

Paradise 281

Chapter 281: The First Round Of Training Is Over

“Your movement skills are incredible!” Li Lang exclaimed once they made it to the other side of the river.

“Such speed is on par with those who were on holy-fire level. I don’t think movement skill alone can achieve such an effect. Are you a genius in speed-type abilities!?” It was apparent that Yi Yeyu could not calm herself down. However, deep down, she knew what the skill was.

“I’ve indeed activated my talent, *Rapid Speed* . This can only be achieved by complementing different speed-type movement skill,” Lin Huang replied. He did not know that Yi Yeyu would discover his secret but he admitted anyway. However, he did not tell her that his talent was actually *Seraphic Speed* and claimed that it was *Rapid Speed* instead.

“You’re only at gold-level rank-2. Does that mean that after you’ve leveled up to gold-level rank-3 and even after achieving complete gold-level, your speed can still be increased?” Li Lang asked.

“Theoretically, it’ll work that way.” Lin Huang nodded his head with a smile. He did not tell them that what he displayed was not the true limit of the speed, though. Be it the gifted ability, *Seraphic Speed* or *Thunder Steps*, he had not activated them to their maximum capabilities.

“At such a speed, it’s no longer a problem for you to escape when encountering any powerful enemies,” Li Lang said, giving Lin Huang a wink.

Yi Yeyu rolled her eyes at Li Lang after she heard that.

Lin Huang gave them a smile. To him, nobody below Transcendent level could fight him. Even the Genius would be incapable of defeating five double-mutated monsters that were at complete gold-level. If he encountered a Transcendent that was unconquerable, even if *Seraphic Speed* and *Thunder Steps* were activated to their maximum limit, the possibility of escaping would not be very high as well.

“When we were about to fall into the mouth of the Crimsonfire Alligator, you sped up in mid-air and escaped its attack. Was that *Rapid Speed* ?” Yi Yeyu suddenly recalled that he had suddenly increased his speed mid-air. It was the first time that she saw such a skill that allowed acceleration in mid-air.

“Yes, by using *Rapid Speed* , my speed can be controlled and randomly adjusted. My speed can even be adjusted even when one is hanging in mid-air.”

“I’ve heard that the Crimsonfire Alligator has an incredible defense. What’s the skill used? The head of the Crimsonfire Alligator exploded after you stepped on it! How could you generate such terrifying power?” As Yi Yeyu interrogated about the acceleration, it reminded Li Lang that Lin Huang had killed the Crimsonfire Alligator in a split second.

“It’s *Fatal Tactics* . It has to be used with *Army Attack Tactics* . The damage caused is still so-so. The reason the head was crushed is not that my attack is powerful. It was because I stepped on its weak point,” Lin Huang explained as he wanted to hide his true abilities.

In fact, there was a weak point on the Crimsonfire Alligator's head. However, Lin Huang did not attack its weak point. He had crushed the strongest bone in the Crimsonfire Alligator's body, causing it to die on the spot.

Since the Crimsonfire Alligator had its carcass eaten by the alligators of the same species right away, Li Lang would be unable to find any evidence. Therefore, he told him that he had attacked its weak point.

Yi Yeyu had heard of a weak point on the Crimsonfire Alligator's head as well. However, she was not sure on which position it actually was. She did not pay attention to the position where Lin Huang stepped on as well. Therefore, she would have no way to verify that as well.

"Let's go. The examiner has left some footprints on the ground. He must be hoping that we can still catch up with him after crossing the river," Lin Huang changed the topic, pointing at the footprints on the ground. He was afraid that he might say something wrong if they continued asking.

As a trainer, although Si Kongjian had purposely asked them to cross the river to increase the elimination rate, he would not have hoped that the passing rate was zero. If he did not leave the footprints behind, the people following him would not be able to know where he had been and this would not be his desired result.

"If we are able to catch up with him so soon, will the squinty-eyed guy continue to test us?" Li Lang started to follow the way Lin Huang addressed the examiner, calling him the squinty-eyed guy.

"I don't think so. The elimination rate is high enough. After crossing the lava river, other than three of us, the majority of them already have a significant amount of their Life Power drained away. Even if he doesn't like us, it's less likely that he'll put us in another difficult situation. Not many of them can still bear the torture." Lin Huang shook his head as he knew that the squinty-eyed guy would have such a ruthless plan. It was still a training program and he could not just do whatever he liked.

Li Lang was relieved as he heard what Lin Huang said.

The three of them then looked at the people at the other side of the river. Li Lang looked helplessly at them, waving his hand at the people on the other side of the river. However, as he turned back, Lin Huang and Yi Yeyu could see that he was grinning.

Both of them shook their heads. They then followed the direction of the footprints and ran. Li Lang immediately followed after them as well.

Seeing that Lin Huang and the people were leaving, the rest of them panicked.

After leaving the lava river, the three of them then followed the direction of the footprints. In less than an hour, they caught up with Si Kongjian who was leisurely strolling.

Obviously, Si Kongjian was startled when he saw the three of them. However, none of the staff had reported to him that three of them had broken the rules. This indicated that three of them had passed the test based on their true abilities. He did not say anything but then led the three of them and took off running.

They then followed Si Kongjian at a distance of about 10 meters away, chatting about topics that were not related to the training.

“Is Yi Donglai your great-grandfather?! No wonder your surname is Yi!” Li Lang’s eyes widened as he looked at Yi Yeyu. As Li Lang shouted in surprise, Si Kongjian turned around and took a glance at Yi Yeyu.

As an examiner, Si Kongjian had heard about somebody from the Yi family joining the training. However, he had no idea whether the person was male or female. He did not even know what the person’s name was. This was because of the fact that other Transcendents were not allowed to be present during the process of Yi Yeyu leveling up to become a Transcendent. Otherwise, she would be unable to ignite her Life Fire. Yi Donglai had never revealed this and the others did not dare ask about it as well; they had only heard the rumors. Si Kongjian even doubted if it was true.

However, as he sized up Yi Yeyu, he could quickly confirm Yi Yeyu’s identity. As he knew Yi Yeyu’s cousin sister, he found that Yi Yeyu looked somehow similar to her cousin sister.

“I didn’t know that you’re from the head of the armed forces, the Yis. After leaving this place, can you get an autograph from your great-grandfather for me?” Li Lang asked with an eyebrow raised.

“No!” Yi Yeyu rejected.

“Why? Aren’t we friends? I’m just asking for a signature. Why are you being so petty?” Li Lang bugged her.

“Who’s your friend? We’ve only known each other since yesterday.” Yi Yeyu never expected Li Lang to be so shameless.

“Then, let me ask you, are you friends with Lin Huang?” Li Lang suddenly asked.

“Err...I think so!” Yi Yeyu took a glance at Lin Huang and replied.

“You’ve admitted that you’re Lin Huang’s friend and I’m Lin Huang’s friend too.” Li Lang gave a sly grin and continued to annoy her, “Friend of a friend, so we’re friends too!”

“No, we aren’t!” Yi Yeyu rejected again.

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When it was about five o’clock in the afternoon, there were finally people catching up with them. A group of bald men was a few kilometers away from them, looking weak.

Si Kongjian stopped adding trouble to their journey. He then maintained at the same constant speed that he ran at on the first day. He continued to run until the next day at nine o’clock in the morning.

The first round of training had finally ended...

Chapter 282: Second Round of Training Has Started!

After 24 hours, Si Kongjian glanced at the clock projected from his Emperor’s Heart Ring. His body gradually floated mid-air and his voice rang out across the area.

“The 24-hour deadline has passed. I’ll now announce the results of the first training.

“The total number of people who have passed the training is 978. There are only three of them who arrived at the destination within three minutes after I reached. They are Yi Yeyu, Lin Huang, and Li Lang. The three of them will gain 1,000 points from the first round of training.

“Four people managed to reach within four to 10 minutes and they will gain 500 points.

“28 people arrived within 10 minutes to half an hour and they will gain 300 points.

“89 people arrived within half an hour to one hour. They will gain 200 points.

“Within one to three hours, 238 people arrived and they will gain 100 points.

“593 people reached within three to five hours, so they will gain 50 points.

“26 people reached within five to 24 hours. No points will be given to these people.

“The rest of you who failed to arrive on time are eliminated!”

As soon as Si Kongjian had announced the results of the assessment, he continued, “I’ve completed my task. The second examiner will be in charge of what’s coming up next.”

Right after he had finished his sentence, Si Kongjian gradually descended from mid-air and a muscular man floated into the sky to take his place.

He looked strict and had a height of at least two meters. Even though he was dressed in his military uniform, his muscles rippled through very obviously. He was more than double the size of Si Kongjian.

“My name is Zang Bing and I’m your second examiner. I don’t care how much Life Power you’ve used up during the first round of training. I don’t care where you’re from either, be it the Union Government or somewhere else. I won’t even care who is there to support you as all of that has nothing to do with me! I don’t care how many people have addressed you as a genius before this. To me, if you can’t meet the requirements of the second round of training, you’re rubbish!”

Zang Bing instilled fear in everyone. When he announced that rudely, Lin Huang and the rest of them then murmured about the personality of the examiner amongst themselves.

“Stop talking nonsense. I’ll talk about the rules of the second round of training.”

They immediately kept quiet, paying attention to what he said as they were worried that they would miss out on something important.

“The objective of the assessment is simple: to kill a Transcendent monster!”

When they heard that, many of them opened their mouths wide as they thought that they had heard it wrong.

Although most of them were elites, requesting those who were at gold-level rank-3 or even those who were at complete gold-level to kill a Transcendent monster was impossible! Probably only a genuine genius could do it. The assessment was definitely way too difficult.

Just as everyone was about to raise their objections, Zang Bing then continued with the following rules, "Of course, I wouldn't ask you to kill a Transcendent monster alone. If I wanted to do so, none of you would pass the assessment."

"During the assessment, you're allowed to form a team of three to five to kill the Transcendent monster. The period of training is 10 days. After 10 days, the number of carcasses that each team will have to hand in will be double the number of your team members. If you form a team of three, the team will have to hand in six Transcendent carcasses. For instance, if it's a team of five, the team will then have to hand in 10 Transcendent carcasses. If the team fails to hand in the exact number of carcasses, everyone in the team will be eliminated!"

"Once you've chosen your team members, you can't change it. The team members aren't allowed to leave the team while you cannot dump any of your team members as well. Even if the team member has died, the team will still have to hand in two of the Transcendent carcasses from him or her. Otherwise, the team will be considered to have failed the assessment!"

When they heard that it would be a team training, many of them were relieved. However, upon listening further, they realized that the assessment would not be that simple.

Given limitless time and the number of monsters to be killed, everyone would definitely choose to form a team of five as the probability of getting a Transcendent monster killed would certainly be higher.

However, only 10 days were given for the assessment. The greater the number of team members, the more they had to kill. If they formed a team of five, this meant that they had to kill 10 Transcendent monsters in 10 days. On average, they would have to kill a monster a day. If they were to form a team of three, they would only have to kill six Transcendent monsters in 10 days. As long as they managed to kill one monster in 1.5 days, the task would be considerably much easier.

Another concern was that based on the assessment rules, once a team was formed, they were bound together regardless of their willingness. They had to complete the task given to them in order to pass the assessment together.

Therefore, choosing a team member became crucial. If there was any disagreement among them or they found themselves with a teammate with relatively weak abilities, they would be in trouble.

Lin Huang then wondered if he should leave the team and complete the mission alone. Since he was only at gold-level rank-2, perhaps nobody would want to be on the same team with him.

As the thought flashed through his mind, Yi Yeyu exchanged glances with Li Lang.

"Should the three of us form a team?" Yi Yeyu asked first.

"Yeah, I think that's fine!" Li Lang immediately agreed with her.

Lin Huang raised his brows, staring at the both of them. "Aren't you worried that I'll slow you down?"

"It's just a training. Worst case is that we won't qualify for the third round but we aren't going to lose anything." Li Lang looked like he did not care at all.

"He doesn't care but aren't you here for the Fire Phoenix?" Lin Huang turned his head, looking at Yi Yeyu.

“I don’t even know where the Fire Phoenix is. Even if I manage to find it, it’s unlikely that I could kill it.” Yi Yeyu shook her head. “I’ll look for other monsters to level-up with after I’ve left this place. Since I’ve waited for half a year, I don’t mind waiting another one to two months.”

Of course, Lin Huang knew that the both of them treated him as their friend. They were worried that he would be alone, which was why they suggested forming a team together. However, he hesitated if he should join them. If they were to form a team together, he would definitely have to show some of his abilities to them unless he was not going to do anything and let them complete the job on their own. Of course, he would feel bad for doing that.

While Lin Huang was still hesitating, a few young men who were wearing Demon Slayer Legion uniform, walked towards Yi Yeyu.

“Miss Yi, let’s form a team to figure out the location of Fire Phoenix during these 10 days,” the leader said, completely ignoring Lin Huang and Li Lang.

“I’ve chosen my teammates for the assessment, so I can’t form a team with you,” Yi Yeyu rejected their suggestion.

They were stunned. Soon, they noticed Lin Huang and Li Lang standing beside her. The leader could immediately recognize Lin Huang and could not help but notice that his combat level was only at gold-level rank-2.

“Miss Yi, your friend’s combat level is only at gold-level rank-2. Even if he’s good at movement skills, that’ll be all that he has. Encountering a Transcendent monster, he’ll be of no help. He’ll only slow you down...”

“You’re not qualified to comment on my decision,” Yi Yeyu interrupted while the leader was still talking. She was angry at his comment that Lin Huang would slow them down as she feared that Lin Huang would feel belittled after listening to him. “Please leave. I don’t need your help for leveling up!”

“This...it’s hard for us to explain.” The man’s face turned grave. They were part of the army and members of the army was bound by duty. Before joining the training, they had received a mission to help Yi Yeyu in leveling up. However, because Yi Yeyu had said that, she was putting them in trouble.

“You don’t have to explain anything. I’ll explain it to my great-grandfather. I’m the one who said that I don’t need your help.” Yi Yeyu’s face turned cold.

Even after she had said that, they dared not leave as they were worried that Yi Yeyu would complain about them. If that happened, it would be difficult for the Demon Slayer Legion to continue operating. Yi Donglai was the founder of the Demon Slayer Legion. The chief of the army was his disciple’s disciple as well.

At that moment, Zang Bing cleared his throat and said, “You may form your groups later. If you have any questions, please raise them now.”

Lin Huang raised his hand again.

Seeing that the one who raised his hand was a young man at gold-level rank-2, Zang Bing was startled. He then glanced at Si Kongjian and nodded his head. “Please go ahead.”

“May I use any skills during the assessment? Are there any restrictions?” Many of them were curious about this as well.

“You may use any skills you want and there’s no restriction. Even if you have a god-level weapon in hand, you may also use it.”

After getting his reply, Lin Huang raised his hand again.

“Is there any other question?” Zang Bing asked.

“Can I not join any team during the assessment and kill the monster alone?” Lin Huang asked.

Zang Bing squinted his eyes and looked at Lin Huang while the rest of them laughed at him. They felt that Lin Huang asked that question because he knew that nobody was willing to form a team with him and not because he was capable of completing the task alone. However, Si Kongjian started sizing up Lin Huang as he felt that he was confident, hence the question.

“No, you can’t. It’s a team assessment. If you can’t form a team of three or more, you’ll be directly eliminated!” Zang Bing rejected.

Lin Huang frowned. It was not easy for him to discover the lava that possessed sufficient spiritual power¹. Of course, he did not wish to be eliminated so fast.

“Are you satisfied with the answer? Can you form a team with us now?” Li Lang raised his eyebrows and asked Lin Huang.

“Alright.”

Hearing his agreement, Yi Yeyu’s mood turned slightly better. He then told the people who were from the Demon Slayer Legion, “I won’t follow you, at least not during this round of assessment. After this round of assessment has ended, I’ll contact you if it’s necessary.”

They saluted upon hearing her answer and left.

Right after they had left, the people from the Hunter Association came over to look for Li Lang. However, Li Lang rejected them as well.

A team of three had officially been formed.

Chapter 283: Lin Huang: The Tour Guide

“Lastly, I’m going to talk about the scoring. For each of the white flame-level carcasses submitted, the team will gain 100 points. Each crimson flame-level carcass contributes 200 points. Blue flame-levels give you 400 point and purples give you 800 points.”

“Haha, if anyone of you is capable of killing a gold flame-level monster, you’ll be rewarded with 1,600 points for each of the monsters killed. However, there are only three gold flame-level monsters in the ruins,” mocked Zang Bing.

It had been more than 800 years since the monsters last invaded the ruins. Even the human genius in the past only managed to kill blue flame-level monsters. Nobody had ever heard of anyone capable of defending against a purple flame-level monster, let alone a gold-flame level one.

By 9.30 a.m, Zang Bing had finished explaining the rules for the second round of assessment and their queries were resolved as well.

It was obvious that Zang Bing was kinder than Si Kongjian as he would usually provide them proper guidance in his answers unlike the squinty-eyed guy that always gave the participants useless answers.

“Alright, if you have no other questions, I’ll now declare that the second round of assessment has begun! 10 days later, gather here before 9.30 a.m and hand over all your carcasses! Those who fail to arrive after 9.30 a.m will be considered as drop-outs and you’ll not be qualified to join the next round of training.”

Soon, those who had formed their teams quickly left while the rest of them still looked for their teammates.

Yi Yeyu and Li Lang exchanged glances with each other. They then looked at Lin Huang.

“In which direction should we go?” The both of them asked Lin Huang at almost the same time.

Lin Huang was speechless and glanced at them. It was obvious that they treated Lin Huang like a tour guide.

However, Lin Huang did not reject the role as guide as he actually wanted to lead the journey so he could plan things ahead.

A map was projected and soon, Lin Huang was able to identify their location.

“We must be somewhere around here.” Lin Huang pointed at one of the points on the map. There were several labels on the map showing the location of Transcendent monsters as well.

“Didn’t you say that the map could no longer be used?” Li Lang asked in doubt.

“I downloaded it before entering the ruins. Therefore, it can’t determine our exact location. It’s just a rough estimation,” Lin Huang explained. He knew that Li Lang and Yi Yeyu had not prepared themselves before coming in.

“Let’s head in this direction.” Lin Huang pointed at a direction heading towards the lava river where they had passed through previously.

“Why should we go over there? Doesn’t the map show that there are Transcendent monsters closer to us in the other direction?” Yi Yeyu raised a question.

“I’m not the only one who owns a map. There must be a lot of people hunting for monsters during these few days, so we should go further away. It won’t take us long to come back with our flying mounts,” Lin Huang explained. This was only one of his reasons. Most importantly, it was because the Undying Bloodoaks were located close to the lava river. Although he had no idea how he would deal with the withered trees, Lin Huang had decided to head over there before thinking of a solution later.

Yi Yeyu and Li Lang had no idea about what Lin Huang was planning but they felt that Lin Huang's explanation was reasonable.

"Alright, you plan the route then and we'll follow." Li Lang immediately nodded in agreement.

Yi Yeyu had no objections either.

Lin Huang then summoned the Alexandrian Eagle while Yi Yeyu and Li Lang both summoned a flying mount using their monster taming token.

Yi Yeyu's flying mount was a Rainbow Sparrow. It was a beautiful fighting bird, featuring seven colors on the feathers of its tail and it had a pair of eyes that were as clear as sapphire. The only weakness of the monster was its small size and its limitation of only one rider.

Li Lang also rode on a fighting bird, namely the Ashenquill Eagle. It was a huge fighting bird that had white feathers all over its body and it was double the size of Lin Huang's Alexandrian Eagle.

"Haha, how's it? My flying mount looks cool, doesn't it?" Li Lang bragged after he had summoned his Ashenquill Eagle.

"My Alexandrian Eagle can fight 10 monsters at once," Lin Huang teased back.

Lin Huang's Alexandrian Eagle was originally a bronze-level rank-3 mutated monster. It had now been upgraded to gold-level rank-2 together with Lin Huang. In fact, it was not a problem for the Ashenquill Eagle to kill 10 silver-level rank-3 monsters at once.

There were significant differences between Lin Huang's monster cards and the summoning monsters of an Imperial Censor. One of the differences was that the combat level of his monsters would automatically be upgraded when there was an upgrade in his combat abilities. Aside from Bloody the Demonic Dandelion Vine, the rest of his monster cards had this characteristic and apart from several cards which were already at gold-level rank-3, the rest of his monster cards were now at gold-level rank-2.

Lin Huang had asked Xiao Hei about Bloody as it could not outdo himself by a level like the other epic level cards could and it could not be upgraded in accordance with his level either. The explanation given by Xiao Hei was because Bloody had gone through an abnormal mutation previously, resulting in the loss of skills. In other words, it was an incomplete monster card. Only when its skill were complete could it meet the requirement of the system. Before that, it could only depend on itself for the advancement of its combat skills. This was also the reason why it was only at silver-level rank-3 after nine months as it was a silver-level rank-2 when Lin Huang obtained it.

Li Lang could not refute Lin Huang as he knew that Lin Huang's Alexandrian Eagle was already at gold-level rank-2. Despite the fact that his Ashenquill Eagle was larger, it still could not go against the Alexandrian Eagle.

However, Li Lang noticed something else. Lin Huang did not use a monster taming token.

"Are you an Imperial Censor?" When Li Lang had met Lin Huang, Lin Huang only controlled Bai. He had never summoned any monsters in front of Li Lang before. Therefore, he never knew that Lin Huang was an Imperial Censor.

Yi Yeyu had seen Lin Huang summoning Tyrant during the Reserve Hunter Assessment so she knew that he was an Imperial Censor.

Lin Huang nodded, then lied, "I only realized that I was Imperial Censor a few days after knowing you."

"Wait, you knew him before me?!" Yi Yeyu asked in shock.

"I've known him since last June and I met you in July."

Li Lang was pleased as he heard that, flashing a victory peace sign arrogantly. Yi Yeyu sulked unhappily.

"How can both of you fight about that? You guys behave like kids..." Lin Huang was speechless and shook his head.

Lin Huang then changed the topic, "Alright. Stop wasting time, we're about to leave. We have to kill six holy fire-level monsters in 10 days. We will have 1.5 days for each monster."

Both of them immediately rode on their flying mounts and headed north...

Chapter 284: Drop a Bomb When There's Disagreement

Soon, the three flying mounts descended, arriving somewhere near the lava river.

Lin Huang then referred to the map and looked around. He nodded and told Yi Yeyu and Li Lang, "It should be somewhere around here."

The three of them then got off their flying mounts and recalled them.

"The first monster that we're going to kill is the Forsaken Skeleton. It's a commander-level spirit-type monster and it's most likely a white flame-level Transcendent. The Forsaken Skeleton possesses strong defense and it fears pure energy. Its weakness is its rather slow movement compared to other Transcendent monsters. However, if we're unable to defeat it, we can still escape the danger using my speed," Lin Huang shared.

"I've heard of this monster before. They have low intelligence. Even though they're Transcendent monsters, they'd normally have gone through one mutation. It is unlikely that we'll encounter any monsters of this species that have mutated twice," Yi Yeyu recalled, "But I can't remember any specific skills it has, can you?"

"Basically, the Forsaken Skeleton has four skills," Lin Huang continued.

"The first type of skill is known as Advanced Deterrence. It's a type of Soul Deterrence skill whereby it creates fear within low-level creatures. One might even feel sluggish for a short moment in severe cases.

"The second type of skill is Punishment. A chain of flames will appear in its hand and the ability of that chain is on par with a relic. Getting tangled in the chain will inhibit one's Life Power.

"The third type is Death Sentence. It's a very powerful sword skill as it enables the user to hide oneself and launch attacks without leaving any traces.

"The fourth type is Lava Control. It can attack by controlling the high-temperature lava.

“The skill that we must be particularly aware of is Punishment. Don’t get tangled in his chain. Otherwise, we’ll lose our combat abilities and we’ll be in trouble. The next lethal one will be Death Sentence. Since we won’t be able to see his weapon, we’ll have to stay alert.”

As they listened to Lin Huang’s words of caution, Yi Yeyu and Li Lang got a better idea of the monster they were about to face.

Lin Huang then summoned Bloody. As soon as Bloody appeared, it twisted around Lin Huang’s left arm.

Yi Yeyu and Li Lang thought that it was a crimson-colored snake when they saw it at first. Soon, they discovered that it was a vine.

“The monster’s strength is only at silver-level rank-3. Why did you summon it?” Yi Yeyu asked in doubt.

Li Lang looked doubtful as well, shifting his gaze to Lin Huang.

“It can help us to look for the Forsaken Skeleton,” Lin Huang teased Bloody, “Without a positioning system, I can only roughly estimate its position based on the map. We’ll have to spend some time to figure out where exactly is the Forsaken Skeleton. Fortunately for us, Bloody will save us some time.”

Bloody was slowly releasing dandelion-like seeds, spreading them into the air.

“What’s all that?” Yi Yeyu and Li Lang asked at almost the same time.

“It’s Bloody’s investigating skill. It allows Bloody to see whatever the seeds see.” Lin Huang did not tell them that those seeds were parasitic in nature.

Yi Yeyu and Li Lang had never seen a parasite species like Bloody before. Therefore, it did not occur to them that it was one as they thought that Bloody was either a soul or demonic plant species.

“How beautiful!” Yi Yeyu grabbed a leech seed using her hand. As she looked at it, she noticed that the seed was made of Life Power but she was still unaware that it was a leech seed.

Because it was being controlled by Bloody, the seed’s parasitic characteristic of invading one’s body was not revealed. After fingering around with it, she then released the seed.

With Bloody’s current intelligence level, it could perfectly control more than 100,000 leech seeds. Previously, Bloody was only capable of controlling a small portion of them and had to allow most of the leech seeds to move freely about.

“We’ll wait here for a moment. If the Forsaken Skeleton is somewhere around us, we’ll be able to discover it soon,” Lin Huang said.

Thousands of leech seeds flew everywhere and the three of them waited at their original position for about 10 minutes.

Suddenly, there was a response from Bloody and it left Lin Huang’s arm, heading towards a certain direction.

“Found it!”

Lin Huang immediately followed it, trailed by Yi Yeyu and Li Lang.

Bloody led them forward for about 20 minutes and finally, they arrived at the foot of a big volcano. As soon as it saw that three of them had caught up with it, it immediately moved towards the volcano.

Yi Yeyu and Li Lang were shocked. However, Lin Huang could roughly understand Bloody's meaning. "Let's follow it!"

They immediately followed Bloody and climbed up the volcano.

A few minutes later, they arrived at the top of the volcano. Bloody then wound itself around Lin Huang's left arm again, pointing a vine down at the crater.

"The monsters are in the volcano?" Lin Huang asked.

Bloody then nodded with a vine.

Standing on the edge of the volcano, Yi Yeyu and Li Lang frowned. Their line of sight was completely blocked by the smoke coming up from below. They could not see what was happening there. People were most afraid of the unknown. Moreover, the active volcano could erupt anytime. If it happened to be a volcano that possessed spiritual powers, an eruption would definitely kill them all.

"We can't fight in the volcano. Places with lava are the Forsaken Skeleton's home. Furthermore, a high energy collision will most likely cause the active volcano to erupt. If it's a volcano with spiritual powers, we'll most probably die here. Even if it's just an ordinary volcano, we will be in big trouble if it erupts," Lin Huang immediately analyzed the situation, "We must think of ways to lure the monsters out of the volcano!"

Yi Yeyu and Li Lang agreed with him.

"Do you guys have any good ideas?" Lin Huang looked at the both of them as he could not think of any way to attract the Forsaken Skeleton at that moment.

While Yi Yeyu had fallen into deep thought, Li Lang rolled his eyes and said, "I might."

"However, we're not going to lure the monsters out. We're going to force them out of the volcano!" Li Lang grinned.

"How?" Lin Huang and Yi Yeyu immediately shifted their gazes to him.

"Before joining the training, I bought some stuff from the night market. One of the items is called a nuclear bomb..."

It sounded like a nuclear weapon and Lin Huang's eyes were twinkling with excitement. "Have you confirmed the item's attack range and power? Don't get us involved in this. We don't have the defenses of the Forsaken Skeleton."

Lin Huang had already heard about the power of nuclear weapons on Earth. He was on alert regardless of how powerful the nuclear bomb was.

"Don't worry, it covers a range of up to three kilometers, so it'll be fine as long as we run for it right after we drop the bomb." Li Lang immediately summoned his Ashenquill Eagle.

Lin Huang and Yi Yeyu then summoned their flying mounts as well and rode on them.

Li Lang rode on the Ashenquill Eagle and took out an item that looked like a bomb with a length of more than 30 centimeters and was as thick as an adult's thigh.

When Lin Huang saw the bomb, his senses were heightened as he sensed how dangerous it was. However, Li Lang grasped it in his hand as if it was a plastic toy.

"What are both of you afraid of? It's just a bomb!" Li Lang swung the nuclear bomb around.

"Stop talking nonsense. Quickly throw it," Lin Huang urged.

Li Lang's mouth twitched. He then flew into the sky, stopping right above the crater. He released the nuclear bomb in his hand and the bomb raced downwards.

As soon as the nuclear bomb had been released, Lin Huang shouted at the both of them and told the Alexandrian Eagle to leave. "Run!"

A few moments later, a red flame shot up into the sky and a loud explosion was heard.

Lin Huang and the rest of them then looked at the volcano. It had collapsed in an instant. An intense flame spread quickly everywhere, resembling ripples on a water surface. In just a split second, it had exceeded the range mentioned by Li Lang earlier, spreading towards them five kilometers away.

"Gee..." Lin Huang's heart sank and he immediately yelled at the both of them, "Get out fast!"

Chapter 285: Forsaken Skeleton

The red sparks that exploded covered the clouds in the sky. As the impact of the explosion spread out like ripples on water, it dashed towards the three of them from three kilometers away. They immediately rode on their monsters and escaped at the speed of light. The speed of the spreading of impact was nothing slower than the Alexandrian Eagle. Fortunately, they had reacted in time and the impact slowed down a couple of minutes later, finally stopping spreading completely.

The heat warmed their backs because the strong wind was blowing the residual energy of the explosion towards them. They were not affected as they had donned defense relics beforehand to fight the Transcendent monsters. Meanwhile, besides Lin Huang's Alexandrian Eagle, the other two flight mounts suffered slight burn injuries. After confirming that they were far enough from the impact reach, they got their flight mounts to turn around in the air.

Lin Huang looked at the volcano that had exploded into chunks tens of kilometers away as well as the mushroom cloud on top. He stared speechlessly at Li Lang.

"I thought you said the range of explosion was three kilometers! Isn't this 30 kilometers?! Couldn't you have only used the bomb after finding out the correct way to do so?! You almost got us killed!" Yi Yeyu condemned Li Lang without mercy. She was not hurt but her Rainbow Sparrow's colorful tail was burnt.

Li Lang knew that he was at fault, so he grimly accepted Yi Yeyu's outrage without saying anything. Looking at the impact of the nuclear bomb, the Forsaken Skeleton must have been destroyed. Without being able to submit the dead body, that would mean that their mission had failed and Lin Huang would have to look for another one...

Just when Lin Huang opened the map to look for the second Forsaken Skeleton, he heard a roar from far away, approaching their direction. He scanned around immediately. Yi Yeyu and Li Lang looked around too. The sound came from the direction of the volcano that had exploded.

“Is the Forsaken Skeleton still alive?!” Yi Yeyu asked Lin Huang in disbelief.

“It can’t be. How could it survive the explosion?!” Li Lang was shocked as well. The sound came from the volcano which had exploded and became a flatland.

“It really sounded like the Forsaken Skeleton...” Lin Huang nodded. He was shocked when he heard the roar as well because the explosion seemed to have destroyed everything around the volcano. They had no idea how the monster would have survived the explosion.

“Should we go for it?” Li Lang asked in doubt. Although he had no idea what exactly the nuclear bomb did, all of them had witnessed how powerful the impact was. With such a powerful impact, the Forsaken Skeleton’s ability to survive was beyond their imaginations.

“Why not? Even if it’s not dead, under the impact, it must be badly injured!” Yi Yeyu replied without thinking twice.

“Yeyu is right, this is a good time to kill the Forsaken Skeleton. No matter how powerful its defense is, based on the circumstances, it’s impossible that the monster is completely fine,” Lin Huang agreed.

“That means I did the right thing to toss the bomb then?!” Li Lang was excited.

“Right thing? Right, my ass!” Lin Huang glared at Li Lang.

“Dumbass!” Yi Yeyu rolled her eyes at Li Lang.

Just when they came to an agreement, the Forsaken Skeleton that was covered in red lava appeared from the collapsed debris. Instead of running away, Lin Huang and the rest rode on their mounts and headed towards the gigantic Forsaken Skeleton. They managed to arrive near the Forsaken Skeleton that was 30 kilometers away in less than two minutes. When they were less than 20 meters from the ground, they hopped off from their mounts and recalled them.

Areas that were high in nuclear radiation were usually life-threatening to ordinary people. However, the radiation could not enter their bodies that were protected by Life Power, which also served to isolate the heat from the explosion as well. However, the ashes and pungent sulphuric stench that was lingering in the air were unbearable. Holding his nausea in, Lin Huang looked at the both of them, frowning. Li Lang put a mask over his mouth and nose as Yi Yeyu rolled her eyes at him again. Seeing that the both of them were not wearing a mask, Li Lang passed two masks to them. Lin Huang shook his head to decline while Yi Yeyu put it on after some hesitation.

As the three of them were landing, the gigantic Forsaken Skeleton looked in their direction with furious eyes. Although its intelligence was low, it knew that they were the ones to blame for almost killing it with the explosion earlier since there was no one else around this area. After confirming that they were the culprits, the Forsaken Skeleton kept making its way up from the debris while roaring angrily at the three of them.

The three of them held their ground while waiting for the Forsaken Skeleton to advance. They were afraid that if they were to attack then, the Forsaken Skeleton would hide in the lava which made it hard for them to kill it. As they stood where they were, they observed the monster. The monster could only be seen from its shoulder up and that part alone was over five meters tall. It was huge! Although most of its body was covered in lava, they could clearly see that the monster was a flawless white in color like a perfect porcelain piece.

“Master would definitely love it if I were to make tea sets with the monster’s bones...” Lin Huang was thinking which part of the monster’s bone should he loot. It was not a strange idea as most of the items in this world were made of creatures including high-class tea sets, plates, and decorative sculptures. Unlike Earth, this world had too many monsters, so there was no law that restricted the hunting of monsters. In fact, the Union Government actually encouraged such behavior. There was no need to worry about the damage to the ecosystem as the Virtual Eye opened every day. If nobody was killing the monsters, there would be more and more monsters in this world which could be life-threatening to human survivors.

“We can submit the dead corpse but I’d like to keep one of its bones!” Li Lang shouted out of nowhere. He must have had the same thought as Lin Huang.

“I’ll get one as well then!” Lin Huang shouted back.

Yi Yeyu did not say a word. Awhile later, the Forsaken Skeleton finally got out of the hole. It was more than 30 meters tall. With its entire body covered in lava, heat spread out of its body. Golden flames roiled around in his eyes as he looked down at the three of them...

Chapter 286: Sanguine Skeletal Spirit

“Don’t look at its eyes!” Lin Huang warned the both of them when he saw the golden flames in the Forsaken Skeleton’s eyes dancing dangerously. Right after he said that, a spiritual force shot out of its golden eyes. Although the three of them did not stare directly into its eyes, they felt the tremor on the spiritual level. It was a unique force that was similar to desolation which directly affected the human soul. Although they managed to avoid looking at its eyes, they felt uncomfortable.

Before encountering monsters with the deterrence ability, Lin Huang had never imagined that the impact would be this significant. The force of the ability even brought out fear in him; it was a feeling that he had not experienced for a long time since he had arrived in this world.

“Is *Advanced Deterrence* really this powerful? Or is this distress caused by the difference in spiritual level?” Lin Huang frowned as he looked at Yi Yeyu and Li Lang. The both of them were clearly experiencing it worse than he was.

“Don’t be affected by it. It’s just the effect of its *Advanced Deterrence* skill. It’s not as invincible as you think!” Lin Huang shouted at the both of them. As Yi Yeyu and Li Lang snapped out of their feelings of oppression and despair, the Forsaken Skeleton turned its head slightly and glared at Lin Huang. The flames in its eyes were swirling in doubt as if it was thinking. Seeing its pupils shrinking, he surmised that something was about to happen.

Suddenly, Lin Huang sensed that he was gripped with an intense sense of crisis. Without thinking twice, Lin Huang lifted his sword relic into a defensive pose and leaped backwards. A black scythe came out of nowhere and collided with Lin Huang's sword...

The scythe struck him with a strong force and Lin Huang almost fell onto the ground.

"Is it attacking me first?" Lin Huang frowned.

"Did it randomly pick an opponent or did it determine that I'm the biggest threat to it?" he thought to himself.

The intense foreboding sense swelled within him again. He lifted his sword and swung it around. His sword collided with the black scythe that appeared out of nowhere once more. As they collided, the same unyielding force came out of the scythe again. Just when Lin Huang was backing away from the scythe, he saw a flaming chain whip around the Forsaken Skeleton's hand from the corner of his eye. The chain dashed towards him, breaking through the sulphuric air and arriving in front of him in an instant.

He frowned as he tried to figure out the Forsaken Skeleton's move. If it was randomly attacking, it would have changed its target when its first attack was blocked. However, it proceeded with its second and third attacks. Now that the *Punishment Chain* was whipped out, it was clearly trying to kill the biggest threat present.

"This fella sure can think!" He thought. Although unwilling to believe what he was seeing, Lin Huang confirmed that this Forsaken Skeleton was at least a double mutated monster. To be exact, it was no longer just a mere Forsaken Skeleton.

As he backed away from the scythe, he was unable to escape as he found himself plunged into the air. Seeing the chains heading his way, he knew very well that he could not come into contact with the chains. If he did, his Life Power would be sealed and that would be the end of the battle. Even Yi Yeyu and Li Lang could not fight such a powerful double mutated monster. It was very likely that the three of them might die there and then.

After some hesitation, Lin Huang figured that there was no way he could hide anymore.

" *Dark Shield !*"

A layer of dark shield resembling a piece of cloth spread out from his body, covering his entire being. It looked a thin layer of bedsheets as it swayed in the wind like a mosquito net. It collided with the flaming chains in an instant. As opposed to common expectations, the chains did not burn through the shield. On the contrary, there was a loud thud that sounded like the chains had collided with a hard object.

Upon the deafening sound, Yi Yeyu and Li Lang finally snapped out of the deterrence effect. They realized that Lin Huang was fighting the Forsaken Skeleton.

"Please be careful! This thing might not even be a Forsaken Skeleton. It might be a double mutated Sanguine Skeletal Spirit!" Lin Huang shouted at the both of them.

"What?!" They could not believe what they just heard.

It was difficult for a Forsaken Skeleton to complete its second mutation, but once it was done, it would become a Sanguine Skeletal Spirit. Not only would its ability increase immensely, so would its intelligence.

The creature suddenly spoke, "Hehehe...busted!"

Just when they were gaping at it in shock, the golden flame in the Forsaken Skeleton's eyes turned blue. The lava around its body was now sheathed in a loose bloody robe that covered it from its head to its feet and a bloody crown appeared on its head.

The Sanguine Skeletal Spirit had finally shown its true self. Although Lin Huang had gotten proof of his suspicions, he was discouraged to see this. The double mutated Sanguine Skeletal Spirit was much more powerful than the mutated Forsaken Skeleton. If the Forsaken Skeleton was a spirited puppet that lived by instinct, the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit was a witch with human intelligence. Both its abilities and its intelligence were much higher than the Forsaken Skeleton's.

"How should I kill the three of you? The bomb earlier almost killed me..."

The Sanguine Skeletal Spirit floated into the air with its bloody robe fluttering. Flying was not something that a Forsaken Skeleton could do.

"If I didn't use the spiritual lava under my feet as my shield, I might not have been able to rise from the debris. The explosion earlier also destroyed all of the spiritual power in the lava which took me a long time to gather. Tell me, should I kill all of you?!"

The Dark Shield surrounding Lin Huang's body faded away. Listening to the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit, the three of them finally figured out how it survived the explosion earlier. However, they did not have the time to talk about the spiritual lava anymore as the situation was dire right now. They knew very well that they would not be able to escape from this Sanguine Skeletal Spirit.

The only choice they had was to fight!

"Take care of yourself."

After Lin Huang spoke, a gigantic shadow appeared in front of him. At the same time, a silhouette of a ripped body in silver armor materialized too. They were Tyrant and the Nephilic Judge! Lin Huang's eyes turned a bloody red and two pairs of *Blood Spirit* wings tore open his clothes and sprouted from his back.

Chapter 287: Lin Huang Versus The Sanguine Skeletal Spirit

Yi Yeyu and Li Lang were stunned as they watched Lin Huang transform.

"Lin Huang is Sword Genius?!" They looked at each other in shock. The both of them had seen Sword Genius fight in the Hunter Arena so when Lin Huang transformed, they could recognize him immediately. They did not expect him to be the champion of the Hunter Arena. They were embarrassed as they recalled encouraging Lin Huang to practice his skills in the Hunter Arena earlier.

Lin Huang had no other choice but to reveal himself. Since the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit could fly, there was no way that they could escape. Moreover, it was a double mutated Transcendent monster. Even a white flame-level, which was the lowest in the commander-level, could surpass a crimson flame-level or even a blue flame-level. This monster had reached Lin Huang's ability limitation. He did not think that Yi Yeyu and Li Lang could handle this monster either although their combat strength was higher than his.

The only way to survive was to reveal his real ability and fight! He decided to summon Tyrant for its immense strength while the Nephilic Judge was needed for her rapid speed. Not only could she mess with the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit's attack, she could also help Lin Huang fight the monster. The Sanguine Skeletal Spirit had outstanding defensive power, so it would not be wise to summon the Ruthless Sword Master which was skillful in physical attacks. As for Charcoal, Lin Huang would only summon it as his last resort as the dragon blood's aura was too attractive and might even attract other Transcendent monsters. Lin Huang definitely did not want such trouble.

"An Imperial Censor that possesses two mutated summoning beasts...Seems like you're not an ordinary kid," said the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit. It could tell that both of his summoning beasts were mutated. However, they were nothing in his eyes. Also, they were all double mutated but there was a big gap between a complete gold-level and the holy fire-level.

"Since you destroyed my spiritual lava, I shall eat these two double mutated toys as my supplements then."

"Bullshit!" Lin Huang scoffed as he instructed the Nephilic Judge secretly. The Nephilic Judge flapped its golden wings slightly and appeared behind the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit. With its purple spear on hand, it dashed towards the back of the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit's head at the speed of light. Meanwhile, Lin Huang and Tyrant ran towards the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit. Sensing attacks from its front and back, a gigantic black scythe appeared behind it and collided with the Nephilic Judge's spear.

As it was interrupted, the Nephilic Judge attacked from another direction. Just when it dashed its spear at the monster again, the black scythe appeared again and blocked its attack. The Nephilic Judge did not give up; it kept changing the positions of its attacks. Its spear came like a lightning bolt from every direction possible. However, the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit did not move at all. As if there were eyes all over its body, the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit managed to block all of the Nephilic Judge's attacks.

As they were fighting intensely, Tyrant and Lin Huang had arrived in front of the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit. Floating in the air with its body that was more than 30 meters tall, it was still far away from where Lin Huang could reach it. Lin Huang hopped onto Tyrant's palm and attacked with the *Worldly Purification* from charging two full Life Wheels of Life Power into his sword. A sparkling golden glow shone from the tip of the sword.

Yi Yeyu and Li Lang could recognize the ultimate move of Sword Genius. They might have thought that Lin Huang possessed monster skills that were similar to Sword Genius's, but now that they were witnesses to the ultimate move itself and they could confirm that Lin Huang was the real Sword Genius. All they could do was to watch Lin Huang fight the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit from afar as a double mutated Transcendent monster was out of their league. If they decided to help, they would only drag Lin Huang down. Therefore, all they could do was watch, both of them forgetting that they were complete gold-level while Lin Huang was only a gold-level rank-2.

In the battle, the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit looked at Lin Huang who was approaching beneath it. In its blue eyes were a sense of mockery as it then extended its white hands from its bloody robe. Suddenly, the boiling lava behind the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit spewed more than 10 meters above the ground and advanced at Tyrant and Lin Huang. Noticing that the lava was coming to them like an ocean wave which could devour the both of them within seconds, Lin Huang remained fearless.

“Tyrant!” Lin Huang shouted.

Tyrant tossed Lin Huang, who was in its palm, with all its strength towards the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit’s direction. In the air, he leaped with his four Blood Spirit wings opened and twin swords in both his hands. He headed like an arrow towards the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit’s face.

“Hmph!” Sanguine Skeletal Spirit gasped as a couple of black scythes appeared out of nowhere and flew towards Lin Huang.

Staring deadly at the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit, Lin Huang zipped towards it without avoiding the attack. Suddenly, a golden lightning collided with the scythes. The scythes then faded away. It was the Nephilic Judge that had transformed herself into lightning. She was so fast that she cleared the obstacles for Lin Huang in an instant. Nine Punishment Chains shot out from the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit’s robe, breaking through the space and arriving before Lin Huang instantly.

“Seraphic Speed!” Lin Huang smirked and flapped his wings a few inches higher. With the help of Seraphic Speed, he arrived on top of the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit’s head immediately. The Sanguine Skeletal Spirit did not expect Lin Huang to have such an ability. It happened very quickly, so it did not see it coming.

“Die!” Lin Huang shouted while piercing his sword with *Worldly Purification* into the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit’s head. As the sword collided with the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit’s head, a golden spark burst everywhere like a sun with its endless glow.

Yi Yeyu and Li Lang were shocked as they watched from a distance. Helpless, they squinted without closing their eyes completely as they did not want to miss the show.

Bang!

Shortly, a loud hammer-like sound came from the sky after the golden flow erupted. An energy force shook the place and any ground that was not sturdy within hundreds of meters collapsed. Gravel turned into dust within seconds and volcanic ash filled the place as the earth trembled.

Chapter 288: Terrifying Defensive Ability

When Lin Huang was still a silver-level rank-3, the *Worldly Purification* that he performed in the Hunter Arena was comparable to the ability of a holy fire-level’s. That was the reason why he had managed to defeat The Final Fortress’s ultimate defense. Now that he was a gold-level rank-2, not only did he have two extra circles of Life Power, his physique was also upgraded. With his rank-3 sword, he was much more powerful than with merely his Blood Spirit wings that were not even rank-1. The attack he was performing with his sword now was tenfold more powerful than his last attack with the *Worldly Purification*.

The multiplier of strength was only Lin Huang's personal upgrade. With Tyrant's strength of tossing him out and *Seraphic Speed's* talent, this attack was hundreds of times more powerful than the attack when he was a silver-level rank-3. When he was at silver-level rank-3, he was already a genius as a whole. However, his attack ability surpassed many ordinary geniuses as his attack was comparable to a holy fire-level. His attack this time was hundreds of times more powerful and he was confident that he could kill this blue flame-level Transcendent monster.

His ultimate move was akin to renting a hole in the air as he plunged the sword into the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit's head. When his sword collided with the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit's head, a golden spark burst out everywhere; it was too bright to look directly at it. Only Lin Huang who was performing the attack was not affected by the bright light. His pupils shrunk as he witnessed half of his sword pierce into the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit's head.

"Argh!"

A furious roar shook the sky. Although Lin Huang's attack had injured the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit, he had not killed it. After all, this Sanguine Skeletal Spirit was a double mutated monster. Its physical defense was so powerful that it was beyond Lin Huang's imagination. Although it did not die, the attack definitely threatened the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit. It knew that if the sword pierced more than 20 centimeters into its head, it would definitely die on the spot. There was fear in its blue eyes as it looked at Lin Huang.

The nine *Punishment Chains* came for Lin Huang at a speed of light, appearing behind Lin Huang almost instantly. He wanted to insert Life Power into his sword but he had to give that up as once he was in contact with the chains, his Life Power would be sealed. Helpless, he tapped the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit's head and leaped into the air. He then free-fell from the top, allowing his body to descend with the pull of gravity.

The *Punishment Chains* turned around and chased after him. Lin Huang flapped his *Blood Spirit* wings as he descended and avoided the chains. He glided towards the ground that was free from the boiling lava far away. Seeing that Lin Huang was escaping, the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit did not chase after him as there was a limitation to the range of attack of the Punishment Chains and Lin Huang was beyond its range. The Sanguine Skeletal Spirit stared at Lin Huang with frustration as it did not understand how a gold-level rank-2 human could come up with such a terrifying attack.

"If he's not a gold-level rank-2 but a complete gold-level, perhaps I'm already dead from his attack..."
The Sanguine Skeletal Spirit started to fear Lin Huang.

Meanwhile, the golden glow of the *Worldly Purification* had completely faded. Yi Yeyu and Li Lang saw the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit where it was and Lin Huang standing on the ground. They could tell that his powerful attack earlier did not kill the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit.

"Even the ultimate attack of Sword Genius didn't kill it? What a powerful double mutated Transcendent monster!" Yi Yeyu frowned as she watched, starting to be worried. She had seen all of Sword Genius's battles and even a few of his classic battles. She knew very well that Lin Huang's *Worldly Purification* drained a huge chunk of his Life Power. He could probably only perform that one or two more times at most. However, this confrontation with the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit was different from

the Final Fortress in the Hunter Arena. This was a battle of life and death; it would not stand there waiting for Lin Huang to attack it as he wanted.

“The monster is hurt!” Li Lang noticed a sword gash on the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit’s forehead and felt optimistic.

“Although he’s not dead, if the attack really managed to injure it, all Lin Huang will have to do is to perform the same attack for a couple of times more!”

“How could it be so simple?!” Yi Yeyu saw the wound but she remained frowning.

“Lin Huang managed to injure it earlier because it underestimated him, thinking that he won’t be able to do anything to it. Now that his attack managed to hurt it, it must have its guard higher now. If I was the monster, I wouldn’t let Lin Huang come close to me again. It’s hard for Lin Huang to win this battle!”

Lin Huang, who was staring at the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit, knew very well that the monster was not like The Final Fortress in the Hunter Arena. The former had allowed him to break through its defense just by standing there. It would be hard for him to get close to it now. Moreover, he had drained two circles of his Life Power for his last attack but he did not manage to kill the monster. If he was to perform the same attack, he would have to insert his last three circles of Life Power. The last bet was risky.

As soon as he finished his Life Power, the defensive power of his armor would lose its efficacy of protecting his body, leaving him with the basic function of an ordinary armor. He might die if the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit fought back or if he fell into the lava. Without the protection of Life Power, with his flesh alone, it was impossible for him to survive in the lava that was up to 1000 degrees Celsius.

“Must I use another One-Time Skill Card again...?” Lin Huang frowned as he was only left with two One-Time Skill Cards. Unless it was the last resort, he did not want to waste the card that could help him escape death. The higher his authorization was, the more powerful skills he would manage to copy. When he arrived at holy fire-level, the skill that his One-Time Skill Card would be able to copy would be upgraded to immortal-level.

“Lin Huang!” Just when he was coming up with a plan, Yi Yeyu approached Lin Huang together with Li Lang while the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit was tied down by the Nephilic Judge. Lin Huang frowned when he saw that.

“It’s better that the both of you stay away. You guys can’t handle this fella,” Lin Huang advised as he did not want them to risk their lives in his battle with the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit.

“I know you’ve drained your Life Power for your last attack. I’ve got an idea to refill your Life Power fast but there’s a risk,” Yi Yeyu said.

“Is it even faster than the Life Power supplement?” Lin Huang knew that the Nephilic Judge could not hold the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit down any longer.

The Life Power supplement was an expensive elixir that could refill Life Power in an instant. A tube of the supplement was as expensive as a gold-level weapon. However, it could fill up an empty Life Wheel of a gold-level rank-3 person within an hour. Lin Huang would need at least five rubs of the supplement. It could not be consumed more than two tubes at once, so Lin Huang would have to take it five times

which totaled the refilling process to five hours. It was even slower than the time he took to recover his Life Power by the rotation of Life Skill, so he had never consumed the supplement.

Yi Yeyu nodded at Lin Huang.

“It’ll only take a maximum of one minute to fill up your Life Power.”

“What!?” Lin Huang’s eyes lit up.

“I can use my Life Power to fill yours up,” Yi Yeyu explained.

“Is that some special secret skill? Will you hurt yourself?” Lin Hung was skeptical as it was his first time hearing of such a Life Power transfer.

“It’s a secret skill I guess...” Yi Yeyu was stunned when she heard Lin Huang’s question.

“It won’t damage my body. On the contrary, it might burden yours. My Life Power comes with strong fire attributes, so you’ll have to release your Life Power as soon as I transfer mine to you. The longer my Life Power stays in your body, the more damage it will bring to your body.”

“Sure! Let’s try that then,” Lin Huang agreed to Yi Yeyu’s suggestion without thinking twice.

Chapter 289: Forbidden Skill Revival

The Sanguine Skeletal Spirit noticed the three of them gather around from a distance. Although it was far away and could not hear what they were talking about, it could guess that they were talking about it. It then extended its gigantic hands from its bloody robe and a strange force surrounded the place. Red, boiling lava flowed towards the three of them, looking like someone had spilled melted steel from the smelting pot.

The three of them summoned their mounts and rode on them. However, the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit did not give up. It waved its hands in the air and streams of fire boas made of lava came steadily towards the three of them. Although there was no more spiritual force in the lava and they could not be harmed as they were wearing defensive relics, they had to avoid the lava as they did not want to be drowned in it.

Lin Huang was upset as his plan was interrupted. He attempted to escape from the battle temporarily to refill his Life Power but they were chased by the fire boas.

“This irritating fella!” Lin Huang frowned. He knew very well that the expansion of lava ground was caused by the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit with the intention to avoid them from standing still. As the ground was covered with a thick layer of lava, there was no way for Lin Huang to launch his attack at all.

However, Lin Huang came up with a plan.

“Recall your mounts, I will get my Alexandrian Eagle to get you!” Lin Huang said to Yi Yeyu.

She knew what was he planning. She nodded and recalled her Rainbow Sparrow. The Rainbow Sparrow flew towards the Alexandrian Eagle immediately. Soon, Yi Yeyu took out her monster taming token and

recalled the Rainbow Sparrow and jumped. The Alexandrian Eagle that was beneath her flew up and caught her deftly.

As she sat behind Lin Huang, she asked directly, "Are you ready?"

"Would it be affected since we're flying?" Asked Lin Huang.

"No, as long as we are not interrupted." Yi Yeyu shook her head.

"That's great. You can start now."

Yi Yeyu placed her hand on Lin Huang's back and a red imprint appeared between her eyebrows like a gigantic red bird flapping its wings.

Lin Huang could feel a hot aura seeping from his back into his body. Not knowing what was that, he felt re-energized as his two empty Life Wheels were filled up with red Life Power.

"There's a strong force refilling your body. You have received a Life Power Refill Card x1"

"Life Power Refill Card: Ability to store massive amounts of Life Power. Once activated, Life Wheels will be filled in an instant."

"Remark 1: A permanent card that can be used repetitively."

"Remark 2: Can only be activated once a day."

"Remark 3: The level of Life Power will be the same as yours."

"Remark 4: No restriction in daily refill until all the Life Wheels are filled."

Lin Huang did not expect to receive a new Function Card from Yi Yeyu's Life Power transfer. Moreover, it was a practical card. After glancing at the card, Lin Huang put it aside as he did not have the time to look at the exact effects of the card.

Seeing that Yi Yeyu had hopped onto Lin Huang's Alexandrian Eagle, the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit knew they were up to something. It then gave up chasing after Li Lang and focused on the Alexandrian Eagle that the both of them were riding on.

It waved its hands, then the fire boas chased after the Alexandrian Eagle with their mouths wide open. It even gave up attacking the Nephilic Judge while getting its nine Punishment Chains to go after the Alexandrian Eagle. Suddenly, the Alexandrian Eagle was surrounded. The Nephilic Judge dashed towards the chains. However, the chains were like swimming loaches and avoided her completely while chasing after the Alexandrian Eagle. Lin Huang made up his mind at that very moment.

"Come out, Ruthless Sword Master!"

As Lin Huang commanded it, the Ruthless Sword Master appeared before Lin Huang in black armor and stood on the back of the Alexandrian Eagle. Although she could not tell how many times Ruthless Sword Master had been mutated, Yi Yeyu's instinct told her that it was also a double mutated monster as she could sense its terrifying aura.

Just when the Ruthless Sword Master was summoned, the nine *Punishment Chains* came near them. A bloody glow twinkled in the Ruthless Sword Master's eyes while it waved the black sword in its hand. With a black glow flashing in the air, it managed to block all nine Punishment Chains. Once again, the chains turned around and headed towards the Alexandrian Eagle while a couple of black scythes appeared at the same time. However, as the Ruthless Sword Master waved its black sword around, it managed to block all the Punishment Chains and scythes easily.

Yi Yeyu was watching the battle closely and was curious about the Ruthless Sword Master's skill as there was neither any change of form in its sword, nor was there any sword glow coming out of it. However, with every wave, there were stripes of black sword glow around. With this performance, she was sure that this human-form monster was also a double mutated monster. Lin Huang knew very well that it was the Ruthless Sword Master's Death Zone where it could attack any point it wished to within a 100-meter radius in the sphere-shaped space.

The Sanguine Skeletal Spirit that was watching from far away was shocked when it saw the Ruthless Sword Master. It could sense clearly that the Ruthless Sword Master was just like itself – it was a double mutated monster. So far, Lin Huang had summoned three double mutated monsters and its fear of Lin Huang heightened. The Ruthless Sword Master's defense was air-tight. Not only the *Punishment Chains*, even the black scythes as well as the fire boas could not get close to the Alexandrian Eagle.

Suddenly, the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit's blue eyes sparkled while its bloody robe was stripped off its body, revealing its gigantic skeleton body. The bloody robe was transformed into a bloody mist entering its blue eyes at the speed of light. Lin Huang frowned as he watched, knowing very well that it was the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit's real ultimate forbidden skill – *Revival* ...

Chapter 290: The Ruthless Sword Master's Ultimate Move

Revival was a special forbidden skill possessed by very few soul spirit monsters. Once it was performed, it could bring a soul back to life. Not only could it recover the monster's battle strength to its peak, it could even retrieve all the skills, combat skills, and even battle experiences that it had when it was alive when *Revival* was activated. However, there was a price to pay for performing such a forbidden skill. Although Lin Huang had no idea what this forbidden skill could do, he knew that the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit's ability would be multiplied many times.

Lin Huang started to panic as he watched the bloody mist being sucked into the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit's eyes; the mist soon lessened. He had an idea and communicated with the Nephilic Judge with his mind. Soon, the sky turned dark. The area within 100 meters was covered in dark clouds and it looked like night had fallen. Li Lang stared at the sky in confusion as he had no idea how the weather that was so sunny earlier could turn dark so quickly. He could see faint golden lightning within the dark clouds.

Suddenly, a lightning bolt struck the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit. One lightning bolt, two bolts, three bolts...The lightning bolts were raining down on Sanguine Skeletal Spirit like a freak thunderstorm. Nevertheless, the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit did not run away or even defend itself. Instead, it just stood there. However, even under the attack of the lightning bolts, it did not stop performing the forbidden skill while the bloody mist continued to be sucked into its eyes.

Meanwhile, there were no more fire boas or black scythes chasing after Lin Huang. Only the nine *Punishment Chains* were left but they could not threaten the Alexandrian Eagle anymore. At that moment, Lin Huang's Life Wheels were filled thanks to Yi Yeyu's help. Seeing that the bloody mist was almost done being sucked into the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit's eyes, Lin Huang instructed the Alexandrian Eagle without hesitation, "Go!"

The Alexandrian Eagle kept its wings close to its body and dove towards the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit. It descended at such a rapid speed that there was a sonic boom heard throughout the land. However, it was too late. As it was still a distance away from the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit, the last cloud of mist was completely absorbed into the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit. Its blue eyes turned to gold in an instant and a bloody cloud surrounded its skeleton. As the three of them watched in shock, the bloody cloud then transformed into flesh and skin, covering the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit's skeleton...Its dominating presence was increasing tremendously and it emanated the same terrifying aura when Lin Huang encountered the Supreme Overlord or even stronger nemesis!

"This is bad..." Lin Huang frowned.

Suddenly, a vague thought came into his mind. It was a message from the Ruthless Sword Master. Although it was not clear, Lin Huang knew that it was asking for his permission to attack. Although he had no idea why would the Ruthless Sword Master request so, he nodded anyway. The Ruthless Sword Master then hopped off the Alexandrian Eagle and dashed towards the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit that had almost completed its transformation.

The Sanguine Skeletal Spirit sensed that something was coming for it. The nine *Punishment Chains* then gave up chasing after Lin Huang and turned to the Ruthless Sword Master instead. The Ruthless Sword Master did not have wings, so it could not fly. There was no way for it to do anything in the air. Seeing that the Punishment Chains heading for the Ruthless Sword Master, the three of them was sure that it would not make it.

However, just when the chains were inches away from the Ruthless Sword Master, a black sword appeared under the latter's feet. It stepped on it and rushed towards another direction. The chains proceeded to chase after it. With the help of the black sword, the Ruthless Sword Master moved in zig-zag motions in the air while getting closer and closer to Sanguine Skeletal Spirit.

Lin Huang was stunned at how agile the Ruthless Sword Master was in the air. He knew that the black sword was created from its Death Zone but he had no idea that that skill could be used in such a way. The Ruthless Sword Master that was still in the air did not use its sword to fight the Punishment Chains. Lin Huang noticed that the brightness of its single crimson red eye became more blinding while golden patterns glowed and throbbed on the black sword that it was holding.

Within a couple of breaths, the Ruthless Sword Master arrived before the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit. The growing of flesh was almost complete; all that was left without flesh was its head. However, the crimson red in Ruthless Sword Master's eye had reached its peak brightness like a red star falling. The golden pattern that was surrounding its sword had faded away and the sword was now in completely bathed in a white glow.

"Hehe...You are in so much trouble!" The Sanguine Skeletal Spirit laughed cunningly with a black scythe in its hand. It then slashed its blade towards the Ruthless Sword Master so swiftly that Lin Huang could

only catch a brief glimpse of it. He was deeply concerned. However, the Ruthless Sword Master waved its sword without hesitation and the white glow burst out of its sword like a shockwave, drowning the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit and its black scythe in it. The ground behind the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit that was filled with lava was covered by the white glow as well up to 100 kilometers away.

The ground shook violently from the attack. Although nobody knew what the result was, the single swing of the sword alone showed that even if the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit did not die, it would definitely be injured under this hit. Lin Huang knew very well that it was the Ruthless Sword Master's ultimate move, *Absolute Life*. No matter what, the Ruthless Sword Master would have to go back to its card form and would not be able to be summoned within 24 hours after this hit.

"Is this cyclops...a triple mutated monster?" Yi Yeyu asked in shock.

"No, it's just a double mutated monster. That was its ultimate move," Lin Huang explained. The three of them stared at the direction where the battle was while anticipating the result. Soon, the Ruthless Sword Master disintegrated into black dots and disappeared. The white glow that was spread more than 100 kilometers away faded.

Most obviously was a gigantic hole on the ground 100 kilometers away. It was so deep that it seemed endless. Even the lava that was underground had evaporated from the attack. Meanwhile, the Sanguine Skeletal Spirit revealed itself as the white glow faded away...