

## **The Mighty Dragons Are Dead #Chapter 321: 0330: The Death of The Swan of Saint-Saens (Second Update) - Read The Mighty Dragons Are Dead Chapter 321: 0319: The Death of The Swan of Saint-Saens (Second Update)**

Chapter 321: Chapter 0319: The Death of The Swan of Saint-Saens (Second Update)

“Quinn’s Minotaur Conjecture”? In a town called Quinn in the Brass Grand Duchy, they found the rotting carcass of a Minotaur. Are Minotaurs real creatures?”

Liszt casually flipped through a few of the magic books brought by Elkerson and happily paid for them.

To encourage Elkerson to pick out useful books for him, he adopted a strategy of buying uninspiring books by the box and valuable books individually.

Among this batch of books, there were indeed a few that were quite good.

So, he paid a total of seven Gold Coins. Just the money he spent on books each month could amount to a dozen or twenty Gold Coins—now that he had money, he didn’t care about this expense. It was like subscribing to a few newspapers back on Earth.

Most of the magic books, he would not bother to read.

Because truly... they had no value.

Just like now, he no longer felt like reading most Knight’s Novels. His taste had been spoiled by one bizarre, grotesque story after another. Besides, “Dragons Fight in the Wild” had been indefinitely suspended, even his interest in searching for information had vanished. The number of books on his shelf kept increasing, yet the number he read dwindled.

On the other hand, Sea Sprite Ake read books with relish.

Those boring, tedious notes on magic experiments, in her eyes, seemed like heart-stirring gold and jewels. The naive and cheerful Little Sea Monster was almost turning into a bookworm.

To prevent this from happening,

he played the piano by her side and often took her out to sea to have fun, meanwhile discussing magic with her to keep her from getting bored.

“Brother, Ake has learned a new spell, look quickly.” She stretched out her hand, and a water bullet instantly formed, shooting towards the window and exploding with a bang in mid-air. “This is Water Bullet. The principle is similar to the Water Arrow Spell, but the power is much greater, and it uses less Magic Power.”

“Hmm!”

Liszt had already been astonished by her talent for magic, so he nodded placidly and said, “Keep it up, strive for the greatness of a Grand Magician.”

“Yes, Ake will work hard!”

Every conversation with Ake was like a psychological counseling session, healing all negative emotions. It made him forget about the desire, interest, passion, and chaos that occurred in the named Castle.

He brewed a cup of Biluochun tea.

It was a tea brewed from the leaves of the Green Tea Tree, named Biluochun because of the slightly curled leaves: “Ake, try my tea-making skills. This is a new beverage, and besides me, probably only you in the world can taste it.”

“Thank you, Brother.”

Ake picked up the transparent Crystal cup and took a sip. Immediately, her face changed, exclaiming, “Brother, it’s so bitter. Ake doesn’t like it!”

“The bitterness leads to sweetness. Try it again, and you’ll find the fragrance of the tea lingering between your lips and teeth.”

However, after two more sips, Ake still cried out that it was bitter, “It’s not tasty at all, Brother. Ake doesn’t want to drink tea. Ake likes to drink juice.”

“Alright then.” Liszt regretted that his first sharing of tea ended in failure. He didn’t mind Ake’s saliva and directly drank the remaining half cup of tea himself.

He couldn’t bear to pick more leaves from the three tea trees that were to be used for breeding. He couldn’t afford to drink one cup a day; he could only save as much as possible.

Ake again floated on the surface of the shell, earnestly reading her book, undisturbed by the world’s distractions.

He set down the teacup.

Liszt walked over to the piano.

His emotions surged, as if a swan had risen on the lake of his heart, dancing elegantly. Then another swan flew in, joining in the graceful dance. Soon after, two more swans appeared, all dancing together.

He savored the feeling in his mind, and his hands involuntarily struck the keys, pulsating with rhythm.

One note after another blossomed from the upright piano, like a bouquet of vibrant red roses unfurling, forming four dancing swans.

Ake closed the book in her hands, staring at Liszt in wonder.

Unaware, Liszt was immersed in playing the piano, surrounded by four dancing swans composed of rhythmic notes. Suddenly, one swan let out a mournful cry, its wing broken. It collapsed onto the piano, bloodstaining the keys red as if Liszt was playing with blood.

Then, another swan followed with a mournful cry, its wings snapping, as blood dyed the entire piano red.

In the end, the last two swans flew away in terror, one to the left, the other to the right, leaving behind the blood-red piano and its owner, Liszt, who continued to strike the keys, allowing the notes to dance in the blood.

The swans that were to die had died, those meant to fly had flown, all turning into nothingness.

The room was still that same worm room.

Jela was dozing off, Ake cocked its head to one side, listening, and only Liszt sat before the upright piano, elegantly playing the black and white keys, his fingers like ten little minor elves leaping.

Until the final note ended.

Liszt swiftly grabbed the paper and pen on the piano, dipped it in ink, and with the most abstract and hurried scribbles, recorded all the melodies in his head.

Just three short pages.

In an instant, they were filled. Comparing them to the melody that still lingered in his ears, he corrected a few erroneous notes, and finally transcribed this new piece.

With a pen, he wrote in the blank space, the title "Saint Saëns-Swan-Piano Solo."

In 19th century Paris, France, there was a not-so-famous composer, Saint Saëns, who created the symphonic work “Carnival of the Animals” for fun. Since many of its melodies were malicious alterations of others’ work without permission, they were never published.

Only one piece, “The Swan,” had been performed publicly, which paradoxically became Saint Saëns’ signature piece and a timeless classic, depicting the swan’s graceful and noble swimming in the water, her lonely and unapproachable yet profoundly sacred figure.

Liszt did not know why.

Inspiration had suddenly burst forth, and without relying on the Smoke Mission, he recalled this melody on his own.

After a thought, he scratched out the “Saint Saëns” in Serpent Script and wrote a new title: “Liszt-Swan-Piano Solo,” earnestly adding it to his own collection of piano scores.

Previously, he already had “Liszt-With You” and “Liszt-To Alice-Rearrangement” in his piano repertoire.

“To Alice” had already been adapted with a backstory credited to someone else’s creation, making it impossible to use it directly as his own composition, so he only included it under the guise of revision and arrangement.

“By accident, I’ve become a piano master,” he mused.

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The following day after returning,

The Fresh Flower Vessel also returned to port, bringing good news: the main body of the lighthouse was complete, ready for the installation of the crystal lamps. These crystal lamps were specially made to harness the magic power within the crystals through a magic array, releasing it as light.

Unfortunately, the light from the crystal lamps was not very bright.

Whether it could reach two or three kilometers away was uncertain.

When arriving at Black Horse Port, Jomaya Bangtu, who had been whipped so brutally he couldn’t walk, was now able to hobble around with a cane.

“Lord Landlord, rubber is truly miraculous. By using rubber water to mix with sand and stone, the construction of the lighthouse far exceeded expectations. Moreover, once solidified, its sturdiness is comparable to sticky rice mortar. Coupled with the gray bricks

you guided us in firing, we saved a great deal of time in selecting materials, so we built it in five days!”

He pointed at the ten-meter-high lighthouse on Rocky Beach, his voice carrying a hint of pride. He had lived in the shadow of his teacher Mbappé, but now he could finally build independently.

The lighthouse was neither large, tall, nor thick.

The lower half was mainly constructed of piled rocks, while the upper half predominantly featured brickwork. The seams between the stones and bricks were not very neat, but the structure was complete.

“Teacher Marcus, I entrust this crystal lamp to your care. When the Fresh Flower Vessel needs to sail back at night, have someone light it on the lighthouse, and if there’s no need for navigation, take it down,” he instructed.

“Understood, my lord!”

With that, the lighthouse was finished.

Liszt quickly began checking the Smoke Mission.

“Mission complete, reward: the magic book ‘Secrets of Sea Serpent Aquatic Monsters.’”

Chapter 322: Chapter 0320: Investigation of Elkerson (Third Update, 10,000 Coins  
Reward Celebration 1/3)

This chapter is an extra update in thanks for the “Autumn Viewing of Cherry Blossoms” event.

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The Secrets of Sea Serpent Aquatic Monsters?

“It’s actually not a book on powerful magic, but just a popular science book about sea monsters?” He was about to feel disappointed at being rewarded with an irrelevant book. Suddenly, he noticed the phrase “Sea Serpent Aquatic Monsters” on the title of the magic book, and his heart skipped a beat.

Sea Serpent Aquatic Monsters immediately made him think of Dulu Miqita, the Sea Sprite Ake that was being pursued—a gigantic sea serpent with six heads.

Then he remembered the Formless Dragon's chain missions, which also involved magic books.

At this moment, he had a strong premonition that the crisis had always been lurking around him: "Maybe this time, it's the chain missions of Dulu Miqita. That intermediate level Sea Monster, Dulu Miqita, might never have left this sea area and is hiding in the shadows, watching us!"

It was very likely.

Otherwise, there was no need to reward him with a science book about sea serpents.

However, faced with the threat of Dulu Miqita, he was only tense for a moment before relaxing. He had dealt with the incursion of Formless Dragon; facing another intermediate-level sea monster wasn't going to be a big deal.

With the help of the Smoke Mission, dealing with this Sea Serpent shouldn't be too difficult.

The power of fate is not to be taken lightly.

Moreover, sea monsters can only live in the deep sea. If it dares to come to the shallow waters, it's asking for death. The present-day Fresh Flower Town, the present-day Liszt, has long since ceased to be weak.

"I'll be more cautious during this period, complete more Smoke Missions quickly, gather more information about Dulu Miqita, and claim the rewards from the chain missions... Finally, resolve the hidden danger!"

As thoughts flickered.

A new Smoke Mission was released.

"Mission: Browse through the magic books brought by Elkerson. Do you feel that every book is stained with the pitiful screams of magic apprentices, those are the helpless and desperate cries after their souls have shattered, please cleanse the injustice from the magic books. Reward: A set of research notes."

The injustice of magic apprentices?

Liszt's brow furrowed as he considered, "What does this mean? Could it be that Elkerson has killed many magic apprentices to obtain these magic books? Surely not, Elkerson doesn't seem like a murderer, and even if he killed magic apprentices, would that allow him to obtain the magic books?"

His intuition made him doubt that Elkerson would casually kill magic apprentices.

But his rationality told him that he must carefully scrutinize Elkerson, and not trust anyone easily: “If Elkerson really is a murderer, and I need to cleanse the injustice from the books, does that mean I have to kill Elkerson... I’d better return to Fresh Flower Town first, then make the next plan!”

On Coral Island, arbitrary killing is strictly forbidden; this is a rule issued by the Earl.

Even nobles cannot kill at will outside their territories, and even within their territories, arbitrary killing will be punished by the Earl—landlords indeed have absolute jurisdiction over their land, but behavior that oversteps the morality of nobility, the higher lord will naturally teach you a lesson.

Of course, nobles usually cherish their serfs and do not kill without reason, and higher lords do not interfere with what their followers do within their own lands.

There’s no need to quarrel with one’s followers over the lives of a few commoners.

However, magicians are not nobles, and if they dare to harm lives wantonly, nobles are bound to take action. Liszt greatly appreciated Elkerson, who was polite and not rigid, a fine collaborative partner. But as a noble, if he discovered Elkerson murdering at will, he would not be lenient.

After resting for the night.

The next day, he sailed back to Fresh Flower Town. During the voyage, Liszt was no longer bored as he had previously been. Goltai, who returned with him on the ship, was always bragging incessantly. Whereas he kept using his telescope to look around, ensuring that Dulu Miqita wasn’t stealthily approaching.

At sea, dealing with an intermediate-level sea monster was not easy.

He had already prepared that if he encountered Dulu Miqita, he would not resist. He would stop the ship and drift, retract the Calming Sea Pearl, and let Dulu Miqita wreak havoc while he hid in a wooden boat, barely surviving. Moreover, he would cover himself with the juice of Smoked Grass, waiting for Dulu Miqita’s rampage to end before rowing home.

This is not cowardice.

It is helplessness.

He had no choice but to return to Fresh Flower Town, but encountering Dulu Miqita in the vast sea without preparation meant resistance was merely a quick death.

However.

Without Sea Sprite Ake on board, Dulu Miqita might not be interested in the Fresh Flower Vessel—after all, it had sailed back and forth dozens of times without running into Dulu Miqita, indicating that sea monsters had little interest in ships.

In the midst of tension.

He safely returned to Fresh Flower Town.

Liszt headed straight for the castle and searched through the magic books brought by Elkeson True. Some of the books he was sure contained no “harmful” content had been given to Sea Sprite Ake to read, while others were left on the bookshelves in the study.

“During this time, I have only received two boxes of books from Elkeson, and the reward should be in there.” He searched quickly, and soon a copy of “Secrets of Sea Serpent Aquatic Monsters” was found tucked away in an inconspicuous corner of the bookshelf.

He hadn’t seen this book before; it was likely that Butler Carter had organized it and placed it on the shelf.

Before he started to read it, he called for the guard Paris.

“Baron, are you looking for me for something?”

“A small task, I hope you can help me with it, you know I like magic books.”

“Of course, everyone in town should know that the Baron likes to read.”

“These books were procured by Elkeson True on my behalf, but now I suspect that there might be some issues with their provenance. I would like you to help me investigate in secret and make sure they were acquired through legitimate means,” said Liszt, not wanting to directly question Elkeson.

For one, he didn’t want to alert the suspect, and for another, in case it was a misunderstanding, it would be awkward.

“It’s an easy task, I will complete it as soon as possible, Baron.”

“Then let’s talk about the remuneration for your task.”

Paris suddenly smiled, “It is just a minor task, consider it free of charge. After all, I’ve already drawn some gossip from local officials for taking money without working.”

“Gossip?” Liszt raised an eyebrow, it seemed some were not pleased with his salary arrangements, “I will put a stop to this kind of gossip.”

“There’s no need, Baron, I don’t mind it,” Paris said.

After saying this, she excused herself gracefully and left to carry out the task for free.

However, Liszt did not forget what she had mentioned and immediately called for Butler Carter, “Mr. Carter, are you aware of any complaints from people in town about Paris’s salary being too high?”

“I’m sorry, my Lord, I haven’t noticed anything about that.”

“Pass this on, when the servants go out, don’t forget to listen to what the town officials have been saying. If there’s any discordant content, inform me immediately.”

“Yes, my Lord.”

After giving instructions to Butler Carter, Liszt planned to investigate slowly.

When he was alone in the study, he picked up the milk tea from the table, his expression unreadable.

He just mumbled to himself, “I am a very reasonable person, as a landlord I have never let down those who follow me... If there are issues, they can be raised directly with me, but questioning my decisions behind my back is not what a qualified subordinate should do.”

Chapter 323: Chapter 0321: Cultivating Serpent Blood Fruit with Snake Blood (Fourth Update, 10,000 Coin Reward Celebration 2/3)

This chapter is a bonus update sponsored by the 20,000 coins reward from “bittertree,” and there will be another one following.

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Between a landlord and his followers, there lies a game of strategy.

When the landlord is strong, the followers become self-disciplined and loyal; when the landlord is weak, the followers become presumptuous and their thoughts flicker with disloyalty. The situation on Red Crab Island is such that with a weak landlord, the followers are restless and eager to act.

Therefore.

Liszt has always been learning how to be a qualified landlord. If he were to spend his life on Coral Island, perhaps he wouldn’t need to learn anything—with the protection of his family, no followers would dare to be presumptuous. But his ambition is not limited to a small island like Fresh Flower Town or Black Horse Island.

Neither being an earl nor a marquis was his goal, his aim was at least the position of a grand duke—to ride a dragon!

The future is bright, but the road is tortuous; every step he takes now is to plan for the future, to solidify the foundation. Hence, the idle gossip behind Paris's salary is but a small breakthrough in his attempt to exercise power tactics, an experiment in how to manage followers.

After pondering for a moment, he calmed his mind—more important matters awaited his attention.

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Sea Serpent.

A type of venomous snake that lives in the sea, adorned with brightly colored patterns on its body.

Sea serpents are often found in shallow waters, but aquatic monsters of the sea serpent type have not been frequently discovered, and those that have been found are predominantly in the deep sea; perhaps they should be referred to as sea serpent aquatic monsters.

Magical beasts and sea monsters essentially mean the same thing.

In this world, there is no such thing as an official or internationally recognized academic name; different regions have their own terms for various species.

The author of "Secrets of Sea Serpent Aquatic Monsters" is a court grand magician from the Star Duchy. The Star Duchy borders the sea, and the author specializes in water magic, therefore he often sets out to sea in search of sea monsters. This popular science book mainly introduces sea serpent sea monsters.

In total, it records seven kinds of sea serpent sea monsters.

They include five low-level sea monsters: the Rainbow Serpent, Blue-ringed Serpent, Ice-ringed Serpent, Red-banded Serpent, and Two-headed Serpent; plus two intermediate sea monsters: the Six-Headed King Serpent and the Frozen King Serpent.

Each type of sea serpent has data introduced regarding its toxicity, magic, and body size.

Of course, the data is not comprehensive because the observation is very rare, and the research conditions are limited.

What caught Liszt's eye was the introduction of the Six-Headed King Serpent.

“The Six-Headed King Serpent is more powerful than the Frozen King Serpent. I observed it twice; once, an adult Six-Headed King Serpent exceeding twelve meters in length, and another time, a juvenile Six-Headed King Serpent, six meters in length, with three heads that did not cast magic and were obviously weaker.”

This grand magician’s data was very solid, and he even provided hand-drawn illustrations.

The somewhat abstract Six-Headed King Serpent was very thick, with its body comprising about two thirds of its length, and the remaining one third was its six slender heads, without any distinction of primary or secondary.

It had a variegated pattern, mainly black and white.

The six heads could each cast a different spell: Water Arrow Barrage, Water Wave Shield, Water Whirlpool, Strong Water Column, Blade of Water, and Waterfall.

“The Six-Headed King Serpent and the Two-headed Serpent share certain similarities.”

“Based on my speculation, for every two meters of its length, one of its heads matures and starts casting magic.”

“The Six-Headed King Serpent feeds on sea fish and also preys on dolphins and people who fall into the water, but it will not attack ships on its own initiative. If provoked, it will release magic frantically, which can last for more than half an hour,”

“I’ve found that the six heads of a mature Six-Headed King Serpent think alike and release magic in a very orderly fashion. However, the heads of an immature Six-Headed King Serpent don’t coordinate well, and they can easily become distracted and fail to cast spells or shift their attack targets, sometimes even moving in a disjointed fashion.”

Since no Six-Headed King Serpent had been captured, the Grand Magician didn’t record more data.

In his magic books, he wasn’t primarily recording the characteristics of Sea Serpent sea monsters, but rather a secret about Sea Serpents—the wondrous reaction between the blood of Sea Serpent sea monsters and Serpent Blood Fruit.

According to the records in the book, Serpent Blood Fruit is a kind of medicinal material that can be eaten as fruit, although it is quite unpleasant to taste. Poisonous snakes are very fond of Serpent Blood Fruit; they will definitely have Serpent Blood Fruit growing around their habitats. If a hunter is bitten by a snake, their immediate response would be to look for Serpent Blood Fruit nearby to cure the poison.

Children with diarrhea or women with difficult labor can be treated with Serpent Blood Fruit.

In the Star Duchy, Serpent Blood Fruit is very famous, since a large number of poisonous snakes live there, and the landlords have to plant a lot of Serpent Blood Fruit, to treat snake venom at any time. The Grand Magician originally only wanted to study the connection between Serpent Blood Fruit and snake venom in order to create an antidote to make money.

But after cultivating Serpent Blood Fruit with snake blood once, he found that the Serpent Blood Fruit grew extremely vigorously.

He began catching all kinds of snakes and feeding Serpent Blood Fruit with their blood, until one time, he used the blood of a Sea Serpent sea monster and suddenly discovered that there was a problem with the Serpent Blood Fruit—it had given birth to a Serpent Blood Fruit Sprite Bug. After repeated exploration and spending an unknown amount of money purchasing Sea Serpent sea monsters,

he finally concluded that the blood of low-level Sea Serpent sea monsters had a tiny probability of stimulating the Serpent Blood Fruit to ferment a Sprite Bug.

No experiments had been done with the blood of intermediate Sea Serpent sea monsters, so it was unknown what the chances were.

This should have been a shocking discovery. With such a discovery, it would be possible to cultivate a large number of Serpent Blood Fruit Sprite Bugs to make money. However, when someone calculated the costs for him, he was rendered speechless—twenty low-level Sea Serpent sea monsters could probably cultivate one Sprite Bug.

The average purchase price for a Sea Serpent sea monster is 160 Gold Coins—low-level Magical Beasts definitely wouldn't sell at that price, but Sea Monsters are hard to catch, and their prices are generally inflated.

That is to say, he would have to spend 3,200 Gold Coins to cultivate one Serpent Blood Fruit Sprite Bug.

However, the local market price for a Serpent Blood Fruit Sprite Bug is only 2,000 Gold Coins—cultivating Serpent Blood Fruit Sprite Bugs with Sea Serpent sea monster blood would bankrupt him.

The Grand Magician angrily shelved his money-making plan.

And he wrote his findings into this book, "Secrets of Sea Serpent Aquatic Monsters", and decided to publish and sell it—he believed that at least he had discovered a method of cultivating Sprite Bugs, which was still meaningful.

“So.”

Liszt lifted his head from the book and pondered, “The Dulu Miqita that chased Ach might just be an immature Six-Headed King Serpent, with four heads capable of magic and a body length of about eight meters? And since snakes like to eat Serpent Blood Fruit, perhaps I can use Serpent Blood Fruit to lure the Six-Headed King Serpent? Or maybe disrupt the magic casting of its four heads?”

He closed the magic book.

He knew that Serpent Blood Fruit was key to hunting Dulu Miqita, and he needed to buy a batch of Serpent Blood Fruit—but it seemed there were no Serpent Blood Fruit on Coral Island, at least it was the first time he’d heard of such fruit.

“According to what the Grand Magician has recorded, the blood of Sea Serpent sea monsters can induce the cultivation of Serpent Blood Fruit Sprite Bugs... If I could delve into the principle behind it, perhaps I could unlock the secret of Sprite Bug cultivation.”

Unfortunately, Liszt didn’t have the ability to delve into these secrets for the time being, nor did he have any magicians under him who could do the research.

“If I were to kill Dulu Miqita, its blood might be used to cultivate Serpent Blood Fruit, and I might succeed in nurturing a Serpent Blood Fruit Sprite Bug in one go. But the risk is not small; it would be better to sell the blood of an intermediate Sea Monster, which could fetch a better price.”

The materials from the body of a low-level Magical Beast are worth at least a dozen or so Gold Coins, sometimes even several hundred Gold Coins.

The materials from the body of an intermediate Magical Beast should be worth at least ten times that of a low-level Magical Beast; selling them for several hundred to a thousand Gold Coins isn’t difficult.

Rather than wasting snake blood on growing Serpent Blood Fruit, it’s better to sell it for Gold Coins.

Liszt took out a Gold Coin and spun it on the table, “Before that, I need to act immediately to buy Serpent Blood Fruit, and purchase them in large quantities!”

Chapter 324: Chapter 0322: Li Si Te Slays the Snake (Fifth Update, 10,000 Coins Reward Celebration 3/3)

The matter of the Serpent Blood Fruit was entrusted to his own merchant caravan, as well as the one from Tulip Castle.

He also wrote to the fat Aubrey Lycra from Beer Castle, asking him to help inquire about and purchase a batch of Serpent Blood Fruit.

After doing all this, he waited for news about the Serpent Blood Fruit while also awaiting the investigation results from Paris, and he pondered how to hunt Dulu Miqita.

“Dulu Miqita has come hunting after the Sea Sprite Ake; that means Ake is the best bait... But I can’t let Ake get harmed, so luring Dulu Miqita in the sea is not an option,” he mused.

Luring it on land was the only option.

To precisely lure Dulu Miqita, Ake’s identity as a sea sprite was indispensable.

In Liszt’s mind, Ake was very important; he had to ensure the sea sprite’s safety: “Perhaps I could lure Dulu Miqita onshore, but how to do that on land? Or rather, how does Dulu Miqita pursue the sea sprite Ake? What does it rely on for tracking?”

He walked into the Worm Room.

He asked Ake.

Ake tilted his head, pondered for a moment.

And replied, “Brother, Ake isn’t very sure, but in the sea, I can never shake off Dulu Miqita. Perhaps it’s by the scent Ake leaves in the seawater, just like a hunting dog can track its prey through the scent in the air, maybe Dulu Miqita can track Ake through the seawater.”

It could basically be assumed that Dulu Miqita was tracking in this way.

“Ake, I plan to hunt Dulu Miqita,” Liszt said. “This may need your cooperation, to lure Dulu Miqita out of the sea.”

“Can brother defeat Dulu Miqita?”

Even though Ake meant no disrespect, the question still wounded Liszt’s pride. He couldn’t help but raise his voice, “As long as the preparation is thorough, it’s merely an intermediate-level sea monster, defeating it will be as easy as turning my hand over!”

“Ah, brother is so amazing,” Ake clapped his hands. “Brother, what does Ake need to do, just go directly into the sea to lure it?”

“Going into the sea is too dangerous, though I need to use you to lure Dulu Miqita, your safety is the most important,” Liszt stroked Ake’s azure hair. “I plan to widen a river

trench near the shore around Fresh Flower Town, and you'll wait upstream in the trench, luring Dulu Miqita into the river!"

The sea was the sea monster's home field.

Liszt couldn't possibly defeat an intermediate-level sea monster on the sea, even a juvenile one, so luring Dulu Miqita ashore was the most crucial part of the plan.

However.

He suddenly recalled reading in "Man and Nature" that sea serpents could go ashore, the documentary had explained that sea serpents lay eggs on sandy beaches.

That meant, Dulu Miqita could possibly move freely on land as well.

After all, a sea serpent is still a serpent, and serpents can crawl.

But on second thought.

Sea monsters live in the deep sea and are supposedly adapted to life there; their movement on land would definitely be greatly restricted. So no matter what, he still had to lure Dulu Miqita ashore.

He took out some paper and a pen, and sketched a rough outline on the table.

He simply traced the coastline and the river.

He circled an area upstream of the river, "Ake, this is your position. Once Dulu Miqita follows the river up, I will cut off its escape route from here. I'll have Douson release Rock Spikes around here, filling the area with dense, solid Rock Spikes to restrict Dulu Miqita's movement."

As he explained to Ake.

He continued to sketch and correct, refining the hunting plan: "Dulu Miqita is roughly eight meters long, short and thick in form, and by proportion, its body diameter could exceed forty centimeters, so the distance between the Rock Spikes needs to be less than forty centimeters... Rock Spikes are merely obstacles for sea monsters, we'll need more restraints, like preparing fishing nets."

The table was filled with dense drawings and text.

It makes the plan sound quite marvelous.

However, whether it's Rock Spikes, ship nets, or clogging the waterways, they are all but ordinary barriers. They can restrict the movements of Dulu Miqita but cannot inflict serious damage.

Liszt didn't believe that in front of Dulu Miqita, who knew four types of water magic, he, Marcus, Griffin, Lasse, Rondo, Rick, and Paris—seven Earth Knights—could easily kill an intermediate-level sea monster.

If Paris transformed into the Black Dragon Childe, it might be possible.

But once she transformed and fought, she would likely face death. To exchange her life for Dulu Miqita's, Liszt was not willing.

Not to mention that Paris was an important bodyguard for him on the battlefield in the future, just spending so many days together, he couldn't be indifferent enough to sacrifice her.

Perhaps seeing the furrowed brow of Liszt, Ake suddenly said, "Brother, Ake is a magician, Ake can also join the fight."

"You don't need to take action. When you become a Grand Magician, then I'll bear to send you into battle. For now, focus on learning your magic," Liszt replied with a smile.

Paris certainly couldn't fight to the death, but she could be a safety lock in the hunt for Dulu Miqita.

If the hunting operation failed, in a critical moment, Paris could save both herself and the bait, Sea Sprite Ake. A brief transformation wouldn't cost her much lifespan. In other words, hunting Dulu Miqita had some risk for Liszt but didn't involve a life-threatening danger.

He needed to focus on how to deliver a heavy blow to Dulu Miqita.

"Woo wa!"

"Woo wa!"

The awakened Jela, running over to lie on Liszt's hair, disrupted his train of thought. But she also brought him new inspiration—perhaps he could let Jela plant some Thorns on Dulu Miqita—forget it, he was afraid it would kneel down if scared by Dulu Miqita's magic.

After all, Douson's Rock Grenades had terrified Jela.

"Right, Little Minor Elves are not of much use, but I have a dragon!"

His eyes suddenly lit up, “I almost forgot I have Fire Dragon Magic Power. Gathering all the Magic Power of the Fire Dragon together, I should be able to form a giant Fire Dragon covering an area of dozens of meters... With the power of a great Fire Dragon, burning from the inside out, it can definitely burn Dulu Miqita alive.”

The Magic Little Fire Dragon was not fast in moving.

First, he had to restrict the movements of Dulu Miqita.

How to restrict it was already covered with methods such as Rock Spikes, ship nets, clogging water channels, and more.

He quickly added another point, “Rubber water could be used, pouring a large amount of rubber into the river channel, turning the river water into rubber water. Paired with Rock Spikes, ship nets, and silt, within a few minutes, we should be able to stick Dulu Miqita in place, thoroughly fixing its movements and leaving it to the great Fire Dragon to burn.”

The movement had to be restricted, and the next step was to limit Dulu Miqita’s magic.

This would likely rely on the allure of the Serpent Blood Fruit, confusing its four heads, disrupting the thinking of the four brains.

“Right, the Smoke Mission that Paris is currently carrying out, the reward seems to be a research notebook, which might contain methods for restraining Dulu Miqita?”

For a full two hours.

He stayed in the Worm Room, going back and forth to refine the hunting plan, basically strategizing the main process. And he was fully confident when he gave the plan a codename—Operation Cut Snake.

There was Liu Bang of the past, who started a rebellion by killing a snake.

And now there was Liszt Cut Snake... Cut Snake... Cut Snake... in any case, it was to cut the snake!

Seeing Liszt unfold his brows, Ake couldn’t help but ask curiously, “Brother, have you thought of a way? Can we kill Dulu Miqita?”

“It’s only an intermediate-level sea monster,” Liszt put away the Cut Snake Operation strategy, and smiled lightly, “Don’t take it too seriously. Continue with your magic studies, and when I’m ready, Dulu Miqita will become roasted Sea Serpent meat.”

Chapter 325: Chapter 0323: Things That Must Be Done (Sixth release, seeking monthly pass)

The existence of Dulu Miqita is a threat, a threat that should be dealt with as soon as possible.

Therefore, after Liszt had planned out the Snake-Slaying Operation, he immediately mounted his Li Dragon Horse and galloped to the northern outskirts of Thorn Ridge, where he remembered there was a small river.

The river meandered around, surrounded by shrubs.

The terrain wasn't too complicated, but it was undulating, with high and low areas. Liszt searched carefully and had roughly sketched out a plan for the riverbed. This area didn't belong to Fresh Flower Town, but the surrounding land was barren, so he didn't need to inform anyone.

He called over Goltai directly, "I need you to gather the serfs and widen this river to two meters, with a depth that reaches just over the knees."

"My lord, why are you excavating this river? It doesn't seem to be within the territory of Fresh Flower Town."

"I plan to hunt an Intermediate Sea Monster in this river."

"What?"

"Intermediate Sea Monster. There is one lurking in the seas near Fresh Flower Town, most likely a Six-Headed King Serpent." Liszt released the information.

It gave Goltai quite a scare, "Inte... Intermediate Sea Monster? Six-Headed King Serpent? My lord, this..."

"You don't need to be nervous. You won't be the one to hunt it; I will handle it myself. You just need to follow the setup I've arranged and set traps here."

Goltai looked at Liszt's calm demeanor and couldn't help but try to convince him, "My lord, you need to be cautious. An Intermediate Sea Monster is as powerful as an Intermediate Magical Beast. Even the Earl doesn't wish to clear out the Purple Sand Crocodile on Coral Island, so this Six-Headed King Serpent requires even more careful handling!"

"To let the Six-Headed King Serpent ravage the seas of Fresh Flower Town at will? It could attack the Fresh Flower Vessel at any time and cut off Fresh Flower Town's

connection with Black Horse Island. We are under threat every day until it's hunted down."

Seeing that Goltai was about to say more.

Liszt interrupted him directly, "I know what you're worried about. I will make full preparations to hunt the Six-Headed King Serpent. If it turns out to be impossible, I will report to my father and leave it to him to handle."

"My lord, I think you should report to the Earl now, considering..."

"Let me try first. If I can't beat it, then I'll give up."

Seeking help from the Earl was indeed an option, but the Earl might not be able to handle Dulu Miqita. Should the hunt succeed, all gains would inevitably end up in the Earl's pocket, and there was also the risk of exposing Sea Sprite Ake.

Moreover, at the moment.

Even without any external assistance, he was confident in trying to hunt with the current strength of Fresh Flower Town. On top of that, with the rewards of the chain missions from the Smoke Mission, he had a very good chance.

Should he fail, he would then seek help from the Earl.

Once decided, he would not waver. He directly ordered Goltai, "Keep the news about the Intermediate Sea Monster within the ranks of the town officials; not a single word should leak out. For the excavation of the river, consult with Isaiah and carry it out under another pretext, and complete the work quickly."

With no other choice.

Goltai could only accept the order, "As you wish, my lord!"

Quickly, the news spread among the officials of Fresh Flower Town. When a luncheon meeting was held, a heated discussion broke out. Liszt only laid out his decision at the beginning, then sat in the chair and watched with cold eyes.

His will was unwavering.

The rest was up to the officials' decisions.

You may have opinions, you may vehemently disagree, but when he makes the final decision, no one is allowed to be passive. Just like the idle gossip about the ongoing investigation, Liszt hoped that through several acts of authority, he would instill his own majesty deep into the hearts of the people.

His future was boundless.

However, training a qualified group of followers and a Knight Squad was a long and arduous task.

After the arguments had subsided, and he had eaten his fill, Liszt spoke slowly, "You may keep your opinions, but..."

He looked around the room, and seeing that no one was speaking, he was very satisfied with the atmosphere, "I have decided to hunt the Six-Headed King Serpent. What you need to do is cooperate with the task and offer supplementary opinions to improve the hunting plan... Gao Ertai, I have given you the information on the Six-Headed King Serpent. Discuss this at the office meeting and report back to me this evening."

...

After the lunch banquet.

Liszt still felt like taking a nap.

Just as he awoke from his nap, Paris, who had gone out to investigate Magic Books, returned.

"Mission accomplished." She said with ease, "I've found out about the Magic Books. Elkerson is not an issue. The issue is with another Magician he collaborates with for book purchases, Merlese Truth."

"Merlese Truth?" Liszt had not heard this name before.

"She lives in a small town not far from Coral City, has been in seclusion for many years, and has connections with some Magicians from the outer islands. The channels through which she acquires her Magic Books are genuine. What's abnormal is the way she treats her Magic Apprentices... I happened to encounter her while I was investigating..."

Paris frowned, a look of disgust appearing on her face, "She flayed her own Magic Apprentice alive and continued conducting research while peeling off the skin."

Then, she spread her hands, "I almost killed her, but after interrogating her, I learned she had killed hundreds of Magic Apprentices using various methods... So I couldn't hold back. I broke both her arms, and then... I'm sorry, Baron, she bled out and died."

Listening to Paris's words, Liszt was also shocked.

To have killed hundreds of Magic Apprentices through methods such as flaying was truly cruel, not much different from the Phantom Ship's Curtis Truth.

No wonder even the Smoke Mission was disturbed.

So he merely said lightly, "Next time don't kill people on a whim. Since this time it was an accidental death and she deserved to die, let it go... Did she leave behind any books or research notes of some sort?"

"I knew you would need these things, so I've brought them all back, along with a pile of miscellaneous casting materials, and it seems there is also some Magic Equipment."

Checking the carriage.

There were a total of six pieces of Magic Equipment, some for amplifying Magic and others for protection.

Liszt immediately divided them, giving half to Paris and keeping half for himself, "Take these three pieces of protective Magic Equipment as a reward for your task. I'm keeping the ones for amplifying spells." He planned to give the amplifying Magic Equipment to Ach, arming him further.

Paris accepted the three protective items without ceremony, "Thank you. I'll give them to Maggie for protection."

He ordered the servants to move the remaining pile of casting materials to the warehouse, and then carried the Magic Books collected by Merlese, along with her experimental notes, to his study.

He then spoke to Paris who was about to leave, "I will soon have a plan to hunt an Intermediate Sea Monster, the Six-Headed King Serpent. I hope you can participate when the time comes. If the hunt fails, please ensure my safety."

"That's my job, Baron." Paris smiled. Lately, she had returned to the carefree demeanor she had when she first arrived in Fresh Flower Town, "But you really are bold, daring to hunt an Intermediate Sea Monster. Isn't it nice to just enjoy life?"

Liszt touched the Crimson Blood Sword at his waist, "Some things you must do. The Six-Headed King Serpent has already threatened the development of my territory and the safety of my people. I must eliminate this threat."

Chapter 326: Chapter 0324: Murder Notebook and Dragon Bone Calcination (First Update)

Whether it's for the reward of the Smoke Mission or for the safety of the shipping routes to Fresh Flower Town and Black Horse Island, Dulu Miqita must die.

After Paris left, Liszt directly summoned the Smoke Mission.

“Complete the mission, reward: the research notes of Merlese Truth.”

The few notebooks that he had packed and brought back from Merlese’s cabin in the woods were the rewards for the Smoke Mission, and the real prize within them was for Liszt to find.

He returned to the study and, before opening the notebooks, reviewed the new Smoke Mission.

“Mission: Recently, many outsiders have chosen to settle in Fresh Flower Town, which shows that Fresh Flower Town’s charm has bloomed on Coral Island, but the increase in outsiders also brings risks. Please root out three hidden rats. Reward: The Assault of the Six-Headed King Serpent.”

“Hmm,” Liszt muttered, feeling surprised, “This chain mission has only gone through two links, and it’s already entering the final showdown? The reward seems a bit small, and it doesn’t give enough sense of security.”

The chain mission of the Thorn Minor Elf Jela was the longest, with a total of six Smoke Missions before Jela was born.

For the Formless Dragon chain mission, including the final gain of the Space Gem, there were also six Smoke Missions.

However, Liszt soon reconciled with the thought: “The two previous missions, plus this one, and possibly another during the final battle, make four missions in total. For an Intermediate Sea Monster like the Six-Headed King Serpent, that’s quite up to par. After all, it cannot be compared with Jela and the Space Gem.”

Hunting an intermediate sea monster is a prize of much lower rank than acquiring a minor elf.

One can imagine that the day the Smoke Mission decides to involve a Greater Elf, it might distribute many more Smoke Missions, perhaps more than ten. If it decides to involve a real Dragon, maybe there would be over fifty Smoke Missions, or even more.

After all, dragons are the most noble of beings.

“From the look of it now, the secret to dealing with the Six-Headed King Serpent must be hidden within Merlese’s notes,” Liszt opened a notebook and began to read.

He wasn’t in a hurry to tackle the task of rooting out the rats, waiting until everything was ready and choosing an appropriate moment to root them out.

He had just flipped to the first page of the first notebook.

And his eyebrows shot up.

Because on the first page of the notebook was drawn a goat's head, its familiar shape immediately reminded him of the Goat Head Flag on the Ghost Ship, "This is the emblem of the Magic Goat Family, how come it appears in Merlese's research notes? Could it be that she is a remnant of the Magic Goat Family?"

The Magic Goat Family had two legacies, one primarily trained in knighthood, and the other in magic.

After the failure of the coup at The Court, both were eradicated.

Now encountering this goat head emblem again on a magician from Fresh Flower Town, and considering the cruelty of this Merlese Truth, who tortured and killed over a hundred Magic Apprentices.

Liszt couldn't help shaking his head, "They really seem like one family. Curtis Truth was cruel enough to use living people as sacrifices, while Merlese Truth tortured Magic Apprentices, with the same degree of brutality. No wonder the Magic Goat Family back then, in order to help Annute's longevity, even dared to target the Sapphire Dragon."

The content of this notebook mainly contained records of magic casting and refinement, essentially the insights and experience that Merlese had in meticulously practising her own magic.

From beginning to end, it had no relation to the Six-Headed King Serpent.

However, it included detailed experiences in casting the Water Magic Water Wheel Barrier, which could be passed on to the Sea Sprite Ake for reference to accelerate his learning process.

He put down this notebook.

He opened the second research notebook.

The cover and pages were severely damaged, indicating that Merlese consulted them frequently. The first page bore a hand-drawn goat symbol and a scrawled line of Serpent Script.

"Only in death during the release of passion can the purest soul be stripped away."

He didn't understand the meaning of this sentence.

He turned directly to the second page, and the more Liszt read, the more alarmed he became. The page shockingly detailed how Merlese had killed all the magic apprentices.

What was terrifying wasn't the act of murder itself but her method and motive—she was studying souls.

She began her research when she was young, trying various methods to strip human souls. For example, she might suddenly kill a magic apprentice at the climax of mating and then begin to strip their soul; she also tormented apprentices to the brink of death before killing them to strip their souls.

She believed that when a person was in a state of abundant emotion, their soul was most easily stripped away and at its purest.

Liszt nearly forced himself through the discomfort in his scalp and heart as he finished the research notebook. Then he could confirm that the reward for the Smoke Mission was the content of this notebook—Merlese had invented a potion extracted from blood, named Soul Disturbing Agent.

She had never succeeded in stripping a soul away but did find a substance of grudge in the blood of dying people; after purifying it, she created the Soul Disturbing Agent.

It could plunge a person's soul into chaos.

Not lethal, but it could easily dull a person's intellect; however, the Soul Disturbing Agent was ineffective against those with strong mental strength.

People like Earth Knights and magicians, who have strong mental strength, would just feel dizzy for ten days to half a month after being injected with the Soul Disturbing Agent and could recover on their own.

"So this is the reward for the Smoke Mission, a Soul Disturbing Agent to confuse the mind of the Six-Headed King Serpent? Intermediate sea creatures probably don't have weak mental strength, perhaps, it is targeting the two immature snakeheads?" Closing the research notes, he quickly went to the castle's storeroom.

Merlese's relics that he had brought back were not yet sorted out thoroughly.

After rummaging around, he saw eight crystal tubes filled with Magic Potion enter his view; under the detection of "The Eye of Magic", they emitted a luminous green light, almost the same as the soul light he saw on the Ghost Ship.

Apparently, these were the Soul Disturbing Agents.

He packed up the crystal tubes.

Liszt thought for a moment and decided to finish reading the remaining three research notebooks. One chronicled her study of magic arrays, which he could give to Ake to study; another documented her bizarre experiments, which were somewhat referential.

The last one recorded the manuscript for the magic book she was preparing to publish, with even the name decided—"Different Kinds of Bone Handling Techniques—Merlese Truth".

The manuscript was still unfinished.

But to Liszt's surprise, it contained records on the treatment of dragon bones.

"Dragon bones are part of a dragon, containing the magic power of the dragon. The biggest difference between dragon bones and other bodily tissues is that dragon bones are related to the soul. It is said that the soul of a dragon resides in its teeth, so weapons made from dragon teeth are the divine arms Knights most covet, Dragon Tooth Soldiers."

"I don't have the means to purchase dragon bones, but based on my research on Dragon Beast bones, I infer that dragon bones are the source of Dragon Might. If you have a little understanding of the past of the Duchy of Sapphire, you'd know there once was a technique known as Dragonbone Stabilizer...which activates the Dragon Might within the Dragon Beast skeleton through a magic array."

"Actually, there is an even quicker method: smash the dragon bones and calcine them with fire, and the Dragon Might will be released quickly. Of course, the Dragonbone Stabilizer Technique can continue to stimulate the Dragon Might, while calcining the dragon bones will release all the Dragon Might at once. If you all want to experience Dragon Might, you may wish to burn some dragon bones."

Chapter 327: Chapter 0325: Hope of Fresh Flower Town (Second Update)

“`

"Calcining Dragon Bones have this effect?"

If verified to be true, then the huge pile of Fire Dragon Bone Fragments that he had collected would be extremely useful. Liszt, an action-oriented person, immediately began the experiment.

He lit a bonfire.

Threw in a few Fire Dragon Bone Fragments, then, he began to wait for the Dragon Might to emerge.

However, half a day passed, the bonfire was almost out, and he didn't feel the anticipated Dragon Might. He stirred the charcoal ashes with his Longsword, only to discover that the Fire Dragon Bone Fragments were merely charred on the surface, without much change.

"Is it due to insufficient flame, or are the bones not shattered enough?"

He then ordered a servant to bring a tin box, placed charcoal inside, poured some grease, and began to light it. The temperature in the center of such flames was extremely high; he continued to smash the Fire Dragon Bone Fragments into even smaller pieces, scattering them into the furnace.

Yet, half a day later, there was still no production of Dragon Might.

"Is Merlese's conjecture wrong, or are the Fire Dragon Bone Fragments in my hands completely decayed, unable to stimulate any Dragon Might?"

"Or is it ineffective to burn the Fire Dragon Bones with fire? After all, it's a Fire Dragon, an expert in playing with fire."

Thinking this,

he took out the only Dragonbone Stabilizer from the Space Gem.

The Dragonbone Stabilizer Technique had been lost with the fall of the Magic Goat Family; this sole remaining bone of a Dragon Beast ostensibly had no more use.

"Dragon Bones can stimulate Dragon Might, and the bones of a Dragon Beast can also slightly stimulate it; while the Dragonbone Stabilizer is still relatively fresh, why not give it a try?" He hesitated no more, directly knocking off a small piece from the Dragonbone Stabilizer.

He tossed it into the rekindled fire pile.

A moment later,

a faint breath burst forth from the fire, instantly causing Liszt's skin to break out in goosebumps, his heart tightened, immediately reminding him of the Dragon Might he felt when the Formless Dragon had come by. Compared to that time, this Dragon Might was very faint, very weak, but it was indeed Dragon Might.

After lasting a short while, this faint Dragon Might had slowly dissipated.

Liszt extinguished the fire and returned to the Castle.

His mood was somewhat excited, “Indeed, Merlese’s guess was correct, calcining Dragon Bones can release Dragon Might. The Fire Dragon Bone Fragments might not produce Dragon Might due to decay, or resistance. Only the Dragon Beast bone from this Dragonbone Stabilizer can still release some Dragon Might... I wonder if it can intimidate Dulu Miqita.”

He had already decided.

To combine Serpent Blood Fruit, Soul Disturbing Agent, and Dragon Might, a triple disturbance to disrupt Dulu Miqita’s magic casting.

“With this, restrictive measures prepared, magical disturbance measures ready, and the finishing move, Magical Grand Fire Dragon also set, hunting Dulu Miqita only awaits the trap’s proper arrangement.”

...

Serpent Blood Fruit was not difficult to purchase.

The Fresh Flower Caravan bought a batch of Serpent Blood Tree Plant Pots from Coral Island, a total of twenty-two pots; due to the season, none had flowered or fruited yet.

They resembled young pepper plants, about as tall as two palms.

“Quite regrettable, Lord Landlord, there were no Serpent Blood Fruits for sale on Coral Island, we only managed to purchase some plant pots,” reported Abagon.

“Continue to purchase, buy all the Serpent Blood Tree Plant Pots that can be found.” Liszt gave the command indifferently, not much concerned with the outcome from the Fresh Flower Caravan.

Tulip Castle’s caravan hadn’t returned yet; it was unsure if they’d acquired any Serpent Blood Fruits, but the caravan from Beer Castle had already sent a batch of Serpent Blood Fruits through Fresh Flower Port, roughly a thousand catties. Serpent Blood Fruit is a dry fruit; several islands in the Duchy of Sapphire have many venomous snakes, so local landlords hoard Serpent Blood Fruits.

The trade channels of Beer Castle’s caravan were complex, making it easy to contact these minor landlords.

“

With an ample supply of Serpent Blood Fruits,

every part of the plan was now in place.

When Marcus returned to Fresh Flower Town by ship, Liszt directly instructed him, "Teacher Marcus, I need you to make another trip to Black Horse Island and bring back Griffin and Lasse. The Earth Knights will play a principal role in this hunt against the Six-Headed King Serpent, and we need to start training ahead of time."

Upon hearing Liszt's decision, Marcus did offer a few words of persuasion. But compared to Goltai's downcast spirit, his eyes sparkled with a greater sense of fighting spirit.

"My Lord, your plan is perfect. I believe Douson should take on a more significant role. Although Douson is not yet fully mature, the Six-Headed King Serpent is also not fully grown; maybe Douson could put up a direct and tough fight against it. Acting as our main force, you also need to seize this opportunity to train its combat abilities," he suggested.

Liszt nodded. "Indeed, Douson should definitely engage in a good fight. Being raised in the yard may dull its wild instincts."

"Also, if you intend to use a bow and arrow to inject a Soul Disturbing Agent, disrupting the Six-Headed King Serpent from casting magic, why not have the Apprentice Knights join the battle with bows and arrows? Your collection includes a highly toxic bee venom. With arrowheads dipped in poison, I believe they could inflict considerable damage on the King Sea Serpent."

"That's an excellent addition," Liszt acknowledged.

Many hands make light work, and after exchanging ideas with Marcus, the plan for the serpent hunt was more thorough.

...

At the end of March.

Spring plowing had rolled out its magnificent prologue. Aside from the one thousand and five hundred people working on Black Horse Island, Fresh Flower Town had over three thousand inhabitants.

Hundreds of serfs were digging river traps under the guise of "clearing water channels."

The remaining serfs, the majority of them, were engaged in cultivation, striving to seed all the cultivated farmland within the boundaries of Fresh Flower Town and Thorn Ridge.

The compost accumulated over the winter was also being continuously spread into the fields.

All the serfs were equipped with a full set of agricultural tools—from bone spades, bone hoes, bone knives to wooden buckets, wooden basins, carrying poles—which greatly improved work efficiency.

Having returned from inspecting the river traps, Liszt, with Zambrotta, Blair, Nemo, and other town officials, continued to oversee the spring plowing activities.

Monster hunting was important, as was spring plowing.

Standing on the ridge of the fields and observing the serfs working with their backs to the sky, he gave an important directive: “The development of Fresh Flower Town has not come easy. As town officials, you must value this highly and ensure you manage this spring plowing mission well. The town’s reclaimed wasteland must not be abandoned.”

“Yes, my Lord!” the officials responded in unison.

“Goltai and Isaiah are in charge of the river channel excavation, so the tasks they should have assumed will start with Blair. You all must take over their responsibilities.”

“Yes, my Lord!”

Afterward, Liszt, accompanied by the officials, went on to inspect each garrison and meet with the stewards to hear about the progress of the spring plowing. Although he did not adopt an approachable posture by going into the fields to talk amiably with the serfs, the image of Lord Landlord placing importance on agriculture was already established.

No one dared to slack off when it came to spring plowing.

In fact, without this posture, the serfs would not be lax; most of them had already lived through hard times. After arriving in Fresh Flower Town, the kind Lord Landlord, ample food and clothing, job opportunities everywhere where one could earn money, and the labor distribution system that rewarded hard work gave them hope.

“This year, I’m going to cultivate twenty acres of farmland, all planted with wheat!” an excited new serf, watching the Lord and his party depart, said to himself, “My wife and children have died of starvation. I am still young. If I earn money, I can remarry and have a bunch of children!”

The serfs who had been sold had almost all lost their families.

After overcoming their grief, they longed to start new families.

And the great, benevolent, noble Lord Landlord had given them a visible opportunity.

...

Riding on the back of a Li Dragon Horse, Liszt looked out and saw the town enveloped in a light called “progress,” and he couldn’t help feeling his spirits soar: “This is the land I strive to develop!”

## **The Mighty Dragons Are Dead #Chapter 328 - 0326: Calling Your Name (3rd update, 1/10 celebration for Alliance Hierarch Wu Ma Wei Yang) - Read The Mighty Dragons Are Dead Chapter 328 - 0326: Calling Your Name (3rd update, 1/10 celebration for Alliance Hierarch Wu Ma Wei Yang)**

Chapter 328: Chapter 0326: Calling Your Name (3rd update, 1/10 celebration for Alliance Hierarch Wu Ma Wei Yang)

This chapter is an additional update rewarded by the Alliance Hierarch “Wu Ma Wei Yang”; nine chapters remain, and they will be supplemented subsequently.

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On the first morning of April, Goltai’s son was born.

The day he arrived in this world, there was no commotion; not only did the forest not call out his name, but even the midwife who delivered him did not know what the child’s name was.

Only Goltai’s old servant, having cleaned the infant, placed him beside Freya’s bed, “Freya, it’s a boy. The master will surely be delighted to know.”

“Hmm,” Freya’s pale face shimmered with maternal radiance as she looked at her son, his wrinkled little face, “His name is Donald, Donald Mast.”

The elderly servant smiled, “Donald, what a beautiful name.”

“Freya, you need to rest well. I will help with anything you need,” said the castle’s female butler, Mrs. Morson from Morson Paddy Field, sitting beside the bed.

“Thank you, Mrs. Morson.”

“Mr. Goltai serves as a consultant to Lord Landlord, and the birth of his son is something we should assist with. It’s a pity that Lord Landlord and Mr. Goltai have important work and cannot witness Donald’s birth. Lord Landlord has said that he, Donald Mast, will become one of Lord Landlord’s Retainer Knights in the future.”

“I eagerly look forward to that day,” Freya said, revealing a smile at the corners of her lips as she envisioned the scene.

As a secret lover who must not be seen, she bore the offspring of a noble, yet she still had no status or identity to speak of. However, as a mother, she naturally hoped for a grand future for her son, something that Goltai could not or dare not give, but Lord Landlord could bestow.

One day, her son would, like everyone else, live and grow strong under the sunlight.

She turned her head and kissed her already sleeping baby’s forehead, whispering, “My son, since before you were born, I have been calling your name every day...”

Outside the house.

The sunlight was dazzling, and the weather was becoming increasingly warm.

...

“You seem somewhat restless, Consultant Goltai,” Liszt stood at the construction site of the river trap, watching the serfs laboriously transport carry by carry of soil, and asked casually.

“Indeed I am, as you know, Freya’s due date has arrived.”

“You should head back at noon.”

“Thank you for your generosity, my lord!”

“The construction of the river trap is almost finished, and there is not much work left for you here. Now, I am going to assign you a new task.”

“Please command me, my lord. Goltai will fulfill it with all his heart,” he replied.

“The number of freemen who have settled in Fresh Flower Town has increased lately, haven’t they?”

“In total, more than one hundred and fifty people have been added, all registered in the executive office’s archives, my lord,” Goltai answered. This was a requirement by Liszt, to create an identity record for each citizen of Fresh Flower Town.

Similar to a household registration.

“Some may be curious about Fresh Flower Town, so ‘rats’ have been sent, disguised as freemen,” Liszt said seriously, “I need you to identify them within three days. If I’m not mistaken, there are three rats. But don’t arouse any suspicion; ascertain the list first.”

Once the rats were caught, the Smoke Mission would be complete, and Dulu Miqita might directly launch an attack.

As he did not allow Ach to enter the water to spread her “scent” to attract Dulu Miqita, the probability of an attack was uncertain. However, considering the Formless Dragon’s debut, the Smoke Mission’s capability to stir the Threads of Destiny was substantial—Liszt knew too little about this legendary Sacred Dragon.

If Dulu Miqita launched an outright attack before the river trap was complete, it would be disastrous.

“Rats?” Goltai exclaimed in shock. “Rats have infiltrated Fresh Flower Town? My Lord, I need to cooperate!”

“The Patrol Team’s Karl will work with you.”

“Yes, with Karl’s cooperation, I will surely find all the rats, not sparing a single one!” Goltai responded loudly, though he was actually feeling a bit uneasy inside. Rats had sneaked into Fresh Flower Town, and he had known nothing about it.

This was a lapse in security.

It was also unknown whether the rats had managed to sniff out information about Black Horse Island.

Of course, for nobles, rats were nothing new, always lurking in the shadows, engaging in affairs that the nobility preferred not to dirty their hands with. Ever since Fresh Flower Town started attracting foreign merchants to conduct business, it had been difficult to ensure no rats were among them, not to mention the many freemen who came to settle.

What really made Goltai’s heart pound was the fact that Liszt even knew the number of rats, indicating that he had everything in Fresh Flower Town under control.

Goltai felt he had possibly been a bit lax recently and wondered if he had left a poor impression on Liszt.

He needed to rectify things. He thought to himself, “I must be spirited and handle this rat incident!”

The student he had once taught was just a timid young man who could be easily cajoled. However, after arriving in Fresh Flower Town, the young man had changed drastically. Goltai could truly sense the fear of someone of lower status towards one higher up, a Lord who, though young and seemingly fond of enjoyment and delegating power, had a strong desire for control.

He had no doubt that Liszt would ascend to a higher title, perhaps even rivaling the Earl.

The favor of knightly glory was bestowed upon him more than anyone else.

And moreover.

Looking at the busy construction site, he had originally thought that hunting an intermediate sea monster was a foolish choice, the result of Liszt being heady with constant success.

But now he was starting to believe that Liszt truly had the confidence to hunt down an intermediate sea monster.

“If he really succeeds in the hunt, this Coral Island will probably no longer be able to hold him back,” Goltai mused as he followed behind Liszt, looking at his tall figure, his mind filled with wild thoughts. “But are intermediate sea monsters really that easy to kill?”

Looking at the traps being continuously excavated and set up.

Goltai was both worried and hopeful.

...

By now, the river had been widened to accommodate a greater flow of water, but the small river remained a small river with scant water, to the point where the water level barely covered the knees.

About a kilometer away from the seashore, it was dammed.

The surrounding area already featured high embankments, and with the soil excavated from the river, it was piled even higher. Around the slopes, densely packed with large and small rock spikes, a vast stone forest was formed, enveloping the entire river section. This was the result of Douson's hard work over the past few days.

This would become the bloody battlefield for the hunt of Dulu Miqita.

Marcus was leading the Earth Knights back and forth, getting familiar with the terrain.

And there was also a group of Apprentice Knights following behind, each with several quivers on their backs, filled with arrows that had been poisoned with potent bee venom.

Marcus also had a quiver on his back. His arrows were of two types, one with poison and one without.

They were Falcon Feather Arrows made from the feathers of the Magical Beast Windfalcon, originally crafted for Liszt, but he had gifted them back to him.

What he coated on his arrows was not ordinary poison but Soul Disturbing Agent – rather than poisoning, it was the Soul Disturbing Agent wrapped in pine resin around the arrowhead. When the sharp point broke through the resin, it injected the Soul Disturbing Agent, carrying it into the body of Dulu Miqita.

As long as it could disrupt Dulu Miqita's magic, even a powerful intermediate magical beast was nothing more than a thick-skinned chunk of meat on the chopping board.

Now, truly everything was ready!

## **The Mighty Dragons Are Dead #Chapter 329: 327: A Knight Comes to Join (Fourth Update, 1/8 Celebration for Alliance Hierarch Bittertree) - Read The Mighty Dragons Are Dead Chapter 329: 327: A Knight Comes to Join (Fourth Update, 1/8 Celebration for Alliance Hierarch Bittertree)**

Chapter 329: Chapter 327: A Knight Comes to Join (Fourth Update, 1/8 Celebration for Alliance Hierarch Bittertree)

This chapter has been added for Alliance Hierarch "Bittertree" as a rewarded update, with seven chapters remaining, which will be filled in later.

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Lunch was had on the construction site.

Liszt's meal was simple, consisting only of roast Magical Beast Meat, seafood, steak, fried eggs, egg soup, vegetable salad, several kinds of pasta, as well as milk tea and juice.

After lunch.

Paris, who had walked around the entire river a few times, hurried over, "Baron, it seems that this trap, in combination with your preparations, is indeed good, but are you sure the Six-Headed King Serpent will come here? Relying only on Serpent Blood Fruit might not be enough to attract the Six-Headed King Serpent, as its whereabouts are unpredictable."

The vast ocean, boundless and infinite, who knows where Dulu Miqita is hiding now.

But Liszt knew, and he had confidence in luring it here. He smiled, "Believe me, it's not hard to draw the Six-Headed King Serpent; it just requires a little patience."

His gaze shifted to the upper reaches of the river that was being blocked.

There, a relatively deep pond had been dug, and starting tomorrow morning, Ach would be transferred to the pond to begin serving as bait to lure Dulu Miqita.

Then.

Liszt would announce the capture of Rats to complete the Smoke Mission and receive the mission rewards.

...

The day before the Serpent Slaying operation began.

Under the blossoming apple tree, Liszt had a final discussion with Marcus, "Seven Earth Knights are enough to undertake the support role in the hunt, but Teacher Marcus, your and my mission are the most crucial. You have to not only inject the Soul Disturbing Agent into the Six-Headed King Serpent but also shatter the Fire Dragon Jar in time to release the Fire Dragon Magic Power."

"My lord, rest assured, I have confidence in my archery skills!"

"That's good to hear."

One would think that only seven Earth Knights were responsible for battle, but surprises always come unexpectedly.

On that very day, Charles Trap, the Elite Earth Knight who had been in deep thought for a long time, suddenly came to Fresh Flower Town.

"I have thought it through, as a wandering Honored Knight, I cared too much about my past Noble status, to the extent that it hindered my pursuit of further honor!" Charles

knelt on one knee before Liszt, "I am willing to follow you, Baron, as a common Freeman!"

To abandon Noble status was no small matter, requiring great courage.

Liszt was surprised; he had not expected that Charles, past forty, would have such resolve. To be honest, he had not intended to accept this follower, fearing deception.

However, after shedding his Noble title, Charles was just an Elite Earth Knight, without any barriers.

He thought for a moment but still did not immediately agree, "Since you are willing to let go of your Noble status, Charles, if you follow me, you will receive the same treatment as the other Earth Knights. Can you accept that?"

"Willing to accept!"

"I still have concerns, but I am willing to give you a chance to become a comrade in arms on my path to Knightly glory," Liszt looked into his eyes and said, "I am preparing to hunt an Intermediate Sea Monster, which is very dangerous and might cause casualties, so I need manpower. If you join, regardless of the outcome, you will be my follower."

"Intermediate Sea Monster?"

Charles hesitated for a moment, his eyes struggling slightly before kneeling on one knee again, "I have made my decision and shall follow the lord's footsteps. Let the hunt for the Intermediate Sea Monster become the beginning of trust! If I am unfortunate enough to die in battle, please take care of my wife and children, my lord!"

"Very well, I accept your followership!"

With the considerable fighting power of an Elite Earth Knight, Liszt had no reason not to accept his followership. In the current situation, additional combat power meant a higher success rate for the Serpent Slaying operation. It might be impossible to fight the Six-Headed King Serpent head-on, but an Elite Earth Knight acting as support would definitely surpass Apprentice Knights and Common Earth Knights.

Spreading nets, shooting arrows, pouring rubber.

Charles would surely be up to the task.

...

The third day.

April 4th, the weather was clear, without wind or cloud.

“My lord, all three rats have been captured!” Goltai came to report.

“Interrogate them strictly, find out who sent them, how much information they hold, and how much they have sent out. Then, as for how to deal with them, I needn’t explain further,” Liszt said indifferently.

“Of course, I’ll handle it well, please rest assured, my lord.”

“You and Isaiah withdraw all the serfs, it is no longer safe here.”

Goltai breathed a sigh of relief, then bowed: “My lord, may the glory of the knight be with you, and I wish you victory in slaying the intermediate sea monster!”

The serfs and other unrelated people gradually withdrew from the river trap.

Only the Earth Knights and the bow-wielding Apprentice Knights remained, numbering no more than a hundred, most of whom were young men with not much training. Liszt’s expression was solemn; this battle was far more perilous than clearing the Magical Beasts of Thorn Ridge. A moment’s negligence could lead to heavy casualties.

However, Paris and Douson were by his side, so there was no need to worry about his own safety.

What he had to do was to calmly command this snake-slaying operation, aiming to slay Dulu Miqita with the least cost.

Ach had already been in the pre-dug pond for a whole morning; the “scent” that should be emitted must have spread into the ocean by now. If Dulu Miqita was sensitive enough, it should already be on its way following the “scent.” However, considering Ach’s trips to the seashore to replenish seawater had never attracted Dulu Miqita, its timely arrival was uncertain.

They likely needed the help of the Smoke Mission.

In front of him.

Misty smoke slowly emerged, eventually forming into the anticipated Serpent Script.

“Complete the mission, reward: the assault of the Six-Headed King Sea Serpent.”

The force of fate was already at work in the shadows. Liszt’s hand rested on the hilt of the Crimson Blood Sword, smoothing over his nervous emotions, then he turned his head to glance at the Fire Dragon Jar at his feet. There were twelve Fire Dragon Jars in

total, combining all the Fire Dragon Magic Power, including that from the brick factory, all reclaimed.

Liszt had tested them. Once all the magic power was released, the Magic Little Fire Dragons would envelop a forty-meter radius, and the scorching temperature could burn everything.

After all, originating from a Fire Dragon capable of creating volcanoes, the magical force contained within was far superior to that of ordinary Fire Attribute Mana.

“Are you nervous, Paris?” he suddenly asked.

Paris responded with a light smile, “I’ve seen a Light Dragon, and even that did not deter me, let alone an intermediate Sea Monster. Please be at ease, Baron.”

He nodded.

Liszt fell silent, as a new Smoke Mission appeared before him.

“Mission: The decisive moment is imminent. For the peace of the territory, for the safety of the Sea Serpent/Nixie, for the glory of the knights, it’s time to demonstrate the landlord’s majesty and inviolability, and to eliminate the invading intermediate Sea Monster, the Six-Headed King Sea Serpent, on the spot. Reward: an unknown quantity of Elf Bugs.”

He did not ponder what was meant by an unknown quantity of Elf Bugs.

Fully focused, he awaited the arrival of Dulu Miqita.

Time slowly passed.

Apart from the chirping of insects and the calling of birds, there was no other movement. Moments of waiting like this tested patience the most. What his subordinates thought, Liszt did not know, but he himself maintained a calm demeanor, neither hurried nor flustered. He knew better than anyone that Dulu Miqita would definitely come.

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The cast of characters has been released, available on the mobile APP, and fans with over ten thousand points can tag the characters, those who want to play can check it out.

### Chapter 330: Chapter 0328: The Last Day of Dulu Miqita (Fifth Update, 10,000 Coins Reward for 1/3 Celebration)

This chapter is an additional update for “My Sky is the Stars and the Sea” as a reward for the readers.

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In a flash,

two hours passed.

Facing the silent situation, everyone couldn't help but become anxious.

Even Marcus stood on the mound across the river channel, waving at Liszt to signal and inquire about the situation.

Liszt responded with a gesture to calm down, pulled out his telescope, and continued to observe the river and the seaside in the distance. It was high tide this morning, and he had chosen to begin the mission at noon especially to wait for the low tide, when the land space for hunting Dulu Miqita could be expanded.

The high tide slowly receded, and Dulu Miqita's traces still hadn't shown.

The telescope moved away from the seaside, observing along the river.

About two hundred meters from the trap section of the river, rock spikes had densely formed a stone forest, along with some thorns and poisonous thorns scattered by Thorn Minor Elf Jela; closer to that section on both sides of the river, there were stone walls built up, linked with ropes, cutting the ropes would inevitably cause them to collapse and block the river, completing the encirclement.

The main battlefield of the river trap was surrounded by four bonfires. Three were used to boil Serpent Blood Fruit and release the scent, and one to calcine Dragon Beast bones and release Dragon Might

On either side of the mound, there were barrels of rubber. The serfs of Black Horse Island had collected over fifty barrels of rubber without seriously damaging the rubber trees. Once poured into the river trap, added with mud, sand, and Douson's rock spikes, it's believed that the area would quickly become adhesive.

Next to each Earth Knight lay a large pile of fishing nets and various silken threads, which Liszt had sent people to purchase from all over the place.

As soon as Dulu Miqita appeared, they would throw them frantically, striving to entangle Dulu Miqita.

The arrows poisoned with bee venom were held in the hands of each Apprentice Knight, precision wasn't necessary; hitting the giant Dulu Miqita and causing disturbance was sufficient.

The real deadly moves were in the hands of Liszt and Marcus.

The telescope continued to aim at the seaside, and Liszt deployed "The Eye of Magic," trying to get a clear view. However, this was futile as the Eye of Magic could not observe too great a distance.

"How much longer must we wait?"

Another half hour passed, the sun slanted westward, and Liszt could barely keep calm: "Could there be something wrong with this method of luring, to the extent that Dulu Miqita can't track Ach? Or perhaps it simply can't come ashore?"

However, it was like a man and woman on a date.

The man must wait anxiously for the woman to arrive fashionably late.

On the water's surface by the seaside, suddenly a string of snakeheads popped up, clearly displayed in Liszt's still-aimed telescope. There was no need to count, as it was clear to see there were a total of six snakeheads. The black and white stripes were vaguely visible, but it was just a fleeting glimpse, as all the snakeheads submerged again.

"It's coming, everyone be alert!"

Liszt shouted loudly, continuing to hold the telescope and watch the seaside. In less than a minute, Dulu Miqita, which had been awaited for so long, completely exposed its form amidst the receding sea waves.

On its stout body, six slender snakeheads were attached, giving it an especially sinister appearance.

It swam along the river slowly, occasionally lifting its heads to observe the situation above the water surface, but its speed was not slow. Since the depth of the water in the river was quite shallow, it could not swim quietly, creating large splashes and stirring the river's silt.

By the time it swam past the two-hundred-meter stretch of the river, there was no need for Liszt to vocalize a reminder; all the knights hiding behind cover could see Dulu Miqita's figure.

A bizarrely large sea serpent, about seven to eight meters long, with six heads messy yet orderly.

And just as Liszt had predicted, among its six heads, two were clearly thinner, standing out conspicuously, which were the immature snakeheads.

The prepared flags had already started waving below the hillside.

This was the signal.

The knight hidden at the campfire point immediately took out his flame striker and, with a breath, ignited the fire swiftly. At the same time, he poured crushed Serpent Blood Fruit into the pot, mixed with a little water, and began to simmer the scent of the fruit.

As Dulu Miqita entered the river trap area.

Li Si Te's palms were already sweating.

The enormous sea serpent looked particularly dangerous.

"Closer, just a little closer!" he muttered, observing Dulu Miqita with the Eye of Magic, closely monitoring its magic power to see if it was ready to cast a spell.

And ready to give commands at any moment.

He was the leader of the serpent-slaying operation; all orders would be issued by him.

Just then, Dulu Miqita clearly sensed the uneasy atmosphere of its surroundings; it raised its six tongues, looking around. But apart from the mounds, it sensed nothing. As its forked tongue flicked in and out, it detected no warm-blooded creatures' heat, nor could it see any shadows of living beings.

To tell the truth, Li Si Te did not know whether the Six-Headed King Serpent, like ordinary snakes, sensed infrared radiation—after all, this world was not Earth.

All he could do was to hide behind the soil.

To use the earth as a cover.

For now, it seemed the Six-Headed King Sea Snake had not discovered them, so after surveying for a moment, it continued to move. It had already "smelled" the delicious scent characteristic of sea serpents—a delicacy for it, too good to pass up. For this treat, it had been wandering in these strange sea regions for a full three months.

Today, the delicacy was right before its eyes.

Swimming forward.

Its body suddenly slithered between the two mounds, the location chosen as the hunting battlefield. At this moment, Liszt, hiding in a soil hole, felt his pupils dilate suddenly, and he yelled, "Douson, Multiple Stone Spikes!"

Douson, also hiding in a dirt hole, darted out like an arrow, opening his mouth to cast a spell. In an instant, countless rock spikes erupted from the ground right where Dulu Miqita was. One of the spikes struck true, piercing Dulu Miqita's skin and causing blood to spurt out.

Dulu Miqita hissed in agony, its body instantly coiling up in the river, forming a pile. Four of its six heads were open, magic brewing within.

However, before it could release the magic, numerous arrows rose from behind the mounds, flying towards it.

The aim was terrible, but still, several arrows struck its body, their tips laced with potent bee poison, the kind that merges with the blood upon contact.

"Hiss!"

Dulu Miqita writhed in pain; the magic in three of its heads shattered instantly, but one head managed to cast its spell, a barrage of Water Arrows.

Dozens of water arrows shot out with ferocious speed towards... the sky. The serpent had jerked its head in pain, causing the direction of its casting to go awry.

The next moment, just as it was about to cast another spell,

Douson's Multiple Stone Spikes struck again, forcing Dulu Miqita to twist its body. On the other side, poisoned arrows continued flying, while the Earth Knights began to spread nets and threads. These large ship nets and threads, weighted with rocks, enveloped Dulu Miqita's serpent heads.

Although powerless to wound it, they still caused it considerable discomfort as the serpent heads nearly tied themselves in knots, tangled in the netted ship nets and the chaotic web of threads.

After throwing his ship net, Charles Trap lunged forward, grabbed the rubber bucket from the ground, fiercely smashed through the congealed rubber layer on its surface, and threw it directly into the river. Following him, several other Earth Knights also began tossing buckets one after another, and within moments, fifty buckets of rubber were all dumped into the river.

The rubber quickly became entangled by the thrashing Dulu Miqita, mixing with the silt, broken rock spikes, and other debris.

Almost simultaneously,

Marcus emerged from his hiding spot, reached the top of the mound, and drew his bow with an arrow readied.