

## Oasis 181

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#### Chapter 181: The Black Gemstone In Its Body

After the battle ended, the corpse of the demonized creature lay at their feet.

Kant pulled out his knight's sword.

Black blood mixed with grayish-brown brain matter dripped from the tip of the sword.

Black blood and brain matter also flowed out from the wound in the ear hole. The demonized creature was no longer twitching. It was clear that Kant's decisive strike had directly pierced through the eardrum and ear bone of the demonized creature. The sword penetrated deep into its head and destroyed its brain, killing it within a short period of time.

"There are no casualties," the Sarrandian horseman reported.

"Well done.", Kant nodded.

The horsemen pulled out their spears from the corpse of the black bear liked demonized creature. Fortunately, the 30 spears had evenly distributed the impact, so none of the spears were bent or any or broken.

They all frowned as they looked at the corpse on the ground.

There were pitch-black scales all over the body's fur, just like the scales of a snake.

However, most of the scales were concentrated on the chest, shoulders, and arms. As for the neck, back, and limbs, there were not many of it. It was as if they were wearing simple animal scales.

If their expectations were correct.

This was the first time they saw a demonized creature.

Even Kant was the same.

He only seen similar illustrations in the books of the academy. Looking at its polar bear-sized gigantic body, its body that was nearly three meters long and its fat was still exposed under its scales, he thought of the scientific name of this demonized creature.

"Demonized black bear."

Kant frowned. This was undoubtedly one of the more troublesome types of demonized creatures.

It was a demonized creature that was originated from a black bear.

Similarly, there were other types of demonized creatures, but most of them were based on carnivores. For example, demonized black bears, demonized wolves, and demonized lions were the most common.

But their destructive power was not weak at all.

If ordinary people encountered them, it would be a one-sided massacre.

Only elite footmen led by knights could gather their troops to surround and hunt down these creatures. Otherwise, just relying on the weak hunting bows of the hunters would not be able to kill these sturdy, fast, and fearless demonized creatures. They were crazy demonized creatures after all.

It would be bad if they encountered a stronger demonized creature.

It was similar to the demonized wolf that was hung in the reception room by Baron Dylan. That wolf had reached the grand knight-level treat, they paid the price with many elite footmen's lives and severe injuries of the two vassal knights in order to kill it.

Demonized creatures were divided into ordinary species and savage species.

The ordinary species was the demonized black bear that Kant had encountered. Its combat strength was nearly twice that of an ordinary black bear.

And when it encountered savage species...

These creatures were the true terror. Even the records of the academy regarding demonized creatures claimed that if a troop encountered a savage demonized creature, if there were no grand knights, mages, or a certain number of elite troops and knights, then it was suggested to retreat immediately. Even some of them were left to die to stall for time, but it was better than all of them completely annihilated.

However, these demonized creatures also had weaknesses.

For example, they did not have the brains of humans, and they were far less intelligent and cunning as normal animals. They only relied on their strengthened bodies to fight fearlessly.

Most importantly, it was absolutely impossible for different kinds of demonized creatures to join forces. If they encountered one, they would even kill each other. Even if they were the same kind of demonized creatures, not many of them would join forces together. As for the demonized creatures that did live in a pack, most of them were demonized wolves that used to group battle. As for the demonized black bear and demonized lion, most of them lived in solitary.

However, even if they were solitary, their strengthened bodies were still much stronger than an ordinary troop class. In Kant's opinion, they were equivalent to or even higher than a level-5 troop class.

Thirty Sarrandian horsemen seemed to be able to kill this demonized black bear easily.

However, if there were only five of them, it might ended up differently.

"No wonder they say that the Senwaya Range is like a natural barrier. It seems that not only is the environment complicated and the difficult mountain paths, it is also due to these mass demonized creatures."

Kant sighed in his heart.

He lowered his head and pulled out two arrows from the demonized black bear's body. He looked at the wound, especially the chest. Although the scales were shattered, it was only stuck in between the flesh and bones of the chest. It did not penetrate too deep.

It did not cause any fatal injuries at all.

"Are the arrows ineffective?", Kant frowned slightly.

When he thought about the ordinary bow in his hands and the archery skills that had not undergone much strengthening, he thought to himself, "It should be because my skills are not good enough."

The system only strengthened him with the body of a knight.

In terms of skills.

It strengthened the riding skills, close combat skills, long-pole weapons, one-handed weapons, two-handed weapons, and so on.

As for archery skills...

Kant learned it when he was a young noble in the Castle of Leo as his interest in hunting.

His skills could not be considered strong.

This battle bow from Baron Dylan was only used by ordinary archers.

If a Ravenstern ranger held a heavy bow and used a cone arrow that could pierce armor, it would be a piece of cake for him to fight in this complicated and dangerous mountainous environment.

After all, the Ravenstern Kingdom was also guarding at the mountainous environment.

The Misty Mountain was even more complicated than the Senwaya Range!

"Right.", Kant was about to lead the team deeper into the mountain range and advance along the route given by the system. But he suddenly thought of something, he turned his head and instructed the Sarrandian horseman behind him, "Use the scimitar to peel open the heart of this demonized black bear. There might be something special inside."

"Understood.", one of the Sarrandian horsemen nodded.

He immediately pulled out the elite scimitar from his waist and aimed it at the ribs of the demonized black bear.

As the pitch-black blood flowed out, a thick stench of blood spread in the air. The surrounding warhorse became even more restless. They shook their heads as if they were resisting this smell.

Sarrandian horseman took off his gloves and reached into the wound to feel for the heart.

He quickly found the heart and pulled it out with a slight frown. His hand was dripping with blood, as if it was stained with a large number of stones. His companion beside him quickly handed him a piece of linen and asked him to wipe clean his arm and the black gemstone in his hand, the black gemstone was the size of an egg.

It was wiped clean very quickly.

Sarrandian horseman handed the black gemstone to Kant.

"This is it.", Kant frowned.

In the book, it was recorded that there would be such a black gemstone in the heart of a demonized creature. If the demonized creature was killed, the black gemstone obtained from the corpse could be sold at a high price because of the mysterious mages in the Mage Tower. They would buy these things in large quantities, and they had no limit on purchasing it at all. The more they sold, the more reward they would get from these mages.

But Kant thought of the elemental gemstone he obtained when he killed the elemental giant.

Then he looked at the black gemstone now.

There was a hunch in his heart, but he did not know how to say it.

Perhaps this was related to extraordinary power.

"We'll talk about it later."

Kant shook his head. This was not the time to think about this.

On his retina, the route given by the system was still clear. Along the edge of the mountain forest, there was a path that could barely pass through by people, extending into the depths of the Senwaya Range.

The destination seemed to be the top of a huge mountain.

He raised his head and looked at the sky.

The sun had already reached the top of his head, and it was close to noon.

"Let's keep walking."

He did not stop. Instead, he urged the Sarrandian horsemen behind him, "Everyone, be alert. We might encounter new demonized creatures at any time. Stay alert!"

"Understood.", the Sarrandian horsemen replied in a deep voice.

The team continued to move forward.

They went deep into the mountain range. Fortunately, they did not encounter any more demonized creatures.

When Kant climbed over the mountain and walked on the rugged, complicated mountain path again and again, the route given by the system was about to reach an end. It was at the top of the mountain, right at the peak of the mountain.

"Howl --"

From a far distance deep in the Senwaya Range, a faint howl of a wolf could be heard.

Kant was not surprised.

It was a brutal howl of a wolf and it sounded full of energy. It was definitely a demonized wolf.

However, judging from the faint sound, Kant knew that it was very far away from them.

It would take a time to reach them so there was no danger yet. Kant turned his head to look at the sparse woodland and shrubs around him. There were many rabbits, unknown birds, and even pheasants. He felt a little more calm.

At least it was quiet here.

"Let's settle our lunch here and rest for an hour before we set off again."

Kant instructed the Sarrandian horsemen and arranged all sorts of miscellaneous tasks.

Soon, the horseman cleared out an empty space and found dried wood. They lit it with fire sickles and lit a bonfire. They also made a grill in the shortest time possible.

Two other Sarrandian horsemen walked into the forest with bows and arrows.

Soon, with a mess of birds flying, each of the two Sarrandian horsemen came back with six pheasants. The other horsemen quickly bled and plucked the pheasants. The pheasants were placed on the bonfire and roasted quite neatly.

As the meat turned golden, it was sprinkled with white salt and spices. The taste was excellent.

They had a good lunch.

The resources in the mountain area were much more abundant than those in the desert.

Without the threat of the demonized creatures, the resources in the Senwaya Range would be enough to make the Stone Pass rich. After all, the fur of the wild beasts in the forest and other forest resources were all ready-made silver coins.

If they found minerals, they would be able to make even more money!

"It's dangerous."

Kant looked up at the destination at the peak of the mountain and sighed slightly.

He was also a little worried about setting up the village here.

Kant had experienced the weakness of the village level before. Even the low-level Jackalan could pose a threat to the village. If he had not fought with his life and walked out a bloody path, he would have become the white bones of the Oasis Lookout.

Where would he be today?

He took a deep breath.

Kant could only make the decision. He would first transfer troops from the Oasis Lookout to assist in defense.

Especially those Ravenstern Rangers and Ravenstern Wardens. They were the archers who were good at fighting in the mountains were definitely more suitable for the environment here. After all, the Vaegirs archers were more suitable defending in the vast desert, while the Vaegir marksman's rain of arrows had a better effect in a large scale warfare.

"Time's up."

Kant used the soil under his feet to kick out the bonfire.

After tidying up his clothes and equipment, he turned to the Sarrandian horsemen and said, "Let's continue on our journey."

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#### **Chapter 182: The Lost Ruins on the Mountain Peak**

The Sun was no longer as scorching as it was at noon. Kant led the team and continued forward.

There was no road to walk through this undeveloped wild mountain. The only place they could move forward was the area where the mountain slope was relatively gradual. However, because they were still leading their warhorse, they must be more careful when they walked.

They did not encounter any ferocious and terrifying demonized creatures along the way.

However, Kant also found a lot of normal wild beasts around.

They were similar to the sand gazelle that liked to go deep into the Nahrin Desert, the forest wolves that lived in the Senwaya Range, and the slightly smaller black bear and a strong wild boar with fangs. In addition to the wild deer, rabbits, pheasants, and foxes that could be seen everywhere, the outer mountain range contained rich wildlife resources.

Kant did not dare to imagine how many resources would be waiting for him to exploit further.

The majestic mountain range was a natural barrier that hindered the communication between the two places.

However, it was also a place that nurtured countless animals and plants. It might not be suitable for agriculture development, but just looked at all the resources at the Senwaya Range, the animal resources alone were enough for the development of a village.

Black bear skin, wolf skin, fox skin, antelope skin, deer skin.

These were all good furs for export and were very popular among the human countries, especially the tanned and dyed high-quality furs. They were also the high-quality clothes sought after by the noble families.

A piece of fine clothing made of high quality furs could be worth silver of the same weight.

Once, Kant had a graceful white fox fur robe.

But in the end, because he left the castle, he couldn't take it with him. Although it was one of his mother's relics, the final ownership was all belonged to his father Cameron. What Kant could take away were the ordinary clothes with little value, and the 20 great silver coins that he had saved.

He didn't think too much about it.

The memory of the past was a bit harsh, and it made Kant feel bitter in his heart.

Now was the time for him to work hard.

This was what he could truly do right now.

Looking at the surrounding mountain range, looking at the lush vegetation, as well as the animals that hopped in and out from the dense forest and thickets, Kant's lips curled into a smile as he sighed from the bottom of his heart, "This place is really not bad."

He had made the right choice back then.

Even though he had only gone deep into the Senwaya Range for half a day, the rich animal and plant resources had already moved him.

Moreover, even the system had given him a route hint, which indirectly proved that his choice was correct.

It was enough to prove that this mountain range was the best place to open up a new village!

Of course, hidden demonized creatures in this mountain range that could appear at any time, it was indeed a big problem. Kant had a slight headache when he thought of this problem.

"I hope the Ravenstern rangers can help to solve these things."

Kant thought of the building in Drondheim, it made his face became a little calm. He needed to kill these demonized creatures as many as he could. Even if some of his soldiers died, as long as he trained a group of level 5 top-tier archers like the Ravenstern rangers, that would be enough.

They could even easily kill the elemental giants.

Although these demonized creatures were ferocious, they were still flesh and blood. There was no way they could not do something, right?

The bows used by the rangers, were the huge and powerful heavy bows.

Compared to the longbows that the Vaegirs liked to use because they pursued their shooting range, these Ravenstern people preferred to use heavy bows that pursued power. That way, they could kill any enemy within a short distance in the shortest time possible. At the critical moment, they could instantly make the enemy lose the ability to resist. This was the best choice they could make in such a complicated environment like the dense forests and mountains.

They continued to lead the warhorse forward.

The peak of the mountain was not far ahead, and they were about to reach their destination.

The faces of the Sarrandian horsemen were already stained with sweat.

Even Kant, who had the body of a knight, was breathing slightly faster. His face was flushed red because of walking on the complicated mountain path.

They had exhausted a lot of physical strength.

There was no road at all in the strange and wild mountain range, so it was not as easy as traveling on the soft sand in the desert. If it wasn't for the cold weather in Senwaya Range due to the faint cold current from the underground, Kant and his soldiers would have a harder time trekking through the mountains.

At this moment, Kant thought of the Rhodok people.

These mountain people who also lived in the Rhodok's mountain area might be the same as the people of Ravenstern. They had sufficient adaptability to the mountain range environment. After all, they grew up in the mountainous region.

"My lord."

While they were walking, the Sarrandian horseman suddenly spoke.

"Hmm?", Kant frowned and clenched the knight sword in his hand.

Subconsciously, his eyes scanned the surroundings cautiously, but he didn't find any danger. He couldn't help but ask in a deep voice, "What's going on? Did you find anything unusual?"

"Under the foot.", Sarrandian horseman said.

"What foot?", Kant lowered his head, but his pupils shrank slightly. "This is..."

Under his exquisite cowhide boots, there were stone slabs appeared on the rugged hillside.

The stone slabs extended one after another along the mountain slabs, all the way to the peak of the mountain a hundred meters away.

It was like a staircase.

Kant's expression was solemn. He clenched the knight sword in his hand tightly. This was not like a staircase. These stone slabs covered by a large amount of soil and fallen leaves were the stairs leading to the peak of the mountain!

"How is this possible!"

Slowly exhaling, Kant stared at the peak of the mountain in front of him.

According to the route he took, he did not find any other places with such buildings as stairs.

Kant had never read about any forces at the border of the Nahrin Desert and the Senwaya Range in the library of the academy and in the study room of the Castle of Leo. Especially with the lofty and magnificent Senwaya Range, crossing the mountain range from the direction of the Dukedom of Leo was extremely dangerous. Even without the threat of demonized creatures, the mountain was still fraught with all kinds of dangers!

Instead of establishing such a hidden force in the mountains north of the Senwaya Range,.

It would be easier to establish it in the south.

"Lord, looking at these stone slabs, it should be over a thousand years old."

Sarrandian horseman suddenly opened his mouth.

He slightly squatted down and knocked on the stone slab. It was full of potholes and had been weathered quite badly. However, he could vaguely see the excellent technique used to cut the stone. He could not help but speculate, "It was not built in recent years."



"Thousands of years?", "Kant frowned.

This was an incredible number. It was even longer than the founding of the Dukedom of Leo!

The Dukedom of Leo had been established for less than 300 years since the first Grand Duke of Leo. Its first 50 years belonged to a separatist warlord force of a dying kingdom.

"It must be thousands of years."

Sarrandian horseman nodded and said, "In the Sarrandian desert, there are also ancient ruins. According to the scholar's assumption, some of them are even older than the Caradia Empire."

"Is that so?", Kant's brows were still tightly furrowed.

The origin of the continent of Caradia was the Caradia Empire.

Be it the Kingdom of Swadia, the Kingdom of Rodock, the Kingdom of Vaegirs, the Khergit Khanate, the Kingdom of Sarrand Sultanate, or the Kingdom of Nords, which was a foreign merchant at the time, they were all part of this massive empire.

And the Caradia Empire might be the first empire to unify the mainland.

But right before the empire, there were countless forces that had existed, each leaving their ruins in certain areas.

What the Sarrandian horseman was talking about was the ruins left behind by the desert people who had lived in the Sarrandian Desert in ancient times. After thousands of years of decay, there were still some traces left behind.

Just like the stone stairs leading to the peak in front of Kant.

"Stay alert."

Kant took a deep breath and said in a deep voice, "Let's go up and take a look!"

Since they had discovered it, they had to go up. Moreover, the route on the retina indicated the peak of the mountain. Even if it was a dragon's den or a tiger's den, Kant had to go over and take a look before he could feel at ease. Otherwise, wouldn't the system's instructions be in vain?

The group maintained their vigilance and quickly walked up the stone stairs to the top of the mountain.

"This is..."

Kant was slightly stunned when the expectation of a desolate mountain peak did not appear. "How is this possible..."

The eyes of the Sarrandian horsemen behind him also widened in surprise.

It was right at the top of the mountain in front of them.

It was not a dense forest, nor was it a lush thicket, nor was it a desolate land filled with weeds. When Kant and the others came to a corner of the mountain peak and really saw the whole picture, they

realized that this was a of thousands of acres of flat land, moreover, it was full of collapsed stone buildings!

After countless years of erosion, there were dense shrubs wrapped around the collapsed huge stones.

However, Kant could still see the faint patterns on these stones. They had a mysterious and exquisite appearance. Through thousands of years, they brought to anyone who came, displaying the glory that originated from them.

The patterns were still somewhat familiar.

"This is... This is the ruins of the lost city!"

Kant swallowed his saliva and looked at this building.

Because right in the center, in the middle of the area where countless huge stones had collapsed and fallen, countless shrubs and vines were twining around an even large stone pillar. It seemed to be a human body, and it was wearing a unique armor, it was holding a circular plate that looked like it was emitting sunlight, as if it was once receiving the scorching sun in the sky!

At this moment, Kant finally knew why the patterns on the stone pillar were so familiar.

Even the circular plate held high in the hand of the stone pillar gave him a familiar feeling.

That was because this was the lost city.

In the legend, the city was cast in gold, and it housed the bloodline of a god. It represented the inheritance of the sun god, the lost city, the Holy City of Gold! The fascinating legend that appealed countless people was right in front of Kant.

And the one that came was even more impressive than the sun disk that was found in the well!

Because this was a real relic!

"Roar --"

But just as Kant and the others were shocked, a violent and crazy roar came from the ruins.

A faint sound wave came.

Kant's eardrums were hurting slightly.

In between in the ruins, there was a three meter tall black lion which was even stronger and more ferocious than the demonized black bear. It was stepping on the scattered giant stones and propping up the thick black mane on its neck. It slowly walked toward Kant and the others, and its pitch-black eyes were filled with the most terrifying brutal killing intent.

"This is..."

Kant gritted his teeth in disbelief and squeezed out, "Demonized lion... Savage species!"