Strongest

Chapter 1151 - Peak Class

The moment Silent March took to the stage, cheers erupted around the arena.

"They're starting the first match with the Purgatory Legion's vice commander? Miracle really is merciless."

"I heard that she has the Necromancer class and can summon skeletons with high Magic Resistance. The Asura Battle Team's Elementalist is in trouble."

"Trouble? More like a tragedy. Magical classes fear close range more than anything. Elementalists are no exception. A Necromancer can summon dozens of Undead without much trouble. An Elementalist has no chance against an army of Undead."

...

The audience was comprised of large Guild upper echelons and expert players. They were all familiar with various news and details in God's Domain. Hence, they were all familiar with the Purgatory Legion's Silent March.

Not only was Silent March the vice commander of one of Miracle's trump card legions, but she also wielded a hidden class. Due to her status, the various large Guilds had investigated the woman and had come to understand just how powerful the Necromancer class was.

The Necromancer was a peak hidden class that had almost no weaknesses. The class was incredibly powerful in every aspect. A fight between a Necromancer and an ordinary class would simply be one-sided.

...

When Phoenix Rain, who watched from a VIP room, saw the Evil Dragon Battle Team's representative for the first match, a shade fell over her white, unblemished skin.

They're using one of their secret weapons in the first match? Thousand Miles is really taking this seriously. Phoenix Rain frowned when she saw Silent March's gray, gemstone staff.

When she had previously met Silent March, the latter had carried a blackwood staff. Based on her estimates, that blackwood staff should have only been a top-tier Dark-Gold staff, yet Silent March had changed her equipment, wielding a new staff now. Normally, this was considered a huge PvP taboo.

After all, it was impossible to use an unfamiliar weapon to its fullest potential without some practice.

Despite knowing this, Silent March had switched weapons. There could only be one possibility for such a decision.

Silent March's current staff must be far superior to her prior weapon. Needless to say, the gemstone staff was certainly an Epic staff.

Moreover, the Necromancer had replaced more than her weapon. She had also switched out two pieces of her old equipment. Furthermore, as Silent March was the Purgatory Legion's vice commander, Miracle should have given her at least one Epic item, to begin with.

In other words, Silent March had at least three Epic items on her...

Phoenix Rain's frown deepened.

As the Phoenix Pavilion's Pavilion Master, she knew full well that Epic items provided more than just a massive Attribute boost. Epic items also came with powerful Skills and effects.

Although Phoenix Rain did not know how strong Alluring Summer was, in terms of equipment, the Elementalist was no match for Silent March.

The fact that Silent March had earned the position of vice commander in one of Miracle's three trump card legions showed that her combat standard was at the Flowing Water Realm at the very least, which meant she was capable of reading her opponents. Her Necromancer class only further bolstered her combat power. Even against a Void Realm expert with the same quality of weapons and equipment, Silent March had a chance of emerging victorious.

As Phoenix Rain despaired over the upcoming fight, Alluring Summer approached the stage.

Currently, Alluring Summer wore a Black Cloak. No one could see her current level or equipment; only her face was visible. However, many among the audience gasped upon seeing her beauty. Alluring Summer's aura was also a stark contrast to Silent March's.

If one described Silent March's aura as dark and deathly, then Alluring Summer's was light and vital.

"Who is this beauty? Why haven't I seen her in the Asura Battle Team's files before? Is she Asura's secret trump card?"

"How can that be possible? I check for any information about this beauty. She doesn't have any battle records at all. She's likely a newcomer that the Asura Battle Team is trying to cultivate. They might have let her tag along to gain experience."

When Alluring Summer appeared, the audience's attention shifted to her.

Although the Asura Battle Team's defeat was already certain, it was still worth taking note of the team's members. After all, the Asura Battle Team had secured a total victory against the Glorious Lions. The battle team was still quite powerful. It just hadn't been as lucky this time. Since a new face had joined the Asura Battle Team, it was only natural that everyone paid attention to her.

Silent March smiled as she watched the Elementalist approach the stage. Giggling, she said, "I'm sure you've already discovered that I'm a Necromancer. Rest assured, I won't summon a bunch of Undead to fight you. Think of it as adding a little more fun to the match."

"I have to thank you for that, then. However, I advise you to go all out from the very beginning. Otherwise, this fight will be over very quickly," Alluring Summer said, smiling. Her sweet smile could even melt snow.

"Is that so? I'll listen to your suggestion, then. Very soon, I'll show everyone what despair looks like on your face!" Silent March sneered. Originally, she had planned to toy with Alluring Summer for a bit. However, she had just changed her mind.

Although the audience couldn't hear the conversation between the two women, when they saw the smiles on the women's faces, they somehow felt chills crawl down their spines.

The timer above the stage began to count down.

Five!

Four!

Three!

...

Once the countdown began, the audience members focused on the stage, their heart rates increasing.

Unlike a duel between ordinary players, experts would descend into a rapid battle as soon as the fight began, pushing their bodies to the limits. If one wanted to view and understand the fight clearly, one needed to pay careful attention.

The instant the timer ended, Silent March took action. The Necromancer started off by chanting an incantation, her free hand writing one line of runes after another. Her writing was so fast that no one could even see her hand's shadow. Shortly after, a gray magic array formed beside Silent March, stupefying the spectators.

"Crap! Triple casting?! Is she even human?!"

"As expected of the Purgatory Legion's vice commander! Her strength is absurd!"

Single casting was already difficult for ordinary players. If a Spell's incantation and runes were not chanted and written properly, the Spell would be significantly weaker.

Extremely few experts were capable of double casting. Not only did players need to get the chant and runes of both Spells correct when double casting, but players also needed to be fast. Players needed to complete the chants and runes for both Spells within a short time. Otherwise, the system would determine the Spells' casting time to be too long, and the system would interrupt the cast.

All magical class players dreamed of being able to triple cast. It wasn't something that could be achieved through hard work alone. One needed to be talented!

Once a magical class player grasped triple casting, their strength would undergo a qualitative transformation. Fighting a triple caster was like fighting three players at once. Moreover, these three players would cooperate seamlessly.

While everyone was shocked by Silent March's triple casting, Alluring Summer revealed that she could double cast. Unfortunately, the difference between them was like the difference between heaven and earth.

"Cry out in despair!" Silent March revealed a sinister expression as she sneered at Alluring Summer. She then raised her staff and pointed it toward the sky.

Immediately, a black magic array appeared above the fighters, covering half of the stage.

Tier 1 Curse, Call of Death!

A magic array had also appeared beneath Alluring Summer's feet, with chains bones sprouting from the magic array to wrap around the Elementalist.

Tier 1 Spell, Bone Imprisonment!

Meanwhile, sharp spears appeared around Silent March, aimed for Alluring Summer.

This was the Tier 1 Spell, White Bone Spears!

"What a pity. This match is going to end as soon as it began," Silent March taunted, smiling gleefully. She then swung her staff and shouted, "Disappear!"

The six bone spears shot straight for the immobilized Elementalist.

Chapter 1152 – Staff versus Staff

Thousand Miles, who relaxed in a VIP room on the third floor, frowned as he watched the scene on the stage. In a reprimanding tone, he muttered, "March is taking this too seriously. She should've at least let Alluring Summer struggle. What is the point of an instant win?"

The Evil Dragon Battle Team did not simply want to defeat the Asura Battle Team. More importantly, they aimed for a complete victory.

If they won the first match so easily, it would likely affect the payout rate for the Evil Dragon Battle Team's complete victory. He had reminded Silent March to toy with her opponent, creating a misconception for the audience that a complete victory wouldn't be so easy for them.

"Maple, notify Miracle Dragon and the others right away. Have them ease up a little during the next two matches."

"Understood!"

The Elementalist, Cleansed Maple, immediately sent Miracle Dragon a message.

When Silent March revealed her ability to triple cast, not only had she stunned the Guild upper echelons watching, but she had also shocked the experts from the various superpowers in the third-floor VIP rooms.

"Is this Silent March a spellcasting genius?" Blue Phoenix couldn't believe her eyes.

Although she, too, knew how to triple cast, doing so was far more difficult than ordinary people could imagine.

The higher a Spell's tier was, the more incantations and runes its casting required.

After training arduously, she could only cast two Tier 1 Spells and one Tier 0 Spell simultaneously, yet Silent March had cast a Tier 1 Curse and two Tier 2 spells at the same time. While both were capable of triple casting, the difference between them was massive.

Tier 0 Spells were no threat to a Tier 1 player. Normally, these Spells were only used as a distraction.

In other words, one of her three attacks was negligible.

Ordinary experts could generally complete two tasks at once. Thus, defending against two attacks wasn't difficult.

Her opponents only needed to defend against her Tier 1 Spells, ignoring her Tier 0 Spell altogether. The most a Tier 0 Spell could do was deal some minor damage. If an ordinary expert fought her, as long as they were careful, they could even find an opportunity to counterattack and turn the tables.

However, of the three Spells Silent March used, two were significant threats, while one could deal a killing blow!

While ordinary experts could survive against her for some time, Silent March would kill them instantly.

...

"Big Sis Endless, Silent March is amazing! Her triple casting can almost rival yours!" Cloud Yarn stated, surprised as she watched the stage.

She had never imagined that anyone else could reach Endless Scars' standards.

"She is indeed. However, she is nowhere near as powerful as Endless yet," the team leader, Breeze Wine, said as he rolled his eyes at Cloud Yarn. Slowly, he explained, "Endless relies on her own abilities to cast three Tier 1 Spells. That woman, on the other hand, is relying on her staff."

"Her staff?" Cloud Yarn grew confused.

"That's right. That staff is the Crimson Emperor Guild's treasured staff, the Magician's Scepter. This staff has a special effect that provides a 20% error adjustment when spellcasting," Breeze Wine explained as he gazed at the gemstone staff in Silent March's hand. Enviously, he said, "Magician's Scepter can improve a magical class's spellcasting tremendously. In the hands of someone like Silent March, that weapon is even more magnificent. Unless that Alluring Summer can reach Endless's standards, this fight won't have any meaning."

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Meanwhile, above the stage, the six bone spears transformed into six streaks of white light that arrived before Alluring Summer instantly; every one locked on to the Elementalist's vital points.

Even without Bone Imprisonment's restraints, Alluring Summer couldn't escape the bone spears' attacks unscathed.

"Die!" Silent March sneered.

Peng! Peng! Peng!

As the spears were about to strike Alluring Summer, a layer of ice appeared around the Elementalist, encasing her. Not only had Ice Barrier removed Bone Imprisonment, but it had also deflected the bone spears.

As for the Level 42 Lord ranked Skeleton Knight that Silent March had summoned, it could only watch the Elementalist helplessly.

"Not a bad decision. Unfortunately, Ice Barrier is an Elementalist's most powerful Lifesaving Skill. You can only use it once in this match. What are you going to do once the Spell's duration ends?" Silent March asked contemptuously.

She wielded the Magician's Scepter as well as a Peak Legacy. She could even challenge a Domain Realm expert, not to mention Alluring Summer.

However, as Silent March was about to cast another series of Spells, she discovered something off about the Mana flow above the stage. She tilted her head back to look.

The moment she looked up, however, she was startled.

A massive, blue magic array gradually formed above the stage. This array was no weaker than her Tier 1 Curse.

The audience was similarly stunned by this sight.

"What a decisive move!"

Even a fool could tell that the magic array was a large-scale destruction Spell.

Large-scale destruction Spells did not differentiate between friend and foe. Everyone within the Spell's range was free game. However, Ice Barrier was a Lifesaving Skill that gave its user invulnerability during its duration. Alluring Summer could easily endure her own Spell. However, Summoners did not have Invulnerability Skills. If Silent March couldn't defend herself against the large-scale destruction Spell, she would definitely die.

Boom... Boom... Boom...

As one lightning strike descended after another, over half of the stage had transformed into an electric hell. Even Silent March could not escape the Spell's range in time.

After the thunderstorm had passed, the battlefield was unrecognizable. Alluring Summer finally emerged from her Ice Barrier.

As everyone assumed that Silent March was dead...

The instant Alluring Summer's Ice Barrier vanished, the previously summoned Skeleton Knight charged out of the smoke and slashed its longsword at the Elementalist. Instinctively, Alluring Summer used her Blink Skill and instantly appeared 15 yards away from her original position, avoiding the Skeleton Knight's Chop.

"You're still alive?" Alluring Summer was slightly surprised when she saw Silent March reveal herself from the smoke clouds.

The Necromancer appeared completely unharmed. Her expression, however, was much darker than before.

"Good! You are the first person to force me to use my Legacy Lifesaving Skill! As a reward, I'll teach you the true meaning of despair!" Silent March growled coldly as she stared at Alluring Summer.

In God's Domain, while Summoners did not possess any Lifesaving Skills that provided invulnerability, Necromancers did. The Skill's name was Shield of Death. She had kept this trump card hidden. However, Alluring Summer had forced her to expose it.

As soon as Silent March finished speaking, she began to chant once more. At the same time, she controlled the Skeleton Knight to attack Alluring Summer.

Alluring Summer was forced to dodge the Skeleton Knight's attacks while interrupting Silent March's casting with Ice Spears.

However, Silent March blocked the incoming attacks with Bone Wall.

"Rise, my Undead army!"

As Silent March finished the last verse, Skeleton Warriors pulled themselves from the ground before her. Some of the Warriors wielded longswords and shields, while others wielded battle axes and some had bows. In the blink of an eye, a small legion had appeared before Silent March.

Although the majority of the small legion consisted of Level 42 Common ranked Skeleton Warriors, as Undead's Magic Resistance was quite high, even cannon fodder could prove to be troublesome for an Elementalist. Furthermore, among the 60-plus Skeleton Warriors, there were even a few Level 42 Elite ranked Skeleton Warriors equipped with good equipment.

This move was none other than Necromancers' trademark Skill, Undead Legion.

As Silent March's Undead Legion was still a Tier 1 Skill, it could only summon 60 Common ranked Skeleton Warriors with a chance to summon Elites. Upon reaching Tier 2, however, the Necromancer could summon 100 Elite ranked Skeleton Warriors with a chance to summon Special Elites.

Everyone fell silent as the Skeleton Warriors filled the stage.

Even MT classes like Guardian Knights and Shield Warriors felt chills crawl down their spines.

This numerical advantage was overwhelming!

"You want to fight as a group?" Alluring Summer revealed a joyful smile as she grinned at the Undead legion before her. "Come, then!"

Saying so, Alluring Summer stored her original staff and retrieved a black scythe from her bag. There were extremely intricate skulls and magical patterns engraved on the scythe. At a glance, it looked like the Grim Reaper's signature weapon.

This staff was none other than the staff that dropped from one of the Fossilized Tyrannosauruses.

Death's Sigh!

Chapter 1153 - One-sided Bullying

When Alluring Summer replaced her staff, her aura began to transform.

If Alluring Summer had been akin to the warm sun before, then now, she was cold like the moon. Moreover, her aura wasn't the only thing that had transformed. A faint layer of gray fog had also appeared around her, obscuring her from sight.

"Is that a staff? Why does it look more like a melee weapon?"

Rather than an Elementalist, the crowd thought Alluring Summer looked like a god of death.

"That weapon is giving off such a powerful oppression. I bet it's an Epic Weapon. It's a pity that there isn't much point to switching weapons right now. With so many Skeleton Warriors and the Skeleton Knight, she doesn't have a chance. Silent March is waiting for an opportunity on the other side of the stage, too."

"I know, right? The Necromancer class is simply broken in a one-on-one fight."

...

Although the spectators had realized that Alluring Summer's new weapon was quite powerful, a single weapon could not change this battle's outcome. After all, the difference between the fighters' strengths was simply too vast.

Watching up to this point, the upper echelons from the various large Guilds finally realized just how terrifying a peak class could be.

Unlike the rest of the audience, however, Endless Scars, sitting in one of the VIP rooms, carefully observed Death's Sigh in Alluring Summer's hands. The more she observed the weapon, the more her interest grew.

Breeze Wine was also staring at Death's Sigh, his expression growing more thoughtful.

"Endless, don't you think that weapon looks just like that weapon recorded in the ancient book?" Breeze Wine asked.

The Midnight Tea Party had explored many extremely dangerous locations. During their adventures, they had found an ancient book in a secret location. Although this book did not have any powerful abilities, it had been passed down since ancient times. Many weapons had been recorded within, and players would consider every one of these weapons godly items.

Alluring Summer's current weapon looked very similar to one of the weapons in the ancient book.

"It looks similar, yet quite different. However, I doubt that's the real thing. No matter how I think about it, it is impossible for current players to get their hands on that weapon." Endless Scars denied Breeze Wine's conjecture.

Suddenly, Silent March began her attack.

Immediately, the Necromancer directed her Skeleton Knight and Skeleton Warriors to attack Alluring Summer from all sides. This way, the Elementalist could neither defend herself nor Blink away. In the end, Alluring Summer would be surrounded and killed.

As the Skeleton Knight and Skeleton Warriors inched closer to Alluring Summer, she responded by using the Tier 1 Spell, Blizzard.

A snowstorm then enveloped an area of 10\*20 yards, turning every Skeleton Warrior within range into an ice statue. A damage of over -6,000 appeared above the Skeleton Warriors' heads.

Alluring Summer frowned.

These Undead monsters' Magic Resistance was much higher than she had expected.

Unless she used a large-scale destruction Spell, she couldn't instant-kill these Level 42 Skeleton Warriors with 45,000 HP.

"Stop wasting your energy. With the Skeleton Warriors' Magic Resistance, the damage they receive from Tier 1 Spells is reduced by 70%. Even if you've switched to an Epic Weapon, you are still no match for them," Silent March said, sneering. "Or do you think that you can bridge the gap with one measly Epic Weapon? Don't forget that I have my own Epic staff."

As soon Silent March spoke, six White Bone Spears appeared around her once more.

"You had used your Lifesaving Skill to defend against this attack. I want to see how you survive this time!" Silent March shouted and swung her staff down.

Immediately, the six bone spears flew towards Alluring Summer.

Seeing this, the audience assumed that this match was over.

Regarding Basic Attributes or class, Silent March was greatly superior to Alluring Summer. It was impossible for Alluring Summer to secure victory by relying on one Epic staff.

"It's over!"

"However, the Asura Battle Team has not lost this match in vain. Without any advantages, the loss isn't unusual."

The crowd couldn't help but pity the Asura Battle Team.

Although both battle teams had the support of a Guild, the difference between Zero Wing and Miracle was massive. In the previous competition, the Asura Battle Team had relied on their Basic Attributes, weapons, and equipment to achieve victory. Unfortunately, they were weaker than the Evil Dragon Battle Team in every aspect.

Boom!

As an explosion rang through the battlefield; smoke and dust flew into the air.

"Hm?" Silent March frowned, confused as she looked at Alluring Summer, who stood amidst the dust and smoke.

Alluring Summer had only evaded the six bone spears. The Elementalist had not bothered to use Skills to defend herself. No magical class expert would make such a simple mistake.

Four bone spears had struck Alluring Summer, her HP falling below 50%. As long as she launched another volley with the White Bone Spears, she could take the Elementalist's life. In reality, even if Silent March didn't attack, her skeletons could defeat Alluring Summer easily.

"Giving up already?" Silent March could not help but laugh.

"Giving up?" Alluring Summer shook her head. Chuckling, she said, "I have not given up. On the contrary, I owe you my thanks."

"Thanks?" Silent March was confused. "Thank me for suppressing you with my overwhelming strength?"

"No. This Death's Sigh is a very special staff. Only when its user's HP is below 50% can display its true potential," Alluring Summer said, helplessness filling her voice as she gazed at the scythe in her hand.

"Are you trying to say that you can defeat me once you have less than half of your HP?" Silent March could not help but grin at the Elementalist, glaring at the woman with contempt and ridicule.

She had three Epic items on her right now, and every one of them had astonishing effects. She hadn't even used one of their effects thus far. Alluring Summer was dreaming if she thought she could beat her with some Epic Staff.

"No, not defeat." Chuckling, Alluring Summer said, "This will just be one-sided bullying."

Silent March was instantly furious upon hearing Alluring Sumer's confidence. Lightly waving her Magician's Scepter, she activated one of the staff's Skills.

[Mana Amplification]

Increases the effects of all Skills used by caster by 500% for 10 seconds.

Cooldown: 2 hours

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Now, Silent March was even strong enough to face a Grand Lord of the same level.

Immediately, 30 White Bone Spears appeared around Silent March. Moreover, every one contained more power than the previous spears.

The audience was flabbergasted.

"Crap, this is just too overpowered!"

"She's too strong! Even ten of me couldn't take her on!"

"Is this the strength of the Purgatory Legion's vice commander?"

If these players had thought that they had any hope against an expert like Silent March, then now, she felt like an invincible monster.

"Turn to ash!" Silent March waved her staff towards Alluring Summer.

Xiu... Xiu... Xiu...

The 30 bone spears flew towards Elementalist, leaving her with no space to dodge.

"I was waiting for this!"

Alluring Summer was unperturbed in the face of the incoming spears. On the contrary, she appeared excited. Gripping Death's Sigh tightly in both hands, she swung the weapon down towards the enemy Necromancer.

Peng!

The sound of glass shattering reached the spectators. The space before Alluring Summer then split like two halves of a broken window.

Following which, both the incoming bone spears and the skeleton legion turned into ash and dust.

Although Silent March tried to say something, she suddenly collapsed to the ground. Her vision faded to gray before she saw nothing but a black void.

Before everyone could react, the system signaled the match's end, the sound echoing throughout the arena.

The victor's name appeared above the stage.

Victor: Alluring Summer!

Chapter 1154 – Twelve Great Legendary Staffs

Seeing the victor's ID hovering above the stage, silence reigned over the competition venue.

For a moment, it seemed as if this silence had blanketed the world.

The match's outcome confused everyone.

No matter how they looked at it, Silent March should've won this match with ease. Alluring Summer simply had no hope of winning, yet she had overturned the match with a single Skill.

Everything had happened so suddenly that, before they even realized it, Silent March, who had 100% of her HP remaining, was dead.

"What...just happened?"

"Silent March was defeated?"

"What kind of attack was that?"

Many people's eyes widened in shock when they watched the replay. However, even in the end, they hadn't seen Alluring Summer's attack process.

From beginning to end, Alluring Summer had only lightly swung her scythe. After that, the space before Alluring Summer had split in half, killing the Undead and Silent March, who had been 30 yards away, instantly.

In God's Domain, ranged attacks normally had a trajectory indicator. For example, when Silent March had fired the White Bone Spears at Alluring Smile, the spectators had seen trajectory indicators for a brief moment, allowing them to predict where the attacks would land.

However, Alluring Summer's attack hadn't displayed any trajectory indicators. It was as if Alluring Summer had struck Silent March the moment she swung Death's Sigh.

"Big Sis Endless, I just watched the replay multiple times, and I couldn't see any indicators. Does Alluring Summer's Skill not use them?" Cloud Yarn could not help but ask.

If she were to point out who knew the most about God's Domain, then it would definitely be Endless Scars.

If Endless Scars didn't know something, that no one else in the team would either.

"You don't need to look for them. Her attack does not have any trajectory indicators." Endless Scars' eyes shown with excitement as she stared at the scythe in Alluring Summer's hands. "I really didn't expect this. Although it isn't the real deal, I'm shocked to see that Zero Wing has obtained such a weapon. Silent March had not lost without reason."

Breeze Wine nodded in agreement with Endless Scars's words, fear filling his eyes as he looked at Alluring Summer's weapon.

He was certain that the weapon Alluring Summer wielded was a replica of one of God's Domain's Twelve Great Legendary Staffs, Death's Sigh. As for the weapon being the real deal, that was very unlikely. According to the ancient book, the real article had been destroyed long ago. Even a Blacksmith God couldn't repair it. Thus, he was absolutely confident that the Elementalist's Death's Sigh was a replica.

However, the imitation was considerably similar to the real thing if it could even use Dimensional Fracture.

Dimensional Fracture was an unblockable Skill. Even invulnerability could not stop it. Dimensional Fracture ignored distance and all forms of protection. When activated, the Skill would even penetrate invincible defenses and attack the target directly. It was rumored that the real Death's Sigh could instant-kill any creature below Tier 6.

Of course, that was only a rumor. Moreover, Alluring Summer only wielded a replica. Even so, a replica should have no problems instant-killing a Tier 1 magical class player.

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"She's dead?!" Phoenix Rain was somewhat confused after watching the match's outcome.

This win was too sudden. She hadn't been prepared for such an outcome.

Rather than calling this a PvP match, it had been a one-sided display of power.

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"Damn it! Damn it!" Thousand Miles's eyes radiated killing intent as he glared at Alluring Summer. He wanted to rush onto the stage and kill the Elementalist back to Level 0.

This single loss had foiled his plans to annihilate the Asura Battle Team.

He had bet tons of resources on the Evil Dragon Battle Team achieving a complete victory. Now that his plan had failed, why wouldn't he be furious?

He had intended to use those resources to compete for the authority over Thunder Island.

Now, however, they were gone...

Very quickly, Thousand Miles calmed himself down. He turned to Cleansed Maple and said, "Notify Miracle Dragon immediately! I don't want to see them lose another match! I want them to go all out in the next two fights!"

Now that a complete victory was no longer possible, they could only defeat the Asura Battle Team and recuperate their losses from the competition's winnings.

Many large Guilds had come to participate in the upcoming auction. Before the auction began, however, many of these Guilds would try their luck and bet on the competition. As long as the Evil Dragon Battle Team won, their winnings might make up for the losses they suffered.

Hence, Thousand Miles was now taking the competition seriously and refused to give the Asura Battle Team any hope of victory.

However, compared to Thousand Miles's rage, Abandoned Wave had nearly gone mad in another VIP room.

Abandoned Wave had bet practically all of his Guild's resources on the Evil Dragon Battle Team's complete victory. He could not afford for the team to lose even a single match.

"Zero Wing!" Abandoned Wave's eyes were bloodshot as he glared at Shi Feng's group below the stage. Zero Wing had spoiled several of his plans now. He resolved himself for the final struggle. "Drunkard,

notify the Beast Emperor and tell him that I'm willing to become an Evil God Apostle. Moreover, I'll sacrifice one million players to him. However, I want both Stone Forest Town and Zero Wing annihilated!"

"Guild Leader!" Laughing Drunkard panicked at Abandoned Wave's command.

The Blackwater Corporation's upper echelons wanted to develop the Guild. If they sacrificed the Guild members, these upper echelons would not let Abandoned Wave off the hook, regardless of his position as Young Master Jing's trusted aid.

"Relax. I won't use our Guild's members. In any case, contact the Beast Emperor," Abandoned Wave said.

Despite such a reply, Laughing Drunkard still thought that Abandoned Wave had lost his mind.

The Beast Emperor was an extremely mysterious fellow. Every time they had met, the man's face had been wrapped in bandages. They had never seen his true appearance. Even the name of Beast Emperor was a fake.

The Beast Emperor had sought them out, stating that he could help them achieve great things. However, he had a condition. They must become Evil God Apostles.

After hearing his deal, they researched what it meant to become an Evil God Apostle.

Only after investigating the matter did they understand how horrible it would be to become an Evil God Apostle. Becoming one would make them an enemy to almost everyone in the game. Moreover, after becoming an Evil God Apostle, unless one deleted their accounts and restarted, they would remain an Evil God Apostle forever. Furthermore, if NPCs captured them, their accounts would be useless.

Hence, Abandoned Wave had refused to become an Evil God Apostle, content with conducting trades with the Beast Emperor.

"Enough. Just do as I say. I'll explain things to Young Master Jing," Abandoned Wave coldly ordered as he shot the motionless Laughing Drunkard a glare.

"Understood!" With no other option, Laughing Drunkard left the room, traveling to where he usually met the Beast Emperor.

. . .

As the competition's first round had come to an end, the audience quickly shifted its attention to the second round.

The second round was a two-on-two battle. Unlike one-on-one matches, players could rely on teamwork to display even greater power.

The instant the Evil Dragon Battle Team declared their participating members, the spectator's expressions grew serious.

"They can't be serious, right?!"

"It seems that the Evil Dragon Battle Team is pissed off now! They sent those two to fight! This trip was really worth it!"

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Many large Guild upper echelons and superpower members grew excited when they saw the names of the Evil Dragon Battle Team's representatives for the second round.

For the second round, the Evil Dragon Battle Team dispatched the Witch of the West, Alice and the Speed Star, Starstreak. Both these players were famous experts from Miracle. Even Super Guilds had to take these two players very seriously.

Chapter 1155 – Swapping Weapons

As everyone watched, Alice and Starstreak slowly walked onto the stage.

Although neither spoke a word, just by standing on the stage, the audience could feel an intense pressure emanating from the two.

"So strong!"

"That is the Witch of the West?"

Shock filled Blue Phoenix's eyes as she stared at the confidently smiling, blonde, doll-like girl on the stage.

Although Alice currently wore a Black Cloak, she had not bothered to hide her appearance or equipment. Thus, Blue Phoenix could determine that the Witch wore the Flaming Sun Set Equipment.

The Flaming Sun was a Level 50 Fine-Gold Set Equipment for Elementalists. The set had a total of eight pieces.

Blue Phoenix had recognized the set because the Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion also possessed the chest piece. That was one of the several pieces of equipment they had obtained after killing a Level 55 Grand Lord in a temple ruin in the Apocalypse Empire, yet Alice wore the complete set.

That was a Level 50 Fine-Gold Set Equipment they were talking about!

Why wouldn't she be shocked?

After reaching Level 50, even Mysterious-Iron Equipment became very difficult to obtain, much less Fine-Gold Set Equipment.

The Flaming Sun Set Equipment had a slightly unique effect. After gathering all eight pieces, players could equip the set at Level 45.

In other words, Alice was at least Level 45!

She even surpassed the first-ranked player on the Fire Dragon Empire's Ranking List.

When pairing Alice's superb combat standards with the Level 50 Flaming Sun Set Equipment and Level 45, she was practically invincible among current players.

"Miracle really is impressive. I never expected that they had secretly conquered the temple ruins." Phoenix Rain's expression darkened as she watched Alice.

She had wanted to conquer those ruins for a long time.

The ruins contained a treasure called the Fire God's Eye, something she sorely needed. Now that the Witch of the West wore the complete Flaming Sun Set Equipment, this meant that the temple ruins must've been cleared. Needless to say, they must have taken that treasure.

She had planned to use the Fire God's Eye as a trump card on Thunder Island.

Now that Miracle had it, her chances of success had decreased.

Moreover, Phoenix Rain did not doubt that Alice currently had the Fire God's Eye equipped.

If the information she had found described the item correctly, there was no point in competing in the second round.

...

"Why haven't you sent anyone up yet? I don't want to wait here all day," Alice asked indifferently as her aqua-blue eyes gazed down at Shi Feng beneath the stage.

Although Silent March's defeat had surprised her as well, it had only increased her interest in Alluring Summer. As for the other members of the Asura Battle Team, she didn't care about them at all. She only wanted a quick end to this boring farce.

"Please wait a moment. We are still swapping weapons," Shi Feng said.

"Swapping weapons?" Starstreak glanced at Alluring Summer, who stood beside Shi Feng, curiously. Immediately, his expression tensed.

Alluring Summer had just passed her Death's Sigh to Violet Cloud.

Suddenly, a question popped into his mind.

Wasn't that staff supposed to be an Elementalist's staff?

Moreover, when he recalled the Skill Alluring Smile had used with Death's Sigh, he grew more serious.

•••

"Damn! The Asura Battle Team is simply too cunning! They're passing the staff they used in the first round to the person fighting in the second!"

"Genius! The competition has no rules limiting weapons or equipment to one person. With this, the next match will be interesting to watch."

Naturally, the audience noticed Violet Cloud receive Death's Sigh. An excited discussion swept through the venue.

They had already witnessed Dimensional Fracture's might, and they had to admit that it was extremely powerful.

If the Skill were used again, they might see a replay from the first round.

When Thousand Miles saw this, his expression twisted, yet he couldn't accuse the Asura Battle Team of cheating as there were no rules against their actions.

While everyone chatted among themselves, Shi Feng and Violet Cloud approached the stage.

Following which, the name list for the second round was officially announced on the floating screen above the arena.

Elementalist Alice and Assassin Starstreak VS Swordsman Ye Feng and Cleric Violet Cloud.

Everyone was confused about the Asura Battle Team's choice of classes.

In terms of classes, both sides had their own advantages. Both the Elementalist and Assassin class were classes with high burst damage. If Alice and Starstreak worked together, they could easily instant-kill a player. On the other hand, the combination of Swordsman and Cleric was more suited for attrition battles. With a Cleric's support, the Swordsman could fight without worrying too much about defense.

However, against a pure burst damage combination, the Swordsman and Cleric combination would be at a huge disadvantage. If Alice and Starstreak combined their attacks, the two could easily kill Shi Feng before Violet Cloud could heal him.

The Asura Battle Team should've fielded a Swordsman and an Assassin instead.

"Is the Asura Battle Team trying to rely on the move from the previous match and sending their sole remaining magical class player onto the stage?"

Everyone had their guesses.

Staff weapons could only be used by magical class players.

Among the five members the Asura Battle Team had brought to the Dark Arena, excluding Alluring Summer, Violet Cloud was the only magical class player remaining. Taking Death's Sigh into consideration, it wasn't surprising to send Violet Cloud into the second round.

...

"You can't be hoping to rely on the move that killed March to defeat us, right?" Alice asked Shi Feng. Laughing, she continued, "I admit that the move is indeed powerful. However, its flaws are obvious. If we didn't know about the Skill, it would certainly kill us. However, we know about it already. As long as we treat that Cleric like a melee player, we can easily disable the move. Furthermore, you have to face Starstreak and me, not March.

"Or do you think that you will have an opportunity to use that Skill?"

Alice hadn't spoken quietly. Hence, the audience had heard her clearly.

Some of the players who originally thought that the Asura Battle Team had a chance of victory couldn't help but agree with Alice's words.

Although the Asura Battle Team's plan was a good one, had they forgotten who their opponents were?

They were talking about the Witch of the West and Speed Star. If the two worked together, even if they hadn't known about Death's Sigh, they could easily emerge victorious.

"No, I believe you have misunderstood two things. First, Death's Sigh isn't an Elementalist-specific weapon," Shi Feng said, waving his hand. "Second, Alluring Summer didn't loan this weapon to Violet Cloud. Rather, Violet Cloud had loaned the weapon to Alluring Summer. It has simply been returned."

The venue fell silent after Shi Feng's explanation.

Nobody could believe what he had just said.

Such a lethal weapon wasn't actually an Elementalist weapon? Only a fool would believe that!

"A bluff! This is definitely a bluff!"

"That's right! How could a weapon like that be meant for a Cleric?!"

Everybody instinctively rejected Shi Feng's declaration.

They all knew how massive the impact would be to use a weapon not suited for one's class. It would be impossible to exert the weapon's full power.

Looking back at the power Alluring Summer had displayed with Death's Sigh, that weapon should be meant for Elementalists.

As everyone assumed that Shi Feng had been bluffing, the competition's timer began to count down.

Chapter 1156 – Inborn Witch

Although Shi Feng had not spoken loudly, every word he said made everyone present shudder involuntarily.

Particularly, the members of the Evil Dragon Battle Team, who had thought that they were already at the cusp of victory, now wore stiff expressions on their faces.

"He must've deliberately said those words to disrupt Alice's and Starstreak's mental states. Does he really take us for fools?"

"Since they're too weak, they can only use small tricks like these to have any hopes of winning."

"That's right. It's a pity that their opponents this time are Alice and Starstreak. Even if what he said is true, it won't change the outcome of this match."

"He's just bluffing. Let's see how Alice will take care of them in a moment."

...

None of the Evil Dragon Battle Team members believed Shi Feng's words. They all began laughing in ridicule as they looked at Shi Feng and Violet Cloud.

# Is it really a bluff?

Unlike his teammates, however, Miracle Dragon continued scrutinizing Shi Feng. However, even after observing the Swordsman for some time, he did not discover any awkwardness on Shi Feng's face. On the contrary, Shi Feng's eyes were practically glowing with confidence. Seeing this convinced Miracle Dragon that the Swordsman's words were true.

If Shi Feng was telling the truth and that Death's Sigh was actually a weapon meant for Clerics, then the current Violet Cloud was definitely a very threatening Cleric.

However, even after coming to this conclusion, Miracle Dragon did not bother doing anything. He only smiled as he silently watched the timer above the stage count down slowly.

Everything was just as Alice said.

Violet Cloud might be a threat in this match, but she wouldn't be able to control its outcome.

If the Asura Battle Team really thought they could win this match, then they were seriously underestimating the Miracle Guild.

...

When only five seconds remained on the timer, Alice and Starstreak, who had been motionless all this while, suddenly moved.

Alice directly chose to distance herself over 30 yards away from Shi Feng and Violet Cloud. Meanwhile, Starstreak circled around to Violet Cloud's side; his motive could not be any more obvious—to kill Violet Cloud first.

When Alice was 35 yards away, she took out a crimson, wooden staff, which had a crimson flame burning at its tip, the flame looking just like an eye that could see through everything. The moment this staff appeared, fire-type Mana began massing rampantly around Alice, the Mana casting a faint, red glow around the Elementalist. At this moment, it was as if Alice had become the Goddess of Fire.

"Although I don't know whether your words are true or not, the fact that you've exposed your trump card so soon will only lead to your miserable defeat." After Alice completed her preparations, she smiled faintly at Shi Feng. Right as she finished speaking, the timer above the battlefield hit zero.

At the same time, Alice began chanting. Although she was only double casting right now, her chanting and writing speeds were much faster than Silent March's.

In the blink of an eye, a massive, crimson magic array appeared before Alice. A tornado of flames then emerged from the magic array and extended rapidly towards Shi Feng and Violet Cloud. At the same

time, a gigantic, dark blue magic array formed beneath the Swordsman's and the Cleric's feet, freezing the ground beneath them completely. Ice-cold fog then rose from the ground, enveloping a radius of 15 yards.

This scene stupefied the audience members.

"This is the Witch of the West? She is simply a monster!" Blue Phoenix's eyes were wide open as she stared at the stage, her heart twinging with helplessness like never before.

The two Spells Alice displayed were the Tier 1 Curse Torrent of Flames and the Tier 1 Curse Freezing Fog.

Although both these Spells were extraordinarily powerful, they were extremely difficult to learn. Moreover, their casting times were also considerably long. Blue Phoenix herself needed around three seconds to cast either of those Spells. In a PvP match between experts, these Spells were simply too impractical.

Nevertheless, despite double-casting two Curses, Alice had managed to complete them in less than two seconds. This casting speed was unbelievable.

"As expected of the Witch of the West. To think she has managed to grasp even the technique to double-cast Tier 1 Curses!" Phoenix Rain wore a grim expression as she looked at Shi Feng and Violet Cloud, who were about to face an assault from ice and flames.

Magical class players were generally countered by speed-based classes due to their weak melee capabilities and long casting times.

However, in their research into the combat techniques of God's Domain, the various superpowers had discovered a technique to shorten the casting time of Spells—speed-casting—which even allowed some higher-tiered Spells to be cast instantaneously.

In God's Domain, the purpose of chanting incantations and writing runes was to assist in forming an accurate magic array and hasten the gathering of Mana for a Spell. The higher the accuracy of a magic array, the higher the completion rate of the Spell cast. Meanwhile, the higher the completion rate of a Spell, the greater the power said Spell could display. At 50% Skill Completion Rate, the system would determine a Skill to be effective and allow its activation.

Hence, as long as players managed to visualize a sufficiently accurate magic array in their minds, they could still use a Spell successfully, even without chanting or writing. Only, the higher-tiered a Spell was, the more complex its magic array would be—which naturally made imaging the magic array in one's mind more difficult. If one wished to accomplish this, they needed to go through a long adaptation process.

Meanwhile, speed-casting was a technique that required players to form a prototype mental magic array of sorts while using incantations and runes to compensate for the imperfections in the magic array. By doing so, players could save up on plenty of time.

Although the principle sounded very simple, in actual practice, the technique was extremely challenging, not to mention applying it in double-casting. This was no longer a feat that was achievable through hard work.

Fortunately for Alice, she was wielding the Fire God's Eye, which Phoenix Rain had been hoping to obtain all this time.

The Fire God's Eye had a passive effect that improved the Skill Completion Rate of fire-type Spells by 5% and other types of Spells by 3%. While this increase might seem very small, it could allow Elementalists that were still a step away from grasping speed-casting to grasp the technique, raising their combat power to a whole new level.

At the same time as Alice launched her attack, Starstreak had entered Stealth and was waiting for an opportunity to land a fatal blow on Violet Cloud.

*Ice-Fire Domain? She's using her trademark move right off the bat?* The corners of Shi Feng's mouth twitched as he looked at the approaching tornado of flames.

The Ice-Fire Domain was Alice's trademark. She would first use ice-type Spells to restrict her opponent's movements, then follow up by attacking with a large-scale, fire-type Spell. The combination of these two opposing elements would amplify the power of both Spells exponentially.

When she used this move against an MT of the same level, even if said MT had activated a Lifesaving Skill, they would either die instantly or have most of their HP taken away.

"It's up to you now," Shi Feng said softly as he looked at Violet Cloud.

Nodding, Violet Cloud began twirling the scythe in her hands while chanting an incantation.

#### Boom!

When the tornado of flames came into contact with the icy fog, like a keg of gunpowder coming into contact with fire, a massive explosion ensued, releasing a torrent of blue and crimson Mana.

Even Alice, who stood quite a distance away, had her mage robes blown back by the resulting shockwave. As for Starstreak, who was relatively close to the epicenter of the explosion, he nearly got swept off his feet.

The power of the attack greatly surpassed that of a Tier 1 Curse.

The explosion engulfed everything within 20 yards of Shi Feng and Violet Cloud, the range of the attack surpassing even that of Alice's Freezing Fog. This range could already rival that of a large-scale destruction Spell.

Chapter 1157 – Speed Contest

As the explosion came to a roaring end, the rampant Mana also gradually began to dissipate. Meanwhile, the might of Alice's Ice-Fire Domain had stupefied the many experts present.

Everybody capable of taking part in the Dark Arena was someone of high status and position. Among them, there was no lack of powerful experts from large Guilds.

At this moment, however, every one of these experts had their breaths taken away by the Witch of the West, particularly those magical class experts, who even found themselves gasping for air when they witnessed this scene.

"Spell...Combination!"

"This is too amazing! It's a true Spell Combination! Someone has actually managed to turn theory into reality!"

"So this is the Witch of the West?"

...

At this moment, the magical class players present could not help but want to rewatch the earlier scene several hundred times.

Double speed-casting was already plenty amazing. However, using it as a base, the Witch of the West had displayed an even stronger ability, and that was Spell Combination. This was a peak technique that countless magical class players dreamed of bringing off.

In God's Domain, the sight of melee classes combining the Strength of their attacks was no longer rare.

However, the difficulty of superpositioning two different types of Spells was much much greater than that of stacking the Strength of melee attacks. The reason for this was, firstly, players had less control over their Spells than over their bodies. Secondly, one's grasp of timing needed to be extremely accurate. Due to these two reasons, Spell Combination was deemed to be an impossible technique.

Yet, now, the Witch of the West had displayed that technique before everybody.

. . .

"Isn't she a little too strong? If she's grasped Spell Combination, no player in the same tier can match her." Cloud Yarn was filled with shock as she looked at Alice, who was standing proudly on the stage right now.

The other members of the Midnight Tea Party agreed with Cloud Yarn's words.

From the destructive power they saw, they could tell that the effect of Spell Combination was much stronger than that of Strength-stacking. Even just the combination of two ordinary Tier 1 Spells resulted in a power that could rival that of a Tier 2 Spell.

Being able to cast Tier 2 Spells as a Tier 1 player would provide one with an overwhelming advantage over others, not to mention being capable of combining two Tier 1 Curses together. Anyone who did not possess a Defensive Skill that provided invulnerability would be killed instantly.

"What a pity." Endless Scars could not help but sigh as she took another look at the Asura Battle Team.

Her view of the battle was mostly the same as her teammates'. However, unlike them, she did not consider Alice invincible among those of the same tier. At the very least, among the experts she knew, there were many that could contend against Alice. One of the said experts was none other than the

Sword King Black Flame, whom she had met just recently. Unfortunately, Black Flame was not participating in this competition. Otherwise, there would definitely be an interesting fight to watch if the two of them fought.

...

Just as everyone believed that the Asura Battle Team's members had already been killed and was waiting for the system to announce the victors, two vague figures appeared standing amid the scattering smoke.

"They managed to survive even that?"

Everyone could not help but grow confused. Even an MT with their Lifesaving Skill activated would most likely die when going up against that kind of destructive power, not to mention a Swordsman and a Cleric, which were inferior to MTs when it came to HP and Defense.

The instant Violet Cloud's figure emerged, Starstreak, who had been looking for an opportunity to strike all this time, activated Shadow Steps and dove straight into the smoke clouds. He then stabbed his pitch-black dagger at the back of the petite figure before him.

Starstreak completed the entire process like flowing water. He made no sound whatsoever as he moved, and included no excess movements in his actions.

Immediately, the pitch-black dagger struck at Violet Cloud at a speed invisible to the naked eye.

Ambush!

Dang!

Sparks flew into the surroundings as the clangor of metal clashing resounded throughout the stage.

Amid the little sparks, one could faintly see a longsword wrapped in blue lightning holding back the advance of Starstreak's pitch-black dagger.

He blocked it? Starstreak was inwardly surprised.

However, as a peak expert, he would not fall back just because one of his attacks failed to land.

He promptly adjusted his previous strategy as he flipped the silver dagger in his left hand into a reverse grip. In the next moment, the silver dagger began emitting cold air. He then activated the Epic ranked Frost Tooth's strongest Skill, Frost Burst, at Shi Feng and Violet Cloud.

Frost Burst was a Skill that dealt a large amount of ice-type damage in a fan-shaped area before the user. At the same time, the Skill would also freeze all creatures within the affected area for five seconds. Even if one used a Control Removal Skill, they would still be affected by Frost Burst's other effect, which reduced the Movement Speed and Attack Speed of all enemies within a 20-yard radius for 10 seconds. With this, Starstreak would have an absolute advantage throughout the Skill's duration.

Boom!

The space before Starstreak immediately turned into a world of frost.

Following which, he used Absolute Strike and struck at Violet Cloud once more.

## Peng!

However, before he could reach his target, Starstreak, who had transformed into a streak of shadow, found himself stopped without warning. It was as if his entire person had crashed into a wall.

What's going on? Starstreak was thoroughly bewildered.

At this moment, there was actually an invisible wall before him. Meanwhile, not only had this invisible wall stopped his Absolute Strike, but even the Ice Burst he used before had been blocked; both Shi Feng and Violet Cloud were completely unharmed.

In the next moment, the invisible wall shattered, and a blue sword light suddenly struck at Starstreak. The link between the two processes was simply perfect, giving Starstreak practically no time to react.

## Peng!

In the nick of time, Starstreak managed to move a dagger into the path of the blue sword light.

However, as soon as Starstreak stopped this sword light, several more followed in rapid succession, every one of them targeted at the Assassin's weak points.

What fast swordsmanship!

Starstreak hurriedly brandished his two daggers to fend off the onslaught. Each time he repulsed an attack, it felt like a hammer pounding his arms, the resulting vibrations inflicting pain.

Meanwhile, watching the numerous sword lights interweaving with one another, the audience was dazzled by what they saw.

Everyone could only see the afterimages of the hands of both sides. They could not see the swords and daggers clashing against one another at all. The speed of the battle had everyone holding their breath.

In the blink of an eye, dozens of attacks had been exchanged. If Starstreak was careless for even a moment, he would definitely get hit.

How are his attacks so fast?

After receiving dozens of attacks, Starstreak was confounded.

Frost Burst could reduce the speed of all enemies within 20 yards, yet the speed of Shi Feng's attacks did not seem to have been affected whatsoever.

If not for Starstreak being an Agility-based Assassin, Shi Feng's attacks would've struck him by now.

However, what Starstreak did not know was that the opponent he currently faced was a Level 49 Swordsman equipped with the Level 50 Magic Light Set Equipment as well as a Fragmented Legendary item. If not for Shi Feng's speed having been reduced, he would've long since defeated Starstreak in their contest of speed.

Seeing as Shi Feng had already secured the advantage, Starstreak had no other choice but to activate his Berserk Skill. Once he activated his Berserk Skill, he intended to force back Shi Feng and open a distance

between them to prevent the Swordsman from furthering his assault. Then, he would look for an opportunity to strike. After all, an Assassin did not have many advantages against a Swordsman in a frontal clash.

With this in mind, right when their weapons were about to clash once more, Starstreak activated his Berserk Skill, Phantom, his Strength and speed soaring by a large margin. In the next instant, both his daggers abruptly struck at the Killing Ray in Shi Feng's hand.

### Peng!

Starstreak felt like he had just attacked a steel wall, both his hands aching from the resulting vibrations.

In contrast, the arm Shi Feng used to swing Killing Ray only trembled slightly.

Impossible! Starstreak was stunned.

Chapter 1158 – Different Level of Competition

Starstreak knew full well the pros and cons of his Berserk Skill, Phantom.

However, even though Phantom provided only a 50% increase to his Strength, which was lower than what some other Berserk Skills provided, when combined with his equipment, even repulsing a Berserker of the same level was child's play to him.

Yet, now, even such a huge boost to his Strength did next to nothing to change the result of his clash with Shi Feng.

Thinking up to this point, Starstreak suddenly came up with an incredible thought—Shi Feng had not been going all-out at all during their previous clashes.

As for the possibility of Shi Feng having activated a Berserk Skill as well, it was simply impossible. Berserk Skills would manifest on a player's body one way or another when activated. Moreover, the strength of a player's aura would also increase.

Currently, however, Shi Feng showed no such signs. Hence, the only possibility was that Shi Feng had been hiding his strength.

Thinking up to this point, Starstreak could not help but shudder.

Shi Feng's Basic Attributes were actually so high that he could hold his ground even after Starstreak had activated his Berserk Skill.

Although Starstreak had only briefly fallen into shock, this duration was enough for peak experts like Shi Feng to land a killing blow.

"Disappear!"

Illusory Shadow!

Six blue sword lights struck at Starstreak from six different angles.

Starstreak instinctively defended himself with his daggers. However, the instant his daggers came into contact with the sword lights, his complexion immediately darkened.

The sword lights had actually moved through his daggers unhindered.

It was as if these sword lights were phantoms that did not possess a physical body.

Just as the six sword lights were about to land on Starstreak's body, the Assassin gnashed his teeth and reluctantly used Vanish. His entire person then disappeared from everyone's sight. The brief invulnerability provided by Vanish also neutralized the six sword lights.

After disappearing, Starstreak did not retreat. Instead, he chose to launch another assault. This time, he used the ultimate move of the Epic dagger he wielded with his other hand, Tooth Blade.

Three phantoms suddenly appeared around Shi Feng: a white eagle, a hungry wolf, and a black bear.

Starstreak and the three phantoms then attacked Shi Feng from four different directions.

At the same time, Starstreak himself remained in Stealth, so Shi Feng could not see what exactly he was doing.

Vanish was a Lifesaving Skill that forcibly placed one into a Stealth state for three seconds. During these three seconds, so long as one did not do anything, they would remain in a forced Stealth state. In other words, not only could Vanish be used to escape, but it could also be used to attack.

A majority of the information a human received from their surroundings came from one's vision. Hence, it was extremely difficult for one to defend against an attack that they could not see, not to mention doing so while receiving other attacks. One's vision would automatically shift their brain's focus towards the things that they could see, and this only made it even more difficult for one to defend against an attack that they could not see.

Dang... Dang... Dang...

A series of metal clashing sounds echoed throughout the battlefield.

What decisiveness! Starstreak's mouth twitched as he looked at the completely unscathed Swordsman before him.

The instant he launched his attack, Shi Feng had activated Defensive Blade without hesitation, preventing Starstreak from doing any damage whatsoever.

However, this was also a good outcome as Shi Feng no longer possessed any Lifesaving Skills.

Furthermore, Starstreak's Tooth Blade Skill had a duration of ten seconds. He could definitely finish off Shi Feng during this period.

On the other side, Alice had also begun chanting an incantation. With a light wave of her staff, over a dozen Ice Arrows and Fireballs appeared around Alice. She then sent the attacks flying at Shi Feng and Violet Cloud.

At this moment, Violet Cloud was also done chanting her own incantation as she slammed the butt of Death's Sigh on the ground.

Immediately, over a hundred pitch-black blades appeared around Violet Cloud, densely circulating around her body.

This scene instantly stunned everyone in the arena.

"How can this be?!" Endless Scars's eyes widened, her mind utterly confused as she looked at the scythe in Violet Cloud's hands. "Could that possibly be the real deal?"

According to the ancient book she read, these hundred-plus dark blades should be the manifestation of Shadow Rage, the strongest Skill of Death's Sigh.

The only thing different was that the information recorded regarding Shadow Rage stated that it would summon thousands of shadow blades when activated, each one possessing the power to heavily injure even Tier 5 monsters. When these blades were concentrated, they could slay even Gods.

Just as Endless Scars was entertaining such thoughts, Violet Cloud controlled the shadow blades to counter the approaching Ice Spears and Fireballs. She also sent some to attack Starstreak.

Upon seeing this, Starstreak immediately panicked. He hurriedly controlled his three phantom beasts to defend him from the oncoming shadow blades.

Dang... Dang... Dang...

The power packed within the shadow blades was massive. Even when Alice combined the power of the Ice Spears and Fireballs, the Spells had only managed to slow down the speed of the shadow blades and weaken their power slightly. The blades still proceeded to fly towards Alice after shattering the Elementalist's Spells.

Meanwhile, on Starstreak's side, despite him having activated his Berserk Skill already, he just barely managed to defend against the shadow blades with the help of his three phantom beasts. However, every shadow blade he blocked numbed his arms. His HP also decreased by over 200 each time.

On the other hand, Alice was brimming with excitement rather than feeling anxious. Waving the Fire God's Eye, she suddenly formed a massive, crimson magic array before her.

Just as the shadow blades were about to land on Alice's body, the ground in front of her suddenly shattered. A flaming hand then emerged from the fissure and blocked all the oncoming shadow blades.

Following which, the fissure on the ground grew steadily larger. Shortly after, another hand emerged from it, the two hands appearing as if they were trying to rend the ground and clamber up.

"How can this be? She can summon the Flame King all by herself?" Phoenix Rain was deeply shocked as she looked at the flame giant, which was slowly climbing into the stage right now.

The reason why she wanted to obtain the Fire God's Eye was not just its ability to improve the Completion Rate of Spells. More importantly, it could summon the Flame Monarch from Hell.

However, summoning the Flame Monarch required a large amount of Mana—roughly ten magical class players' Mana.

If she had the Flame Monarch's strength, claiming two monster encampments on Thunder Island would not be impossible. Meanwhile, the fact that Alice had managed to summon the Flame Monarch by relying on only her own power was simply inconceivable for Phoenix Rain.

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The appearance of the Flame King made the audience members gasp.

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[Flame Monarch] (Elemental Creature, Grand Lord) Level 65 HP 60,000,000/60,000,000

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Now that the Evil Dragon Battle Team had summoned a Level 65 Grand Lord to assist them, there was no longer a need to continue this match.

Not to mention two experts, even twenty experts would be cannon fodder when going up against a Level 65 Grand Lord.

As a matter of fact, regardless of how Violet Cloud tried to attack Alice using her shadow blades, the Flame Monarch blocked all her attacks without any difficulty. The Grand Lord was like an indestructible wall.

"That move of yours really is amazing. I never thought that I would have to use this trump card of mine. However, this match is as good as over now. Although the Flame King I summoned isn't in its completed form, it still possesses the strength of a Grand Lord. You two have no chance of winning. You might as well give up now." At this moment, Alice's complexion was slightly pale. As for her Mana, not a single point remained at the moment. However, the pride in her eyes was unwavering. "Flame Monarch, show them your strength!"

At Alice's order, the Flame Monarch roared, its voice echoing throughout the arena.

Immediately after, the air on the stage began steaming as columns of fire shot up from the ground. The columns of fire then transformed into massive fireballs, their numbers reaching 36. Every fireball was the size of a house. One could just imagine what kind of scene would occur when these massive fireballs landed on the ground.

The audience members felt their scalps tingling when they saw these fireballs.

How was this a fight between players? It was more appropriate to call this a battle between NPCs. Compared to the usual PvP matches, this match was on an entirely different level.

"Alright, time to end this!" Alice then pointed at Shi Feng and Violet Cloud.

Suddenly, the 36 massive fireballs descended on the duo.

Chapter 1159 – Matching Up against a Grand Lord

"Alice, have you lost your mind?! I'm still here!"

Starstreak was furious as he glanced at the descending fireballs.

Violet Cloud's shadow blades still had him pinned down. He did not have any concentration to spare for an escape. If these fireballs struck, he would get caught in the impact.

With no other options, Starstreak decided to use his final Lifesaving Skill, his Epic boots' Additional Skill, Flash Steps. The Skill allowed him to teleport to any location 15 yards away. It had a 1-minute Cooldown and three charges.

Starstreak used Flash Steps twice and instantly moved 30 yards away.

Meanwhile, although Violet Cloud desperately blocked the incoming fireballs with her shadow blades, the fireballs were unaffected. She also had no hope of dodging these attacks.

Similar to her shadow blades, Alice controlled these fireballs. Not only did they contain massive power, but they also had a wide attack range. With so many of the fireballs, if Alice wanted to, she could even destroy the entire stage.

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Phoenix Rain, who watched the fight from a VIP room, could not help but shake her head.

The Asura Battle Team had lost this competition.

Although each competition in the Dark Arena had five matches, the Asura Battle Team had only brought five members. Once they lost this match, regardless of whether the battle team won the next or not, the Evil Dragon Battle Team would win the competition. After all, the final two matches were three-on-three. The Asura Battle Team did not have enough members to participate. Hence, so long as the Evil Dragon Battle Team won one of the first three matches, the competition would be over.

"Sure enough, defeating the Evil Dragon Battle Team is impossible for the Asura Battle Team." Phoenix Rain was, more or less, disappointed.

Although she hadn't bet any excess resources on this competition, with how lively the Dark Arena was today, they would still earn a significant amount if the Asura Battle Team won.

However, she had only considered the idea.

...

In another VIP room, Purple Jade gritted her teeth as she watched the massive fireballs above the stage, frustration flashing in her eyes.

However, that feeling wasn't due to the match's ending.

Rather, she was frustrated with herself.

The Witch of the West had made her feel like a child, new to the world.

Before this match, she had believed that she was only a thread away from the virtual gaming world's pinnacle. Looking back at it now, however, the idea was laughable. She was far weaker than Alice regarding both combat techniques and items. It was no wonder why her Guild Leader constantly told her to work on her foundations and explore the world with Yuan Tiexin more often.

"Jade, do you see it now? This is a battle at the pinnacle of God's Domain. If you wish to challenge these people, you need to grasp your own Domain," Yuan Tiexin advised Purple Jade. "But don't feel down. You are still young. Unlike this old man, who no longer has any hope of reaching that realm, you will join their ranks one day."

In the past, he had also dreamed of leading the Secret Pavilion towards the apex of the virtual gaming world.

However, only after encountering people of that realm did he realize that the virtual gaming world was not as simple as he had assumed.

Virtual reality games had been popular all over the world for over a century now. With the world's population being so high, countless gaming experts from the younger generation emerged each year. Furthermore, God's Domain gained more influence with each passing day.

. . .

Meanwhile, on the stage, Shi Feng abruptly jumped towards the massive fireballs, meeting them in the air.

"Guild Leader?" Violet Cloud, who was desperately trying to counter the attacks, was confused.

Shi Feng activated Heavenly Dragon's Power, his aura immediately transforming. Golden divine runes flickered across his body as if he had donned golden armor.

Alice sneered when she saw Shi Feng activate a Berserk Skill.

The massive fireballs were the result of the Flame Monarch's Tier 3 Curse, Wrath of the Stars. Each fireball was powerful enough to rival a Grand Lord. Tier 1 players had no hope of defending against such attacks.

The difference in power was simply too great!

Even if Shi Feng had a Skill that provided invulnerability, she could simply control the 36 fireballs to attack him one after another. Invulnerability Skills generally had short durations. If she hit him once every second, she could continue her attack for 36 seconds.

As Shi Feng was about to collide with a fireball, he activated Blade Liberation.

Immediately, power flowed into him from Killing Ray, allowing his Attributes to soar once more.

Looking at the fireballs before him, Shi Feng tightened his grip on the Sacred Sword in his right hand and swung it forward.

Thundering Flash!

Combat technique, Four Moon Lotus!

Like a sharp blade, arcs of blue lightning sliced through the massive fireballs, one after another.

All the crowd had seen were four streaks of light leaving Shi Feng's hand.

In the blink of an eye, 23 of the 36 unstoppable fireballs split in half and exploded like fireworks.

Silence fell over the arena.

No one had expected this shocking reversal.

Even Alice was stunned.

A Tier 1 player had sliced the fireballs, which contained the Strength to rival Level 65 Grand Lords, in half. No matter how she looked at it, this was impossible, yet Shi Feng had done just that.

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"Just how powerful is he?" Phoenix Rain's gaze was fixed on Shi Feng, who remained in midair. She could not bring herself to believe that the man she was looking at was the same person she knew.

...

"Just who is he?" Thousand Miles unconsciously tightened his grip on his swords as he watched the detonating fireballs.

He knew full well how powerful the Fire God's Eye's Flame Monarch was. After all, he had handed the staff to Alice personally.

Yet, a Tier 1 player had sliced one of the Flame Monarch's team-wipe moves in half. This was simply inconceivable.

...

If this competition had been held before Shi Feng's visit to the Fallen Ark, he wouldn't have been able to repel the Flame Monarch's attacks. However, he had obtained Epic pauldrons from the killing the Mythic Fossilized Tyrannosauruses. They were called the Tough Pauldrons. Aside from Epic ranked Basic Attributes, these pauldrons only had one Skill. Moreover, it was a Passive Skill.

The Passive Skill was called Power of Destruction. When the player faced attacks with higher Strength than their own, the wearer's Strength would increase by 35%.

Against weaker enemies, this Skill had no effect whatsoever. However, against stronger enemies, this Passive Skill was godly. Hence, Shi Feng's Strength had increased by 35% as he fought the massive fireballs. In addition, he had triggered Angry Tyrant's second Passive Skill, Angry Blow, which had

doubled his Strength. It was only thanks to those Passive Skills and Thundering Flash's effects that his plan had succeeded.

However, after a brief silence in the arena, Shi Feng activated Wind Rider and charged towards Alice, who was over 30 yards away.

While he had neutralized the fireballs, he was still helpless against the Flame Monarch itself.

Once Blade Liberation's 20-second duration ended, he would be powerless to turn things around.

"You want to kill me?" Despite seeing Shi Feng flying towards her, Alice was neither surprised nor afraid. On the contrary, she was a little excited. It had been a long time since she had faced such a challenge. "Unfortunately, that won't be possible!

Saying so, Alice merged her body with the Flame Monarch's.

Without hesitation, Shi Feng executed Chop against the Flame Monarch.

However, before Killing Ray slid even one meter into the Flame Monarch, its advance halted. The Sacred Sword couldn't reach Alice in the Flame Monarch's core.

"I've already told you that you have no chance of victory. I know that you can't maintain this power for long. Unfortunately for you, my Flame Monarch can last for five hours." Alice said, shaking her head. She then controlled the Flame Monarch to attack Shi Feng.

"That's not necessarily true. Don't forget; I'm not your only opponent," Shi Feng calmly stated.

Suddenly, realization dawned on Alice as she looked across the stage.

Immediately, she noticed Violet Cloud swing down Death's Sigh in her direction.

Compared to when Alluring Summer had used Dimensional Fracture, Violet Cloud used it at full HP. The instant Violet Cloud swung the scythe, the spectators faintly saw a giant phantom appear behind her; the sight was enough to make them shudder.

Starstreak, who had planned to help Alice, was stunned. He felt as if his body were full of lead.

"Death's Phantom! It's the real thing!" Endless Scars was astonished when she saw this, waves of emotion crashing in her heart.

Space above the stage suddenly split apart.

With its hulking body, the Flame Monarch couldn't dodge the attack in time. In the blink of an eye, both the Flame Monarch and Alice split in half.

Chapter 1160 – Victory Declaration

The scene of the Flame Monarch's body splitting in half burned itself into everyone's minds. The audience shuddered.

"It died?"

"How can such a powerful Skill exist!?"

"He was telling the truth!"

Dimensional Fracture's power far surpassed the spectator's imaginations.

They finally realized that Shi Feng hadn't been bluffing.

Compared to Violet Cloud's Dimensional Fracture, Alluring Summer's was child's play.

In God's Domain, there were many Sure-kill Skills capable of instant-killing players of the same tier.

However, they couldn't accept a Skill that could split a Grand Lord in half.

Countless players would despair against a Grand Lord's high Defense. That Shi Feng's weapon had pierced the Flame Monarch so deeply had already been impressive.

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"They won?" Phoenix Rain felt as if she were dreaming as she watched Alice's bisected body gradually transform into particles of light and disappear.

That was the Witch of the West they were talking about. Moreover, Alice had controlled a Level 65 Grand Lord. No matter how she looked at it, Alice should've had an overwhelming advantage. None of the audience had believed that the Asura Battle Team could win this round. At most, they had expected Shi Feng and Violet Cloud to struggle as long as they could for survival.

. . .

"Just how many secrets is Zero Wing hiding?" Yuan Tiexin's eyes twitched uncontrollably when he saw the attack split the Flame Monarch in half

As one of the Secret Pavilion's upper echelons, he knew much about God's Domain.

In reality, Violet Cloud's Dimensional Fracture had only dealt slightly over -100,000 damage. To the Grand Lord, this could barely put a dent in its 60,000,000 HP. However, splitting the Flame Monarch in half had injured it severely.

There were very few means current players could employ to injure a Grand Lord. Normally, one had to rely on powerful Tier 3 Magic Scrolls to do so, yet the Cleric had done so with her weapon's Additional Skill...

As far as Yuan Tiexin knew, none of the various large Guilds possessed such a weapon or equipment.

In God's Domain, it was also common knowledge that the more powerful a weapon or piece of equipment was, the more difficult it would be to obtain.

Still, an upstart Guild like Zero Wing had obtained such a powerful weapon. No matter how Yuan Tiexin looked at this matter, he found it simply inconceivable.

...

The Death's Sigh in Violet Cloud's hands had also astonished the Midnight Tea Party's Endless Scars and Breeze Wine.

According to the ancient book they had found, Death's Sigh, one of God's Domain's Twelve Great Legendary Staffs, had long since been destroyed; not even a Blacksmith God could repair it.

However, no matter how they looked at it, the Cleric's Death's Sigh looked more like the real article than a replica. When she had used Dimensional Fracture, she had even summoned forth Death's Phantom.

The pressure Death's Phantom emitted was no laughing matter. Without a doubt, that was definitely Divine Might.

Otherwise, there was no way an expert of Starstreak's caliber would suddenly freeze up under such pressure.

No replica could reproduce Divine Might.

When Endless Scars and Breeze Wine thought about how Violet Cloud wielded the real Death's Sigh, they were overcome with shock.

A Fragmented Legendary item!

Although this term was no longer foreign to experts like them, they hadn't heard of any Guild obtaining a Fragmented Legendary item until now.

Fragmented Legendary items were godly items that experts constant strove to find.

Meanwhile, such a weapon had appeared before their very eyes. Why wouldn't this fact shock them?

However, Endless Scars and Breeze Wine did not know that the Death's Sigh Violet Cloud wielded was not, in fact, a Fragmented Legendary item. It was simply a replica.

Only, this replica was slightly special.

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[Death's Sigh (Replica)] (Two-handed Staff, Epic Rank)

Level 45 – Level 120 (Level 45)

Equipment Requirement: Strength 400, Intelligence 700

Attack Power +1,650

Strength +120, Agility +80, Endurance +105, Intelligence +142, Vitality +161

When staff is wielded:

Casting speed increased by 15%;

Cast range +10;

Magic damage increased by 20%;

All healing effects increased by 25%;

Spell critical rate increased by 10%;

Mana consumption decreased by 10%;

All Magical Skills +2 Levels; Ignore Levels +10.

Durability 220/220

### Additional Passive Skill-

Death's Harvest: Whenever a creature dies within 40 yards, wielder will regenerate 1% of their Mana. Simultaneously, wielder will receive a Death buff, reducing the death penalty by 1% when wielder dies. Buff can stack up to 30 times.

### Additional Active Skill 1-

Dimensional Fracture: Deals absolute damage two tiers above wielder's tier (up to a maximum of Tier 4) to an area of 20\*60 yards. Attack ignores all defensive and invulnerability buffs. At the same time, the attack will inflict a Stun debuff to everyone within 40-yards of the wielder for 3 seconds.

Cooldown: 10 minutes

(Non-Cleric classes can only use this Skill when their HP is below 50%. All effects are halved.)

#### Additional Active Skill 2-

Shadow Rage: Use Mana to form shadow blades. Every shadow blade costs 100 Mana. Each shadow blade's Strength is equal to 150% of wielder's Intelligence and inflicts an additional 20% shadow damage. Wielder can produce a maximum of 300 shadow blades.

Duration: 30 seconds Cooldown: 3 hours

(Non-Cleric classes can only use this Skill when their HP is below 50%. All effects are halved.)

The Blacksmith God Soros crafted this replica using the fragments of the Legendary Staff Death's Sigh. Replica can be upgraded by absorbing five God Crystals. Current crystals absorbed (0/5).

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Although it was a replica, it contained fragments of the real article, making it far stronger than any ordinary Epic Weapon.

When Shi Feng had appraised this weapon, he had been shocked.

As long as they gathered a sufficient number of God Crystals, Death's Sigh could evolve into Fragmented Legendary Weapon.

Zero Wing really does possess a lot of secrets. As Endless Scars stared at the weapon in Violet Cloud's hands, she could not help but cover the appearing on her face, joy and passion burning in her eyes. However, she quickly suppressed her emotions and returned to her usual calm and indifference. It seems that I need to have a chat with Abandoned Wave.

•••

Meanwhile, after Alice's death, the summoned Flame Monarch began to disappear from the stage.

Fear filled the audience's eyes as they stared at Shi Feng and Violet Cloud in awe.

Currently, Starstreak was the only member of the Evil Dragon Battle Team remaining on the stage. Unfortunately, he had no hope of defeating both Shi Feng and Violet Cloud. The match was as good as over.

A recently established Guild had contended with Miracle, which had existed in the virtual gaming world for many years. No one would believe this!

Although the competition's outcome had yet to be decided, the various Dark Arena battle teams would record the Asura Battle Team's fame, listing it as a team to take note of.

After all, this competition wasn't like the Asura Battle Team's matches against the Glorious Lions.

In the previous competition, Battle Wolves had treated the Dark Arena's competitions like a hobby. Hence, the Super Guild hadn't sent its full force into the competition. Meanwhile, it was obvious that Miracle took the competition seriously. Otherwise, the super-first-rate Guild would not have dispatched the Witch of the West and Speed Star. Most importantly, it had instructed the Sword Freak, Miracle Dragon, to lead the team.

Indeed, as everyone had expected, Starstreak stood no chance against Shi Feng, who had activated Twofold Berserk. After a few bouts, Starstreak had exhausted his means of protecting himself. Eventually, Shi Feng killed him with Instant Strike, surprising the crowd once again.

Starstreak's defeat ushered in the start of the third round. This upcoming fight would decide the outcome.

Naturally, for such an important battle, Miracle Dragon, the battle team's leader, took to the stage himself. Miracle's reputation was riding on this battle. They could not afford to lose this next match.

With each step Miracle Dragon took, his aura grew slightly stronger. By the time the man reached the stage's center, the audience felt as if they were staring at death itself.

"It'll be too boring to fight only one person. The rest of you just face together. I'll end this battle in ten moves!" Miracle Dragon proudly proclaimed as he thrust his greatsword into the ground and looked towards Shi Feng and the others.

The instant Miracle Dragon said so, the audience immediately broke into an uproar!