wasn’t as loathsome as Barok, who clearly let his contempt show.

Now, Barok was swaggering his way into the Merlin Family’s Flame Demon Fort, but no one could stop him.

A bitter smile could be seen on Thorne’s face, but he didn’t dare to say anything.

‘F*ck, that damned guy, such great luck. He was still at the peak of the 8th Rank when he came, but he advanced after three days. Not only is he the one in charge of the Black Tower in the Raging Flame Plane, but he is also the second strongest person in the Black Tower.

‘Forget it, I might as well check it out, that guy isn’t easy to deal with. It will be fine even if he has excessive requirements, as long as they don’t go too far...

‘Ugh, I really want to punch that f*cker...’

He had come to the Raging Flame Plane over a month ago and immediately continued working with the Watson Family to keep sending Merlins into dangerous areas.

In the end, when Green suggested sending Thorne to assassinate the Tribal Chief of the Fireblade Tribe, Barok unhesitantly agreed.

At the time, Barok had just advanced to the 9th Rank and was at a critical juncture. His Rank had yet to stabilize, and he couldn’t control his mana. In the eyes of mages, this was like a lighthouse in the night, so he simply didn’t dare to approach the battlefield.

Sending Thorne to assassinate Hoppet was a way to weaken the Merlin Family while conveniently buying time to stabilize his power, so he unhesitantly agreed.

After hearing that, Thorne had no choice but to grit his teeth and leave without saying anything. Now, that guy was brazenly rushing into the Flame Demon Fort. This was simply too crazy.

Thorne was extremely angry, but he also knew that he couldn't cause too much trouble right now. He had heard too many things concerning Barok during that time. That guy was very young for a 9th Rank Archmage. He was several decades younger than Chairman Harren.

Moreover, he was the 2nd Seat of the Black Tower, and once Harren joined the Holy Land of the Black Tower, Barok would definitely become the new Chairman. When the time came, the Black Tower would be under his complete control.

Now, in the Raging Flame Plane, all the decisions of the Black Tower were made by Barok. The Merlin Family's strength had greatly increased, but it had yet to catch up to their past peak before suffering so many losses. They were at their strongest a few months ago, if Mafa Merlin was added on top.

'This guy is so arrogant, despotic, and complacent. I heard a few days ago that just because an Archmage had a different opinion, he was immediately dispatched to the most dangerous area by Barok, and even a few of that Archmage's friends were sent along with him.'

Thorne walked to the entrance of the reception room and immediately heard the arrogant shouts coming from within.

"... What's going on? Since when is your Merlin Family so poor? You actually took fruits that are a few days old to welcome your guest, to welcome the future Chairman of the Black Tower..."

When Thorne heard the crashing sound, he steadied his face and opened the door to the reception room.

In the reception room, there was an oval-shaped desk that was over twenty meters long with seats at both ends. One seat was reserved for the Commander of the Merlin Family, while the other one was reserved for important guests or for negotiation.

And at this moment, Barok was sitting on the seat reserved to the leader of the Merlin Family, completely ignoring the fact that this was like stepping on the Merlin Family.

Unless it was a vassal-lord relationship, only the host could sit there, yet Barok was setting himself up as the master with two Merlins on the sides who didn't dare to speak.

There was a pile of fresh fruit on the ground, fruit that couldn't be produced in the Raging Flame Plane. Those were precious fruits from Noscent.

Each time supplies were brought, they were only able to get a bit, and at times, even the Commander wouldn't be able to eat any.

They had taken out a plate to receive Barok, but he dared to waste them and say that they were a few days old!

Thorne clenched his fists, a fire quickly rising in his eyes as he looked at the fruit. This type of fruit was called Calm Fruit and had great benefits for mages and swordsmen. It could make their mana and Aura become easier to control. It was a valuable item, especially in a long-lasting battle.

This time, ten had been delivered, and Thorne hadn't even had time to savor one. Eight of them had been brought out for Barok, yet Barok unexpectedly threw these Calm Fruits to the ground.

Thorne waved to these two mages and made them leave, before softly breathing in and out to suppress his anger.

“Sir Barok, I wonder why you have come?”

Barok suddenly slammed on the table and pointed at Thorne while scolding.

“Thorne, you have to give me an explanation today! Why were so many members of the Black Tower killed by your Family? And a few hundred, too, the weakest of which was a High Mage, and even two Archmages were killed!”

After saying that, Barok’s mana rushed forth, fiercely suppressing Thorne.

Thorne’s aura was sluggish, and he couldn’t help taking two steps back while glaring angrily at Barok.

“Sir Barok, when did it happen? How could I not know? There have been no battles in recent days. How could the Black Tower lose so many people? And to say that it was the Merlin Family... Sir Barok must be jesting.”

Thorne looked at Barok with a dark expression. ‘That damned b*stard, that greedy and arrogant rat! He was using pompous pretexts before, but now he directly skipped to framing our Merlin Family? A few hundred High Mages? What a joke, since when did the Black Tower have so many High Mages?’

‘If your Black Tower could dispatch a few hundred High Mages, they would have already swept through the Raging Flame Plane! You wouldn’t have bothered making agreements with other forces to deal with the Fireblade Tribe, and you wouldn’t have struggled to deal with them for months.’

Barok sneered, and his aura suddenly rose, forcing Thorne back a few steps.

“Thorne, don’t think I’m clueless. When dealing with the Fireblade Tribe’s final stand, your Merlin Family used an attack that didn’t distinguish between friend or foe, making our Black Tower lose a few hundred High Mages in vain. They were the future of our Black Tower, and they ended up ruined in your hands! If you don’t give me an account... Don’t blame me for being rude!”

Barok didn’t put the Merlin Family in his eyes, and from the way he acted, he didn’t even care that he was in the Flame Demon Fort. He seemed ready to flatten it if he was unsatisfied.

Barok felt proud as he saw Thorne’s expression. ‘The foolish Merlin Family actually gave me such a nice pretext. I just heard the news that during the battle, the Merlin Family killed many members of the Black Tower.’

‘The Horn of Fertility is the place with the rarest natural resources in the Raging Flame Plane. Giving a share of that area to the weak Merlin Family is too wasteful. These guys simply aren’t fit to have these resources. Now, I have to make the fools of the Merlin Family give up that part of their benefits as compensation.’

‘Hmpf, if they dare to disagree, I might as well take over the Fort right now. Letting these idiots experience the might of a 9th Rank Archmage is a good plan.’

After hearing Barok’s words, Thorne was suddenly enlightened, finally understanding what Barok was talking about.

'Damn it, when Sir Mafa returned, he used those frightening mana crystal cannons on the Fireblade Tribe's troops and unexpectedly killed many members of the Watson Family and the Black Tower. But wasn't that a while back? Why did Barok only come now?

'That damned b*stard, what hundreds of High Mages? There were at most a few hundred swordsmen that were being used as cannon fodder against the Raging Flame Beastmen. Only seven or eight High Mages died at most, and that that greedy b*stard actually says there were a few hundred High Mages?!

'Did Sir Zeuss keep the Watson Family under tight control? Why does this guy seem clueless?'

Thorne suddenly felt puzzled. When Sir Merlin appeared with the Intrepid, he destroyed the Raging Flame Beastmen with mana crystal cannons. This was something that everyone knew, so why did it look like Barok didn't know?

'That greedy and arrogant b*stard has come to blackmail the Merlin under false pretenses!'

Chapter 788: Cold Sweat

"Sir Barok, if you have any requests, don't hesitate, I'll write them down."

Barok couldn't help proudly smiling as he knew that the cowards of the Merlin Family wouldn't dare to resist.

"It's very simple. Your Merlin Family shouldn't feel desirous of the Horn of Fertility's harvest, and furthermore, those three ore veins near the Horn of Fertility have to be given to our Black Tower as compensation."

A trace of anger flashed in Thorne's eyes, but he knew that he couldn't afford to offend that arrogant guy right now, so he could only go along with his whims for the time being.

"Sir Barok, to tell you the truth, this matter is too important and I don't have the right to decide. Since Commander Mafa Merlin returned, only he is able to make this decision."

Barok was a bit stunned, but he then waved his arm. "That Mafa Merlin, eh? Have him come meet me."

With an apologetic expression, Thorne answered, "Sir Barok, I'm really sorry... Sir Mafa is in the middle of a very important alchemy experiment and already instructed us to not disturb him unless the Raging Flame Plane was on the verge of destruction. If nothing unexpected happens, Sir Mafa should come out tomorrow. How about you come back tomorrow?"

Barok frowned and said with dissatisfaction, "Have him hurry up and come out! What alchemy experiment can be more important than me? I came here personally, yet he is still doing some random experiment?"

Thorne kept his expression neutral as he continued, "Sir Barok, Sir Mafa is a formidable alchemist, and even I don't dare to approach his laboratory. I almost died the last time I did. Tomorrow... Sir Mafa should come out tomorrow. Sir Barok, how about you wait for a while or come back tomorrow?"

Barok looked to be in a bad mood, but before he could say anything, Thorne continued, "Sir Barok, only Sir Mafa has the right to make decisions regarding the things you want. No one else in the Flame Demon Fort has that authority."

Hearing this, Barok coldly snorted as his mana rose up like a tidal wave and forced Thorne to take quite a few steps back.

"Hmpf, I changed my mind! The number of veins has increased to six! When that Mafa Merlin comes out, let him know that not one less will do! If he is unwilling, I'll let you know why a prestigious 9th Rank Archmage can't be offended!"

With these words, he quickly rushed out of the reception room.

Outside, no one dared to provoke Barok, who swaggered his way out of the Flame Demon Fort.

Thorne wiped the cold sweat off his forehead and bitterly smiled. 'Fortunately, this Barok still knew not to break into the laboratory of an alchemist that wasn't a mortal enemy...'

He sent Barok away and wouldn't need to deal with this matter from now on. 'Since Sir Mafa is here, I only have to leave it to him...'

The next day, in Lin Yun's alchemy laboratory, the Draconic Staff calmly floated in midair, and there was a purple liquid continuously rotating around the staff.

The Purple Dragon Incarnation was floating at the tip of the staff, constantly cheering. The purple liquid transformed into a very thin stream that kept being swallowed by the young Purple Dragon.

As time passed, the amount of liquid rotating around the Draconic Staff kept decreasing, and the young Purple Dragon's body underwent huge changes.

That phantom-like body kept congealing and becoming more and more tangible, and the originally palm-sized Purple Dragon slowly grew to half a meter in length.

It no longer looked like a young, unweaned Dragon. It had grown quite a bit, particularly its wings.

A smile appeared on Lin Yun's face as all the purple liquid was absorbed by the Purple Dragon.

'Finally complete...'

Although the Draconic Staff didn't rank up, the improvement of the Purple Dragon Incarnation was most important!

The Incarnation was the most precious part of a True Spirit Magic Tool. Some True Spirit Magic Tools had special effects, and their power was completely embodied by their Incarnation.

Shawn was a great example. All the power of the Magic Tool lay in Shawn, and absorbing mana crystals was only to strengthen Shawn.

Although the Draconic Staff could increase casting speed and spell power, the difference between it and the support of the Purple Dragon was like the difference between heaven and earth.

But strengthening a True Spirit Magic Tool's Incarnation was very challenging. He'd had a hard time getting these precious materials in order to strengthen the Incarnation, so how could he dare to be careless?

Lin Yun was already an Artisan and had very cautiously created a solvent from the materials. Everything had been done with strict standards, as he was afraid of failure.

Because he wouldn't find a second set of materials if he failed.

The result was very successful. The Draconic Staff was priceless, and the power of the Purple Dragon increased by more than half, which would increase Lin Yun's fighting power by at least half when supporting him!

Lin Yun's base power was already terrifying to begin with, but a 50% increase was crazy. Enderfa would be terrified if he learnt about that.

If Zeuss and some others learnt about this fact, they would unconditionally soil their pants.

A 50% strength increase on someone with the strength of ten people wasn't much, but Lin Yun's base power was over ten thousand, that 50% was just too frightening.

The difference in power between every Archmage Rank was huge. With a 50% increase in power, he could kill two of himself!

Lin Yun put away the Draconic Staff and was in a very good mood. It was because in the future Noscent, when the mage civilization reached its peak, those God-like powerful mages never managed to collect materials that could strengthen Magic Tool Incarnations like these.

Directly increasing the power of a Magic Tool Incarnation like this... Even planar conquerors would want to forcibly steal them out of greed.

As Lin Yun left the laboratory, someone immediately came up to him.

"Commander Mafa, Sir Barok of the Black Tower left you a message for you. He said that you have to go meet him at the Griffin Fort."

Lin Yun looked distracted. 'Barok? Who is that? The Black Tower? Is that guy an idiot?'

He waved the messenger away and took his fifty High Mages to leave the Flame Demon Fort. As for Barok? He forgot about it, not taking it seriously at all.

'Does that guy think he is the Patriarch of the Merlin Family? Even the Patriarch of the Merlin Family doesn't dare to anger me.'

On the other side, in the Griffin Fort.

Barok didn't do anything all day long. In the morning, he sent people to the Flame Demon Fort to deliver a message, and then he just waited.

'Hmpf, Merlin Family Commander? Wait until you come to the Griffin Fort! I'll make you spit out the harvest that the Merlin Family has gotten here in the past few years. Letting you have those resources

and veins is simply a waste. They'd be better in my possession. Only I, Barok, am qualified to have these resources.

'Dare to not agree? Haha, that would be good, the Merlin Family would have to change Commanders. The price for offending a 9th Rank Archmage is death.'

Barok was waiting in the reception room of the Griffin Fort with a complacent smile. He kept wondering how to ruthlessly put down the Merlin Family.

'I'll make him feel the power of a 9th Rank Archmage first, no... That's too rough, that little kid might soil his pants if I scare him off with my power.

'But that's also good, if that happens, he won't disagree with what I say.

'Forget it, let's try another method and make him hatefully give up on the benefits. It's better if he has hard feelings. Then, I can go to the Merlin Family and find an opportunity to plunder the fort they control.

'The general attack on the Raging Flame Plane is about to start, and the more forts and forces one has, the more resources they'll get. As long as we do well this time, the position of Chairman of the Black Tower will quickly become mine. That Harren would have to abdicate, as he hasn't brought much profit to the Black Tower for a long time. I'll be the master of the Black Tower...'

Barok waited calmly in the reception room for a long time, constantly looking at the entrance of the room.

Time slowly passed, but Barok didn't care... until he woke up from his trance and discovered that it was already night.

'That damn Mafa Merlin, he didn't even come at all!'

"B*stard! Wretch! Damned guy, you actually dare to make me wait here for an entire day! How could you dare! This is looking down on the prestige of the Black Tower, this is looking down on the prestige of a 9th Rank Archmage! I must make you pay the price!

"Mafa Merlin, f*cking Mafa Merlin, I must make you pay the price of looking down on a 9th Rank Archmage... I'll kill you, I must kill you!"

Barok was furious. The mana within the reception room was frantically fluctuating like a storm, which tore apart all the tables and chairs within.

Barok's cursing voice could be heard a few hundred meters outside the reception room.

At that time, the exhausted Weiss had just come back from outside with a tired expression. He had barely gotten back to the fort when he heard Barok's fierce cursing and the reception room being torn apart. Everyone outside was hiding, and no one dared to approach.

Hearing someone cursing Mafa Merlin immediately alarmed Weiss. He pulled someone close and learnt that this person was Barok, the new 2nd Seat of the Black Tower.

Weiss had left after following Lin Yun back from the Raging Flame Plane. At that time, Barok had already advanced to the 9th Rank of the Archmage realm and was bitterly consolidating his power, so although the two of them were both stationed at the Griffin Fort, Weiss had yet to meet Barok.

He had been planning to meet this new Commander after returning. After all, everyone knew that once Harren entered the Black Tower's Holy Land, Barok would be the next Chairman.

But now, cold sweat trickled down the pale-faced Weiss...

Chapter 789

: Common Sense

'Damn, I heard that this Barok was very arrogant and that he looked down on everyone in the Black Tower aside from Harren, but why did he offend Sir Mafa? Heavens, he actually wants to kill Sir Mafa!

'Do you really think that you can kill Sir Mafa just by having recently advanced to the 9th Rank? Too naive.

'Hoppet was a Peak 8th Rank Arch-Warlock, yet he was effortlessly killed by Sir Mafa like a helpless young kid, and you actually want to kill that Mafa Merlin?'

Weiss was scared shitless after hearing Barok making more death threats, and he immediately rushed into the reception room.

"Sir Barok, Sir Barok, there must definitely be a misunderstanding..."

Weiss was very polite as he rushed in.

Barok was extremely angry, when he saw Weiss, he immediately cursed at him.

"Who are you? Who let you enter? Damn b*stard, are you offending the prestige of a 9th Rank Archmage?"

Weiss turned pale and promptly explained, "Sir Barok, I'm Weiss, do you remember me? I wasn't in the Griffin Fort before, so you might not have met me..."

Hearing this, Barok's expression mellowed. He knew that Weiss was already a peak 8th Rank Archmage who might advance to the 9th Rank within a few years. When Barok took over the Black Tower, Weiss would become the 2nd Seat, barring any unforeseen changes.

He had a bit of respect for this kind of powerhouse...

"Oh, turns out to be Sir Weiss. Is there something wrong?"

Weiss bitterly smiled as he wondered how he could persuade Barok.

"Sir Barok, I just heard you saying that you wanted to kill Sir Mafa Merlin... Was there some misunderstanding?"

As he heard this, Barok's anger soared.

“That damned Merlin Family, and that damned Mafa Merlin! They killed so many members of our Black Tower, yet they still dare to ignore my summons, making me wait here for an entire day without showing up! This is contempt! They are looking down on my prestige, looking down on the prestige of a 9th Rank Archmage. I want him to pay with his life!”

Weiss’ mouth was wide open and he felt his legs weakening. ‘For that f*cking matter? Because of such a dogsh*t reason?’

‘Hell, don’t you know how these people from the Black Tower died?’

‘Open your f*cking eyes! There were over a hundred mana crystal cannons, and the Intrepid has an even more terrifying Hand of Destruction. A mountain that was over a kilometer tall was turned into a depression with one shot!’

‘What does a bit of cannon fodder even count as? Several Archmages died when fighting against the Fireblade Tribe. Didn’t Sir Mafa’s intervention avert a lot more loss on our side?’

‘Damn it, this scoundrel actually dared to cooperate with the vicious and greedy Raging Flame Beastmen. Does he want to steal from the Merlin Family that badly?’

‘A bunch of idiots! If not for Sir Mafa’s appearance, the Griffin Fort would have been flattened by those damned Raging Flame Beastmen, yet you are still blaming him?’

‘Don’t tell me that you think yourself unequalled after advancing to the 9th Rank? Something like Rank can only be used as a reference.’

‘If you want to die, don’t drag me in, and don’t drag the Black Tower in. That crazy Falton was troublesome enough, and now there is another one... Why do you have to pull the Black Tower down?’

‘This is no good, I have to properly convince this crazy guy. Mafa Merlin isn’t someone we can provoke, he isn’t a kind-hearted person...’

Weiss’ anger soared, but Barok had higher status and was stronger than him, so he simply couldn’t act too forceful. He could only advise him properly.

“Sir Barok, let’s put aside whether there was a misunderstanding or not... Sir Mafa Merlin isn’t that simple, you can’t treat him as an ordinary Archmage.”

“You know about the Fireblade Tribe’s Tribal Chief, Hoppet, right? He was a Peak 8th Rank Arch-Warlock, yet he died easily at Sir Mafa’s hands.”

“Sir Mafa is terrifyingly talented, his casting abilities are awfully formidable, and he has far more mana than the average person. Moreover, he recently became an Artisan, and the True Spirit Magic Tool in his hand was his own creation. He is the most powerful youth I have ever encountered...”

Weiss kept talking about Lin Yun’s strength, hoping to make Barok change his mind.

But when he stopped, Barok smiled at Weiss with disdain.

‘That Weiss has no knowledge... No wonder he has been following with Harren for such a long time, yet I’m the one that ended up with the 2nd Seat of the Black Tower instead.’

'That guy never met anyone that was truly powerful... but it's true that there are no real powerhouses in the Raging Flame Plane. It can be seen from how even a 5th Rank Sword Saint was actually able to become a Commander of the Merlin Family. The Raging Flame Beastmen attacked so fiercely that the Merlin Family couldn't take them out.

'That guy must have a pretty good relationship with the Merlin Family to speak on their behalf like that. I guess that kind of trash is all he's seen...

'Hmpf, no wonder I've never heard of him having any military accomplishments even though he is an 8th Rank Archmage.

Barok was looking at Weiss with disdain, but he didn't comment on his words. Instead, he asked, "I heard that Mafa Merlin was still a High Mage a few months ago... so he must have advanced recently, right?"

Weiss instinctively nodded before realizing what Barok was hinting at, so he hurriedly said, "Sir Barok, Mafa Merlin isn't your ordinary Archmage! He already had the power of an Archmage when at the High Mage realm, and he is even more powerful now..."

Barok impatiently waved his arm.

"Okay, it goes without saying that a newly-advanced Archmage can only go so far no matter how great they are. I know that there are some people whose fighting power can't be calculated according to their Rank. But, Sir Weiss, do you need me to teach you common sense? Don't you know how great the gap between each level of the Archmage realm is?"

"After the 5th Rank, every Rank is many times stronger than the previous one, a huge qualitative difference. I'm a 9th Rank Archmage, while he is a newly advanced Archmage. How could he compare to me?"

"Forget it, I know you don't understand. Without reaching this rank, you won't understand how powerful a 9th Rank Archmage is. To tell you the truth, I can easily kill the me from before I advanced. Okay, no need to say anymore..."

Barok had an impatient expression as he turned to leave the reception room.

"Sir Barok... Sir Barok..."

Weiss opened his mouth and called a few times, but Barok ignored him.

Weiss grimaced. He really didn't know how to persuade him. Barok was simply ignoring everything he said.

'It's over, Sir Barok is about to stir up trouble... If Sir Mafa was really that weak, how could there be so many things happening around him? This is really stupid! Didn't you see the Watson Family being low-key recently? None of them went to provoke the Merlins.

'That fool, Green Watson, was crippled by Sir Mafa, and Zeuss didn't even confront them about it. He instead apologized to Sir Mafa...'

Weiss had a bitter expression, and he really didn't know what to do.

'Sh*t, this is no good, I have to let Sir Harren know. If this matter isn't solved, the arrogant Barok will definitely cause trouble.'

As he thought of this, Weiss started writing a letter...

Only for the eyes of Sir Harren...

Weiss thought about it and wrote down everything that had happened since he went into the God Realm, and he then immediately had someone deliver it.

On another side, Barok was feeling twitchy, and his rage was getting stronger and stronger as the sky became pitch-black, yet still, no one appeared. In the end, he angrily left the Griffin Fort.

'Damn b*stard! Today, I'll let you know what kind of price you have to pay for looking down on a 9th Rank Archmage!'

Meanwhile, Lin Yun had truly forgotten who Barok was and didn't care at all. He was completely focused on trying to increase his strength.

The matter of the Draconic Staff was done, and he had used that time to get some understanding of the Intrepid's design plan as he researched the Heaven Array.

Even if it was just attaining a bit of understanding and wasn't considered deciphering, this also helped Lin Yun obtain many benefits and raise his alchemy standards.

This time, in order to verify the results, he made the fifty High Mages under his command rapidly strengthen themselves.

Their Core Meditation Law Set was the Swift Star Mark, and although it only had 14 core formulas and couldn't compare with the most top-notch Meditation Law Sets, in terms of meditation efficiency, the Swift Star Mark was the best and most suitable for these fifty High Mages.

As long as they had rich mana, their strength would increase at a rapid pace. For them to take less than a year to advance to the High Mage realm was mostly due to the Core Meditation law Set.

And another important element was the alchemy array in the Ghost Valley.

Lin Yun had previously set up an array to gather mana there, and the density of mana had increased over ten times.

Although it couldn't compare to the Natural Demiplane, it was still ten times stronger than in other places.

Now, Lin Yun was going to rearrange the alchemy array. If it was successful, it would make the density of mana rise by another four or five more times, and this array would have other special effects.

Chapter 790: Are You Done?

Lin Yun spent the entire day setting up an alchemy array. That array was very challenging, and although it wasn't a Heaven Rank Array, he had taken some inspiration from the Heaven Rank Array, so some traces of it could be seen.

So it wasn't a genuine Heaven Rank Array. It only carried a trace, which increased the difficulty of arranging it. But Lin Yun didn't care and spent the entire day setting it up.

When the array was roused, the entire Ghost Valley was like a surging storm. The richness of the mana in the surroundings increased at a rapid pace and even turned into strands of dense fog. This was the manifestation of mana having reached an extreme density.

At the core of the array, there was even a slight drizzle as thin as hair.

Those fifty High Mages were thoroughly shocked.

Such rich density was simply dozens of times better than outside! The mana was already condensing into liquid.

And this wasn't the most shocking part, since the mana in Lin Yun's Natural Demiplane was even richer than here. What really shocked them was that the mana didn't feel silent... It was extremely active, and the intensity was terrifying.

This was a huge shock. It wasn't a violent kind of activity, it was full of positive benefits. And meditating in this environment would raise the efficiency of the meditation to a frightening realm.

The fifty High Mages looked astounded. Their Core Meditation Law Sets focused on meditation efficiency, and there was now such dense mana with incredible activity...

The efficiency of the meditation might reach a stage that simply couldn't even be imagined.

And that wasn't all... They saw Lin Yun dripping a drop of God Blood in a few corners of the array!

As soon as they sat in the array, before they even entered deep meditation, they could already feel the surrounding mana crazily rushing towards their bodies.

And that mana was emitting the power of God Blood without any harmful effects, letting the fifty High Mages completely obtain the benefits of blood without having to do it the slow way.

Besides promoting the activity of mana, this was another function of the array: it extracted the power within formidable things to seep into these High Mages' bodies.

Lin Yun stood at the center of the array, and after confirming that it was working as expected, he smiled.

These guys had already absorbed a drop of God Blood, but it would take a very long time to digest. The God Blood would have to slowly seep through their bodies, and although it was effective, it would take too long.

The great effect of this array was that it could extract other power to seep into their bodies and make the God Blood within them show its effect faster.

That way, it wouldn't take long for them to rapidly get stronger, and they would all reach the 9th Rank. However, there was no way to guarantee that they would advance to the Archmage realm.

Lin Yun was satisfied after feeling the effects of the array.

It looked like the probability of these guys advancing to the Archmage realm was huge.

Archmages... They would be highly regarded people even in a force like the Black Tower. Archmages were the main pillars of the Merlin Family. Important industries, exploited planes, and other areas; they were all overseen by Archmages.

Only with Archmages as overseers could they keep things under control, and for a rich, uncontrolled plane like the Raging Flame Plane, powerhouses had to be dispatched.

Unfortunately, they had thought that a 5th Rank Sword Saint like Thorne would be enough based on their past experience in the Raging Flame Plane, but now that they controlled even more resources here, a 5th Rank Sword Saint would inevitably attract the greedy guys.

But if there were fifty subordinate Archmages...

Who would even bother arguing with these people over resources? The group could go and conquer the plane on their own.

Lin Yun had great expectations as he saw these guys start to meditate. Since their talents and comprehension had been raised to the realm of geniuses, Lin Yun started meditating deeply.

This time, he had taken some of his hard-earned loot and used half a bottle of God Blood.

Everything was on the right track. With God Blood as a medium, the array started extracting the power within the God Blood and pushed it into the bodies of the High Mages.

Even Lin Yun could feel his mana gradually increasing. But he didn't have the same path as these fifty High Mages, so he didn't sit down to meditate.

At this time, the entire array kept fluctuating. The drops of blood at a few key parts were affected by this sudden fluctuation, causing them to explode.

The power and divinity contained with these drops of blood burst out, and in an instant, the power that the array had forcibly extracted was roused, making more than half of the mana transformed from God Blood dissipate.

Lin Yun's face turned pale and he looked rather disappointed.

The main thing that made this array so difficult to arrange was the fact that it was inferior to properly extracting the power of God Blood.

The most important part was guarding against accidents. Gods were frightening existences, and no one could be sure about it, but as long as something was related to a God, it would be a complete taboo existence. If the power of a drop of blood burst out completely, it would absolutely kill all of them.

God Blood was actually very stable in normal circumstances, but when roused by the array to extract the power, it would become unstable.

Fortunately, the array had already transformed the power of the God Blood when it burst out, so they narrowly avoided a disaster.

However, the fifty High Mages were still affected and their meditation was forcibly interrupted, lightly wounding them in the process.

Lin Yun had an ice-cold expression and looked as if he wanted to kill someone as he came out.

Because what just happened wasn't an accident... Someone had broken into the Ghost Valley and attacked the array!

Before coming, Lin Yun had already instructed the people of the Merlin Family that no one should approach the Ghost Valley. They were to stop anyone from approaching, and anyone who ignored the order and died could only blame themselves. But someone still forced their way in!?

'You are courting death!'

Lin Yun stormed over to the entrance of the Ghost Valley and noticed a black-robed 9th Rank Archmage with one glance. He wasn't hiding his mana fluctuations at all and was arrogantly peering over.

Lin Yun had yet to say anything when Barok opened his mouth.

"Hmpf! You are that Mafa Merlin? Damn b*stard, you actually dared to make me wait for an entire day. Today, I'll let you know what the price of offending a 9th Rank Archmage is!"

Lin Yun looked absolutely livid, his eyes reeking of killing intent. 'F*cking B*stard, you actually dared to destroy my array!

'F*ck, I spent a lot of time in the past month in order to make sure that array could successfully implement these effects, and the arranged materials were comparable with the God Blood Solution. I spent so much time and materials just to make one solution, and all the materials needed for it are used up now.

'The array's ability to extract God Blood is completely useless now! And after all this, that guy looking for death dares to act so arrogant?'

"It doesn't matter who you are! You destroyed all my hard work for the past month and wasted all of it. No one can save you today!" Lin Yun coldly declared. The killing intent in his eyes emanated out as he looked at Barok.

Barok immediately flew into a rage. He self-righteously looked at Lin Yun and sneered, "Mafa Merlin, let me tell you... I am Sir Barok! I'm the one overseeing all the matters of the Black Tower in the Raging Flame Plane, I am the Black Tower's 2nd Seat. In the previous battle over the Horn of Fertility, your Merlin Family killed hundreds of High Mages. Today, you have to give me an explanation!

"Furthermore, you made a 9th Rank Archmage wait for an entire day. That is a total disregard for the prestige of a 9th Rank Archmage. Today, I shall teach you the price for that.

"I am formally informing you that the resources of the Horn of Fertility have nothing to do with the Merlin Family starting from today. Your Merlin Family has to give us two Forts as compensation, or else... Hmpf! You, and the rest of the Merlin Family, will no longer need to exist!"

Barok roused all his mana, and the fierce mana fluctuations were like a tsunami as they suppressed Lin Yun. Gales suddenly rose up in the surroundings, and the fire elements frantically converged together. It seemed like the cheer of fire elements could faintly be heard.

The dry grass ignited on its own in mere seconds and the strong fire elements kept converging into sparks and flames.

Barok was amazingly gifted with fire! Just by rousing his mana, he could gather all these fire elements. He didn't even need to move, yet flames already started rising in his surroundings. Under such circumstances, the power of his fire spells could increase by 20% out of nothing!

A proud smile appeared on Barok's face. As a 9th Rank Archmage, he only needed to rouse his mana to handle a newly advanced Archmage. He didn't even need to cast any spells. With a bit of pressure, this coward would be scared shitless, completely unable to refuse.

Lin Yun's robe was blown about by the wind as he indifferently looked at Barok.

"Are you done?"