

The Mighty Dragons Are Dead #Chapter 341: 0350: Tide-Calling Mermaid Princess Nami (First Update) - Read The Mighty Dragons Are Dead Chapter 341: 0338: Tide-Calling Mermaid Princess Nami (First Update)

Chapter 341: Chapter 0338: Tide-Calling Mermaid Princess Nami (First Update)

The light green Mangrove Minor Elf was indeed found by Ake on Mangrove Island.

“When Ake was playing on Mangrove Island, I discovered this little girl. She’s so tiny and cute, just like Jela. But she’s very timid. I threw her some fruit to eat, and she hesitated for a long time before picking it up. Then she gradually came closer to me and even bit my finger,” Ake recounted her encounter with the Mangrove Minor Elf in detail.

“At that time, Ake suddenly realized that I was forming a contract with the little girl, allowing me to understand what she was thinking... Brother, is this the contract between humans and elves? Can Sea Sprites also form contracts with elves?” Ake asked.

“You contracted with it?” Liszt asked in surprise.

It was indeed a perplexing situation, as this Minor Elf was a reward from the Smoke Mission given to him, yet it unexpectedly formed a contract with Sea Sprite Ake. Even though Ake also belonged to him personally, not having contracted it himself left a somewhat unsavory taste.

However, he quickly put aside his personal feelings, nodded, and said gently, “Generally, elves only contract with humans, but that doesn’t mean they can’t contract with other creatures, after all, this magic contract wasn’t invented by humans. So it’s not surprising that a Sea Sprite can contract with an elf.”

“Is that so?”

Ake tilted her head: “But I don’t know how to take care of an elf. Brother, how about I release the contract with the little girl and you contract with her instead? Her Cordyceps is a mangrove tree, located in the center of Mangrove Island. The surrounding trees bear many small fruits, which are quite tasty.”

He was momentarily tempted.

Liszt immediately declined: “Since she took the initiative to contract with you, it means she has a connection with you. I don’t need to waste her contract count. Yours and mine are the same... Did you bring any of the mangrove fruits?”

“I brought some.”

She motioned with her hand, and the seawater in the shell immediately lifted a handful of pale yellow fruits into Liszt’s hand.

The fruits carried no magic power and were simply ordinary, with awkward shapes about the size of a thumb’s nail. He pinched one and chewed it twice in his mouth, tasting a faint sweetness and sourness, quite delicious indeed—it could be treated as a type of fruit.

This was possibly the greatest value of the Mangrove Minor Elf at present.

One could only hope to encounter the Magic Medicine Mangrove in the future or to discover a more valuable mangrove variant.

“Ake, have you named her?” Liszt asked while looking at the Minor Elf who was peeking curiously out from Ake’s hair.

Unlike Jela’s rugged and carefree image, it looked more delicate and exquisite, its color translucent like jade. On its head were two small green leaves and a tiny red flower.

Its large eyes blinked, radiating innocence.

The sound it made was like a little girl muttering to herself: “Jigu.”

No wonder Ake referred to it as a little girl: “Brother, Ake has thought for a long time but still can’t decide on a name. Why don’t you name her?”

“I will?”

Liszt did not refuse, pondered for a moment, and had an idea: “Let’s call her Nami.”

“Nami?”

“Yes, this name signifies the call of the tides.”

“Nami... Mm, we’ll call her Nami; it’s a lovely name,” Ake said as she pulled the Mangrove Minor Elf from her hair and placed it on her palm. “Little girl, from now on, your name is Nami, do you understand?”

The little elf gave a timid call: “Jigu.”

Accepting her new name—Nami.

“Ake, since Nami is now your contracted Minor Elf, take good care of her. I will send you a Jade Box and some Jade Powder to feed her. Then, each time you visit the Mangrove

Forest, pay attention to the attributes of the Mangrove Cordyceps and work out the functions of those mangroves.”

The Sea Sprite nodded: “Ake understands. Nami will definitely help brother and fulfill the elf’s intended role.” She had read many books and knew the value of elves to humans.

“Wait here for a moment; I’ll bring over Jela so she can meet Nami,” Liszt said.

“Okay.”

Moments later, the sound of horse hooves approached, and Liszt returned with Jela.

Upon seeing Ake, Jela was overjoyed, making constant “woo-wah,” “woo-wah” noises. It had been several days since it saw the Sea Monster Miss.

At that moment, Nami poked her head out from Ake’s hair again.

Suddenly,

The two little elves met for the first time.

Jela was stunned for a moment, flapping her wings and staring blankly at Nami, not sure what to think. It wasn’t her first time seeing another of her kind, as she had seen them before at Tulip Castle. Nami, on the other hand, was meeting another of her kind for the first time and appeared somewhat delighted. She wriggled out of the hair and stood on Ake’s shoulder, waving at Jela and making eye contact.

She greeted softly, “Coo.”

After about a dozen seconds, Jela reacted and flew towards Nami.

Liszt watched the two little ones interact with a smile, thinking such a scene was a true delight. However, the next moment, his smile abruptly ended.

Just as Jela flew up to Nami, she raised her little hand and gave Nami a fierce slap on the head: “Wham!”

The emotion was intense.

Liszt immediately sensed that she was telling Nami to get lost.

Nami was dumbfounded by the slap and tumbled off Ake’s shoulder, but luckily Ake reacted in time, creating a stream of water to catch Nami.

Landing on the stream, Nami cried out with a “Coo.”

“Jela!”

Liszt hastily commanded, “Stop that!”

After hearing Liszt, Jela put her hands on her hips and strutted midair, calling out “Wham” to Liszt and then “Wham” to Ake as if to show off her prowess.

It wasn’t until she saw Liszt’s glare,

That she pouted and flew back onto his shoulder, no longer daring to misbehave.

Meanwhile, Ake was already holding Nami, whispering comforting words: “Don’t cry, Nami. Jela didn’t mean it; she’s usually very cute. I believe you two can become good friends.”

This was not a pleasant meeting.

After Ake’s comforting, Nami stopped crying, but she hid in the hair and didn’t come out again; she was truly timid compared to Jela’s boldness.

“Take good care of Nami ...” Liszt didn’t know what else to say, so he simply took Jela and headed back.

Along the way, Jela inevitably faced reprimands and punishment, being sentenced to three days without leaving the Worm Room. If she hit another little elf again, the punishment would be doubled. Faced with such discipline, Jela seemed downhearted all the way; she was too lively, and confinement was a nightmare to her.

Moreover, the Worm Room now lacked the warm shells for taking baths.

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By the time they got back to the Castle,

Town Government Official Isaiah had just arrived: “My lord, do you have any orders?”

After handing Jela over to Butler Carter to take to the Worm Room, Liszt said, “I plan to expand the cultivation of 500 acres of Corn Grass. Take a look at any wasteland that can be farmed, and arrange for the Serfs to begin ploughing immediately. It’s already past the spring ploughing season, and we need to finish as soon as possible.”

“We already have 280 acres of Corn Grass, and according to the plan at the beginning of the year, there is enough for Fresh Flower Town’s use. Why do we still need to cultivate an additional 500 acres?”

“Because I plan to expand the scale of cattle and horse farming,” Liszt answered.

“As you wish,” Isaiah said, accepting the command.

Mrs. Morson had brewed some milk tea, which Carter brought over to Liszt. He took a sip of the fragrant milk tea, and the turbulent emotions within Liszt were well soothed—no matter what, the second little elf of his domain was now in hand.

Nami, the Mangrove Minor Elf.

Chapter 342: Chapter 0339: High-Quality Milk Source Region (Second Update)

Just like with Ach, Liszt had no intention of revealing Nami’s true potential. Although the true benefits from the Smoke Mission were not known to others, the part that had been exposed was already frightening enough.

To reveal more would stretch beyond what could be explained by the glory accorded to a knight.

He was a cautious man and would continue to keep a low profile.

For instance, now.

Hiding in the castle’s flower garden, he quietly watered twenty potted Serpent Blood Tree plants with the blood of the Six-Headed King Serpent.

When more than half of the serpent blood was used up, magic reactions occurred in four of the potted Serpent Blood Tree plants, successively nurturing the birth of the Serpent Blood Fruit Sprite Bugs.

“Another four Sprite Bugs, this year feels like it’s going to be a bountiful harvest,” Liszt stopped pouring serpent blood over the potted Serpent Blood Trees that had nurtured Sprite Bugs.

From now on, he just needed to fertilize diligently and provide enough nutrition for the Sprite Bugs, without wasting anymore serpent blood.

The remaining serpent blood was mainly poured over the other sixteen potted Serpent Blood Trees. However, after continuously watering for two more days, there was still no reaction from the other potted Serpent Blood Trees.

After one more day of watering, still no reaction.

“It seems that the Serpent Blood Trees which should have nurtured Sprite Bugs have already done so; continuing with the ones that haven’t wouldn’t make any difference,”

Liszt took measures to cut his losses in time, decisively keeping about one-fourth of the remaining serpent blood. He stored it away for the next usage.

In his mind, perhaps after a few years when the Serpent Blood Fruit Sprite Bugs begin to evolve, the serpent blood could come in handy again, helping them transform once more.

However, he suddenly thought—years from now, he might already be riding a dragon.

If hunting down a sea monster serpent would be a piece of cake, why keep this serpent blood and waste space in the Gemstone Space?

So.

He decided to split the serpent blood in two parts: one part to continue watering one of the Serpent Blood Tree pots to see if a new Sprite Bug could be nurtured; the other part for consumption.

The blood of an Intermediate Magical Beast is a great tonic, significantly enhancing the effects of consuming Magic Potions.

Recently, he had found the most reliable method for consuming potions—taking the least amount of potions for the maximum effect. Along with eating the flesh of an Intermediate Magical Beast, his Dou Qi volume steadily climbed higher, almost breaking through new levels every day.

“Now, I have increased my Dou Qi volume by two-thirds compared to when I hunted the Six-Headed King Serpent! Speaking of which, I could probably take on four Marcuses by myself now, right?” Marcus had become the standard unit by which he measured his own strength, perhaps it could be casually referred to as ‘the strength of four Marcuses’?

This method of calculation was unscientific, but there wasn’t a better reference available.

On Coral Island, there weren’t many Elite Earth Knights capable of standing up to him in a potion-binging battle, only Viscounts like Jonas and Trick who were probably stronger than Liszt as they were representatives of the old potion-bingers. Besides them were a few knights from the Coral Island Knights’ elite Knight Squad who could match Liszt evenly—they were half potion-binger, half combat skills.

After that, his brother Levis and the heir to Shattered Stone Castle, Brandon Brokenstone, were also potion-bingers, but their strength was definitely inferior to Liszt’s.

Not every Elite Earth Knight in the potion-binging circles could afford the cost of Magic Potions.

Those who could afford it, like Levis and Brandon, certainly had not mastered the scientific method of potion-binging, nor did they have Dragon Breed Milk and Intermediate Magical Beast meat to supplement their diet.

“I’ll look for an opportunity to spar with the elites from the Knight Order soon, to test my combat strength.”

Under the apple tree, in the rocking chair.

Liszt canceled his Eye of Magic, the apple tree in front of him had already confirmed the nurturing of a Sprite Bug, located right above the apple desk in the branches among the flowers.

This made Liszt believe that the birth of this Apple Bug was most likely influenced by his presence every moment.

“Magic, matter, spirit... roughly the triangle theory that magicians study.” He didn’t quite understand it, nor did he have the desire to understand it.

I just needed to understand that I already had seventeen Sprite Bugs—one Peanut Bug, one Alfalfa Bug, one Tulip Bug, one Millet Bug, one Little Wheat Bug, one Tomato Bug, one Fragrant Coconut Bug, one Dragon Kui Bug, one Corn Grass Bug, three Rubber Bugs, four Serpent Blood Fruit Bugs, and one Apple Bug.

From the original four Sprite Bugs, a year later I had two Little Minor Elves, seventeen Sprite Bugs, and nine Intermediate Magical Beasts.

I was quite satisfied with this harvest—even Tulip Castle, from the Viscount era to now, had only accumulated one Greater Elf, twelve Little Minor Elves, and over a hundred Sprite Bugs.

A town’s land, a year’s time, to achieve such accomplishments, there was nothing to be dissatisfied with.

I moved my wrist, stood up, and said, “Philip, give me my bow and arrows.”

“Yes, my lord!”

Retainer Knight Philip Wool immediately handed over the bow and the arrows.

Standing under the apple tree, I aimed at the distant target and began to practice “Multi-Arrow”; by now, not only was I a powerful Elite Earth Knight, but I was also a skilled Divine Archer.

I knew the principle “Excellence comes from diligence, sloth from playfulness.”

For the growth of my strength, I needed to practice combat skills and archery every day, making them instinctive to me.

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April just passed in a continuous series of harvests.

The weather grew increasingly hot, spring seedlings sprouted quickly, and by the time May arrived, the serfs had already replanted 500 acres of Corn Grass; the Smoke Mission was quickly completed as well.

“For completing the mission, you are rewarded with four Dragon Breed Cows.”

Meanwhile.

The good news from the Cow Farm rapidly reached the Castle; one of the three cows, Dahuang, first gave birth to a healthy little calf, a female that could produce milk.

Excited, I circled the little calf, looking at her from left to right.

On the third day, Dahei also began to give birth; it was carrying twins and had some difficulty. It took half a day of work to successfully deliver the calves, one male and one female.

Then, the following week, Dahua who had been quiet, gave birth to the fourth Dragon Breed Cow, a small female calf.

I personally named the four Dragon Breed Cows—three female calves named Young Flower, Young Black, Young Yellow, and the male calf named Strong Strong. Inheriting the tradition of the Cow Farm, Young, Milk, Little, Big, Old, along with Strong, Stout, the five stages correspond to five different designations, quite distinctive.

I also instructed the serfs of the Cow Farm.

“From now on, the cows of the Cow Farm will be divided into three grades. The first grade is the most outstanding, which are these four calves. You have to nurture them with the best feed and most careful care; the second grade are the original nine cows, which also require attentive care; the least are the newly purchased cows, treat them ordinarily.”

“Yes, Lord Landlord, your orders are our goals for work,” said the skinny old steward of the Cow Farm. He was skinny and gaunt, trying to suck up but not quite managing it, and spoke in a dry tone.

He was very skilled at delivering calves, personally bringing all four little calves into the world.

For this, I rewarded him with four silver coins, to honor his contribution during the delivery of the calves, one silver coin for each successful delivery.

So, for the past week, he had been quite elated.

Leaving the Cow Farm, I could already envision the future pastures filled with herds of Dragon Breed Cows... By that time, all the milk in my diet would be replaced by Dragon Breed Milk.

Rich in nutrients.

The growth of my Dou Qi as swift as flight.

The Mighty Dragons Are Dead #Chapter 343: 340: Establishment of the Knight Squad (Third Update, Alliance Hierarch's Additional Update 7/18) - Read The Mighty Dragons Are Dead Chapter 343: 340: Establishment of the Knight Squad (Third Update, Alliance Hierarch's Additional Update 7/18)

Chapter 343: Chapter 340: Establishment of the Knight Squad (Third Update, Alliance Hierarch's Additional Update 7/18)

Using drugs, practicing combat skills, honing archery, and engaging in live combat training with Paris; training dogs, playing the piano, patrolling the territory; communicating with sea serpents, teasing the Mangrove Minor Elf Nami, writing back to the nobles of the island to decline banquet invitations; hosting dinners, listening to flattery, consuming a lot of food, watching Jela create chaos at the banquet.

Gallop on horseback, cruise by boat, moving back and forth between Fresh Flower Town and Black Horse Island.

The life in May started off quietly uneventful, but Liszt didn't feel the monotony. Although there was no TV, computer, or cellphone, each day here was fulfilling. From morning till night, as long as he wanted to do something, there would be a pile of things waiting for him.

Like right now.

Hiding in the castle's garden, watering a single pot of Serpent Blood Tree Plant Pot with the blood of an Intermediate Sea Monster. After more than a week of continuous effort, still no magic feedback whatsoever. In fact, the initial few attempts of using serpent blood for cultivation, if unsuccessful in breeding Elf Bugs, were just a waste of effort.

He decided not to waste serpent blood any longer and instead focused on the Smoke Mission.

After receiving the reward of Dragon Breed Cows, the Smoke Mission had updated, but this was not an easy task, and completing it was quite difficult.

“Mission: As an Elite Earth Knight, owning an Intermediate Magical Beast pet, capable of hunting even Intermediate Sea Monsters, apart from the lack of followers, what else could stop you from going to the battlefield to earn military achievements? Please form a Knight Squad composed of Earth Knights. Reward: A new breed of Dragon Hollyhock.”

The reward is a new breed of Dragon Hollyhock.

This excited Liszt greatly, as it most likely meant the reward would be the Magic Potion Dragon Hollyhock.

Now was his peak time for using drugs, relying on Flame Mushrooms, Rapid Growth Magic Thorns, the intercepted Black Tulips, and the briefly cultivated Ice Snow Flame Mushrooms during winter, he could barely meet his drug needs. But he would never complain about having too many magic potions.

So forming a Knight Squad was a must.

And it had to be soon; he didn't want to procrastinate and delay the new Smoke Mission.

“There are six members now, and I need to recruit six more to form a twelve-man Knight Squad. As for me, I definitely don't count among the Knight Squad,” Liszt was clear in his mind that with Douson, he wasn't suitable to charge with the knights; he was more fit for commanding from behind the scenes.

He picked up the crystal teacup from the apple table and blew on the tea leaves floating on the surface, leisurely taking a sip.

This was the new tea just harvested this month; the three Green Tea Trees were far more productive than expected, with almost two or three harvests of new tea every month after diligent fertilization.

This allowed Liszt to drink tea generously to cut through the greasiness, enabling him to eat more Magical Beast Meat.

In terms of luxury, he had definitely far surpassed Levis, who had Tulip Castle to rely on. Levis, at most, ate meat from the Magical Beast Fire Rabbits raised by Tulip Castle every day, while he dined on Intermediate Sea Monsters— even the Earl, who had just returned from the meeting in Blue Dragon Island and successfully promoted the Fresh Flower Brew, sent envious letters.

The Earl hoped to taste the serpent stew, and after much consideration, Liszt somewhat painfully cut five pounds of serpent meat and sent it to Tulip Castle.

Those five pounds of snake meat were probably enough for one dinner at Tulip Castle.

Gathering his wandering thoughts.

He continued to focus on the formation of the Knight Squad; among his followers, six were already Earth Knights.

Two Elite Earth Knights with Wind Attribute, Marcus Wheel and Thunder Attribute, Charles Trap; four Common Earth Knights with Earth Attribute, Rondo Waterpot, Rick Trace, Fire Attribute, Lasse Steelyard, and Thunder Attribute, Griffin Haystack.

“Out of the Earth Knights currently courting Fresh Flower Town, there are ten, I should quickly select six outstanding ones from among them.”

After Liszt’s snake-slaying feat, his fame was even greater, and naturally, more knights wanted to join him.

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However, not all who offered their allegiance were accepted; character, personality, age, and status were all criteria that needed to be carefully considered.

Setting down his teacup, he looked around the apple table and asked, “Consultant Goltai, Teacher Marcus, Charles, Zambrotta, which six of these ten Earth Knights do you think we should recruit to form the Knight Squad?”

Goltai and Marcus were his teachers, the people he trusted the most.

Charles as a veteran Elite Earth Knight, offered valuable insights given his marginal status; Zambrotta, a noble stripped of his title, also had his unique perspective.

He had called them to provide counsel.

Goltai swirled his wooden cup, "The tea leaves from the Green Tea Tree are indeed miraculous, initially bitter but growing more fragrant with each taste... My lord, I don't have a direct understanding of the Earth Knights' strengths to offer much advice, but Henry is not suitable; he has committed theft before."

"Then let's eliminate Henry first," decided Liszt. Henry was competent and brave in combat, but his past theft was a stain on his character.

"Zoro and Paul are too old; there's no need to develop them further. I advise giving up on them," Marcus spoke seriously.

These two were over forty and still merely Common Earth Knights; even without Marcus's advice, Liszt had no intention of recruiting them: "They can be excluded."

Charles downed a cup of fine tea and, with some hesitation, nevertheless spoke up, "My lord, I have a personal grievance I can't suppress; Victor has humiliated me, and I would be ashamed to serve alongside him... This is merely my personal grudge, and if my lord still wishes to recruit Victor, I will comply with your arrangement!"

Victor was only twenty-six, and his strength was close to challenging that of an Elite Earth Knight.

Liszt had highly regarded Victor but had not anticipated such a grudge between him and Charles. After some thought, he said, "Then let's exclude Victor."

"Thank you, my lord!" Charles bowed deeply.

Following that, Zambrotta also offered his opinion. After discussion, argument, and compromise, the official selection of knights to be recruited was determined.

Simon Plate, with the Water Attribute, a freeman by birth, twenty-eight years old, graduated from the Knight Academy.

Norman Twine, with the Water Attribute, of noble birth, twenty-three years old, the second son of an Honored Knight, graduated from the Knight Academy.

Leslie Pile of Dead Leaves, with the Ice Attribute, a freeman by birth, thirty years old, graduated from the Knight Academy.

Eric Firewood, with the Earth Attribute, a freeman by birth, thirty-two years old, graduated from the Knight Academy.

Daniel with the Fire Attribute, born a serf on an outlying isle, surnameless, twenty-nine years old, previously followed an Honored Knight but fell in battle.

David Big Yellow Tooth, with the Wind Attribute, a freeman by birth, twenty-four years old, graduated from the Knight Academy.

Tulip Castle's established Knight Academy essentially trained most of Coral Island's Earth Knights, including Liszt, who had studied there.

"Teacher Marcus, once all the knights are in place, I will announce the establishment of the Fresh Flower Town Knight Squad, with you as the inaugural Knight Captain, responsible for the squad's charge training, and assist by Charles," declared Liszt.

Both men stood up, "Yes, my lord!"

Liszt continued with his assignments, "Consultant Goltai and Zambrotta must also not relax. Continue to correspond with knights who express interest in joining Fresh Flower Town and ensure that, should any unqualified knights appear in our squad, we are able to replace them with new members at any time."

They too stood up, "Yes, my lord!"

The Mighty Dragons Are Dead #Chapter 344: 0341: Silver Spear, Black Horse, Red Cloak (4th Update, Alliance Hierarch Additional Update 8/18) - Read The Mighty Dragons Are Dead Chapter 344: 0341: Silver Spear, Black Horse, Red Cloak (4th Update, Alliance Hierarch Additional Update 8/18)

Chapter 344: Chapter 0341: Silver Spear, Black Horse, Red Cloak (4th Update, Alliance Hierarch Additional Update 8/18)

Simon, Norman, Leslie, Eric, Daniel, and David arrived quickly, knowing that they certainly needed to be proactive to catch the rising momentum of Fresh Flower Town.

They were either commoners or second sons of nobles, with narrow channels for advancement. Opportunities like the one in Fresh Flower Town might come only a few times in one's life.

Liszt received six Earth Knights in the castle, without too much enthusiasm.

Perhaps a month later, several of the six Earth Knights would leave Fresh Flower Town—following is a two-way choice process. A month of adaptation is enough to determine whether a following relationship should be established between them.

At Knight's Square the next morning.

The crimson sun rose in the east, the clouds dispersed in the west. Baron of Fresh Flower Town, Liszt Tulip, clad in fine steel armor, with the Crimson Blood Sword hanging at his waist and a fine steel shield in hand, donned such a conspicuous knight attire for the first time.

The handsome face was obscured by the helmet visor.

Only sapphire-colored pupils shone through the mesh, sparkling brilliantly.

A red cape fluttered behind him, and a black Li Dragon Horse was adorned with silver-white horse armor, merging with the silver-white armor into a striking medley of black, white, and red.

A blooming Black Tulip was engraved on the fine steel shield, a symbol belonging to Fresh Flower Town and to Liszt. Even on the Li Dragon Horse, there was a cotton pad embroidered with the Black Tulip, suggesting knightly status more than pursuit of riding comfort.

Nobles, they like these fancy trappings.

Indeed, some hinder riding, but in the eyes of commoners, these are symbols of nobility, able to incite fervor.

He slowly maneuvered the Li Dragon Horse around the square, his gaze piercing through the visor to scrutinize the row of knights, observing their spirit.

Each one was in fine steel armor, provided by the castle.

Their steeds were qualified warhorses, but it was a bit of a pity that their colors were mixed, with yellow, brown, gray, and spotted not uniform.

Fortunately, they were draped in standard half-length horse armor. In contrast to the Li Dragon Horse's sparse protection on the forehead, their horses were tightly wrapped around the head, neck, shoulders, and thighs, with the Black Tulip emblem carved on the pads beneath their seats.

Each held a shield in the left hand and a spear in the right.

The sunshine glistened off their armor, making them look exceptionally majestic.

Silence reigned, not even the horses made a noise, only the sound of the Li Dragon Horse's hooves could be heard.

After a moment.

Liszt's commanding voice broke the quiet, "I, Liszt Tulip, Baron of Fresh Flower Town, devote my life to the pursuit of glory. The path forward is fraught with danger, and I need loyal companions, brave knights! You, the Earth Knights, standing here, are you willing to charge with me!"

The knights shouted in unison, "We will charge for the Baron!"

"Very well," Liszt suddenly drew out the Crimson Blood Sword, pointing its tip towards the sky as he declared loudly, "Then, I announce that the Fresh Flower Town Knight Squad is officially established today!"

"Hoa!"

"Hoa!"

"Hoa!"

The twelve Earth Knights raised their spears high, issuing exclamations in response to Liszt's declaration.

On the outer edges of the square, many young onlookers, witnessing such a stirring scene, couldn't help but shout along, "Hoa!"

Karl Ironhammer and Rom Barrel stood to one side, watching the youths' commotion.

Such a spectacle today would engrave the wealth and strength of Fresh Flower Town in their memories forever. Although most of the youths would still eventually return to farming or working, perhaps it could inspire a few to strive and become knights of the future—at least in Fresh Flower Town, they had such an opportunity.

Once the Knight Squad proclamation concluded, the first training charge began.

The warhorses charged in full armor, almost crushing the earth beneath them as they charged, their momentum unmatched, with Dou Qi swelling into a torrent capable of tearing apart anything.

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The knights charged away, leaving behind nothing but a cloud of dust.

Karl strolled over to Rom and said with ease, "Rom, the patrol team is yours now. There are some troublemakers in the squad, but I believe you can handle them."

Rom asked, "When are we leaving?"

"Soon, the Baron will make the arrangements," Karl smiled. "A year ago, we were just ordinary Retainer Knights without even a hint of Dou Qi, following the Baron to Fresh Flower Town to pass the remaining years of our lives... Who would have thought we would be in this situation now, with both you and me becoming officials, while Auden and Gray are doing well in their provisional work too."

Karl Ironhammer, Rom Barrel, Auden Insole, Gray Scythe.

The first four Retainer Knights of Liszt Tulip, none of them particularly talented, with Auden and Gray not even managing to cultivate Dou Qi. However, Liszt was a man who valued old connections and still arranged decent positions for them. Karl became the Defense Officer, Rom, the Worm Affairs Officer, Auden was the assistant to Administrative Officer Isaiah, and Gray was the assistant to Finance Officer Isaiah.

But for now, they could no longer work together in Fresh Flower Town.

Seizing the opportunity of forming a Knight Squad, Liszt introduced new personnel appointments to Fresh Flower Town, splitting off half of the officials to work in the port town on Black Horse Island.

Karl was heading to the port town to serve as both the Defense Officer and the Worm Affairs Officer.

Rom was to succeed as the Defense Officer of Fresh Flower Town, with Liszt's old friend Nemo taking over as the new Worm Affairs Officer. The following officials, along with their families, would mostly relocate to the port town.

Fresh Flower Town could no longer satisfy the ambitions of Liszt.

After the formation of the Knight Squad.

He planned to participate in this year's Pioneer Mandate, meaning that achieving recognition on the battlefield and a Viscount title were not far off, and the rise of Black Horse Island was inevitable. As long as the secrets of the Black Blood Treasured Horse and rubber weren't revealed, pioneering a deserted island wasn't something unusual.

He believed that the Earl, Levis, and others must already know of the existence of Black Horse Island.

Instead of doing it secretly, it would be better to build boldly and let everyone know of Liszt's ambitious and promising future. So, pioneering a deserted island was exactly what he should be doing.

With the support of the Fresh Flower Brew's funds and Thorn Minor Elves cultivating Magic Potions, it would have been a surprise to the Earl and Levis had he not done it.

In just over a year's development, no one could ignore his radiance any longer.

He was a Tulip Family member with bloodlines as excellent as those of Levis, Li Vera, and Lidun, his cowardice of the past merely a period of lying dormant, now his talents were basic operations.

He watched the knights train all morning.

In the afternoon, he did not return.

For him, the early formation of the Knight Squad was more about completing missions. Training the Blizzard Beasts was more important than training knights, as the Blizzard Beast army would be the main force in the struggle for military achievements in the future, with the knights merely serving in a support capacity.

After a nap in the afternoon, he went to the Dragon Hollyhock Field.

He summoned the Smoke Mission.

"Complete the mission, reward: Auxiliary Magic Medicine species Dragon Hollyhock."

In the green and lush Dragon Hollyhock Field, some Dragon Hollyhocks were blooming, while others had already borne small black fruits. Liszt employed his Eye of Magic to observe the entire field and quickly detected magic feedback—not from Cordyceps, but close by.

This was a mutated Dragon Hollyhock with yellow flowers.

Its fruits were not black, but a specific shade of blue-black, a very distinct color, with most of the plant's magic concentrated within the fruit. Indeed, as he had previously conjectured, this was a Magic Potion—a Dragon Hollyhock originally thought to be nothing more than a tasty snack now held immense value.

However, what surprised Liszt was, "What is meant by an Auxiliary Magic Medicine species?"

The Mighty Dragons Are Dead #Chapter 345: 342: Black Pearl Aquaculture (5th Update, Alliance Hierarchy additional update 9/18) - Read The Mighty Dragons Are Dead Chapter 345: 342: Black Pearl Aquaculture (5th Update, Alliance Hierarchy additional update 9/18)

Chapter 345: Chapter 342: Black Pearl Aquaculture (5th Update, Alliance Hierarchy additional update 9/18)

Magic Medicine Liszt understood well.

However, with the added meaning of “auxiliary,” it became somewhat obscure and impressive.

“To understand from the literal meaning, ‘auxiliary’ means to help. So, does it mean that when made into a magic potion, it can aid in the digestion of magic power, or does it mean that it can help other magic potions to grow? Or does it imply that when mixed with other magic potions to create a new potion, the effect would be better?”

This was impossible to deduce.

Liszt could only wait; he planned to cultivate more new varieties of auxiliary magic potion Dragon Hollyhock, which would take some time. Even with the boost from the Dragon Kui Bug, it would still be two to three months before he would see results.

He repressed his curiosity about the auxiliary magic medicine.

He reviewed the new mission.

“Mission: Sea Sprite Ake, Acherlodes Truth, has discovered a magical coral reef that is submerged at high tide and emerges as a circular reef at low tide. It teems with Tridacnas, whose shells contain numerous Black Pearls. Why not harvest some?
Reward: One piece of magic equipment.”

“Hmm!”

This mission made Liszt’s eyes light up, Ake had actually discovered a coral reef, which was home to Tridacnas capable of producing Black Pearls.

It quickly reminded him of the Tridacna he had salvaged near the shore last year.

Although not a sea monster, it could produce Black Pearls with magical properties. He had thought it was a Tridacna from the deep sea bottom, accidentally washed ashore. Unexpectedly, they originally lived in the coral reefs near Fresh Flower Town.

Without a doubt.

This kind of Tridacna could develop into an industry—the Black Pearl industry.

The Sapphire Family had a Tranquil Lake on Blue Dragon Island, where they raised low-level sea monsters, Pearl Oysters, which produced a large quantity of White Pearls every year. These were sought after by noblewomen as fine jewelry, with certain calming and soothing effects. Black Pearls had better effects, were larger in size, and could easily replace White Pearls.

He quickly arrived at the Sea View Villa.

He blew the horn, summoning Ake, who had been swimming in the ocean.

“Brother.” Ake emerged from a shell, with Mangrove Minor Elf Nami sitting on his shoulder, the minor elf having become Ake’s companion for swimming through the sea and was no longer a stranger to Liszt.

“Ake, have you discovered a coral reef?”

“Brother, you already know? Ake just found that coral reef yesterday. When the tide goes out, they emerge above the water, looking like a very large circular lake. Many shells live inside, a bit different from Ake’s own shell—similar to the Tridacna shells at the entrance of brother’s castle.”

After hearing this, Liszt said, “Ake, these are Tridacnas, and they can produce Black Pearls. It’s the kind of Black Pearl I gave you before, a very precious material for magic equipment, and it can develop into the Black Pearl industry. I would like you to clarify the exact location of the coral reef and determine its distance.”

“Ake knows, from here, it’s about southeast, nearly thirty kilometers away from the shore,” Ake replied.

Thirty kilometers, that is about a two-hour journey for the Fresh Flower Vessel.

After waiting for the Fresh Flower Vessel to return, and timing the low tide, Liszt directly ordered Captain Kostor to set sail, following the direction Ake pointed out. Along the way, Ake would occasionally surface, guiding Liszt’s course with his own trajectory, which Liszt then relayed to Kostor.

Finally, at three o’clock in the afternoon, they saw the coral reef that had already emerged above the water.

It was shaped a bit like China's South China Sea Huaguang Reef. Now with the tide out, the circular reef was exposed, and the white sands, developed from corals, had all weathered into finesse.

Stepping on it was very soft.

"My lord, who would have thought there could be such beautiful coral reefs around Fresh Flower Town? It's unbelievable." Even Captain Kostor, who had spent years at sea, had never seen such lovely islands and reefs.

Seagulls circled overhead, and the azure seawater was divided by the ring-shaped reef; the deep blue of the ocean lay outside, while within was a light blue lagoon. Near the sandy shores, the vivid colors of the corals were clearly visible. Captain Kostor deduced from the colors that the lagoon was only about ten meters deep—quite shallow.

Since Ake had already explored and confirmed that there were no sea monsters here, Liszt directly ordered his men to dive for Tridacna.

Before long, sailors were emerging, one after another, cradling small Tridacna. These were ones that grew near the coast, with the largest being no bigger than a washbasin.

When they pried one open, they indeed found black pearls inside, but they were only the size of a fingernail—small black pearls.

The magic power inside them was also very dim.

Despite this, Captain Kostor couldn't help exclaiming, "My lord, are... are these Calming Sea Pearls? Why are they so small?" He knew that the Calming Sea Pearls aboard the Fresh Flower Vessel were made from black pearls.

He had participated in the Tridacna harvesting before and remembered clearly that even the smallest black pearl was the size of a fist.

"Of course, small Tridacna will only have small black pearls. There are also larger Tridacna in this lagoon, and once they are harvested, we can collect larger black pearls."

"Can we harvest black pearls as big as the Calming Sea Pearls?" Captain Kostor's eyes sparkled.

"It's difficult, who knows whether there are any super-sized Tridacna living inside." Liszt shook his head. He had sent Ake to observe the lagoon, and the largest Tridacna they found had a diameter of only one and a half meters. Compared to the nearly three-meter diameter Tridacna back at the castle, it was half the size.

The bigger the Tridacna, the larger the black pearls they could nurture, after all, it takes a long time for small black pearls to grow to the size of a washbasin.

It was also unknown whether that super-sized Tridacna grew up in this lagoon or not.

“You lead the sailors to search for larger Tridacna. Return these small ones to continue growing, and we will harvest a batch of large ones.”

“As you wish.”

Captain Kostor immediately led people to dive and search for large Tridacna. The exposed coral reefs did not seem too large, and looking across the lagoon, it felt like a distance of five or six kilometers. Nearly oval in shape, the lagoon was about twenty to thirty square kilometers in area.

It was somewhat smaller than Fresh Flower Town.

While it was easy to find Tridacna, searching for large ones was not. After half a day of diving, the sailors had only found two large Tridacna with a diameter exceeding one meter.

They hauled them up with ropes and fishing nets, and it was almost dark by then.

“This should count as completing the mission, having collected a batch of black pearls, right?” Liszt called out the Smoke Mission and saw that the task description hadn’t changed.

Unsure whether it was because the black pearls were still in the shells of the Tridacna or because they didn’t collect enough, he then instructed the sailors to drag a few smaller Tridacna they had found previously onto the ship as well.

Only then did he announce they would return.

Back at the castle, the first thing he did was open these Tridacna shells, but to their disappointment, the two large Tridacna shells only contained five fist-sized black pearls. The smaller Tridacna shells only had some fragmented small black pearls, none even the size of a ping pong ball.

“It seems that my dream of creating Calming Sea Pearls from black pearls to arm the fleet will have to be put on hold... Finding three black pearls suitable for making Calming Sea Pearls in the beginning was really just luck.”

He composed himself.

He summoned the Smoke Mission again, and this time, the Smoke Serpent Script finally changed.

“Mission completed, reward: one Soul Storage Vessel.”

Chapter 346: Chapter 0343 Conflict Involving Little Wheat Bug (First Update)

“Soul Storage Vessel? It sounds like a very mysterious item, a jar that stores souls; it feels like something an Evil Magician would concoct.”

Liszt pondered.

Anything related to the soul is never devoid of evil.

Previously, during the great battle with the Ghost Ship, he had obtained the Soul Submerged Wood from Curtis Truth, tainted with the resentment of countless people—after all, it was made through the sacrifice of an entire ship’s crew; the Soul Disturbing Agent obtained from Merlese Truth was also extracted from the blood of the dead.

The triangular theory of magic power, materials, and spirit inherent to magicians naturally pushes them toward the exploration of the spiritual realm—the soul.

Liszt, too, wanted to know the meaning of the soul, but he was more keen on living a comfortable life.

He was now pondering in what manner this Soul Storage Vessel would present itself before him, “Currently, there are two magicians in town, Elkerson is making Magic Potions, and Granney has been invited by me to redesign the new Calming Sea Pearls, to be equipped on the soon-to-be launched Thorn Number.”

So he guessed.

The Soul Storage Vessel would either come from Elkerson or Granney.

As for how he would obtain it, it was still unclear. But if neither of them offered it up voluntarily, he would make a thorough inquiry, unwilling to let his reward fall into someone else’s hands.

In the midst of thinking.

The Smoke Serpent Script had already morphed.

“Mission: The wheat leaves in Little Wheat Village turned yellow and withered, right near the Little Wheat Elf Bug’s Cordyceps; despite the farmers’ desperate efforts to water and pile on compost, it was ineffective, and even burned a batch of wheat seedlings. As the Landlord, it’s incumbent on you to solve the problem. Reward: An Elf Bug.”

After reading the mission, Liszt understood that a new Little Wheat Bug was about to emerge in Little Wheat Village.

Indeed, with the arrival of spring, everything came to life, and the Elf Bugs of Fresh Flower Town were also nurturing new life. The wilting of the wheat leaves must be due to the Elf Bugs requiring large amounts of nutrients during their nurturing period, yet even with the farmers' desperate fertilization, they could not prevent the wheat leaves from continuing to yellow and wither.

"Why is this happening?"

As inspiration sparked in his mind, he swiftly arrived at the Worm Room on the second floor.

In the large box where the Elves lived, Jela monopolized the central position, with a dozen Elf Bugs crawling around it pointlessly.

Occasionally licking up some Jade Powder.

Living quite a cozy life.

Yet among them, there was a discordant Elf Bug—the Little Wheat Bug.

At the moment, it appeared quite restless and through the heart-mind contract connection, Liszt could feel its inner world. Though not quite clear, the message was adequately conveyed. It was agitated and even developed a slight hostility due to some matters.

"Little guy, come here." He extended his hand, inviting the Little Wheat Bug to crawl onto it.

At that moment, the sleeping Jela suddenly woke up, snatched the Little Wheat Bug from Liszt's hand, and put it back into the box: "Wah!"

There was no special meaning, just mischief.

You're immediately met by Liszt's stern Finger-Flick Magic, sulking in the corner with its head covered: "Wah, wah..."

"You better behave yourself, I'm going to take care of your hide soon!" Liszt picked up the Little Wheat Bug again, not before dropping a harsh threat.

"Wah!" Jela protested, not believing it was being mischievous.

Liszt pointed at it: "Mind your hide!"

“Wuwaa!”

“Wuwaa!”

“Wuwaa!”

Amid Jela’s protests, Liszt left the Worm Room and hurried towards Little Wheat Village. Just as he arrived, he saw Isaiah discussing something with the serfs in the field.

After the exchange of greetings,

Liszt knew they must be dealing with the wheat seedlings turning yellow, but he still couldn’t help asking, “What are you doing?”

Isaiah quickly replied, “My lord, there’s been an issue with the wheat seedlings in Little Wheat Village, particularly near the cordyceps. The leaves are gradually yellowing, and it started just a couple of days ago. At first, I thought there was an issue with the cordyceps, but they’re still healthy. I even asked Mr. Carter, and he told me the Little Wheat Bugs are healthy as well.”

He then wondered if it was a nutrient deficiency, even contemplating if it could be related to the incubation of Elf Bugs.

But using fertilizer did not help, leaving him puzzled, “If I cannot resolve this, I was preparing to seek your counsel, my lord, as I am powerless to face this situation.”

Agricultural anomalies in Fresh Flower Town should be reported directly to the Castle.

Because every anomaly might relate to the incubation of Elf Bugs, but after many false alarms, Liszt canceled this protocol—the occurrence of anomalies in farming is too common and most of them have nothing to do with Elf Bugs. Apart from the alerts provided by the Smoke Mission, not once was there an extra harvest.

“I have understood.” Liszt did not blame Isaiah. Without the help of the Smoke Mission, his own management of the town would not necessarily be better than Isaiah and the others’, especially in the face of this special situation, “I think a new Little Wheat Bug has been born here, but its location is somewhat conflicting, right near the Little Wheat Cordyceps... so, the two Little Wheat Bugs are competing, causing the yellowing of wheat around them.”

Friction between Elves is indeed rare, but it does not mean that they are all friendly towards each other.

The slap Jela gave Nami is clear evidence of that.

The existing Little Wheat Bug clearly does not have friendly intentions toward the upcoming one, hence the current problem.

Liszt took a simple approach to resolve it, “Little fellow, retrieve your cordyceps.”

The anxious Little Wheat Bug couldn’t resist Liszt’s thought.

It quickly aimed at its cordyceps and spat out a mouthful of Magic Power. Then, the cordyceps reverted its growth at a visible speed, quickly turning back into a wheat seed and being swallowed by the Little Wheat Bug.

“I will move the Little Wheat Cordyceps elsewhere. You all must manage this wheat field carefully. If there are excess nutrients, use less fertilizer, if there’s a deficiency, apply more. Watering and weeding must be done diligently. Don’t let my second Little Wheat Bug die young.”

“Rest assured my lord, I will personally supervise the serfs in caring for this wheat field.”

The Elf Bug’s cordyceps would at most affect a range of a hundred acres or so. Therefore, in another wheat field, Liszt chose a relatively good spot and allowed the Little Wheat Bug to spit out its cordyceps again.

The seed touched the ground.

Growing visibly once more, it quickly turned lush green and sprouted ears of wheat. The ears were green, and they would remain perpetually in that almost-ripe state.

The magical cordyceps, never a normal plant, resembles the incarnation of Magic Power more than anything else.

After moving its cordyceps, the Little Wheat Bug felt waves of exhaustion. Cordyceps are not supposed to be moved frequently, for every casting by an Elf Bug takes a heavy toll on its vitality.

Fortunately, Jade Powder can repair this damage.

After a while, it would be lively and invigorated once again.

“If it weren’t for the new Little Wheat Bug, I definitely would not have moved the cordyceps. While vitality can be restored, there is no direct evidence to show that moving the cordyceps won’t damage the Elf Bug’s evolution probability,” Liszt said, stroking the Little Wheat Bug’s golden yellow body with a trace of apology, “Little fellow, I hope this doesn’t affect your evolution.”

Chapter 347: Chapter 0344: Aladdin's Lamp (Second Update)

The probability of an Elf Bug evolving into a Little Minor Elf is very low, out of twenty or so Elf Bugs, maybe only two or three will evolve, and there's a high chance of evolution failure.

As for whether the probability of evolution is related to the transplantation of Cordyceps, Liszt is not clear.

There is no evidence to suggest a connection between the two.

When Jela was still a Thorn Bug, its Cordyceps were planted in Tulip Castle, and it was only after migrating to Fresh Flower Town that it began to evolve and successfully did so. Although the assistance of the Smoke Mission played a part, it at least shows that Cordyceps can still evolve successfully after relocation.

"Perhaps for Elf Bugs, the transplantation of Cordyceps is like... the Tri-Phase Force of the Rubber Bug triplets?" Liszt suddenly thought.

The Tri-Phase Force should be considered a kind of magic, and it shouldn't affect the evolution of the Rubber Bugs, otherwise, the Smoke Mission's exploitation of their abilities would be betraying Liszt.

This doesn't align with the usual style of the Smoke Mission.

"The Rubber Bug triplets recover after using the Tri-Phase Force and resting for a while, the Elf Bugs also recover after transplanting Cordyceps and resting. Maybe for Elf Bugs, this is like a magician casting spells, definitely consuming a bit of energy, but mainly serving as training?"

To exercise control over their "magic" by constantly releasing the Tri-Phase Force, through constantly transplanting Cordyceps?

This speculation doesn't seem very reliable, the Tri-Phase Force can be explained as being 'strengthened by training,' but how could transplanting Cordyceps be considered training? Which Elf Bug would bother moving its own Cordyceps back and forth—for a plant, isn't it supposed to just quietly grow in the field?

"The essence of Elf Bugs lies in their Cordyceps, so transplanting Cordyceps should be considered harming their foundation; the Tri-Phase Force probably isn't..." Liszt could only judge so.

At least as for the Rubber Bug triplets, their current condition is very good, showing no negative effects from having used the Tri-Phase Force once.

He waved his hand.

The Smoke Mission surfaced.

It was still the original mission, not completed by the transplantation of Cordyceps.

“Probably because the withering incident in the wheat fields isn’t completely fixed, the mission can’t be considered complete, so I’ll wait another two days to see if that’s the case.”

...

After resolving the conflict with the Little Wheat Bug, Liszt primarily kept his attention on Elkerson and Granney.

These two magicians showed no signs of handing over the Soul Storage Vessel. One was steadily making Magic Potions and cracking jokes at banquets, while the other was engrossed in crafting the Calming Sea Pearl to the point of not wanting to bath, and their apprentices were working obediently, showing no unusual behavior.

No other channels had any information about the “vessel” either.

This made Liszt’s mood somewhat depressed; watching the two magicians eat and drink at the banquet, he was not very cheerful, “It seems like they’re not going to hand over the Soul Storage Vessels unless I force them to.”

Just as he was considering what method to use to force them to surrender the Soul Storage Vessels.

The situation took an unexpected turn the next day.

Bug Guard Members came to report that a horn had sounded by the sea—this was the signal for communication between him and Sea Sprite Ake; he had told the Bug Guard Team in charge of the Fragrant Coconut Tree Cordyceps to report to him as soon as they heard the horn.

So...

He knew Ake was looking for him, as she generally wouldn’t sound the horn unless there was something important, preferring to quietly stay in her room reading and studying magic.

After rushing to the Sea View Villa, Ake somewhat frantically said, “Brother, Ake found an unconscious human in the sea, and I don’t know how to deal with her.”

Following the direction of Ake's pointing hand, Liszt saw a pale woman lying on the bed in the wooden house on the second floor.

She looked almost like a corpse, and her soaking wet clothes were obviously a Magic Cloak—this is the standard attire of a magician, which means this unconscious female is a magician.

Then.

He saw a pot, similar to a teapot, on the bedside cabinet.

"Soul Storage Vessel?" Liszt's inspiration burst forth. He realized his previous speculations had been misguided. Perhaps it had nothing to do with Elkerson and Granny. The clue guided by fate was right before his eyes, embodied in this unconscious magician. "Ake, what's the deal with this teapot?"

"It was hidden in her clothes, and it was in the way, so Ake took it out and put it on the table," Ake said nervously. "Brother, is she already dead?"

He checked her breathing; it was very steady.

"She is not dead," Liszt touched his chin, feeling that the magician's unconsciousness was unlikely caused by drowning since a drowning person's breathing wouldn't be this normal.

He then touched her heart, and its beating was also very steady.

"Seems like she didn't drown but is merely unconscious. The town doesn't have a doctor, only a few old people who know how to brew herbal medicine. I will ask them to come take a look, and Teacher Marcus should also know a bit about how to save people," Liszt said to Ake. "You should step out for a second."

"Okay." Ake returned to his shell and swam back to the sea.

Liszt ordered the Retainer Knights to summon people immediately, and he continued to stay by the side of the female magician. Watching the unconscious magician, he felt helpless—he didn't know how to save someone; he only knew the theory behind mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, which didn't seem to be necessary since she was breathing on her own.

After all, she was breathing.

So he picked up the teapot from the cabinet and began to study it. It appeared to be a copper teapot, yet it was clear its purpose wasn't for holding tea. The Duchy of Sapphire didn't use teapots at all.

Because the real tea was owned by Liszt alone.

Others only drank milk tea brewed in cups from the fruits of the tea tree, with no need for a teapot.

“Looks a bit like the lamp from Aladdin’s Lamp in “One Thousand and One Nights”?” While handling the copper teapot, Liszt couldn’t help but rub it.

Expecting a blue smoke-formed Djinn to suddenly emerge.

To grant him three wishes.

However, nothing appeared.

He shook the teapot; nothing was inside, and there was no lid. It was a single piece; probably only the spout served as the mouth of the vessel. “So, is it really a Soul Storage Vessel?” Even after using the Eye of Magic, he couldn’t see any trace of magic power; it seemed like a common piece of teaware.

A teapot carried by a magician couldn’t possibly be an ordinary object.

But Liszt had no leads. He set down the teapot and carefully examined the unconscious magician. Her pale complexion made her look almost like a dead person. Her appearance was average, with some freckles on her face. Her hair was brown, with a height of probably around one meter sixty-five, neither fat nor thin.

Since no one else was around, with no need to be concerned, he began to search the magician’s clothes with his hands, hoping to find something else that could prove her identity.

In the end, he only found a pendant around her neck.

The pendant had a silver coin hanging from it—not a coin that could be used for trading, but a light, silver-colored, round metal coin, feeling somewhat like mithril to the touch.

The front was engraved with a triangular pattern and an eye in the center, the symbol of magicians, the Eye of Truth. Under the Eye of Truth triangle, there were several wavy lines, likely representing water.

The back was engraved with a tiny Serpent Script: “May your voyage in search of Truth be surrounded by the ocean of knowledge, Chris Truth.”

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The Mighty Dragons Are Dead #Chapter 348: 345: Ack's Coming of Age Date (Third Update, Alliance Hierarch's Additional Update 10/18) - Read The Mighty Dragons Are Dead Chapter 348: 345: Ack's Coming of Age Date (Third Update, Alliance Hierarch's Additional Update 10/18)

Chapter 348: Chapter 345: Ack's Coming of Age Date (Third Update, Alliance Hierarch's Additional Update 10/18)

"So, is her name Chris Truth, or is the person who gave this silver coin called Chris Truth?" Liszt pondered, playing with the silver coin.

Starting with the word 'wish,' indicates it's a friend's blessing, suggesting the silver coin was given to her by someone else.

Therefore, 'Chris Truth' could be interpreted in two ways, one being the real name of this unconscious magician, the other being her friend's name.

But normally when friends offer blessings and leave names, they use a '—' as a symbol of continuation, and there's no such symbol on the silver coin.

This line of Serpent Script is written on the back of the silver coin in three lines of Serpent Script, so it doesn't need a symbol, which makes it impossible to determine whose name it actually is.

Of course.

The above were merely Liszt's fleeting thoughts; the name of the person didn't really matter, as the silver coin couldn't solve any identity issues.

"For the time being, I'll assume your name is Chris." Liszt stuffed the pendant back around her neck.

But he had no intention of returning the copper kettle.

According to the prevailing Lord's laws, items that drift ashore from the sea belong to the local Lord, as the Lord owns everything on the land—even the magician Chris could be classified as an enemy intruding on the territory illegally, and the Lord had the right to arrest her.

However, like most Lords' territories, Fresh Flower Town was open to the outside, and they wouldn't hold anyone accountable as long as they didn't come with malicious intentions.

This copper kettle could serve as a reward for saving a life.

He was a Lord who reasoned and followed the rules.

"My Lord!"

Marcus had arrived, along with some elderly people.

Liszt pointed at the bed, "A comatose magician drifted ashore by the sea, Teacher Marcus, take a look and see if you can awaken her... and you folks as well, see if there's some herbal remedy that can treat someone in a coma."

After a brief observation, Marcus shook his head, "My Lord, I can't see what her problem is; she doesn't seem like someone who has drowned."

The elderly were even more clueless; they only knew how to use some simple herbs to treat common ailments.

In this world filled with Magic Power, Knights with Dou Qi could constantly condition and improve their constitution, so it was rare for them to fall ill; as a result, medical science was quite undeveloped. Once a peasant fell seriously ill, it essentially meant waiting for death, with no chance of recovery.

Liszt, on the other hand, did have ideas about developing medicine, but he had no leads to follow.

For peasants, rather than spending high medical costs on treatment, it was more practical to practice Dou Qi. After all, with good food, drink, and diligent practice, one would certainly develop Dou Qi, while there wasn't such a high chance of cure for illnesses.

An elderly man trembled as he said, "Lord Landlord, maybe this young magician lady is just too weak. She might naturally wake up once her body recovers."

"That's possible," Liszt nodded. To the butler, he said, "Thomas, give every elderly person a copper coin as compensation for the interruption to their work."

It was appropriate to offer compensation to the nearly senile folk who had to make the trip.

"Yes, my Lord."

“Ah, thank you, Lord Landlord!”

The elderly left with copper coins in high spirits, while Liszt was still discussing with Marcus, “A magician has drifted ashore, Teacher Marcus, do you have any guesses.”

“Magicians have weak bodies compared to our knights, they are no different from the average civilian. So, I don’t think she could have been soaked in the sea for too long, and she doesn’t show any signs of drowning. I suspect she might be a magician from Coral Island, or a magician brought by a passing ship.”

Liszt said, “Although I don’t know how many magicians there are on Coral Island, none of the exposed magicians match her physical features. She looks quite young, probably not over twenty-five years old. It’s impossible for the island to have such a young magician.”

“Maybe she’s a magic apprentice?”

“A magic apprentice?” Liszt thought for a moment, “That’s possible... Then, what could be the reason she fell into the sea and how did she manage to drift here successfully?”

According to Ach’s description, Chris was picked up from the sea, floating on the surface in her clothes — which defied physics, the Sea of Azure Waves isn’t the Dead Sea, it couldn’t make a person float.

“I can’t explain it, but I think we definitely need to strengthen our guard over her. Magicians are dangerous elements,” Marcus said sternly, his dislike for magicians was no secret.

He always had an unfriendly countenance towards Elkerson and Granney,

Let alone a magician with an unknown origin.

After considering for a moment.

Liszt decided to move her to the residential area, find a house to arrange for special care, and have the Patrol Team watch her closely. As soon as the other party woke up, they were to notify him immediately.

Then, he used a horn to call Ach over, “I have taken the unconscious magician to the town for care, Ach. Human magicians are quite dangerous, they have an impulsive curiosity towards unknown creatures. It’s best you don’t interact with magicians before you come of age.”

“Hmm, Ach understands,” the Little Sea Monster sounded disappointed. “It’s a pity that Ach’s legs just won’t grow. I can’t live with my brother and lead a life like a human.”

“The day will come,” Liszt crushed her hair.

Suddenly, he had an inspiration. He had Ach sit on a chair, then took out a leather tape measure to measure the length of Ach’s legs.

“Based on your description, you were all seawater below the knee when you were born, and after forty-one years, only the area below the ankles remains seawater. If we assume your growth rate remains steady, we can estimate how many more years it will take for you to come of age by the proportion of your legs.”

“Ah, can we really do that, brother?” Ach’s eyes sparkled with small stars in an instant.

It was not clear whether she was delighted at the prospect of knowing when she would come of age or impressed by Liszt’s profound knowledge.

Liszt smiled, lifting Ach’s little calf.

He placed one end of the leather tape measure on her knee, stretched it to her ankle, and measured forty-one centimeters, “Assuming the length of your foot is generally proportional to human body ratio, I estimate your foot is about twelve centimeters long. So, we can set up a linear equation... no, it’s not that complicated; you grow about one centimeter a year.”

Forty-one years, forty-one centimeters of leg length.

About twelve centimeters of foot length remained, meaning Ach had about twelve years left to reach adulthood.

Ach’s little face fell immediately, “Brother, does that mean Ach needs another twelve years to come of age?”

Liszt also felt disheartened, “Essentially, if there are no surprises and the reasoning is correct, and your feet don’t grow faster than your legs. Then indeed, in twelve years, you will reach adulthood... Of course, if your feet are smaller, maybe it will take ten years or even less.”

Ach’s height was at most one meter fifty-five, her feet wouldn’t be very large, perhaps they would be like bound feet.

But no matter what, she still needed around ten years or so to grow up... In ten years, Liszt would be twenty-seven years old. It was alright, he could just barely hold on to his title as a young man.

The Mighty Dragons Are Dead #Chapter 349: 0346: Who Am I, Where Am I (Fourth Update, Alliance Hierarch Additional Update 11/18) - Read The Mighty Dragons Are Dead Chapter 349: 0346: Who Am I, Where Am I (Fourth Update, Alliance Hierarch Additional Update 11/18)

Chapter 349: Chapter 0346: Who Am I, Where Am I (Fourth Update, Alliance Hierarch Additional Update 11/18)

“Ach, perhaps for a sea serpent, a decade is just a fleeting moment,” reflected Liszt, having not only calculated Ach’s adulthood but also estimated the length of its life.

Forty-one plus twelve equals fifty-three.

Reaching adulthood at the age of fifty-three, and comparing it to human adulthood at sixteen and a lifespan of a hundred years, the lifespan of a sea serpent is roughly three hundred and thirty years.

A greater elf lives for two hundred years, while a dragon elf lives for five hundred years, with the lifespan of a sea serpent falling somewhere between.

Three hundred and thirty years; with one generation every twenty-five years, humans might have nurtured more than a dozen generations. If Liszt hadn’t become the Dragon Domain Landlord, perhaps it would have been the son of his grandson’s grandson’s grandson attending Ach’s funeral. Thinking about it that way, it was quite amusing.

“Humans have only a hundred-year lifespan, can Ach live for three hundred and thirty years?” Ach asked, somewhat perplexed, “But, brother, Ach doesn’t want to live that long. Mmm, it’s fine as long as Ach lives as long as brother.”

Liszt pinched her little hand and kissed it gently, saying softly, “This is just an estimation; perhaps you could live longer, or you might not live up to three hundred years. Let the future decide the matters of the future. Sooner or later, I am going to become a Dragon Knight and ride a dragon, and becoming the Dragon Domain Landlord wouldn’t be bad either, as it could mean living for four or five hundred years.”

Ach let Liszt hold her hand with a giggly smile, “Mm-hm, brother can become the Dragon Domain Landlord, so both Ach and brother can live for hundreds of years!”

“Once I become a Dragon Knight and Dragon Domain Landlord, I will take you to explore this world... I don’t want to become a Grand Duke or a King,” Liszt remarked.

A dragon can subjugate an entire kingdom, hence a Dragon Knight may choose to create a nation, but not all Dragon Knights enjoy founding nations, as many simply relish the rank of Grand Duke while still occasionally waging war for the kingdom. It's quite normal for a kingdom to have several Dragon Knights.

Especially those Dragon Knights provided with dragons by a kingdom are bound to serve the kingdom.

Liszt couldn't decide what kind of dragon he would ride in the future, but at least being a ruler of a nation was not so attractive... If he had several dragons, he could give one or two to his descendants to let them enjoy the pleasures of being a king.

When leaving the Sea View Villa,

Liszt felt his blood boiling with fervor: "No matter what, I am destined to ride a dragon and become the Dragon Domain Landlord in this life, for the sake of longevity!"

In the past, he did not envy eternal life, feeling that a hundred years was enough to live a splendid life.

Now he looked forward to longevity, because this world was too vast, with far too many places worth exploring and precious things worth cherishing.

...

The comatose magician still hadn't awakened, and to prevent her from starving to death in her sleep, Liszt ordered people to feed her a bit of ordinary-quality milk every day.

Sustaining her life.

He himself continued his research on the copper teapot, and could basically determine that this was a Soul Storage Vessel—since there were no other sources of information about the Soul Storage Vessels, and he had even asked Elkerson and Granney, who knew very little about souls and nothing at all about Soul Storage Vessels.

"So, how do you use this Soul Storage Vessel? I poured Dou Qi into it without eliciting any abnormal reaction."

According to the Smoke Mission explanation, it is a piece of Magic Equipment.

If it is Magic Equipment, it should be stimulated by magic power, thus activating it, but there was no reaction at all. Its spout is an opening through which water can be poured, but even if it's filled with boiling water, there is still no response. Just like a real teapot without a lid.

"However, the spout is too narrow to brew tea," he noted.

Having no choice, Liszt took the copper teapot for Elkerson to examine to see if he could give any hints.

After examining for a while, Elkerson shook his head, "Baron, I can see there are traces of magical engraving; it definitely has some kind of Magic Array inside. Unfortunately, I'm not sure how this Magic Array operates and I can't activate it either."

Let Granney judge again.

Granney's explanation was similar, "It must have been created by a Grand Magician, with exquisite craftsmanship, especially the carving of the magic runes, which is a style I have never seen before... Baron Liszt, since you don't know its purpose, why not let me study it? I am very interested in it."

"Sorry, but I still have use for it." A reward from a mission, and magic equipment related to souls, how could he possibly hand it over to an outsider?

Carrying the copper teapot, he returned to the castle.

Liszt was somewhat puzzled, "Neither Elkerson nor Granney could explain this Soul Storage Vessel. It's likely that no magician on Coral Island could explain it. If Merlese had not died, she might have been able to shed some light, given her research on souls... Speaking of souls, I seem to have a 36D Ghost."

A specter is also a form of soul.

A drift bottle can contain a specter; this Soul Storage Vessel, obviously, should be able to contain souls even more so.

"Should I try it?"

"Then let's give it a try!"

Once he made up his mind, Liszt did not hesitate. He found a shady place and took out a drift bottle made of an unknown metal, smearing it with a bit of Old Tanner Fi'el's blood. Under the vision of the Eye of Magic, countless magic lines emerged on the bottle, forming picture after picture, depicting a bizarre and alien world.

The next moment, the bottle opened.

A wisp of ghostly light shot out, and the 36D Ghost floated above the bottle.

There was a moment of delay, then, as if waking up, the ghost, with its long-nailed hands, immediately charged at Liszt. However, Liszt simply raised the Crimson Blood Sword, its blade shrouded in Fire Attribute Dou Qi, and the specter was so frightened that it remained utterly still.

“Quite obedient.” Marcus had been able to frighten a specter before, so naturally, Liszt was not afraid.

He casually lifted the copper teapot and pointed its spout at the specter.

Yet the specter just sat there, dumbfounded, without any reaction.

“No use?” Liszt shook the copper teapot vigorously, but still failed to attract the specter inside. This was not what he expected. Resolute, he directly pushed the copper teapot against the specter’s body.

This was like breaking a broken pot.

Unexpectedly, it did indeed provoke a reaction. As soon as it touched the shadowy, ethereal body of the ghost, the copper teapot burst forth with a brilliant light, swallowing the 36D Ghost in an instant.

The next moment, it returned to its normal appearance.

But Liszt knew the soul had been stored inside, as the weight of the copper teapot increased slightly. He shook it, and it felt as if there was a little more water inside, just a little. Yet this slight change was still distinctly perceptible to an Elite Earth Knight.

He gently tilted the spout of the teapot, pouring outward.

No water came out; what poured forth were wisps of smoke. The smoke rose and soon took the shape of a young girl—no longer in the form of a 36D Ghost but a clear-faced girl.

Her eyes, though made of smoke, were very lively and expressive, first looking around in confusion.

Then her gaze settled on Liszt, and she slowly spoke, “Who am I, where am I, and who are you?”

Chapter 350: Chapter 0347: Dragon Beast Sailboat and Goat Assembly (First Update)

36D had turned into a young girl, but still possessed the 36D bust size.

When she was the 36D Ghost, her facial features were almost indiscernible, but now they were very clear, bearing a vague resemblance to Curtis Truth, and quite beautiful.

However, her style was completely the opposite; Curtis always had a gloomy Lich-like presence, surrounded by green light, which was very uncomfortable. In contrast, this misty figure radiated a white light, appearing somewhat holy.

“You can’t remember who you are?” Liszt looked at the Soul Storage Vessel in his hand, feeling it was incredible.

With just an inhalation and exhalation, the once fierce and terrifying specter had transformed into holy light. It seemed that the Soul Storage Vessel was definitely Divine Artifact-level Magic Equipment.

Moreover, it really bore some resemblance to Aladdin’s Lamp, at least the girl’s body, which was like a puff of smoke coming out of the spout of a teapot.

The upper half of her body was humanoid, while the lower half remained as smoke.

The girl lowered her eyelids, seemingly in thought.

Liszt didn’t disturb her.

In fact, he had some speculations.

The 36D Ghost originated from the Dragonbone Stabilizer, from a sunken ship of the Magic Goat Family, containing five chests of treasure. Two chests held Magic Books, and the others contained crystals, jade, and mithril. The fact that such cargo could be transported indicated the sunken ship was no ordinary vessel, but likely an important one belonging to the Magic Goat Family.

Thus, the identity of the girl sealed within the stabilized Dragon Bone of such a ship was not hard to deduce; she should be related to the Magic Goat Family.

The more he thought she resembled Curtis, the more it supported Liszt’s guess that she might be from the Magic Goat Family, or even someone whose soul had been stripped by Curtis and sealed within the Dragonbone Stabilizer.

“The Magic Goat Family...”

A family lost in the rivers of time, yet time and again entangled with Liszt. He didn’t know whether to feel honored or unlucky.

He also thought of Merlese Truth, who was killed by Paris, and who seemed to have connections with the Magic Goat Family; her research notes were all marked with the goat symbol. And the Magician, Chris, who was in a coma, whether she too was related to the Magic Goat Family was uncertain, yet the Soul Storage Vessel appeared to be the work of an Evil Magician like Curtis.

A moment of contemplation.

The girl, looking somewhat absent-minded, raised her head and looked at Liszt again, “I can’t remember... It seems I’m no longer a human, right? Do I look like I’m in a soul state?”

“Yes, you are currently in a soul state, but slightly different from any other soul I have seen; they all exist in the form of light. Whereas you are more like a smoke form, and previously, you were a Specter sealed within the Dragonbone Stabilizer.”

Liszt shook the Soul Storage Vessel in his hand, and following the smoke from the mouth of the teapot, it immediately started to quiver.

This, in turn, caused the girl’s entire body to tremble, as if wavering like ripples on water, yet it didn’t seem to make her feel uncomfortable.

She just stared blankly at the Soul Storage Vessel, looking at the smoke that connected to her body.

Murmuring to herself: “Dragonbone Stabilizer... Dragon Beast Sailboat... Truth... Magic Goat... Who am I... Who am I exactly?”

Dragon Beast Sailboat?

Liszt’s ears perked up upon hearing a new term. He guessed that this must be the name of the sailboat itself that used the Dragonbone Stabilizer Technique, the unique technology of the Magic Goat Family — the Dragon Beast Sailboat.

When he heard her mention the “Magic Goat,” it was quite evident; she indeed was from the Magic Goat Family. Liszt interrupted her troubled pondering, “I think I can give you a hint. The Dragon Beast Sailboat is likely the exclusive type of sailboat mastered by the Magic Goat Family, and as for you, you might be someone from the Magic Goat Family.”

“I’m from the Magic Goat Family?” The girl seemed touched by a memory, yet she couldn’t recall anything, “Do you know anything more?”

Liszt raised an eyebrow, “Do you know Curtis Truth?”

“Curtis!” The girl’s face drastically changed, her expression full of panic, and her body made of smoke and light started to flicker, “It’s her! It’s her! Curtis Truth, that terrible woman! She’s the one who killed me! She massacred the ‘Goat Assembly’; anyone who didn’t obey her commands was killed by her!”

Suddenly, she clutched her head and wailed in pain, “I... don’t kill me... I’m Virginia, I’m your sister... don’t kill me, Curtis...”

It was unclear if the pain was too much, or if time had simply run out.

She turned back into a wisp of smoke, returning to the Soul Storage Vessel. When Liszt shook it, he could feel the bit of liquid inside, but nothing would pour out no matter how he tried.

Having no other choice, he stored the Soul Storage Vessel in the Gemstone Space—living things put into the Gemstone Space would soon have their souls extinguished and thus die, but a soul could avoid extinction if it took refuge in an object. The Drift Bottle had been in there for a long time, and the 36D Ghost was still normal, so the Soul Storage Vessel likely had a similar function.

Of course, it was also possible that it didn't have that function, and Virginia might have extinguished right away... He hadn't considered that possibility.

He returned to the castle.

He took out a piece of thick parchment and wrote down the three Serpent Script phrases: "Dragon Beast Sailboat," "Virginia Truth," and "Goat Assembly": "The 'Goat Assembly' is probably an organization of magicians, and Virginia might be Curtis's biological sister, possibly in possession of the Dragonbone Stabilizer Technique."

As for the grudges and grievances of those days, Liszt no longer cared—it was nothing more than a sappy story about a woman mad with love, who betrayed her own family.

Regardless of justice or evil, it was all irrelevant to him; he was more interested in the Dragonbone Stabilizer Technique.

On the vast sea, the chances of encountering a Sea Monster were indeed not high, but should it happen, using the Dragonbone Stabilizer to release Dragon Might would definitely increase the chances of survival considerably.

...

Virginia Truth couldn't be tipped out of the Soul Storage Vessel, and Chris Truth lay on the bed, never waking up.

Before he knew it, May was drawing to an end, and the weather officially entered the scorching summer days.

Good news followed one after another.

First were the four Serpent Blood Tree Plant Pots, from which the Elf Bugs had successively emerged, biting Liszt's finger and becoming his contract Elf Bugs.

Four Serpent Blood Fruit Bugs, all a light white base color with a red stripe on their bodies, were very beautiful.

Liszt had transported the Serpent Blood Fruit Bugs to Black Horse Island, planting them on a newly reclaimed wasteland there—Serpent Blood Fruit attracted snakes, and since there were no venomous snakes on Black Horse Island, there was no danger of attracting poisonous ones. The only precaution was to not attract Sea Serpent class Sea Monsters.

Following the Serpent Blood Fruit Bugs, the Apple Bugs also successfully emerged.

The apple tree that had become Cordyceps grew more robust and lively, producing a plethora of little green apples this year. Unfortunately, that was their extent; they would no longer grow—whether it was spring, summer, autumn, or winter, they remained in that state.

Many of the lesser nobles especially enjoyed going into the forest to find Elf Bugs during winter; if they were lucky, they could discover a green Cordyceps among a vast expanse of withered trees.

Of course, the probability was very low as the distribution of wild Elf Bugs was quite sparse.

In the winter on Black Horse Island, Marcus and others had searched several times to no avail, without discovering any Cordyceps.

The light green Apple Bug was now lying in Liszt's palm, chubby and cute, resembling a lush and tender piece of soft jade.

“As I do not plan to transplant this Apple Tree Cordyceps, therefore, Mr. Carter, you should contact Administrative Officer Isaiah to transform the surroundings of the castle into an apple orchard,” Liszt decreed.

Butler Carter bowed in response, “As you wish, my lord.”