

MMORPG: The Almighty Ring

#Chapter 21 - The Gathering of Heroes - Read MMORPG: The Almighty Ring Chapter 21 - The Gathering of Heroes

Chapter 21: The Gathering of Heroes

“Please wait.” A new voice called out, just as Southern Azuresword was about to make his exit. It was a group of players, led by a young male Elf leading them. Slung over his back was a bedazzling Chromatic longbow.

Happy Drunk (Phantom Marksman, Elf)

Level : 17

Health Points: 1,745

Attack Power: 258

Note: Vice Guildmaster of “The Aristocrats.”

When Jiang Fei laid eyes on the Elf, he was surprised. Someone had actually obtained a Hidden Class on the third day of the game! Being lucky would be an understatement. This was divine intervention.

In the game, be it Profession players or combat Class players, there was a total of three different class tiers.

The first being the most common type. The type that NPCs handed out like free tissue. The second one would be Rare Classes. Rare Classes were stronger. However, they required particular means and methods to advance. The third would be the hardest to obtain. The Hidden Class. They were a special, exclusive, one-of-a-kind class. The illusive hidden instructors never made more than two appearances.

Hidden Classes were in a league of their own. Be it growth rate or skill trees, Hidden Class players would tower over their fellow players. With great power, came great challenges! Locating a Hidden Class instructor was like searching for a needle in a haystack! Even if you did, their questlines took exceptional skills and tenacity to complete!

Whenever a player managed to complete the Hidden Class quest, he or she would obtain the Class, as well as the Chromatic Evolving Equipment. A Chromatic Evolving Equipment would only increase with the player's own level. That was not all. The growth rate of a Chromatic Evolving Equipment would be equivalent to that of a Gold tier, Epic tier equipment!

There was no need to question the man. The bow that was glowing in multiple hues was enough proof for him to be a Hunter's Hidden Class! That bow on his back had the same power as a Level 15 Gold tier weapon. At that stage of the game, that could very well be the first ultimate weapon seen in public.

"What's up? What does the young master want with me?" asked Southern Azuresword, raising an eyebrow. Jiang Fei could not prove it, but he guessed that the two of them knew each other well.

"Hoho. Brother Azuresword, please don't be too courteous. Just call me Happy," said Happy Drunk, with a smile of his face. The man was handsome, to begin with, and when he smiled ever so elegantly, all the girls in the area went "kyaaa!"

"Hoho. How else am I supposed to treat the young master of Tianyu Enterprise? I'm afraid that I just can't allow myself to drop the honorifics!" said Southern Azuresword, as he turned his back to Happy Drunk. There were so many undertones and contradictions in that statement that Jiang Fei was now certain that these two shared some dark history.

The happy-go-lucky expression on the elf's face disappeared.

"Alright. I'll cut to the chase. Brother Azuresword has just bought off 300 sets of equipment. Isn't that just a little too much?"

"That's wrong! Brother Happy Drunk is right! Brother Azuresword, you better watch your back!"

This time, another large crowd came along.

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One after another, multiple large group of players continued to show up. It was, after all, a first come first serve sale. Southern Azuresword had been faster than the rest, that was it.

"Old Daemon... You're here to help yourself as well?" Southern Azuresword hissed through his gritted teeth.

Daemon's Grimace (Magician, Spectre)

Level: 17

Health Points: 1,150

Magic Attack Power: 374

Note: Guildmaster of "Arkosios Sanctuary"

Another guy?!

Jiang Fei rolled his eyes as more and more big shots of the city arrived. Again, it was only the third day since launch. For a group of people to collect 1,000 gold coins to create the guild, they either had to be a group of professional players, or a bunch of players who threw their life-savings in a giant pot. Either way, it proved only two things: 1, they were strong players. 2, they had many players supporting them!

"Hmm. Hmm. Hmm. Hundreds of equipment... that's not a small number you know? Now that we're all here, let's divide them all. If the girls get here... that's one more mouth to feed..."

Jiang Fei shuddered. The voice of Daemon's Grimace was so coarse that it felt extremely uncomfortable.

"Speak of the devil, and SHE SHALL APPEAR! Talking behind my back eh? Are you courting death?" A deep but undeniably female voice could be heard roaring from the back of the already massive crowd.

Another one? Really?

However, Jiang Fei was thrown off by the appearance of this one.

Lady Casanova (Warrior, Minotaur)

Level: 18

Health Points: 2,150

Attack Power: 178

Note: Guildmaster of "Magithieves."

Minotaurs were not considered as a Hidden Race. They were just a sub-species of Orcs. Due to the horns and full body of fur, not many players would consider choosing that race. That was why Jiang Fei was now staring with his mouth agape, horrified and amazed at the same time. What kind of female would choose to be a Minotaur?!

In real life, this was a pretty tall lady. Standing at 185cm with a thickset body, selecting the Minotaur race had “enhanced” those features, resulting in a 250 cm tall she-beast! The moment she appeared, the crowd fell silent and more than one lower jaw struck the ground.

“FML! How could you call that a female?” Jiang Fei thought to himself. His mastery over the poker face shone at that moment, but he truly feared for his life right then.

Jiang Fei was not alone in his fear. Daemon’s Grimace had seemed to shrink in size and spluttered, “Who’s talking about you? No one would dare to talk behind your back.”

“HMPH! It looks like all the important players are already here. Well, let’s split the equipment. I’m taking 100 for myself!” Lady Casanova glared at Daemon’s Grimace and bellowed.

“... Deal.”

All three prominent players immediately nodded their heads. That response spoke volumes of her power. Just how strong were the Magithieves? There and then, Southern Azuresword then resold the goods to everyone at Jiang Fei’s original price. It was all too sudden and direct. Why would the other Guildmasters and Vice Guildmasters just agree to her demand? Jiang Fei could not wrap his mind around it. All his years of playing various games could not allay the mystery.

Magithieves, The Aristocrats, and Arkosios Sanctuary. Those three guilds were the “bullies” of Dawnlight City.

However, they were merely random guilds in China’s gaming community. Magithieves was something else; they were considered a professional guild in the entirety of China. The guild made its appearance in any viral MMORPG there was. That girl, Lady Casanova herself was already a tough nut to crack. Her husband, Billy Boy was even more... Famous. He had been dubbed as the Demolition Man. His PvP and large-scaled battle skills led players in other games to trash various fortresses, lay waste to cities, wiping maps clean of players! The man was just as infamous as he was invincible.

“Each of you get 50 sets. Take it and go,” snapped Southern Azuresword. He was slightly annoyed. If it were not for them, he would already have left Jiang Fei’s stall. All the top players in his guild could have been adequately equipped!

Chapter 22: A “Real” Workshop

“Alright.” Daemon’s Grimace and Happy Drunk nodded their heads at the same time. Surely, if they voiced the content of their hearts, the giant female Minotaur would have

their heads marked. Even together, their guilds could never compete against the Magithieves.

“It’s decided! We’ll see each other again soon,” Southern Azuresword said curtly.

“Very well. Until next time.”

“Bye.”

All the other big shots bade their farewells. None of them wished to be there any longer, especially when they were all rivals. At that moment, Jiang Fei was no longer relevant to the picture. He was just another random vendor making his daily living.

“WAIT!” Jiang Fei shouted at the top of his lungs. His customers were walking away when he had not even brought out the big guns!

“What’s wrong? Displeased about something?” Lady Casanova leered. She leaned over to stare him down. Jiang Fei took two involuntary steps back.

This woman could really bring a hoof down and turn me into mush...

Jiang Fei chose his next words, carefully and slowly. “I have some more equipment for sale. Green grades ones, would you like to buy them?”

“YES!”

“Sell them to me.”

“YOU HAVE GREEN ONES?”

“I’ll take EVERYTHING YOU HAVE TO OFFER!”

All four guilds representative responded differently, but Lady Casanova’s voice boomed over them all. The 250cm Minotaur took one huge step forward. Her face that was also so close to Jiang Fei that she could have kissed him! If one were to calculate based on current odds, 300 White Equipment from Jiang Fei could produce at least three to five pieces of Green equipment. With that knowledge in mind, all four of them knew that they would have to fight tooth and nail for these gems.

“I have 70 Green equipment. All of them with additional skills!” Jiang Fei made sure to keep them hanging on to every word.

“What?” Lady Casanova rolled her eyes. 70 Green equipment was stretching the suspension of belief. Less than 10,000 players had just reached Level 10, and many more were still having the time of their lives playing around in the Beginner’s Village. As such, the total number of Green equipment would not; could not exceed 50! Yet, this

little boy was standing there, saying that he had 70 of them, and with additional skills on top of it? What a ridiculous claim! That was like claiming that the Earth had three suns and eight moons! Lest mention Dawnlight City, all four cities combined could gather 50 Green equipment with skills imbued!

“Brat. Don’t bullshit me. If you claim to have 70 Green equipment, I can still let that slide. But claiming to sell 70 Green equipment, all with skills imbued? Are you in need of attention? You can’t afford mine,” said Lady Casanova, turning away from Jiang Fei.

“Hoho. Do you really believe that the Workshop is that inefficient? We have professional, in-house Enhancers working round the clock! How else could we have produced 70 Green equipment? We have our pride,” Jiang Fei drawled like it was nothing. Rosette Rose knew how he did it, but he could not afford to have anyone else know of his methods. The less they knew, the better. If word got out that Jiang Fei could produce such equipment in his sleep, the game masters would be out for his blood!

“Enhancer...” The four of them exchanged looks of fear and disbelief! Jiang Fei had proved that he was not the kind of player that they had assumed him to be! The boy might even be on equal standing as they were!

Enhancers were a Profession on their own. However, the class was as rare as the game’s servers running during the day. The reason would be simple enough. Enhancers could only work with materials exclusively obtained from dismantling Green tier equipment or higher!

As the server was still in its infantile stage, no player would sacrifice their Green equipment for the sake of a single Profession! Not even Blacksmiths would dismantle their White tier equipment! Even entire professional guilds could not afford to do so either. Such a system was meant to be carried out only its mid game stage.

“We would have already dismantled these Green ones here if not for the fact that our banks were running low,” said Jiang Fei, conceitedly.

“Name your price!” Lady Casanova roared. To have even one Enhancer in the guild on the third day of the game was something out of this world. To have someone being ahead of the Magithieves had been outside Lady Casanova’s predictions. But there it was, those treasures, laying right in front of her eyes. She would have to work on obtaining as much Green equipment as she could. Everything else would be dealt with later on.

“One gold coin apiece. No picking, like how I won’t pick any favorites. Whether it’s good or crap, it’s up to god now,” said Jiang Fei. Even though Green equipment would only cost around 50 silver coins, those with skills were worth double that.

“Yes.” The four of them nodded. It was the best and most unbiased method of distribution. An equipment with a 10% increase in Health Points and another with a 10%

chance to steal 10 copper coins were worlds apart. Attempting to appraise them one at a time would take far too much time.

“Guys? What do you say?” Lady Casanova quipped. With a single glance, all members of the Magithieves rushed into the stall and chased away the other players. Smaller guild and pub player would never get their hands on the Green tier equipment, even if they could afford. Nothing much could be said about it, the biggest bullies were in town!

“It’s your call, sister Casanova,” Happy Drunk grinned sheepishly. As the strongest out of the four, nothing much could be done about her. Not even if the three others banded together.

“I will take 25, you lot get 15 each!” said Lady Casanova after a moment’s thought.

“Alright. Agreed. But! We get the first pick.”

It was a reasonable deal. They would have to pick the items in batches, as Jiang Fei had previously voiced out that there would be no selective pickings.

“Go on,” said Lady Casanova, giving her consent.

“I take the first 15.”

“Second here.”

“Looks like I’m left with the last 15.”

They quickly took their turns.

“Hoho. Thanks for your patronage.” Jiang Fei grinned delightedly.

“Little brother, what’s your name? Let us be friends. If your little Workshop ever restocks its wares, please think of me as your first customer!” said Lady Casanova, leaning towards Jiang Fei. Was she actually trying to be seductive...

“What the hell is this female cow doing... Is she trying to smother me...?” Jiang Fei was both disgusted and terrified. This hulking giantess had actually leaned in to whisper into his ears in a deep contralto. It was scary since the player leaned in close to him and whispered into his ears with her deep voice. Eventually, he swallowed it down and gave her his name. It was important to form connections with the big shots.

“Hah. Verdure Glider. Hehe. I like your style boy.” Daemon’s Grimace praised Jiang Fei, as he too sent an invitation to befriend Jiang Fei.

“Please do contact me if you wish to conduct some serious business.”

“I do wish we could go on and work together in the future. I’m sure that you would be happy to have me as your friend.”

Both Southern Azuresword and Happy Drunk sent their invitations as well. They were all thinking the same thoughts; befriending him was as good as befriending a large-scaled, equipment producing Workshop, what more, they had actual, in-house Enhancers!

“Little brother. You must have heard about the Magithieves and what we can do. Don’t pay any more heed to those pesky little guilds. Just think of me!” said Lady Casanova, winking through a large, furry eye.

“Yes... Yes..” Jiang Fei tried his best not to look away. If Lady Casanova was not the most influential figure in the city, he would not have even have spared her a glance!

Chapter 23: Class Level Increased

With the Green tier equipment in hand, all four guild representative could now form elite squads of their own. All the bosses in the open world would soon have the time of their lives. With the support of stronger equipment, those players could kill the boss, obtaining rare drops and an abundance of experience points.

After selling that batch, Jiang Fei had earned a total of 130 gold coins. Take away 50 gold coin for the material costs, it was a nett profit of 80 gold coins. It was all due to the power of the mysterious ring. Having reached the third level, the ring now granted Jiang Fei 20 Luck, as well as increased his success rate of crafting Ascended equipment.

With more than 100 gold coins lining his pockets, Jiang Fei went on to buy as much material as he can.

Even though he had crafted more than a hundred Green equipment with bonus skills and attribute, only those that were above average had passed Jiang Fei’s filter. Even so, those had been “tossed” to the girls of Rosette Knighthood. To them, they were phenomenal, but to Jiang Fei, there were just scraps that could not satisfy him.

To have the perfect equipment, Jiang Fei had to resort to the most traditional, foolproof method. Mass crafting. As long as there was no shortage of metal for him to hammer, surely, the perfect specimen could someday pop up. After some quick counting, Jiang Fei spent all 130 gold coins on Copper Ores. All 130 stacks would be enough to grant him a new level in Smelting.

“Ding! Player’s Smelting has reached Level 2! Chance of material wastage reduced to 50%!”

Reducing wastage from 60% down to 50% was most helpful, especially in his capacity of mass-production!

After he was done, Jiang Fei had collected a total of 58 Copper Ingot stacks. By the end of the smelting process, Jiang Fei found that his experience bar would not go up any further. Apparently, he would have to start smelting higher grade ores, if he wished to continue raising his Smelting level.

It was almost time to wake up, and Jiang Fei decided to end his labors. The temporary storage in the Blacksmith's Workshop was already at capacity. Jiang Fei moved all 58 stacks to his personal bank storage, planning to continue the crafting process the next day.

“Ding! Attention players. The server will shut down in 30 minutes. Please make the adequate preparations before the server disconnects! Enjoy a new day, a new life!”

It was almost time. Jiang Fei had just finished transferring all 58 stacks to his bank. The temporary storage was just like its name suggested — it would be wiped clean whenever the server shut down.

Jiang Fei woke up, content with his progress. After breakfast, Jiang Fei walked to school. But on that day, something was different. Jiang Fei's journeys were usually mundane and without incident. On that morning, there seemed to be glares coming from all angles! Along the way to his classroom, he could hear students whispering his name. It was probably because of the basketball competition he won the day before.

“Lookie lookie! It's the famous Jiang Fei!”

“Is that him? He doesn't look like the athletic type...”

“Tsk. What do you know? It's exactly because he doesn't look like he plays any sports, period! The kid is good. He trashed the sixth class as if they were toddlers!”

“What? He must be really good then... Aha! He does look a little cute from certain angles.”

“Pss. Don't even try... Dino girl.”

“ ... ”

“ ... ”

“I'll flatten you nice.”

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“Look! It’s the basketball superman.”

“You’re right. Let’s talk to him. Maybe we could be friends.”

“Doesn’t that make us look... Easy?”

“You’re right... We should get someone from his class to introduce us!”

“Good idea!”

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“And the Oscar goes to that kid. What a fake. He wouldn’t even budge when people are insulting him.”

“Are you insulting him, or are you praising him? Make up your mind.”

“Both.”

“Liar. You’re obviously super jealous of him. He’s got all the girls on him now.”

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It was too much for Jiang Fei to handle. All the girls had a sudden change of heart, and all the guys were either impressed or envious of Jiang Fei. It was all due to this sudden influx fame of him. Afterall, he had led a class of bookworms to victory, against the sixth class — the athletes’ class, no less. His popularity had shot up like Jack’s’ beanstalk, from a pebble on the side to the road, to a school celebrity! Jiang Fei was a magnet to the young girls who were just going through puberty. They were still young and naïve, and they would rather drool over a man’s abs than his grey matter. In this case, when it came to looks, Jiang Fei was average at best, but the girls still regarded him as a superstar nevertheless. Sometimes, one needed to throw a few slam dunks to get the girls.

Jiang Fei had long been a master over his body. He managed to maintain his cool while making his way to class. Truth be told, he was screaming with joy in his heart.

Zhao Feng had waited, just long enough for Jiang Fei to take his seat.

“Brother Fei, you’re a superstar now!”

“Oy, back off. I may be a superstar, but I’m not gay!” Jiang Fei pushed Zhao Feng’s face away from his, unable to contain a grin.

“Brother Fei. I’d have never known that you would be hiding your talent like that! Hey! Don’t you dare forget me when you’re up there among the stars!” Zhao Feng pouted.

“Get lost, you! What’s that supposed to mean, huh? Up among the stars, pfft!” snapped Jiang Fei, flinging a pack of cookies at Zhao Feng.

“Good man! Good man! Apology accepted!” said Zhao Feng, ripping the packet open and stuffing his face full.

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High school classes were so boring that Jiang Fei could not even think of a single item from the game that he could sneak in and lighten his eyelids.

The basketball competition amongst the first year students was still ongoing. On that day, the ninth class had been left without an opponent. Jiang Fei was bored enough to attend even regular class, much less a basketball match. Sun Mengmeng had not missed a chance to remind Jiang Fei about joining the next match as part of the team. The best of his class were just barely short of being massacred. Now that Sun Mengmeng had found herself a super player from their class, she would never stop whipping Jiang Fei like a workhorse!

“Brother Fei... when is your dad gonna let you play the game... I’m finally graduating from the Beginner’s Village...” Zhao Feng mumbled, stifling a yawn during the last class.

“I’ve no idea.”

Ring...

“That’s the bell. I’ll be going back home now. Catch you tomorrow.”

“Byeee...”

...

Back home, Jiang Fei repeated his daily routine. Dinner, homework, bathroom. It was a boring cycle, and his family had no qualms about it. They were the epitome of China’s most average family. Jiang Fei’s father worked as a blue collar in some random company, earning a decent amount that kept the family in relative comfort. Jiang Fei’s mother’s was a full-time housewife who took care of Jiang Fei and his father. That was all to it.

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“Welcome back to Dawn Break!”

With a bright flash, Jiang Fei entered the game for the fourth time.

“Time to work for a living. Again!” said Jiang Fei with a wide smile on his face.

To be able to keep up with the combat specialists, Jiang Fei would have to pack on some crazy, serious equipment. He would have to craft an insane amount of equipment to find the perfect skills and attributes.

“Ding! Class Level has increased! Beginner Blacksmith is currently at Level 2!”

After continuously smithing for more than 10 hours, Jiang Fei had gained yet another Class Level. Blacksmithing was then Level 2. His crafting success rate had increased by a mere 5%, and the success rate of crafting Ascended equipment had risen by a minuscule 1%.

Chapter 24: Clearing the Storage

Four to five hours later, Jiang Fei was once more all out of materials. In its place was 1,100 White tier equipment and over 420 Green ones! That heightened success rate of crafting equipment as well as the appearance of equipment with bonus attributes was clearly shining!

Fortunately, the temporary storage system did not have a maximum capacity, or else Jiang Fei would have been in serious trouble! After carefully reviewing all the equipment, Jiang Fei had placed aside the best 100 for the Rosette Knighthood. On the other hand, the best out of the entire batch were placed in the ring's blue slots! The rest of the equipment would most likely be sold off.

Truth be told, Jiang Fei had little to no knowledge about the mysterious ring. There were still a few pieces of White equipment in the red slot that the ring had yet to consume. Jiang Fei had even thrown in a few Greens. Even so, the ring had not taken anything in. It was as if the ring had stopped leveling up after reaching Level 3. Even though Jiang Fei did not fully understand the ring, he suspected that there were some conditions to fulfill. Conditions that he did not yet know.

“Wow! Cutey bro has made another hundred Greens!” said Rosette Miaomiao, as Jiang Fei was depositing the Green equipment into Rosette Knighthood's storage. She had appeared out of nowhere and had clung onto Jiang Fei like a young little sister.

“Are you really that bored, Miaomiao? Why aren't you training together with the other members?”

“Hey! I did! I'm already Level 15! Nishishishi!” said Miaomiao, puffing her chest out in pride. Even though reaching Level 15 was an achievement to some, it was at a snail's pace for elites. Miaomiao was a Priest. This meant that she could afford falling behind on a few levels.

“What are you doing here, then?” said Jiang Fei, slightly annoyed.

“I’m here to restock potions for Sister Xue! Cute brother, this game is soooo hard! The monsters are toooo strong. It takes so much money, with all the damage taken and the healing potions. Someone has to return to the city and restock the potions for the party, and I’m the girl this time!” Miaomiao complained.

If only she knew just how lucky she and the other princesses of the guild were. Potions were the most expensive method when it came to spam training! That was one of the reasons why whales could gain levels faster than free-to-play players. Perhaps, not even the top four guilds would be willing to spend real money just for the sake of faster leveling!

“Tsk! What are you still doing here then? Go! Stop bothering me! Be quick about it, or the Guildmaster will slap that butt!” said Jiang Fei, laughing.

“Bleh! Sister Xue would never be that violent!” Rosette Miaomiao blew raspberries at Jiang Fei and quickly left for the potion shop.

After she left, Jiang Fei deposited one hundred Greens. He found that the previous batch of Green equipment were all gone. The current batch would most likely be snatched away just as quickly. Most importantly, all Heavy Armor classes would be fully equipped. With Jiang Fei constantly supplying and upgrading the guild’s armory, Rosette Knighthood would soon be the best-equipped guild in the entire game! His efforts would undoubtedly boost their leveling rate too.

What remained in his inventory was over a thousand White equipment and 300 Green equipment. The only way to deal with them was to sell them away, especially now that he had a good source of income! The four guilds!

“Large quantities of equipment for sale! Please come to XXX,XXX if you wish to purchase them.”

Jiang Fei had copy-pasted the same message to all four big figures.

“I will be right there.” In less than a minute, all four of them had replied. They now knew that Jiang Fei’s “large quantities,” had to equate to several hundred, at the very least.

By the time Jiang Fei got to his coordinates, the four players were already waiting for him. Fortunately for Jiang Fei, there was more than one Blacksmith’s Workshop in the city. Jiang Fei had chosen a particularly remote location to prevent players from attacking him.

“Hoho! Brother, it would seem that your little Workshop is quite the productive one!” Southern Azuresword spoke up as Jiang Fei approached.

“Hoho. It’s only normal for us to produce this much. There’s still plenty more to go,” said Jiang Fei.

“Little brother! Didn’t I tell you to contact only me if you wanted to sell equipment? Why did you contact the rest of these buggers?” said Lady Casanova as she approached Jiang Fei. Jiang Fei could have sworn that she had eclipsed the sunlight that shone upon him.

“Sister Casanova. You shouldn’t get too greedy, hogging away all the nice equipment for yourself,” said Happy Drunk, as elegant and calm as always. Jiang Fei was shocked, but he hid his expression well when he saw Happy Drunk’s Level. In just one day, the man had surpassed Lady Casanova’s Level and had reached Level 19!

“Yeah! Remember to share!” Daemon’s Grimace joined the fray and started complaining.

Jiang Fei glanced outside the Blacksmith’s Workshop and saw a large number of player gathering. It was evident that those four big shots had brought in their members as a show of their power.

“Enough chit chat. This current sale is meant for clear the Workshop’s storage. We would not be selling any equipment for the time being. Right now, there’s a total of 1,100 White tier equipment and 320 Green equipment. The prices remain the same as yesterday,” said Jiang Fei with a stoic expression.

“Good man,” said Southern Azuresword. Even though all four of them knew that Jiang Fei had mentioned “large amounts,” they would have never guessed the number would actually exceed three digits! Since Jiang Fei was clearing an entire guild’s “storage,” that amount made some sense.

“Brother, what is the name of your Workshop? Does it belong to any guilds?” asked Daemon’s Grimace. To have such a productive Workshop would mean that its parent guild was bound to be extremely powerful. If they were not attached to anyone but themselves, it was the perfect opportunity to reel him in.

“Hoho. Business first. That conversation could wait. When the time is right, we shall reveal ourselves.” Jiang Fei turned, trying to hide the fact that there was no such thing as a Workshop, to begin with!

“Alright. Let’s get on with business,” said Southern Azuresword.

“Lady Casanova, perhaps we could have more equipment this time? Each of us shall have 200 White equipment while you could take 300. As for the Green equipment, each of us shall have 70, and the remaining 110 would be yours. How’s that?” said Happy Drunk.

“That’s alright with me.” Lady Casanova nodded. Even though the numbers were not as high as the previous transaction, it was fine. As a matter of fact, the four of them were in the same city. It would be unwise for either one of them to grow too powerful and monopolize everything.

“How about you guys?” Happy Drunk turned to Daemon’s Grimace and Southern Azuresword.

“That shouldn’t be a problem!” Lady Casanova answered on their behalves.

The transaction was quickly made, and Jiang Fei walked away with 430 gold coins in hand.

The fact that the four guilds, as well as Rosette Knighthood, treated gold coins like the paper currency in a game of Monopoly notwithstanding, the 430 gold coins in Jiang Fei’s pocket right then was worth at least four thousand RMB in the black market!

Even though Jiang Fei did craft some equipment, it was nothing but scrap for the four big guilds. Arkosios Sanctuary alone should have over 10,000 players, and they were the smallest amongst the four! A few hundred articles of equipment was nothing but a spoonful of water for a thousand soldiers. They were only buying this equipment for their elite forces! Not even the core members of their guild would be able to live under the shadow of such equipment!

Chapter 25: Full Armor!

When all had been sold and Jiang Fei was all alone again, he could not be any happier. It was not about the money he earned, or the free space in his bank. Nothing so petty. He was happy, because he had hand-picked the best equipment and placed them in the blue slot of the ring’s inventory. He was ready to take them out into the real world!

Sturdy Green Copper Helmet (Chainmail Headgear, Fine)

Physical Defense +25

Vitality: +2

Equipped: Grants the passive skill–Rocky Armor, lowers all Physical Attack by 5%

Green Copper Chestplate of Reflection (Chainmail Upper Body, Fine)

Physical Defense +30

Vitality: +3

Equipped: Grants passive skill—Reflection, lowers all Magical Attack by 10% and reflect them back to the attacker!

Green Copper Gauntlet of Striking (Chainmail Arm, Fine)

Physical Defense +25

Vitality: +2

Equipped: Grants skill—Iron Fist, strike a target with a powerful fist attack, deals 300 fixed damage. 50 seconds cooldown.

Berserking Green Copper Metal Leg Armor (Chainmail Leg, Fine)

Physical Defense +30

Vitality: +3

Equipped: Grants skill—Charge, Charges towards a target with great speed and deals 50 fixed damage. Stuns the target for 2 seconds. Effective Distance: 3 meters – 20 meters. 600 seconds cooldown.

Green Copper Armlet of Shredding (Chainmail Wristguard, Fine)

Physical Defense +25

Vitality: +1

Equipped: Grants skill—Laceration, enables all normal attacks to bleed a target. Deals 10 Bleeding damage per second, lasts for 5 seconds. Maximum of 5 stacks.

Green Copper Shoulderguard of Vigor (Chainmail Shoulder Armor, Fine)

Physical Defense +20

Vitality: +2

Equipped: Grants passive skill—Vigor, increase maximum Health Points by 15%

Vampiric Green Copper Boots (Chainmail Boots, Fine)

Movement Speed +2

Jump +1

Vitality: +2

Equipped: Grants passive skill, Beginner Lifesteal, deals 10 additional damage on every attack and heals an equal amount.

Out of hundreds, Jiang Fei had picked seven equipment that would serve him the best. Since Jiang Fei was a Blacksmith, Attack, Strength, Intelligence, or any other attribute would have an extremely low growth rate. Besides that, he could never equip any other weapon, besides the Blacksmith's Hammer. Sadly, the hammer would not increase any attack power. In the end, Jiang Fei decided to walk the path of a tank; selecting a full set of equipment with Vitality as a bonus attribute.

After donning the gear, Jiang Fei checked his attribute window.

Player: Verdure Glider

Level: 10

Class: Beginner's Blacksmith Level 2

Experience Points: 730/25,000

Health Point: 1,512/1,512

Mana Point: 300/300

Physical Attack Power: 60

Physical Defense: 160 + 50

Magic Defense: 60

His Health Points were now so high that he had basically exceeded all other combat class players of the same level. A Level 10 Warrior would have, at most, around 1,000 Health Points, while a Magician only had 600 to 700. He had literally crafted these Health Points into fruition!

As a tradeoff, he pecked just about as much punch as a chicken. The weakest Level 10 Warrior class player would have over a hundred Attack Power! Jiang Fei only had a mere 60. To put things into comparison, the enemy would fight with a sword, while Jiang Fei would fight using a chopstick. At best, he could use a metal chopstick...

Aside from the basic skill — Blazing Hammer of the Blacksmith class, Jiang Fei had gained two additional active skills; Charge and Iron Fist. At the bare minimum, Jiang Fei was almost equal to a Warrior. However, his passive skills would shine over the long term. Laceration would deal DoT damage (Damager Over Time), and there was also the passive Lifestealing skill which healed him by 10 Health Points with each attack. Both

helped him outlast others when it came to long periods of grinding monsters. Lifestealing basically removed his need for potions.

“It’s time to smash some monsters. I’m getting tired of the anvil!” Jiang Fei energetically said. He clenched a fist. What had he been doing for the past two days? No, it was not about making money! It was all to allow him to fight alongside the combat classes! Onto the field, onto the battleground, to bleed, to kill, and to level up!

By the time Jiang Fei left Dawnlight City for the first time, many others were already fighting in the fields. During that time of the day, players were active everywhere. Like mushrooms after the rain, Jiang Fei could not find a single bare spot.

On regular days, all the girls in Rosette Knighthood would be chattering away in the public guild channel. It was natural for Jiang Fei to be familiar with their training grounds. Unlike any other beginner who would carefully test the water with their toes, he immediately strode into the forest alone!

“Ding! You have discovered the Night Forest! Obtained 50 Experience Points!”

As he stepped out of the sunlight and into the shadows of the forest, the chimes of the notification sent a flutter through Jiang Fei’s heart, as it had been a long time since he had actually obtained some combat experience points!

The mini-map refreshed itself and displayed the Night Forest. Jiang Fei had officially left the region of the Dawnlight City. The Night Forest was a Level 2 Protected Area. Compared to the main city which was only a Level 1 Protected Area, players were allowed to conduct PvP. As long as they kept away from NPC guards, they could evade the law, and their Protection Levels would also be out of danger. However, if you happened to be unlucky, the NPC guards would appear out of the blue, and you would suffer a penalty similar to a Level 1 Protected Area.

“OH! DAMN!” cried Jiang Fei upon spotting the first monster he had ever seen after what seemed like an eternity.

Wild Tiger (Beast, Normal)

Level: 11

Health Point: 800

Attack Power: 70

Skills: Pounce. Leaps and attacks a target when in combat alert.

Note: Regular wild beast, low threat level.

Due to the ring's mysterious power, Jiang Fei was able to see all of the monster's properties.

“SETTLE DOWN NOW, YOU CAT!”

Like a bolt of lightning, Jiang Fei smashed the tiger with his hammer without any reservations.

-40!

-1!

Jiang Fei struck like a chicken, but the Wild Tiger struck him like a gnat! In reality, a Level 11 monster would never be that weak! Jiang Fei's Defense was just too much for the tiger to inflict any significant damage! That, and the 5% damage reduction passive skill!

-10

-10

+10

As Jiang Fei was not much of a powerhouse, it all went down to his passive skills. Two seconds after Jiang Fei had landed an attack, the DoT effect had ticked twice. At the same time, Jiang Fei had restored 10 Health Points!

“Ding! You have defeated Wild Tiger. Obtained 170 Experience Points!”

After piling a shread-ton of Shred on the Wild Tiger, the monster fell in 10 seconds. His total DPS power actually rivaled the output of glass cannons like Magicians! He could kill at the speed of a Hunter or a Magician, yet be as tough as a tank. At this rate, he would leave battles of this level unscathed!

“How powerful!” Jiang Fei gasped at his own power.

In the beginning, Jiang Fei had roughly gauged that he would be able to hold his own against a monster that overleveled him ever so slightly. He had not expected his passive skills and attribute boosts to actually steamroll them! He had not even activated any of his active skills, yet he had taken down a monster faster than a Magician! If that was the case, let's head deeper into the forest!