

The Lord 621

Chapter 621: Peace Talks

This matter needed to be properly discussed – a force of ten million soldiers was not to be looked down on. Great Qin absolutely could not make the first move; otherwise, if the four sides attacked simultaneously, Great Qin would be in a very dire position.

However, as Great Qin cleared out Hundred Bamboo, they started to feel more and more restless and started to have ideas about attacking Great Qin first.

Zhao Fu gathered all of his Generals and conducted a meeting. When they heard about a force of ten million soldiers, everyone's expressions became quite serious. Great Qin only had a total population of roughly ten million, and they definitely would not be able to defeat them.

Since they could not win in a direct fight, they had to think of subtler means. Great Qin did not lack people who were skilled at strategies and plots, such as Wei Liao, Li Si, and Shang Yang.

“Your Majesty, Great Qin should not attack in this situation, and we should instead try to pacify the four sides,” Wei Liao said as he cupped his hands.

Everyone else agreed; since they could not defeat all of the allied regions, they could only try to settle for peace.

After some more detailed discussion, they went about carrying out their plan.

Zhao Fu sent three people out as ambassadors, taking with them 50,000 pieces of Yin Bone China, 500 kilograms of spices, 10,000 bottles of medicinal pills, 10,000 pieces of equipment, and many other items, and he sent them out to the west, south, and north so as to express their friendly intentions.

The eastern side had 3.1 million soldiers, the western side had 2.6 million soldiers, the southern side had 2.6 million soldiers, and the northern side had 2.1 million soldiers. The eastern side was the strongest, while the western, southern, and northern sides were weaker.

However, the ones that Zhao Fu delivered presents to were the three weaker sides, and he did not send any presents to the strongest side. He had no intentions of doing this.

If the four sides only fended for themselves, Great Qin would be able to deal with each of them one at a time. However, Zhao Fu was worried that as soon as he started to attack one side, the other sides would also attack Great Qin.

Facing enemies from four sides, Great Qin would definitely lose, so Zhao Fu had to pacify at least three sides first. The reason he chose the three weaker sides was simple: ordinarily, people would pacify the stronger ones first before attacking the weaker ones.

After all, the weaker ones would be easier to get rid of, and after getting rid of one of them, there would be three left, resulting in less pressure. Anyone would be able to guess what Great Qin's intentions were. If that was the case, they might not accept Zhao Fu's presents and would instead choose to work with the other sides to destroy Great Qin first. After all, the biggest threat was Great Qin.

As such, Zhao Fu decided to do the opposite: pacify the three weaker sides and challenge the strongest one. Because those three sides were relatively weaker, they would not have as much confidence, especially the northern side, which was the weakest. Because they were the weakest, they might be Great Qin's first target.

As such, if Zhao Fu expressed his goodwill to these three sides, it would be quite easy for them to accept that goodwill because they did not have too much confidence in facing Great Qin with their strength.

At the same time, they would all want to see Great Qin and the eastern side fight it out and receive heavy casualties. That way, the danger they faced would be negligible, and they would be able to take down Great Qin without much effort.

Zhao Fu's three ambassadors reached the three sides, and hearing that Great Qin had taken the initiative to express their goodwill, the three sides were all extremely surprised and shocked.

The ambassadors not only took out presents and gifted them to the various factions, but they also conveyed Zhao Fu's words that he wanted to get along with them and wanted a truce. They could also sign a high-grade Contract to prove Great Qin's goodwill and that they did not intend to invade their territory.

If they liked these presents, Great Qin could send them every year in greater quantities. Currently, Great Qin was acting incredibly harmonious, and Great Qin didn't have a hint of killing intent.

The northern side was the happiest, and ten or so City Lords sat together and discussed.

A chubby man said, "What do you all think about this? I'm of the opinion that we can sign a Contract with them. Our side is the weakest, and we would otherwise be the first side to be attacked. If we sign a Contract with them, we won't have to worry about them in the future, and we can return to doing our own thing!"

An ordinary-looking young man said, "I agree. I heard from an esper that Great Qin was the creator of many of those abnormal signs and is incredibly terrifying. Our side is the weakest, so it's best that we sign a Contract with them. With a high-grade Contract, we can all rest easy."

"Ai! Let's just sign a Contract with them then. With their strength, we simply can't defend against them, and having peace right now would be the best. No one wants their city to be conquered," a ruddy-faced elderly man said as he sighed.

Hearing this, the others all nodded and agreed to sign a Contract.

At the southern side, a red-faced big man laughed as he said, "Looks like Great Qin isn't so powerful after all, and it's gone soft and sent over so many presents, hoping that we can have peace. We were all worried for nothing! As I said, we didn't even need to ally together; they wouldn't dare to attack us anyway!"

"They've sent so many presents and even offered to sign a Contract; this proves that they really are thinking of peace. Their attitude is quite good, so there's no need for us to sacrifice a large number of soldiers to attack them," a pretty-looking woman said.

"I don't mind that. I personally don't like fighting. I just want my city to not be invaded and to live with my residents and soldiers peacefully. If we can resolve this peacefully, that would be for the best," a scholarly middle-aged man said.

After some discussions, the southern side also decided to sign a Contract with Great Qin.

In the western side, there were many people who Zhao Fu was familiar with. Back when he had unleashed the Undead Disaster, many City Lords had been threatened, and many of them had now allied together.

“I feel that we can consider working together. Given how bloodthirsty Great Qin is, it’s best to be at peace with them. If they start up another Undead Disaster, we won’t be able to defend against it!” a middle-aged man with some stubble said.

“I disagree. With how evil and cruel Great Qin is, I believe we should get rid of it to prevent any disasters in the future. I heard that the other sides want to attack him as well, so I think that this is the best opportunity to get rid of him!” someone said. The one who spoke was that peerlessly beautiful woman in white.

However, another beautiful-looking woman said, “I think their attitude is quite good this time. They’ve sent gifts and said such courteous words. They have expressed their goodwill. Moreover, can’t we sign a Contract? Last time, we signed a half-year Contract, and everything was fine. I think we should sign another Contract!”

Chapter 622: Signing

Hearing that woman’s words, everyone else nodded and expressed their approval because of the Contract last time.

The woman in white said angrily, “He took so many innocent lives last time, so shouldn’t he be punished for that? Don’t you feel that we should do something instead of letting him just do what he wants? This is definitely the best time to destroy him, so I think that we should do the will of the heavens and take justice for the lives that were lost.”

Everyone looked at the woman in white, not knowing how to rebut her. After all, she had said those things out of the goodness of her heart. They had all seen the Undead Disaster and the countless lives that had been taken because of it.

All of them were filled with anger; there was not a single person who had been unaffected by those cruel scenes. However, even though they felt angry, none of them wanted to die, nor did they want their residents and soldiers to die.

“Ai! This is not a world where good is repaid with good and evil is repaid with evil; it’s a world where the strong feast on the weak. We all know what we have to do,” a handsome young man said as he sighed.

The others all agreed and decided to sign the Contract with Great Qin. Seeing this, the woman in white could only angrily leave.

On the eastern side, a valiant-looking big man coldly harrumphed, saying, “Great Qin sent presents to the other three sides and said that they were willing to sign peace Contracts, but only our eastern side has received nothing. Looks like they want to attack our eastern side, but they must be stupid to do such a thing since our eastern side is the strongest.”

“Right now, we’re not clear as to their plans, but it’s certain that we’ll have to fight with them. I want to see if we can convince the three other sides to work with us to attack Great Qin and get rid of them easily!” a cold-looking young man said.

A woman in a red robe said, “I don’t think that’s possible; I just received news that the three other sides have already agreed to sign Contracts. Since Great Qin dares to attack us, that means their strength is quite good and that they have a lot of confidence. I think it’s best that we defend for now and not attack before we have more information.”

A voluptuous young woman agreed, saying, “I also feel that we shouldn’t attack, or both of our sides will suffer grave losses while others benefit. I’m sure everyone knows that Great Qin is not the only danger!”

Everyone else agreed with these words, so they decided to not attack until they had a better grasp of the situation. That way, they would be able to attack Great Qin with more confidence.

The four sides were not completely united and very rarely were factions fully united. As such, they were easily divided by Great Qin.

The four sides around Great Qin settled down, and after hearing about this, Zhao Fu felt quite delighted and planned to quickly sign the Contracts with them.

He first went to the northern side, and neither side brought any Generals or soldiers. Zhao Fu cupped his hands, acting courteous, as he said, “Greetings, everyone!”

Everyone from the northern side smiled, and after exchanging pleasantries, they started to sign the Contract.

The Contract limited every party and their armies, so it had to be a special Contract. Zhao Fu had planned a special Contract that was three meters long and two meters wide – only such a big Contract would be strong enough to restrict all of the parties.

Seeing this massive Contract, the northern factions gave smiles of satisfaction. They would only feel safe if the Contract was strong enough to properly limit both sides.

The Contract stated that none of Great Qin's soldiers would attack the northern side or enter any of the northern side's regions, or Great Qin's soldiers' stats would be reduced by 50% and the ruler would receive a backlash and die.

The northern side's soldiers could not enter Great Qin's territory, or else their stats would be reduced by 40%.

The terms of the contract were more disadvantageous for Great Qin, as their soldiers' stats would be reduced by 50% and Zhao Fu would suffer a backlash and die. On the other hand, the northern side's forces would only be reduced by 40%. Even though it was slightly unfair, Zhao Fu did not mind, as suffering a small loss was not too bad in order to get them to sign the Contract.

Zhao Fu had been thinking and planning such a thing for a long time, or he would not have signed a Contract like this so willingly.

Following this, everyone felt quite satisfied and took out their City Lord Seals to stamp the Contract. Zhao Fu took out the Great Qin Seal and pressed it against the Contract, causing it to turn into countless motes of light that entered Zhao Fu's and the other City Lords' bodies.

It was not just the northern side's City Lords but also Zhao Fu who let out a sigh of relief. However, the City Lords were not able to tell this.

If they knew just how disadvantageous the situation had been for Great Qin, they would not have hesitated to join together to attack Great Qin.

After signing the Contract with them, Zhao Fu headed to the southern side and signed the Contract with them before heading to the western side.

However, as he traveled, four sharp sword lights shot at him, filled with killing intent. The attacks were incredibly terrifying and could cause anyone's hairs to stand on end.

Zhao Fu expressionlessly stretched out his hand, and the Sword Mark on the back of his hand flashed as the Sin Dragon Sword appeared in his hand. Zhao Fu powerfully slashed out, and a massive, sharp arc of light easily tore through the air and shattered the four rays of incoming sword light.

At that moment, four women appeared on Zhao Fu's side. One of those women was the woman in white, and the three others were City Lords from her region.

The woman in white was called Jing Qianxue, and she was the City Lord of Thousand Snow City. The three other women were called Diao Nanlu, Zhuang Yuqin, and Fu Yingyan.

Jing Qianxue was murderously glaring at Zhao Fu. When she thought of the scenes from the Undead Disaster and how it had all been caused by the person in front of her, she couldn't help but feel immense hatred. This was especially so after she had saved the baby whose parents had been killed – from then onwards, she had vowed to kill Zhao Fu.

She had made preparations by first consulting with an esper and finding out that Zhao Fu could not use his Nation Armament.

As such, she took great pains to convince her three fellow City Lords to kill Zhao Fu. Jing Qianxue knew that Zhao Fu was very strong, but she felt quite confident because it was four versus one.

Zhao Fu looked at the woman in front of him and did not feel too surprised. He lightly laughed, "Long time no see!"

Jing Qianxue coldly harrumphed and ignored Zhao Fu as she directly attacked, stabbing her sword towards him.

The three other women attacked from different directions, attacking in synchronization. It seemed that their teamwork was incredibly good.

However, facing their sharp attacks, Zhao Fu looked quite relaxed. His strength was completely different than before – he was no longer the person who had to use a Nation Armament to fight with a single City Lord.

Jing Qianxue saw that their attacks were ineffective. They had to complete this assassination as quickly as possible because they would fail if Zhao Fu's City Lords appeared.

Chapter 623: Sword Qi Vortex

“Use the sword formation!” Jing Qianxue cried.

Hearing this, the three other women retreated and stood in four directions around Zhao Fu. They raised their sword and yelled, releasing a wave of monstrous energy.

Their swords gave off a dazzling sword light that shined in all directions as four massive waves of sword qi exploded out and rushed into the sky. The dense clouds in the sky instantly dissipated, and the massive amount of sword qi continuously spun in the sky.

Heaven and Earth Essence Qi continuously gathered as the sword qi vortex became larger and larger, giving off an incredibly mighty and sharp aura that seemed corporeal.

The entire region seemed to be covered by this immense sword qi, and everyone who sensed it felt immense fear. Countless beasts started to run in terror, and in the distance, people looked at the sword qi vortex and found that something was off as they hurried over.

Underneath the sword qi vortex, Zhao Fu felt an immense sword aura bear down on him, making it so that he was unable to move. Zhao Fu tried to wriggle around but found it impossible.

Seeing this, the four women felt quite delighted. They waited for the sword qi vortex to become a bit bigger before having it explode out with power to instantly kill Zhao Fu.

Suddenly, their expressions froze as an even more powerful chilling intent rushed out. Under the center of the vortex, Zhao Fu's body was completely covered with a black fog, and only his blood-red eyes, which gave off a brilliant blood-red light, could be seen.

Zhao Fu had exploded out with the Great Qin Seal's power, and the 24 other City Lords had sent their power into the Great Qin Seal as well. Before the four women could come back to their senses, Zhao Fu had broken through the suppression of the sword qi vortex.

At that moment, Zhao Fu appeared before Jing Qianxue and raised his sword, slamming her down to the ground with immense force.

Jing Qianxue's body was like a massive boulder that had been dropped from the sky, heavily crashing onto the ground with a massive thud. The ground was unable to bear this impact, and it caved in to form a ten or so meter wide crater.

The three other women were quite shocked, and they wanted to activate the sword qi vortex. However, with one less person, the sword qi vortex had become quite unstable.

At that moment, Zhao Fu had appeared in front of another woman and pierced through her chest with his sword. Blood spurted out, and the woman looked quite confused before falling to the ground and also creating a crater in the ground.

Seeing this, the remaining two women's gazes became cold, and tears flashed in their eyes as they gave up on supporting the sword qi vortex and instead yelled as they rushed towards Zhao Fu.

The relationship between these four women was as close as sisters, and they had spent most of their time happily together. They often chatted and did things together, and the feelings between them were quite strong. Seeing Diao Nanlu possibly die, their emotions spiraled out of control.

Zhuang Yuqin stabbed towards Zhao Fu ferociously with her sword, bringing with it immense sword qi. However, Zhao Fu simply moved to the side, narrowly avoiding Zhuang Yuqin's stab.

Moreover, as their bodies passed each other, Zhao Fu didn't hesitate to slash down with his sword. A black sword light rushed forth, and seeing this, Zhuang Yuqin was given a big fright. She wanted to use her sword to block, but her hands were instantly sliced off by Zhao Fu's attack, causing her hands and sword to fall.

Zhuang Yuqin cried out, and she tried to retreat. However, Zhao Fu sent a back kick towards her. Zhao Fu's foot contained immense strength as it smashed into her chest, causing a few of her ribs to break as she coughed up a mouthful of blood and powerlessly fell to the ground below.

“Ahh!!!” Fu Yingyan’s eyes were filled with tears as she hatefully cried out, slashing out a ferocious sword light, but it was easily blocked by Zhao Fu.

Following this, Fu Yingyan charged at Zhao Fu without any regard for her life, continuously swinging her sword as crescent-shaped sword lights slashed towards Zhao Fu.

Zhao Fu also slashed out with his sword, shattering those countless sword lights and causing sword light to shoot everywhere.

Fu Yingyan could not maintain such concentrated attacks, and after a short while, she was completely exhausted. Zhao Fu slashed out horizontally, causing a formless sword qi to slash out through the air.

“Ahh!” Fu Yingyan wasn’t able to dodge in time, and her long and slim legs were cut off. Her body also crashed to the ground and made a crater.

Fu Yingyan coughed up a mouthful of blood and flipped herself over as she tried to crawl up, but Zhao Fu plummeted from the sky and slammed his feet onto Fu Yingyan’s back.

Immediately, the crunch of bones breaking sounded out as the force of Zhao Fu’s descent seemed to break all of the bones in Fu Yingyan’s body. Fu Yingyan cried out and coughed up another mouthful of blood. Her gaze became quite hazy, and she looked quite pitiful.

Not only were her legs cut off, but her body was also covered in blood as she powerlessly lay in the crater. Most of her bones were broken, and blood flowed out of her entire body.

Zhao Fu stood on Fu Yingyan’s back, and because most of her bones were broken, it was quite soft. Zhao Fu’s expression was quite calm – since they had dared to try to ambush and kill him, they had become Zhao Fu’s prey.

Zhao Fu smiled as he raised the Sin Dragon Sword and slashed down towards Fu Yingyan’s head.

“Please, don’t kill her!” someone cried out.

Zhao Fu paused and looked at Jing Qianxue, who had called out, and asked, “Why not? Just then, you all tried to kill me!”

Jing Qianxue knelt on the ground. Looking at the pitiful states of the three other City Lords, she bitterly wept as she said, "I was the one who wanted to kill you; it has nothing to do with them. You can do whatever you want to me, and I won't resist. However, please spare them!"

Zhao Fu lightly laughed and said softly, "All of you must die!"

After saying this, Zhao Fu once again raised his sword.

Suddenly, a ray of light landed beside Zhao Fu and said gently, "Your Majesty, it's best to stop. They can provide a large amount of Phoenix Qi."

Zhao Fu turned to look at Xianru beside him and put away his sword. By now, many of Great Qin's City Lords had arrived, and the western side's City Lords had also arrived.

Looking at the wretched scene, all of them felt quite shocked. The western side's City Lords thought about it and immediately realized what had happened, causing their expressions to fall.

Now that those people had tried to assassinate the other side's leader, could they still sign the Contract? Jing Qianxue had doomed them all!

Seeing that ten or so people from Great Qin had come, the western side's City Lords all felt quite nervous. If they ended up fighting, they would be in deep trouble.

However, Zhao Fu did not mind this and was still willing to sign the Contract. His army was gathered in the east to defend against the eastern side, who might advance at any moment. Zhao Fu did not bring any soldiers to sign these Contracts, while the western side's City Lords had many soldiers nearby.

If it was just with Zhao Fu's own strength, without using the other City Lords' power, he would not have been able to defeat those four City Lords so easily. Killing all of these City Lords here would not be possible.

Seeing that Zhao Fu was still willing to sign, the western side's City Lords let out a sigh of relief and also signed the Contract. As for Jing Qianxue and the three others, they were handed over to Great Qin to be dealt with.

Chapter 624: Jing Qianxue

After signing the Contract, Zhao Fu looked at the women on the ground who were barely breathing. He waved his hand and caused two sword lights to shoot out, which turned into two figures. One was a Seraph, whose name Zhao Fu found out was Mina, and the other was a beautiful young woman in green, which was Celia.

Both of them had powerful healing abilities – Mina’s was a holy-attributed healing skill, and Celia’s was a life-attributed healing skill. They quickly revived the women and restored their limbs, healing their injuries by half.

However, the women were still in an extremely weak state, and the three women wounded the heaviest were still unconscious.

Only Jing Qianxue, who had not been injured heavily, was conscious. Seeing that the other three were safe now, her tears slightly stopped. Her heart was filled with regret and self-blame – she was the one who had asked the three of them to help her assassinate Zhao Fu, and she had never thought that the situation would end like this.

“Thank you!” Jing Qianxue looked at Xianru and said gratefully. If it wasn’t for Xianru, Zhao Fu definitely would not have hesitated to kill them.

Xianru nodded and looked at Zhao Fu. Sometimes, Zhao Fu was incredibly merciless, but this was only after determining someone to be an enemy. If he treated the people around him this cruelly and viciously as well, Xianru felt that she would not have been able to stay by his side.

Zhao Fu had already forced out their City Lord Seals and had four of his City Lords go and relocate their system main cities. As for their residents and soldiers, it would be a pity not to take them.

However, they were separated by many regions, and Great Qin did not have the ability to bring all of their residents and soldiers back to Great Qin without any of the City Lords on the western side noticing. Moreover, without their orders, their residents and soldiers would definitely retaliate. A single City Lord would not be able to suppress so many people, and only by expending a great deal of effort would they be able to completely subdue those four system main cities.

However, Great Qin was currently in a crisis, and they greatly needed the population and soldiers to fight against the eastern side.

Now that they had Reality Harming Talismans, not a single player dared to oppose Great Qin anymore. As such, their opposition was mostly system main city factions, as they did not fear Reality Harming Talismans.

After thinking for a while, Zhao Fu looked at Jing Qianxue and said, “Come with us and bring all of your residents and soldiers!”

“No way!” Jing Qianxue immediately refused. Now that she and the three other City Lords had fallen into this demon’s hands, how could she bear to allow her residents and soldiers serve such a demon?

Zhao Fu lightly laughed. He knew that she would answer like this, so he said, “Then I’ll kill those three women right now and slaughter all of your cities. With our City Lords, slaughtering a city without a City Lord will be extremely easy, and the other regions won’t step in at all!”

Ji Qianxue was angered to the point that tears almost started flowing again. Facing this sort of threat, she could only grit her teeth and agree to go with Zhao Fu and persuade her residents and soldiers to surrender.

“System announcement! Congratulations, you have conquered a system main city and obtained 5,000 Achievement Points.”

“System announcement! Because you are a Legatee and you have conquered a system main city, you have obtained a large amount of this region’s Fate.”

“System announcement! You have relocated a system main city and obtained 890,000 EXP.”

“System announcement! Congratulations, you have obtained 200 War Points.”

“System announcement! Fresh Flowers Region’s four system main cities have all been conquered and relocated. The region will no longer spawn players.”

“Congratulations! You have conquered a region and obtained a Region Treasure Box!”

The plan went quite successfully, and with Jing Qianxue persuading them, the residents and soldiers of the four system main cities did not resist at all. The residents and soldiers of the other system main cities knew of the close friendships between the four City Lords, so they trusted that Jing Qianxue would not lie to them or trick them.

In the end, Zhao Fu successfully obtained four system main cities, 1.9 million residents, and 400,000 Stage 1 soldiers.

After gradually transporting those people over, Great Qin's strength once again greatly increased. Zhao Fu smiled – those four had delivered a big piece of meat right to Zhao Fu's mouth.

After returning to Great Qin, Zhao Fu gave the four women some Water of Life, helping them fully recover. The three heavily-injured women also woke up.

Xianru then handed over four sheets of paper, and Zhao Fu took out the Imperial Ruler's Seal and stamped them, forcing the title of Imperial Concubine on them.

Jing Qianxue's gaze towards Zhao Fu was filled with fury and hatred, and there was not a trace of interest or love at all. The other three women's eyes were filled with terror and fear.

A large amount of Phoenix Qi rose up from their bodies and entered the Emperor Phoenix Statue, and the Emperor Phoenix's power once again became much stronger. By now, it had a wingspan of 40 or so meters and was incredibly powerful. It was half as powerful as a Nation Armament now.

Zhao Fu was confident that with enough Phoenix Qi, it would become more powerful than Nation Armaments and even Clan Armaments.

Zhao Fu then had people take the women away and take care of them. He did not care if they hated him; there were already many women who hated him.

Zhao Fu gave the four City Lord Seals to Bai Xihan, Sun Hanxiang, Wei Qing, and Xu Liuyi. Their Loyalty was now at 90, so he could give this sort of top-class item to them.

As for the Maurya City Seal that Zhao Fu had given Bai Xihan previously, out of the Indian indigenous residents he had taken in, Zhao Fu chose an outstanding man and made him a General. He gave that man the Maurya City Seal, allowing its power to be fully unleashed.

Following this, Zhao Fu took out a box covered with gemstones – it was the Region Treasure Box.

After opening it, light shot out everywhere as a shard appeared before Zhao Fu.

This seemed to be a shard of a mask, and it was black and made of wood. It was half as big as a palm, and there were some pictures on it. However, because it was only a shard, it was difficult to tell what those pictures were. At the same time, the shard gave off a mysterious and ancient aura.

Zhao Fu couldn't help but feel quite delighted – it was another Desolate Blood Mask Shard. Now, Zhao Fu had three pieces, and he needed one more piece before he could form the entire Desolate Blood Mask.

Zhao Fu went to the Great Qin City's City Heart and placed the shard next to it, allowing it to also be nurtured by Great Qin's Fate. However, those three Desolate Blood Mask Shards did not react at all or assemble together. Could it be that they could not be used?

Perhaps the golden dragon would have some sort of secret method, so Zhao Fu decided to ask the golden dragon.

The golden dragon quickly replied, "Of course there's a way! However, you need this kingdom's Royal Clan, as this Nation Armament was a core item of their kingdom. Only with their help will there be a chance of this Nation Armament to be restored, or even the Heaven and Earth Refining Formation will not be able to do anything about it."

Hearing this, Zhao Fu felt a bit disappointed – he had no information about this kingdom, which had been destroyed long ago – how could he find its Royal Clan? Didn't that mean that the Desolate Blood Mask could not be restored?

Chapter 625 - Desolate Blood Bloodline

“I felt that one of your subordinate’s aura, Tuoba Qing’s, is quite similar to this Desolate Blood Mask Shard’s aura. Call her over and tell her to have a look!” the golden dragon suddenly said.

“Tuoba Qing?”

Zhao Fu thought about it and remembered that they still had not figured out just who Tuoba Qing was. Even now, Zhao Fu had no idea what sort of bloodline she had.

Xianru had also mentioned that Tuoba Qing had an immense amount of Phoenix Qi, and she had suggested for him to make her a concubine. However, considering that she was one of his loyal subordinates, Zhao Fu could not bring himself to lay his hands on her.

Hearing the golden dragon say this, Zhao Fu thought that perhaps they could work out Tuoba Qing’s identity through this.

If she really did have a Royal Bloodline, she would have the power of the Royal Bloodline, which was much stronger than ordinary people’s. That would explain why her Phoenix Qi was much greater than those of other people.

After thinking about it, Zhao Fu decided to call Tuoba Qing over to try.

After arriving, Tuoba Qing asked with a slight look of curiosity, “What is it, Your Majesty?”

Zhao Fu nodded and handed over the Desolate Blood Mask Shard as he said, “Come over here and drip some of your blood on this!”

Hearing this, Tuoba Qing replied with an ‘oh’ and made a small cut on her finger, causing blood to drip onto the shard. The blood was quickly absorbed into the shard, and the unresponsive shard started to give off a devilish blood-red light that instantly lit up the entire City Hall.

It seemed that there was indeed a connection between the Desolate Blood Mask and Tuoba Qing’s bloodline. Zhao Fu felt quite surprised as he looked at everything in front of him.

As she was bathed by this blood-red light, Tuoba Qing stood there, stunned, as she felt as if all of her blood was boiling. Her body heated up, and her eyes became blood-red, making her look quite savage and terrifying.

Seeing this, Zhao Fu stretched out his hand, causing countless traces of a black aura to rush out, cover the Desolate Blood Mask Shard, and seal it before asking Tuoba Qing caringly, “Are you alright?”

Tuoba Qing came back to her senses and shook her head and smiled, indicating that she was fine, before asking in surprise, “What is that, Your Majesty? It gave me a feeling of familiarity and also transmitted some information to me.”

Hearing this, Zhao Fu felt quite shocked and asked, “What sort of information?”

Tuoba Qing thought for a moment before saying hesitantly, “It seems to be about the Desolate Blood Clan! There isn’t much information, and I’m not too sure!”

Hearing this, Zhao Fu was able to confirm that there was definitely a connection between Tuoba Qing and the Desolate Blood Mask Shard and that it was possible that Tuoba Qing was part of the Desolate Blood Clan’s Royal Clan.

Zhao Fu smiled. He had thought that it would be impossible for him to find this Royal Clan, yet there was someone from it right beside him.

Seeing Zhao Fu smile, Tuoba Qing asked curiously, “What is it, Your Majesty?”

Zhao Fu told her all of the things relating to this matter to Tuoba Qing, and she looked quite surprised as she said, “For all my life, I’ve been with Wu Qing and them, living on the streets. I don’t know who my parents are, and I never thought that I would have such an identity. Is there something I can do to help you, Your Majesty?”

Zhao Fu internally asked the golden dragon about this. Since they would not be able to find this Royal Clan, what could they do to restore the Desolate Blood Mask?

The golden dragon quickly replied, “It’s very simple; make her a concubine then give her a City Creation Stone that has never been used. Have the City Creation Stone spawn people from the same clan as her, then give some City Creation Stones to the people who were spawned.

“After the number of people reach 100,000, you can use their Fate and Great Qin’s Fate as support to restore this Nation Armament. Then, after using the Great World Refinement, that Nation Armament will fully belong to Great Qin.”

Hearing the golden dragon’s words, Zhao Fu felt quite happy, as this meant that Great Qin would have yet another Nation Armament.

However, Zhao Fu felt quite hesitant about making Tuoba Qing a concubine. If she was an ordinary woman, Zhao Fu would not even ask and just make her a concubine. However, Zhao Fu felt that he could not do this to a loyal subordinate.

Zhao Fu told this to Tuoba Qing and decided to respect her decision. If she did not agree, he would think of some other way.

After hearing Zhao Fu’s words, Tuoba Qing’s face became completely red, and she looked down as she thought to herself.

Zhao Fu did not want to make things difficult for her, and he decided to ask the golden dragon if there was any other method.

However, Tuoba Qing suddenly stepped up and hugged Zhao Fu, saying shyly, “I’m... willing to become Your Majesty’s concubine!”

However, Zhao Fu calmly asked, “Why? Even if you refuse, I won’t blame you. After all, this is something incredibly important. Because you are my subordinate, I don’t want to mistreat you!”

Tuoba Qing’s face became even redder, and she said in a small voice, “Ever since Your Majesty brought us to Great Qin and gave us such a good life, I’ve liked Your Majesty.”

Zhao Fu couldn’t help but smile; he had never had any thoughts towards Tuoba Qing. He lightly stroked her hair as he asked, “Is that so?”

Tuoba Qing shyly nodded within Zhao Fu’s arms before saying, “Your Majesty, can you agree to a request of mine? In actuality, Wu Qing likes you as well and always hides in the distance to look at you. However, you have too many beautiful women around you, and neither of us has any confidence and thought that Your Majesty wouldn’t want us.”

Zhao Fu felt quite startled; he had never thought about these things before. He was quite familiar with Wu Qing, as she was one of the 12 Assassin Legatees, so Zhao Fu saw her quite frequently.

She was pretty but could not compare to those top-tier beauties. Moreover, she did not have any Phoenix Qi. The deepest memory Zhao Fu had of her was accidentally seeing her body after cutting open her clothes while fighting.

Zhao Fu thought about it and agreed to make both Tuoba Qing and Wu Qing concubines. Tuoba Qing happily kissed Zhao Fu's cheek before running out to tell Wu Qing.

Now, they only lacked one shard until they could make the full Desolate Blood Mask, and Zhao Fu had no idea when he would be able to obtain it. It was best to make preparations now so that they could immediately restore the mask after obtaining that final shard.

Afterward, Zhao Fu had half of his soldiers defend the eastern side, while the remaining half continued to clear out Hundred Bamboo. Only after controlling the surrounding four regions would Great Qin be able to confidently face the outside forces.

A few days later, Zhao Fu once again went to the outside world. This time, his gains were not as great as the previous time. He only obtained 200,000 Stage 1 corpses, 7,000 or so Stage 2 corpses, and only a few hundred Stage 3 corpses.

Apart from the corpses, Zhao Fu also bought some high-grade Talisman Stones and also received two important pieces of information.

Chapter 626: Level 1 Dukedom

The first thing was that there were two worlds besides their human world that had been devoured; it was not just their world that had been devoured.

The Heaven Awaken World was boundless and continuously devoured worlds, expanding its area. The devoured world would appear at the edges of the Heaven Awaken World, causing the Heaven Awaken World to become larger and larger.

Compared to the Heaven Awaken World, the worlds that it devoured seemed quite small and only added a bit to it.

As such, every century, the Heaven Awaken World would devour many worlds, expanding into many areas. Zhao Fu did not know just how many worlds had been devoured this time, but he heard some rumors as to two worlds besides the human world.

One was most likely a Water Race world, as 80% of its regions were covered by water. There was a high likelihood for people of the Water Race to appear in such places.

The other was most likely a Demon Race world, as the world contained a large amount of demonic qi, and only a world occupied by the Demon Race would be like that.

Even though there were eight major races in the Heaven Awaken World, there was no system to decide where they were scattered; everything was random. A human world could appear next to a demon world, next to a god world, or a devil world.

Their world was quite fortunate because if they had to face a demon world from the previous century, with how cruel and ferocious the Demon Race was, the danger that their world would face would be much greater.

However, because the demon world had been devoured at around the same time, they would have the same amount of time to develop, so the difference in their strength would not be too great. At the very least, if the demon world invaded, the human world would be able to put up some resistance.

The water world was not too dangerous either, as they mostly lived in water and did not have much need for dry land. As such, there was not too much reason for them to invade the human world.

The land in the Legacy Land was many times bigger than the water regions, and it was impossible for the Water Race to invade just for those few water regions. Perhaps they would launch a small-scale invasion, but that was nothing to worry about.

The main danger was from the previous worlds. They had been developing for far longer and could easily bully newer worlds. They were a threat to all newer worlds.

There were also the neighboring worlds. If the neighboring worlds were friendly, there was nothing to worry about. However, if they weren't friendly, one could only hope that they were not one of the scarier races, or they would also invade.

The Grassi people had wanted to fully invade the human world as soon as the Heaven Domain Boundary had disappeared, just like what the Lantong people had done to them. However, recently, their plans had somewhat changed.

Of course, if the human world was strong enough, it could invade other worlds, such as the water world or the demon world. In fact, they could even invade the Grassi people, but they had to be strong enough.

The second piece of news was that a Level 1 Dukedom had appeared in a world near the Lantong world and Grassi world. This forced the battle between the Lantong world and Grassi world to temporarily stop.

After all, the strength of a Level 1 Dukedom was too terrifying because in order to become a Level 1 Dukedom, one had to unify an entire world.

It was said that that world was a devil world, and the people there had short horns and were called the Horned Devil Race. They were incredibly powerful, forcing the Lantong people and Grassi people to stop fighting.

This matter was quite important because if the Horned Devil Race destroyed the Grassi people and Lantong people, humanity would have to face an even more powerful enemy. Zhao Fu felt quite worried and hoped that the Lantong world and Grassi world would be able to defend against them. Otherwise, their world definitely would not be able to stop them.

These two pieces of information were both quite important, as this could not only threaten the human world but also influence the direction of the human world in the future.

"Looks like we still need to develop faster," Zhao Fu muttered to himself as he sighed.

Zhao Fu felt quite unsettled and was always worrying. Only by obtaining great power would Zhao Fu be able to feel at ease.

After returning to Great Qin, Zhao Fu discussed this matter with his Generals, and afterward, Zhao Fu gave the order to increase the speed of clearing out Hundred Bamboo.

Great Qin started to work even faster and more efficiently, and soon, one week had passed.

“System announcement! Your faction has unified Hundred Bamboo, and Great Qin has obtained a large amount of Fate!”

“System announcement! Your faction has obtained another region. The main region is Xianyang, and Hundred Bamboo will automatically be made a subsidiary region!”

“System announcement! Only after establishing a Great City here can you fuse with the Region Heart!”

“System announcement! Congratulations, your Level 1 Great City has leveled up into a Level 2 Great City!”

(1800000/2300000)

3492950/6240000 892640/2482000

Zhao Fu smiled; they had finally cleared out the last region, and they could now focus on conquering the outside regions. Zhao Fu relocated another system main city over and renamed Hundred Bamboo to Bamboo Province, Great Qin’s fourth Province.

After clearing out countless villages and obtaining the EXP from four system main cities, the Great Qin City once again leveled up. Zhao Fu went to the City Hall and looked at the City Heart’s new stats.

Village Name: Great Qin City (Epic)

Level: Level 2 Great City (1,800,000/23,000,000)

Village Area: 9,400 square kilometers

Village Territory: 461,800 square kilometers

Residents: 3,492,950/6,240,000

Military: 892,640/2,482,000

Popular Support: 85

Village Special Stats: Territory Crop Output +160%, Territory Crop Growing Time -160%, Population Limit +110%, Residents' stats can randomly +11, Soldiers' stats +12%, Population Attraction +130%, chances of attracting higher grade population +130%.

Subsidiary Village Limit: 16,400

Subordinate Villages: Logue Village, Jean Village, Dorun Village, Li Family Village, Wolf Village, Ferocious Tiger Village...

Great Qin's population was now at 20.5 million, and they had boosted their military to 3.8 million soldiers. They had 23 Great Cities, five Cities, 37 Towns, and 4,169 Villages.

Of the 3.8 million soldiers, 2.1 million were Stage 1 soldiers, and 70,000 were Stage 2 soldiers. They also had a few hundred Stage 3 soldiers.

Within the Legacy Land, Great Qin's strength was simply monstrous. Zhao Fu felt quite excited; with this sort of force, he planned to face the eastern side soon. Time was becoming tighter and tighter, and they had to quickly restore Great Qin.

Under Zhao Fu's command, ranks of soldiers that gave off an austere and solemn aura marched towards the eastern side.

Chapter 627 - Battle Formation

The eastern side's six regions allied together, with 21 system main cities and 3.1 million soldiers. They had formed a simple sentry line but had not created any defenses. They seemed quite confident in their strength.

They indeed had a right to be this confident, as 90% of the 3.1 million soldiers were Stage 1 soldiers. Who could face such a force? They were simply terrifying.

Great Qin had 3.8 million soldiers, but they had less Stage 1 soldiers. Zhao Fu did not plan to directly attack, as that would result in massive injuries and casualties.

Zhao Fu and his Generals had long since discussed this and had made detailed battle plans.

"Things are bad! Great Qin has brought its army and is attacking!" Reports started to sound out in the six regions. The eastern side's factions were not surprised at all; they had been preparing for this day for a long time, but they did not expect the other side to be so fast.

The six regions' forces quickly gathered, and the City Lords quickly met together. The valiant-looking big man asked, "How many soldiers do they have? How many City Lords?"

A City Lord who had received some information lightly laughed and said, "At most, two million, if not even less. Only 60% of them are Stage 1 soldiers, and the rest aren't even Stage 1. They only have 12 City Lords, so we have a massive advantage."

Hearing that City Lord's words, the other City Lords felt much more at ease. They were able to deal with a force of this size and would be able to easily obtain victory.

However, a single region definitely would not be able to defend against a force of that size. Luckily, united, things were completely different.

"So they have two million soldiers and 12 City Lords. What should we do?" one of the City Lords asked.

The valiant-looking big man said in a loud voice, "We gather our forces and crush them in one fell swoop. Now that we have 3.1 million soldiers and 21 City Lords, there's no need to fear them; victory will definitely be ours!"

Most of the City Lords nodded and agreed, as they did indeed have a massive advantage.

However, some people were a bit hesitant. An elderly man said, "I think we should defend for now and wait until they reach us. That way, we'll have a bigger advantage. I feel that something's off; even though their forces aren't very scary, perhaps they have something hidden up their sleeve.

"Moreover, they know that we've allied together and how many soldiers we have. It's impossible that they'd send two million soldiers and 12 City Lords to just die; they're definitely hiding something!"

Hearing this, everyone else also sank into deep thought. They all started to feel suspicious towards such a direct advance.

However, the valiant-looking big man said disdainfully, "Perhaps they think they can beat us with their two million soldiers. I don't believe that a single faction's strength is greater than our six regions combined together. Moreover, we haven't constructed any defensive walls, and there aren't any good places for us to defend, whereas they have already advanced.

"We can build some defenses for now, but all of our forces are gathered here. If we don't take the initiative to attack and they instead attack other regions, what will we do? All of our forces are here, so our cities are defenseless and won't be able to stop them."

What the man said was right, and the rest of the City Lords fell into silence.

Suddenly, one of the other City Lords thought of something and said, "How about we form a defensive battle formation while advancing so that we can stop them from moving to other regions? We'll focus on defense and not take the initiative to attack. No matter what they do, we'll be prepared. What do you all think?"

This method guaranteed engaging Great Qin's forces but also prioritized defense. Adding on their numerical advantage, many of the City Lords approved, and the elderly man and valiant-looking big man also agreed.

Following this, the eastern side's army formed a massive formation with Shieldbearers on the outside, Infantrymen behind them, and Archers at the back. The Cavalry was organized into a separate group by themselves.

On the battlefield, the Cavalry was like a sharp blade. Because of the horses, it was incredibly difficult to integrate them into battle formations, so they could only be used for charging, breaking through, and disrupting.

The eastern side's army was like a massive flood and gave off a somber atmosphere as they shook the surrounding thousands of kilometers. There were not any sounds from birds or insects from the mountains and forests; there was only a terrifying silence.

Great Qin's army also gave off a world-shaking aura. All of their expressions were incredibly serious, and each step they took sounded like thunder. They showed no fear at all towards the army in front of them.

Very soon, the two armies faced off in this region, and the air became incredibly heavy. Even the wind seemed to feel incredibly sharp.

Zhao Fu looked at the massive battle formation in front of him and felt quite shocked. This battle formation's defense seemed quite powerful, and without enough force, it would be impossible to break through and cause this battle formation to collapse.

At that moment, the eastern side's City Lords exploded out with their auras and rose to the sky. Great Qin's City Lords did the same and also stood in the air.

The eastern side's army would not attack first, and they were instead waiting for Zhao Fu to attack.

Zhao Fu couldn't help but laugh; he wasn't that stupid. If he used his two million soldiers to charge at the three million soldiers arranged in a battle formation, not only would he not be able to break through, but he would also suffer disastrous losses.

However, Zhao Fu had a goal in mind, which was to lure them out and deal with them together, rather than directly attacking.

"Retreat!" Zhao Fu ordered, and the massive army started to retreat.

The eastern side's City Lords looked quite shocked; they had never thought that Great Qin would retreat so easily like that. They had only just faced off, yet they were retreating without even fighting. This was simply too cowardly!

The eastern side's City Lords looked at each other, not knowing what to do. They had formed a battle formation and were waiting for Great Qin to attack to see if they had any hidden methods. However, they had never thought that Great Qin would retreat so easily without any intentions to attack.

"What do we do? Do we attack? Or do we stay here and defend? Or should we retreat as well?" one City Lord asked.

"Of course we should attack!" the battle-loving big man yelled impatiently.

The elderly man looked over and saw that Great Qin was withdrawing quite quickly without any intention of stopping. It did not seem like they would be able to quickly turn around and attack.

If the eastern side's army rushed up and attacked from behind, they might be able to heavily injure them. As such, the elderly man voiced his thoughts and agreed with the big man.

The other City Lords felt the same, and because they did not sense anything strange, they also gave the order to attack.

The battle formation below immediately collapsed, and the soldiers flooded forwards towards the Great Qin army while the 20 or so City Lords turned into rays of light and sped forwards.

Chapter 628: Disaster Cavalry

Seeing them charge over, Zhao Fu gave a cold smile and had the retreating soldiers continue to retreat while the City Lords were to stop.

The eastern side's City Lords did not know what Zhao Fu was thinking, having the army continue to retreat while having the City Lords stay behind.

Zhao Fu raised a hand, and his Disaster King Ring flashed with a black light, causing dark clouds to gather.

Boom!!

Below, the ten Disaster Cavalrymen raised their black swords, roaring as ten pillars of black light shot up into the air. The entire sky shook as a massive amount of deathly aura formed dense, black clouds, and a gigantic black magic formation appeared, giving off a boundless deathly intent.

Boom! Boom!

Two massive explosions sounded out as a large amount of Undead aura suddenly exploded out from the sides. The ocean of deathly aura flooded towards the eastern side's army, bringing with it a soul-chilling coldness.

The eastern side's City Lords' expressions fell, and they realized what Zhao Fu's goal was. They immediately yelled, "Hurry! Arrange the formation!"

The soldiers also felt that something was off, and they had long since stopped their charge. They quickly gathered together and formed a defensive battle formation.

The countless Undead excitedly roared and swarmed towards the eastern side army from both sides. From above, one would be able to see two massive tides flowing at the eastern side army from both sides.

After clearing out the four regions, Great Qin had obtained many corpses. There were human corpses, Outlander corpses, and beast corpses. Zhao Fu had stored up all of those corpses just for this day to use the Undead army to whittle down the other side's numbers.

There were about six million Skeletons in total, and they charged at the eastern side's army from two sides. These Skeletons were more powerful than ordinary Skeletons, but they did not have Stage 1 strength. If there were a few of them, they would have easily been slaughtered by the system main city soldiers, but the Skeletons always achieved victory through numbers.

Soon, the two waves of Skeletons smashed against the massive army with immense force.

Surprisingly, the Shieldbearers explode out with all of their strength and gripped their shields, while the Infantrymen and Archers continuously attacked, causing all sorts of lights to fly everywhere, temporarily stopping the Undead army's charge.

This made sense because even though the six million Skeletons had double the army's numbers, they were individually many times weaker.

As such, the army was able to temporarily hold off the Skeletons. If there were more Skeletons and they attacked fiercer, perhaps they would be able to break through this battle formation. However, the countless Skeletons were blocked off by the Shieldbearers, while the Infantrymen and Archers attacked.

The Infantrymen behind the Shieldbearers released waves of sword light, saber light, and spear light that easily collapsed the Skeletons' bodies. The Archers shot out arrows that brought with them streams of air. Ordinary arrows were quite ineffective against these Skeletons, and only by hitting their heads could they instantly kill them.

However, these arrows with streams of air, though not sharp, carried a blunt force to them. The streams of air were as thick as a fist, and hitting a Skeleton would be like striking it with a hammer.

The Skeletons seemed quite helpless against the system main city army, and soon, they would all be killed.

However, Great Qin still had its army.

Great Qin was unable to control the Skeletons, so if Great Qin's soldiers were too close, they too would be attacked by the Undead. However, because they had retreated some distance away, they were quite safe. At that moment, the 1.8 million soldiers who had been hiding also charged out.

Great Qin's 3.8 million soldiers and 28 City Lords were all prepared for battle.

"Fire!"

As this command sounded out, countless Archers drew their bows and released their arrows, causing the air to be torn as countless arrows streaked through the air and rained down.

Just as the eastern side's army was dealing with the Skeletons, that immense arrow rain descended from the sky. The 21 City Lords wanted to work together to stop it, but Great Qin's City Lords turned into rays of light and shot at the eastern side's City Lords, engaging in a massive battle.

Below, many system main city soldiers were hit by the arrows, causing blood to fly everywhere. Some people were instantly killed, while others suffered heavy injuries and cried out pitifully.

The eastern side's army could only do their best to kill the Skeletons; only by killing all of the Skeletons charging at them would they no longer have to passively defend like this. As their attacks became more ferocious, the Skeletons' numbers started to decrease faster.

The eastern side's army had roughly 300,000 Cavalry, and they used the advantage of their speed to go around the Undead army and rush towards Great Qin's army like a sharp sword.

Great Qin's Cavalry had been waiting for them. By now, Great Qin had 500,000 Cavalry, and the ones at the front were 70,000 Stage 2 soldiers.

"Charge!!" Seeing the system main city Cavalry rushing at them, Great Qin's prepared Cavalry rode on their Black Forest Horses and also charged over.

The ground continuously trembled, and the sound of horses galloping could be heard in the surrounding few kilometers. Both sides looked incredibly solemn as they gripped their weapons and rode their warhorses as they sped forwards.

Both sides were like massive floods, continuously closing the gap between them and the other side.

Boom!!

A massive explosion sounded out as both sides' Cavalry intensely clashed. The sound of countless weapons hitting each other could be heard, and the air seemed to explode, causing the heavens to shake.

Suddenly, Great Qin's 70,000 Stage 2 soldiers exploded out with their full strength, causing a black flame to ignite around their bodies. A terrifying aura spread out as their expressions became wild and they gripped their spears.

"Kill!!" The 70,000 Stage 2 Cavalrymen were like a lightning bolt that directly charged through and pierced countless system main city Cavalrymen, littering the ground with their corpses. A single

Stage 2 Cavalryman could easily pierce four or five Stage 1 system main city Cavalrymen without any resistance.

“Kill! Kill! Kill!” The other Cavalrymen also roared as they also fiercely charged over. The system main city Cavalrymen were unable to defend against them at all, and their formation started to collapse. The battle between the Cavalrymen of the two sides quickly concluded.

Swish, swish, swish...

The sound of the air being torn continued to sound out as countless sharp arrows continued to rain down on the system main city soldiers.

“Arghhhh...” Pained howls sounded out as blood splattered everywhere. Countless people were hit by the arrows, and this was already Great Qin’s fourth wave of arrows, killing around 600,000 to 700,000 people in total.

However, two million or so of the Skeletons had died as well.

Zhao Fu looked over the situation and ordered for Stage 1 ballistae to be brought out. The eastern side’s defenses with the Shieldbearers were too powerful, and the Skeleton army could not break through.

Zhao Fu did not care if the Skeletons were hit; he just wanted to use the Stage 1 ballistae’s power to destroy this shield wall.

With a Stage 1 ballistae’s power, even if a Stage 1 soldier carried a heavy shield, they would be forced back a few steps if they were hit. If they were forced back, the shield wall would naturally collapse.

Chapter 629 - Great Battle

The ballistae shot out bolts that carried an immense amount of force that blasted towards the shield wall.

Bang! Bang! Bang...

Muffled thuds sounded out as the ballistae bolts landed on the shields, and their immense force caused the Shieldbearers to take a few steps backward.

Even though they were unharmed, their shieldwall had been destroyed, and they were unable to quickly reform it. The countless Skeletons did not fear death, and because they were excited by the prospect of killing living creatures, they quickly rushed towards the openings.

The shield wall looked like it was going to collapse, but the soldiers quickly killed the Skeletons that had entered, and the Shieldbearers pushed backward. Moreover, a dirt-yellow aura appeared around their shields.

The waves of yellow light joined together, forming an aura that seemed as steady as a grand mountain and incredibly indestructible, and it seemed quite extraordinary.

Zhao Fu slightly narrowed his eyes, and he once again ordered for the Stage 1 ballistae to be fired.

Ballistae bolts once again drew arcs through the air before descending, while the defending Shieldbearers roared, causing the yellow light to become even brighter.

After entering the region covered by the yellow light, the ballistae bolts significantly slowed down, and most of their power was stopped by the yellow light. The ballistae bolts only had a small portion of their strength left as they hit the shields, causing light clanging sounds. However, they were unable to pierce through the shields or push the Shieldbearers back, falling to the ground uselessly.

“Use the Talisman Bolts!” Zhao Fu ordered. The soldiers took out 1.5 meter long ballistae bolts that were covered with engravings. There was a white Talisman Stone at the center of each of the ballistae bolts and a small energy stone at the end of each.

The soldiers placed these Talisman Bolts on the ballistae and once again aimed at the shieldwall.

“Fire!” Zhao Fu ordered as countless Talisman Bolts shot out.

Boom! Boom! Boom!

The Talisman Bolts turned into massive rays of light, giving off a sharpness that seemed to be able to pierce the sky, and they left behind faint traces in the air.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

The Talisman Bolts not only pierced the shields, but they stabbed through the Shieldbearers and the Infantrymen behind them. Blood flew everywhere as their bodies exploded, but the rays of light continued onwards, destroying everything in their path.

Roughly 10,000 Talisman Bolts opened up a gap that was tens of thousands of meters wide, and bloodied trails of limbs and guts extended for dozens of meters.

Sensing this aura of death, the countless Skeletons madly surged forwards, and the remaining Shieldbearers were unable to make up for such a massive gap. Adding on the continued barrage of arrows, the eastern side's formation gradually crumbled.

Seeing how mighty those Talisman Bolts were, Zhao Fu gave a satisfied grin. The Talisman Bolts' materials were Blue grade materials, and they were combined with White grade Talisman Stones and energy stones. Each Talisman Bolt was worth ten or so gold coins, and because of how rare Talisman Stones were, Zhao Fu had only made 10,000 Talisman Bolts as a massive killing tool.

Zhao Fu was quite pleased with the Talisman Bolts' effects. Since they had the ability to create things using talismans, they should use them in all sorts of ways. With how powerful these Talisman Bolts were, it would be worth making some more of them.

The battle in the sky was also quite intense, and terrifying shockwaves rippled out in all directions, sending fear into countless people's hearts. Seeing the shield wall collapse and the Skeletons flooding in, the eastern side's City Lords' expressions became quite unsightly.

They had already lost, and because they did not want to fight to the death, they gave the order to retreat.

However, even though they wanted to retreat, actually doing so was not so easy. Not only were they tied down by Great Qin's City Lords, but all of the soldiers were also tied down by the Skeletons. Because of how much these Skeletons hated the aura of living beings, they tightly stuck on to the soldiers and would not give up until the soldiers were all dead.

Boom!!

After being surrounded by a few of Great Qin's City Lords, one of the eastern City Lords was finally killed. After all, Great Qin had 28 City Lords while the eastern side only had 21.

Zhao Fu's job was to give commands across the entire battlefield, or with Zhao Fu's power, facing three City Lords by himself would have been no problem at all.

The first City Lord's death was a massive blow to the eastern side, and their morale plummeted. They wanted to run even more now, as no one wanted to die. With this sort of mentality, their battle power became weaker and weaker.

Boom!!

Light shot out everywhere, and after killing one of the eastern City Lords, Great Qin had even more people attack the other City Lords. Another City Lord was caught off-guard and was stabbed through the heart by Bai Qi.

With another City Lord dead, the eastern side's morale took another blow and greatly plummeted.

Below, the system main city soldiers obeyed the City Lords' orders and started to retreat, but the Undead did not let them go. It was almost impossible for them to retreat, forcing them to defend against the Skeletons' attacks while also trying to avoid Great Qin's arrows.

In the end, only 1.4 million soldiers were left, which was quite a heavy loss. However, most of the Skeletons had been killed, and now they had to face Great Qin's actual army.

Zhao Fu gave the order to attack, and the Cavalry rushed forwards like a sharp sword. The 70,000 Stage 2 soldiers were essentially invincible, and they slaughtered everyone in their way. They led the other Cavalry forwards to make way for the rest of the army.

Following this, the Infantrymen also rushed up and started to kill. Great Qin's 3.8 million soldiers were all in peak condition, while the system main city soldiers were all exhausted and injured. Moreover, their morale was incredibly low, and facing Great Qin's ferocious onslaught, they were forced to continuously back down.

Seeing this, the City Lords in the air completely gave up hope and did not hesitate to do all they could to run away. They had already lost, so if they stayed here, they would all die here. As for the soldiers, they weren't in a position where they could pay any attention to them.

Soon, the battle finally concluded with corpses littering the ground and blood covering everything as far as the eye could see. Weapons were scattered everywhere, and a pungent smell of blood filled the air.

After the situation with the soldiers had been stabilized, Zhao Fu also rushed into the sky and entered the battle.

Of the 21 City Lords, five used special methods to escape, three were captured, five surrendered, and eight were killed.

Roughly 200,000 system main city soldiers escaped, roughly 380,000 surrendered, and the remaining 2.6 million were killed.

All of Great Qin's Skeletons had died, and they also lost 80,000 soldiers. They also had many injuries, but with the results of the battle, these injuries and casualties were acceptable.

A long time ago, losing 80,000 soldiers would have been a heavy blow to Great Qin. Even though the losses were acceptable, Zhao Fu still felt some pain within his heart.

Following this, Zhao Fu ordered his people to conquer and relocate the system main cities of the City Lords who had been captured, killed, or had surrendered. Great Qin's army was still in good condition, so Zhao Fu gave the order to attack the nearest region and bring back as many people as possible.

Chapter 630: Swordcorpse

Great Qin quickly invaded the next region and surrounded a system main city. The system main city's City Lord had already died, or else they could have had that City Lord persuade his residents to surrender.

Each system main city had at most 400,000 residents, and because most of the soldiers had died, they barely had any battle power; they were just ordinary civilians.

They had already relocated the system main city, and the residents were quickly packing their things in terror, preparing to escape.

However, they had never thought that Great Qin's army would arrive so quickly and surround them.

Zhao Fu did not waste any words and had those who were willing to surrender come out, while those who were not willing to surrender would be burned with the city. Zhao Fu did not bother having his soldiers charge in and unnecessarily increase the number of casualties.

Under the pressure of the army and many City Lords, most people rationally chose to come out and surrender. There were about 280,000 of them, but roughly 100,000 or so people were unwilling to surrender and stubbornly remained within the city.

Zhao Fu ordered his soldiers to release fire arrows, lighting up the entire city. The raging flames devoured everything, and many people were burned to death. Some people wanted to rush out and fight to the death with Great Qin, but the Archers had been long since prepared, and those people's corpses covered the ground.

After taking care of this system main city, Great Qin's army headed toward the next one. That system main city's City Lord had surrendered, so they were able to easily obtain 400,000 or so people.

After obtaining so many people, Zhao Fu started to construct teleportation channels to send these people back to Great Qin. Otherwise, it would be quite difficult to travel with so many civilians.

Just like that, Great Qin continuously went to system main cities. However, because of the time it took, many of the residents had escaped by the time they arrived, but Great Qin's gains were still quite shocking.

A few days later, Zhao Fu sat in the Meeting Hall and listened to Wang Jian give his report. In total, Great Qin had obtained 5.4 million people, which was equivalent to one-quarter of Great Qin's current population. Zhao Fu had to take great care in settling them in and integrating them in order to prevent any uprisings.

Apart from population, Great Qin had also obtained 16 system main cities and an extraordinary amount of EXP to the point that the Great Qin City was about to level up again.

Moreover, they had also obtained six Region Treasure Boxes. Region Treasure Boxes were incredibly valuable, and after suddenly obtaining six of them, Zhao Fu couldn't help but grin.

After hearing how the eastern side had been crushed, all of the other sides rejoiced that they had not fought against Great Qin. They also felt some regret in not allying together, or they may have been able to deal with Great Qin. However, Great Qin's strength had become many times more powerful, and those three sides no longer had the opportunity to fight Great Qin.

Xianru was currently writing imperial decrees, and Zhao Fu looked at the four women in front of him, who were the City Lords that Great Qin had captured.

The first was wearing a red dress and had incredibly red lips. Her looks were quite good, and she had a graceful and seductive figure. She was called Fu Ningqin.

The second looked around 15 years old and looked quite cute. Zhao Fu had no idea how she had become a City Lord, and she was called Gongliang Qinruo.

The third looked quite beautiful and had a sweet figure and white skin. She was a classical beauty and was called Pang Ziling.

The fourth was a mature woman who had a mature figure and seductive looks. She was called Li Chun.

Zhao Fu glanced over them before making them concubines. As City Lords, they had quite a bit of Phoenix Qi, causing the Emperor Phoenix Statue's power to become a bit stronger.

Great Qin now had an extra 16 City Lord Seals. Zhao Fu did not take away the City Lord Seals from the City Lords who surrendered and gave the remaining City Lord Seals to others who had performed well.

Next, it was time to open the six Region Treasure Boxes. The things that Region Treasure Boxes contained were quite extraordinary and valuable, so Zhao Fu felt quite excited.

Zhao Fu opened the first Region Treasure Box, and light shot out before a talisman paper appeared before Zhao Fu.

The talisman paper was blood-red and 30 centimeters long and ten centimeters wide. There were runes drawn with black ink, and the talisman paper gave off a very strange aura.

[Swordcorpse Talisman]: A very evil talisman that is incredibly difficult to create. It can turn a corpse into a sword. The higher the grade of the corpse, the higher the grade the sword will be.

Zhao Fu felt that this talisman paper would be quite useful in the future, and he opened the next Region Treasure Box expectantly.

After the light faded, a large object appeared before Zhao Fu. It was another Dragon-Slaying Ballistae, and with its might, it was quite good as the second item.

Following this, Zhao Fu opened the third Region Treasure Box. A square-shaped azure jade appeared in front of Zhao Fu, and he looked at its description curiously.

[Azure Stone Divine Art]: S grade, Type: Art, Description: A stone-type art that provides one with a powerful defense after cultivating it. It is one of the more powerful Arts.

“An Art?” Zhao Fu felt quite surprised. Arts were not rare within the Heaven Awaken World, and one could find them being sold on the streets. They also dropped often when killing creatures.

For Basic Arts, if one engraved them onto a Profession Change Stone Stele, others could learn the Art by using the Profession Change Stone Stele. That was why Arts were quite cheap in the Heaven Awaken World.

However, that was only limited to Basic Arts. Arts were split into different levels, and Basic Arts were incredibly easy to find. However, higher-grade Arts were quite rare.

Moreover, higher-grade Arts required a vessel, which people could use to learn the Art. For example, the vessel of this Azure Stone Divine Art was the azure jade. Only with the azure jade would Zhao Fu be able to cultivate the Azure Stone Divine Art, and even if other people knew the technique, they would not be able to cultivate it without the jade.

Zhao Fu did not care much for Arts because low-grade ones were quite common, while high-grade ones could only be learned by a single person.

Zhao Fu did not bother with Arts, and he did not plan on using the Azure Stone Divine Art, as he already had the Great Qin Mantra, which was Great Qin's Legacy Art.

The benefits of using the Legacy Art were that it would become more powerful as the city became more powerful, and it also gave bonus stats, such as cultivation speed and recovery speed. Moreover, it would help one become more unified with Great Qin and make it easier to use Great Qin's Legacies.

The Great Qin Mantra was also split into different levels, and it changed according to one's position. The ordinary soldiers had the Great Qin Mantra, which was a D grade Art.

Captains received Great Qin Soldier Cultivation, which was a C grade Art, and Generals received Great Qin General Refinement, which was a B grade Art. Commanders and Great Generals received Great Qin General Heart, which was an A grade Art.

As the ruler of the Great Qin, Zhao Fu had the Great Qin King Art, which was an S grade Art.

That was the benefit of a Legacy; other Arts did not have this sort of effect, and this was the benefit of being a large empire.