

The Lord 71

Chapter 71: Holy Ring Light

Gongsun Lin came back to her senses and replied, "If you can get me a Smithy, I'll forge the equipment for you. However, my forging speed is quite slow, so you'll have to be prepared to wait for a while."

Zhao Fu nodded. He understood that it would be quite difficult for a player to forge Gold grade equipment, so he was prepared to wait. Following this, he prepared to find a Smithy for her.

"By the way, what equipment do you want? Hardearth Rock is suited for making heavy weapons or shields," Gongsun Lin said.

Zhao Fu stopped and thought for a moment. Hardearth Rock was suited for making heavy weapons or shields? None of his subordinates used heavy weapons, so it would be better to make a shield. They might have to fight with the godly spirit's clone, and having a Gold grade shield would make the fight much safer for them.

Upon making his decision, Zhao Fu told Gongsun Lin to make a shield before hiring a Smithy for her. At the same time, he bought some other materials that were necessary to make the Gold grade equipment. That was all he needed to do to forge the Gold grade equipment.

Afterwards, Zhao Fu returned to the Great Qin Village and gave the A- grade skill, Holy Ring Light, to Daisy. She was an Elven Priest and had high Intelligence, so she might be able to use Holy Light skills.

Zhao Fu and Old Logue were both Demon Priests, so they definitely wouldn't be able to use Holy Light skills. Therefore, the next best choice was Daisy.

Zhao Fu called Daisy over and handed the Holy Ring Light skill to her to see if she could use it. After he saw the skill being absorbed into her body, he let out a breath – it seemed that she could use it.

Zhao Fu wanted to see how strong the skill was. Liu Mei and Wang Ergou were also quite curious, and the 4 of them went to a cliff face for Daisy to try out the Holy Ring Light.

Daisy stood about 10 or so meters away from the cliff face and lightly breathed out. She closed her eyes in preparation – A grade skills were not as easy to cast as fireballs, and they required much more concentration.

As Daisy closed her eyes and stood there, a faint white light glowed around her body, and her aura seemed to change, making her look incredibly holy and pure. She slowly raised her hand and pointed at the cliff face.

A white light shot out from her finger soundlessly and incredibly quickly. It reached the cliff face in an instant, but at that moment, something strange happened.

The white light split into two, then three, then four, and it kept splitting until there were seven rays of light, which became seven rings of light of different sizes. These rings of light were layered on top of each other and smashed into the cliff face.

BOOM!!!

A massive explosion sounded out as fragments of rock and sand flew into the air. Seven differently-sized rings had appeared on the cliff face: the outermost one was 10 meters wide and the innermost one was 1 meter wide. The seven rings penetrated about one meter deep into the cliff face, and in front of this skill, normal weapons were like trash.

In actuality, Daisy had not been able to release the full might of the Holy Ring Light because she was only at Stage 0-5. In the future, when Daisy's cultivation was higher and she could fully grasp the skill, its might would be hundreds of times more powerful.

However, Zhao Fu was quite satisfied with this already. After all, his Hell Fireballs were only able to create shallow, 1-meter wide craters on the cliff face.

After returning to the Great Qin Village, Zhao Fu resolved some internal affairs. The two exploration teams had now explored the 70-kilometer radius area around the Great Qin Village and conquered another two Basic Villages and an Intermediate Village. Now, Zhao Fu had 27 villages under his command.

At this moment, a soldier came to report that he had found a brigand stronghold about 74 kilometers east of the Great Qin Village that had roughly 5,000 people.

Zhao Fu nodded. During these past few days, he had been taking care of business matters, and now that an Advanced Village had been found, he would personally lead his soldiers to attack it.

Now, the surrounding 70-kilometer radius area was under Zhao Fu's control. The bronze concentrate mine was about 50 kilometers away, so it was relatively safe. Zhao Fu brought along an additional 1,000 soldiers and took his 3,000 soldiers towards the brigand stronghold.

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A day later, Zhao Fu and his soldiers reached the brigand stronghold on a bright morning.

Standing from a position above the stronghold, Zhao Fu looked down at it. The stronghold had 5,000 or so people and the terrain was quite complex. There was only one entrance to the stronghold. The walls were made of stone, and there were two big doors made of firm, tough wood. There were people patrolling both on and below the walls, making security quite tight. Adding on the terrain, the stronghold was easy to defend and difficult to attack.

Zhao Fu noticed that there was a strange stone platform in the stronghold, which was about 8 meters tall. It was unlikely that the people in the stronghold had built it out of boredom, so Zhao Fu kept it in mind.

Next, they started to discuss tactics on how to take down the stronghold. Zhao Fu and his close subordinates gathered around and discussed possible ideas. The stronghold only had a single entrance, so Zhao Fu's soldiers would not be able to infiltrate the stronghold, ruling poison out.

Moreover, it seemed that the stronghold had a lot of food stored up, so not many people went hunting. They only sent out small teams to bring back meat, so they could not rely on that either.

It seemed that Zhao Fu had to think of a way to lure most of the brigands out. After thinking about it, Zhao Fu decided to send all 350 of his Goblins to pretend to attack the stronghold. Of course, they would not actually go too close because Advanced Villages all had Shieldbearers and Archers. If his Goblins attacked the stronghold, his casualties would be quite great.

However, just as they were about to carry out the plan, some soldiers came to report that they had caught a few suspicious people. Hearing this, Zhao Fu went to have a look.

Following this, a few youths in tattered clothing were brought over, and Zhao Fu looked at them as he asked, "Who are you?"

Most of these people seemed quite frightened, but there was one who remained calm and looked at Zhao Fu while asking, "Sir, are you thinking about attacking this brigand stronghold?"

Zhao Fu nodded. Seeing this, the others looked quite delighted.

At this moment, the calm youth respectfully saluted Zhao Fu and said with eyes full of hatred, "This lowly one is called Xiao Jian, and I am the son of the Hundred Flower Village's Village Chief. Our village was an Intermediate Village not too far away from here. However, three days ago, we were attacked by these evil brigands, and many of us were killed. The women were either raped and killed or taken to the stronghold to serve as tools. Sir, please help us take revenge."

The youth and the others knelt on the ground and heavily kowtowed on the ground.

After listening to the youth, Daisy and Liu Mei were completely furious, and even Bai Qi's expression became cold.

Zhao Fu's expression remained calm. He knew from the beginning that this world would be split into the strong and the weak, and the strong would be able to do whatever they wanted. As such, one should not expect one's enemies to be merciful towards one; if Zhao Fu wanted to avoid this, he would have to become strong himself.

Chapter 72: Brigand Stronghold

A plan started to form within Zhao Fu's mind, but he didn't immediately agree to help Xiao Jian and the others to take revenge. Instead, he asked, "Was it just you guys who were able to escape?"

"No sir, there were 30 more of us who were able to escape," Xiao Jian respectfully replied. When Zhao Fu didn't immediately agree, Xiao Jian's heart sank.

"How many men are there?" Zhao Fu asked.

"There are another 21 men," Xiao Jian quickly replied.

Zhao Fu thought for a while before saying, "I can help you take revenge, but it will depend on you. Bring the rest of the men to me!"

Xiao Jian was delighted and knelt on the ground to kowtow again. He then ran off and brought back 21 men who were quite skinny and had sallow skin. It seemed that they had gone through some rough times after their village had been destroyed.

In the Heaven Awaken World, people spawned at the Origin of villages. However, without a village, the original villagers would become refugees and would have to look for another village by themselves.

“Do you want to take revenge?” Zhao Fu asked the men.

Even though these people had sallow skin and were in a pitiful state, they could not mask their hatred and said together, “Yes!”

Zhao Fu nodded and said, “Give each of them an iron sword.”

The soldiers nearby obeyed and handed each of the men an iron sword. Xiao Jian and the others understood what was to happen – they would follow this sir and attack the stronghold together to take revenge.

However, what came next left them completely speechless. The soldiers actually took off all of their good quality equipment and rolled around on the ground. The heroic-looking soldiers now looked like refugees, and they picked up wooden sticks to use as weapons and wooden planks to serve as shields.

“Zhang Dahu, you lead this team and act according to the plan!” Zhao Fu ordered.

Zhang Dahu loudly yelled, “Roger!” After seeing how stunned Xiao Jian and the others looked, he loudly laughed before saying, “Let’s go!”

Xiao Jian still did not know what was going on. Why didn’t they take their equipment? Why were they instead going like this? Moreover, there were only 700 or so of them, so how could they defeat 5,000 brigands in a place that was easy to defend and difficult to attack? As such, Xiao Jian couldn’t help but say, “Sir, are we really going to attack the stronghold like this?”

Zhang Dahu grinned and was about to explain the plan when Zhao Fu stopped him. He lightly smiled and said to Xiao Jian, “Since you want to take revenge, bring out all of your courage and fury and stain your hands with the blood of your enemies. Isn’t that what brings the most joy?”

Xiao Jian thought back to the tragedy that had happened to the Hundred Flower Village and felt a white-hot fury within his heart. He once again kowtowed to Zhao Fu and said, “If we die, please take care of our elderly, women, and children. We will repay sir in the next life!”

After saying this, Xiao Jian took the other 20 or so men and left with Zhang Dahu and his 700 soldiers.

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Within the stronghold.

“Emergency! Emergency! There are enemies attacking our stronghold!” someone cried, shocking everyone.

Three big men walked out from the main hall. These men were the three leaders of the stronghold, and they took many brigands to the entrance of the stronghold. They saw less than 800 people holding what

seemed to be wooden sticks, yet they wanted to attack their stronghold. As such, they couldn't help but coldly laugh.

"Wang Xiong, Wang Long, and Wang Bao, I want you to pay for the Hundred Flower Village's 800 residents lives with your own!" Xiao Jian rushed to the front and hatefully stared at the three big men on the walls as he screamed.

Seeing Xiao Jian, one of the three men said, "It's that boy from the Hundred Flower Village. He was able to escape last time, and he gathered quite a lot of refugees to attack our stronghold. We tried to get his big sister to serve big brother, but she wasn't willing to and committed suicide. What a waste."

"Third brother is right. However, we brought back many women from the Hundred Flower Village, and they're all quite good," another man said as he laughed.

Only the 'big brother' maintained a calm expression and ordered, "Fire the arrows!"

Arrows flew through the air at Xiao Jian, but most of them were blocked by the wooden shields. Some people were injured, and many of the refugees seemed to run away in fear.

Roughly 500 or so people continued to rush onwards. Another wave of arrows descended and a few more people were injured, causing more people to run away.

After the third wave of arrows descended, less than 200 people were left.

On the wall, the 'third brother' mockingly said, "What a disorderly mob; we didn't even do much and most of them have already run away."

The 'second brother' agreed, saying, "That's right! That boy from the Hundred Flower Village must have done something to gather so many people, but after seeing how powerful our stronghold is, they've been scared witless."

"Hahahaha!" the 'third brother' loudly laughed before saying, "Big brother, we can't let that boy off this time. I'll take 3,000 brothers to chase after them!"

The big brother thought for a moment and nodded, but he felt that something was off. However, considering that their stronghold had offended quite a few different factions, it wasn't too strange for people to come looking for revenge. Just to be safe, he turned and said, "Third brother, take 4,000 people, and make sure you're careful!"

The third brother smiled and said, "Thanks for your worries, big brother." Following this, 4,000 brigands flooded out from the main entrance and chased after Xiao Jian.

Xiao Jian and the others started to run towards the pre-determined place. Before, Xiao Jian had thought that Zhao Fu was making them launch a suicide attack, but after finally hearing the plan from Zhang Dahu, he realized what was happening

On the way, Xiao Jian asked Zhang Dahu, "What sort of person is that sir?"

Zhang Dahu thought for a moment and wasn't sure what to say before finally replying, "I'm not sure how to describe him. However, His Majesty treats us all very well, and he is a very powerful person. He

always thinks up great tactics to defeat our enemies. His Majesty possesses great charisma, and I'm sure that he's someone who can create a safe place for us in this chaotic world."

"His Majesty?" Xiao Jian realized that the youth, who looked slightly younger than him, had an extraordinary background.

Zhang Dahu did not mind revealing too much because Xiao Jian's people had nowhere to go. His Majesty would definitely accept them in the end, so he already started to treat him as an ally.

Xiao Jian and the others quickly ran while the third brother led 4,000 brigands and furiously chased after them. Just as Zhao Fu had planned, they were able to lure the brigands into an encirclement.

Chapter 73: Unify The World

The third brother looked at Xiao Jian running away, and he smiled like a hunter chasing down his prey. Just as he was about to order his Archers to fire...

Swish, swish, swish...

The sound of bolts tearing through the air with great force sounded out. Zhao Fu brought 20 ballistae this time because he now had a spatial ring and did not have to worry about how to transport them. As such, he had brought all of the ballistae he had.

600 bolts shot out from the 200 ballistae and descended on the 4,000 brigands like rain.

Chi, chi, chi...

The bolts descended, nailing the brigands to the ground. Blood flowed down the bolts, killing almost 600 brigands instantly.

The scene became incredibly bloody, and the brigands were given a great fright, causing them to panic.

Swish, swish, swish...

At this moment, countless arrows and crossbow bolts shot out from ahead and from both sides. Zhang Dahu's people, who had been pretending to escape, brought out their hidden bows and started to shoot.

Countless brigands had died in less than a minute, staining the ground red.

By now, the brigands were finally able to react, and the third brother roared, "Shield formation!"

The Shieldbearer brigands raised their Ironwood shields and formed a massive circular shield wall, blocking the arrows.

Xiao Jian was ecstatic when he saw the massive number of casualties that the brigands had suffered. The time for his revenge had finally come. The third brother looked over at Xiao Jian and finally realized what was happening, and a savage expression appeared on his face as he said, "Brat, I never thought you'd ambush me! Your elder's going to cut you into a thousand pieces!!"

“Haha, you reap what you sow, you evil brigands. It’s time for you to pay for your crimes!” Xiao Jian loudly laughed.

The third brother was incredibly furious, but after thinking about something, he started to laugh loudly, “You probably don’t know that your big sister was killed by me, and I was able to taste her. She wasn’t bad at all!”

When Xiao Jian heard that his big sister had been killed by him, his memories of his big sister flashed in his mind. His expression froze as he powerlessly fell to the ground, tears flowing out of his eyes as his felt as if it had been torn apart.

Zhao Fu frowned and ordered, “Spearwielders and ballistae, prepare to fire. Destroy that shield wall!”

Swish, swish, swish...

As Zhao Fu gave the order, bolts containing immense power shot towards the shield wall.

Bang, bang, bang...

The bolts from the ballistae were unable to pierce through the shields, but they made the brigand Shieldbearers feel as if they had been hit by a cow. As a result, both their shields and bodies were sent flying.

The shield wall formed by the brigands was completely destroyed by the ballistae, and following this, the Spearwielders threw their javelins, hitting many brigands.

After the shield wall was destroyed, countless arrows descended on the brigands, and many of them were shot to death.

The ‘third brother’ took two arrows but was not hit in his vitals. He watched as his brigands fell one after another, and he became incredibly frantic and livid. He was determined to catch Xiao Jian and torture him to death. Who knew where he had found such a powerful force? It seemed that he would have to run.

“I’ll kill you!”

Xiao Jian’s eyes were completely red, and his handsome-looking face twisted in anger as he roared. He gripped his iron sword and rushed at the third brother like he was mad. Beside him, Zhang Dahu tried to stop him, but Xiao Jian struggled out of his grip. As such, Zhang Dahu could only sigh.

Now that around 1,500 brigands had died, Zhao Fu gave the order to stop firing arrows. The third brother started to relax when he saw that Zhao Fu’s soldiers had stopped shooting arrows at him, and he started to think of a way to break out of the encirclement.

Rumble...

Suddenly, the sound of countless hoofbeats could be heard, and the third brother turned around with a look of terror on his face. Ten terrifying Skeleton Cavalrymen led 300 Cavalrymen, who wore bronze armor and held bronze spears, as they charged towards the brigands. They gave off a fearsome aura that seemed like that of a massive beast’s. As they rushed over, the third brother felt a trace of terror, and he completely disregarded Xiao Jian.

Chi, chi, chi...

The Cavalrymen were incredibly fast and stabbed into the group of brigands like a sharp spear. They thrust their spears into the enemies in front of them, who were powerless to retaliate, and the brigands couldn't help but retreat to the sides in fear.

Cavalry was said to be the most powerful type of military unit in ancient times, and it could only be countered by Cavalry or heavy Shieldbearers. Only those soldiers could stop the onslaught that Cavalry brought. The 300 Cavalrymen swept through the group of brigands like a chopstick piercing through tofu. The brigands suffered at least 500 casualties, and they were sent into chaos. Now, all the brigands wanted to do was escape from this terrifying place.

At this moment, Xiao Jian and the other 20 or so men from the Hundred Flower Village ran into the group of brigands and started to slash them with their swords.

"Wang Bao, I won't forgive you!!" Xiao Jian stared at the third brother, Wang Bao, with blood-red eyes. Wang Bao's expression became savage, and because he knew that he couldn't escape, he decided that he might as well take the brat down with him. As such, he raised his large saber to meet Xiao Jian's sword.

Zhao Fu rode on Little Black, a tall and majestic horse, and coldly looked down from a hill. Little Grey was lying down next to Little Black, and it was also looking down at the battle.

"Order the Cavalry to continue charging and use arrows to kill the brigands on the outside of the group. Split off Xiao Jian and his people and a small group of brigands; give them the revenge they want. As for their own lives, they'll be in their own hands."

Bai Qi nodded and immediately gave out more detailed orders.

Two hours later, the battle finally concluded. It was now the afternoon, and the sky was cloudless. The red glow of the sunset fell on the corpses on the ground, bringing about a sense of beauty amongst the death and chaos.

Zhao Fu rode on Little Black, and he stepped over the corpses and came next to a body that was not confirmed to be alive or dead. The body was covered with wounds and had many deep cuts on his face. His body was covered in blood, and he lay within a pool of blood as he stared up into the sky.

When Zhao Fu rode Little Black over, he weakly said, "Your Majesty!"

Zhao Fu lightly nodded as he looked down at Xiao Jian within the pool of blood and asked, "Is your heart feeling better now?"

Xiao Jian nodded with great difficulty, but he then shook his head, saying in a weak and hoarse voice, "Even though I've taken revenge, what I've lost cannot be regained. Now, I only feel emptiness within my heart."

"With how big the world is, you'll once again have something that can fill the emptiness in your heart. However, the question is, will you be able to protect it? Right now, you're still too weak. You will only be able to protect those who are important to you by becoming powerful," Zhao Fu softly said to Xiao Jian.

Xiao Jian looked at Zhao Fu, who had a golden-red glow from the sunset illuminating his body. In that moment, he seemed incredibly majestic and holy, making one want to submit to him.

Xiao Jian coughed up a mouthful of blood and said weakly, “Your Majesty, I’m certain that you’ll one day be able to unify the world and create a world that is both prosperous and peaceful.”

Chapter 74: Rebelling

Zhao Fu lightly laughed and said, “To be honest, I’m not that confident that I can unify the world. However, I’ll definitely make sure that my people will have peace and security.”

Xiao Jian smiled and coughed up another mouthful of blood and grunted.

Zhao Fu came down from Little Black and propped Xiao Jian up. He fed him a super-effective healing pill before ordering some soldiers to take him away and treat his wounds.

Zhao Fu hadn’t thought that Xiao Jian would be able to kill Wang Bao, the third brother. In terms of strength, it should have been impossible for Xiao Jian to take down Wang Bao. However, with his blow-for-blow fighting style, he was incredibly ferocious, making Wang Bao feel a trace of fear. In the end, Xiao Jian barely defeated Wang Bao, but he was left with incredibly serious injuries.

This battle could be considered to be Zhao Fu’s complete victory. His side had killed 3,700 brigands and taken 300 captives. Apart from the few people who had been injured in the initial charge to lure out the brigands, they barely suffered any casualties or injuries. Four people from the Hundred Flower Village had died, and the rest received quite a few injuries.

The reason the battle had been so successful was because of Xiao Jian and his people. If it wasn’t for them, Zhao Fu’s plan to lure out the brigands would not have worked so well. Perhaps sending Goblins may have worked, but it would have raised suspicion, and the effects would not have been as good as using Xiao Jian and his people.

Most of the brigands only had weapons, and apart from shields, they had barely any defensive equipment. As such, Zhao Fu did not gain any equipment.

However, what was important was that there were one S grade and 213 A grade corpses. Including those who had joined him through conquest or soldiers who had been given Grade Orbs, Zhao Fu now had 724 A grade soldiers, and he had given two S grade Orbs to the Gnomes who were researching ballistae.

Zhao Fu was not interested in any corpses below A grade. The 10 Skeleton Cavalrymen stood over the corpses and devoured the deathly aura, causing their spirit flames to continue growing.

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Within the stronghold, the second brother mused, “What’s going on? Old Third has been gone for a while and still hasn’t come back yet. Could it be that he’s determined to chase that Hundred Flower Village brat down and won’t come back until he kills him?”

The big brother also frowned and felt that something was off, but he said, "Old Third took 4,000 brothers with him, and he can dominate any force within the 50-kilometer radius area. There's no one who can destroy his forces, and not a single person has returned yet. Perhaps we're just thinking too much."

The big brother was quite confident in his third brother, and it never even crossed his mind that his third brother and the 4,000 other brothers would be reduced to just 300 captives by Zhao Fu and that his third brother would be killed by Xiao Jian.

"Big brother, I'll take a team to go find him. Old Third always acts rashly, and he hasn't even sent anyone back to report to us," the second brother said.

The big brother nodded and replied, "Be careful, and come back immediately if you encounter any danger!"

The second brother nodded and left the stronghold with 100 brigands.

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Zhao Fu ordered his soldiers to bury the corpses that he didn't want. As for their weapons, there were 3,000 Normal grade weapons, 10 or so Blue grade weapons, and one Silver grade weapon. Apart from the Silver grade weapon, all of the other weapons could be sold at Holy Light City, which would replenish the Storehouse.

"Your Majesty, there are 100 or so brigands coming this way," a soldier reported.

Zhao Fu thought for a moment before taking many of his soldiers to surround those 100 brigands.

"Who are you, sir? Why have you surrounded us?" the second brother said as he looked at the people surrounding his party warily.

Zhao Fu lightly laughed and said, "What do you think?"

When the second brother saw Zhao Fu's smile, he realized that the situation was quite dangerous for them and quickly said, "We're from the Three Flood Dragon Stronghold, and I'm the Second Master. We have 5,000 brothers, so I hope sir will spare us. Let's all just mind our own businesses."

The second brother felt quite suspicious when he saw so many elite soldiers, but he still tossed out his title and faction in the hopes that he would be able to escape and report this to his big brother.

"5,000 brothers? I'm afraid you only have 1,000 left!" Zhao Fu calmly replied.

Hearing this, the second brother was incredibly shocked. When he thought of his third brother, who had not returned, and the 4,000 brigands he had taken with him, he instantly became incredibly furious. However, he suppressed that fury due to his current predicament, and he could only force a smile as he asked, "Sir, could there be some misunderstanding here?"

Zhao Fu lightly shook his head.

The last trace of hope within the second brother's heart was destroyed, and he yelled, "Brothers, let's break out!"

However, in the next second, at least 100 arrows descended on the second brother. He was unable to dodge them at all, and he was hit by tens of arrows, turning him into a pin cushion. In the end, he died a terrible death.

Thirty other brigands were also killed on the spot, and seeing this, the remaining brigands did not even dare to run. They quickly kneeled and cried out, "Sir, please spare us!"

Zhao Fu smiled and an idea came to his mind as he said, "I can spare you, but you have to do as I say. Bai Qi, give them each a Three Poison Pill."

Bai Qi took out a bottle of normal healing pills and made each brigand swallow one. Wang Ergou, who was beside Zhao Fu, held back a smile as he watched the brigands swallow the pills with bitter expressions.

"You all should have realized by now that your stronghold will definitely lose and won't be able to stop us. We already slaughtered those 4,000 brothers of yours – if you don't believe me, you can take a look for yourself."

After saying this, Zhao Fu and his soldiers took the brigands to the bloody battlefield. The ground was still stained with blood, and corpses were strewn across the ground. Some were shot to death by arrows, some were nailed to the ground by ballistae bolts, and others had been stabbed to death or trampled by the Cavalry. Before they died, they had all revealed expressions of fear and pain.

"Sir, please spare us, please spare us!" the brigands were scared out of their wits, and they fell to their knees as they begged for mercy.

A trace of a smile appeared on Zhao Fu's face and he started to tell them his plan, saying, "Since you understand that it's impossible for you to win, you should know what to do after returning to the stronghold. I'll give you this bottle of poison; if you don't want to die, do as I tell you, and not only will you be allowed to live, but you'll also be greatly rewarded."

The remaining 70 or so brigands shivered and nodded. They then returned to the stronghold, and Zhao Fu took his soldiers to stealthily surround it.

The outcome had more or less already been decided, and if everything went according to plan, Zhao Fu would definitely succeed. He did not have to worry about the 70 or so brigands changing their minds – after all, bandits and brigands did not have very high Loyalty, and they were susceptible to the idea of betrayal. Moreover, now that they had been scared witless and given 'poison,' there was little to no chance that they would betray Zhao Fu.

Even if they did betray Zhao Fu, his soldiers would just have to kill a few more people. Some might have thought that they would report about what had happened, resulting in the defenses being tightened. However, the stronghold had already sent out two teams, and now that not a single team had returned intact, even an idiot could guess what had happened.

Chapter 75: Path of Sovereigns

When the guard saw the 70 or so brigands return, he asked, "Why is it just you guys? Where's the Second Master?"

The brigands, who had been instigated into rebellion by Zhao Fu, understood that this moment would decide their futures, so they did not dare to make a mistake. One of the brigands at the front smiled and said, "The Second Master told us to come back first to report the situation!"

One of the guards nodded and said, "Alright, I'll go and let the First Master know."

"Wait!" One of the brigands quickly grabbed the guard before signaling to the other brigands to go in and carry out the plan.

"What is it, brother?" the guard asked with a confused look on his face.

The brigand smiled, put his arm around the guard, whispered into the guard's ear, "The Second Master, the Third Master, and the 4,000 brothers who went out have already died. A powerful sir has surrounded our stronghold; if you want to live, do as I say."

The guard was terrified and immediately nodded to show that he understood.

This news started to spread throughout the stronghold, causing a strange atmosphere to descend. Every one of them feared death, but some of them were loyal to the First Master to the death. Most of them were killed by the brigands who turned to Zhao Fu's side.

At this moment, the First Master was pacing around within the main hall, feeling deeply unsettled. He couldn't help but feel that something was off.

"Transmit my orders! Send some people to see if Old Second has come back yet!" the big brother yelled, and a turned brigand pretended to heed the orders and walked out.

If this was a normal village, one would be able to tell if there was a rebellion about to take place if one looked at the Popular Support. However, the Popular Support of bandit or brigand villages were already in the negatives, so it was impossible to tell.

At this moment, a brigand walked in with a few dishes of food and a pot of wine. After walking into the main hall, he looked at the unsettled First Master and said caringly, "First Master, please don't be worried; perhaps the Second Master and Third Master will return together soon. You didn't eat anything for lunch, so this lowly one especially made a few dishes for First Master. Please eat some and don't tire yourself out, or we'll all be incredibly worried."

The First Master originally had no appetite and didn't want to eat, but when he heard how considerate the brigand was, he felt a trace of warmth in his heart and nodded, saying, "Alright, put them down!"

"Yes, yes!" the brigand quickly replied as he set the dishes down in front of the big brother before saying, "First Master, this lowly one will pour the wine for you."

Following this, the brigand poured out a cup of wine and held the cup with both hands as he passed it to the First Master.

The First Master received the cup, and without even thinking about it, he drained the cup in one gulp. Immediately, the brigand's caring smile turned into a cold one.

The First Master saw the change in the brigand's expression and felt a deep sense of shock. He instantly realized what had happened, but he coughed up a mouthful of blood in the next moment. He stared hatefully at the brigand and fell to the ground, dead.

The brigand coldly smiled and kicked the First Master of the Three Flood Dragon Stronghold, who had reigned above 5,000 brigands, off his seat onto the ground.

With the First Master's strength and temperament, it was possible that he would have become a formidable and ruthless tyrant in the future. However, he had met Zhao Fu quite early on, and he had fallen into such a situation.

There was no lack of talented people in this world, whether they were heroes, champions, tyrants, or good-doers. There were billions of creatures, and only their blood could forge the sovereign throne. The path of a sovereign was something that was created by the corpses of countless extraordinary people.

It had gotten quite dark, and torches started to be lit within the stronghold. After Zhao Fu and his soldiers arrived at the entrance of the stronghold, all of the brigands put down their weapons and knelt on the ground. Zhao Fu brought in his subordinates and accepted their surrender.

When the brigands saw the powerful army that Zhao Fu led, they felt a sense of immense pressure, and they did not even dare to raise their heads. Afterwards, matters were taken care of quite smoothly, and a total of 800 brigands had surrendered. Zhao Fu's soldiers then killed 20 or so brigands who had unpardonable crimes and rescued 100 or so women who were from the Hundred Flower Village.

After taking care of these matters, Zhao Fu went to the strange stone platform in the stronghold and looked at it.

[General Platform]: Can raise soldiers' morale. Special stats: Can allow three people to change their professions to General, and soldiers' stats can randomly +1.

This special structure was quite good. It could allow Zhao Fu to have an extra three Generals, and it also randomly gave +1 to soldiers' stats. Zhao Fu ordered his soldiers to demolish it, which gave him the blueprint for the General Platform, and he planned to rebuild it in the Great Qin Village.

Zhao Fu then went to the Barracks and took a look at the single Profession Change Stone Stele there:

[Brigand]: F grade Military. Description: One of the military units that commits evil everywhere. Effect: Receives the skill [Slash].

Following this, Zhao Fu went to the Storehouse. He was only planning to take a quick look, but he unexpectedly found some pleasant surprises. Within the Storehouse, he found a dark ore.

[Black Iron Ore]: Grade: Gold, Description: Can be used to forge Gold grade equipment.

Zhao Fu smiled and put the Black Iron Ore, the money, and the equipment into his spatial ring.

Now that he had quite a bit of money, he was no longer using the spatial ring that only had 10 square meters of space. His current spatial ring had a storage of 300 square meters, and it was the largest spatial ring that could be bought in shops. It was Silver grade and cost 400 or so gold coins.

Finally, Zhao Fu went to the stronghold's main hall. He was surprised to find that it was a Silver grade village, and he chose to conquer it and [Relocate] it, netting him 100 Achievement Points and 6,200 EXP for the Great Qin Village.

He gained a lot from attacking the Three Flood Dragon Stronghold, and after resting there for the night, they returned to the Great Qin Village the next day. Zhao Fu ordered some people to rebuild the General Platform, and of the 1,100 subdued brigands, he chose 1,000 of them to join the army and split the remaining 100 or so to help out around the village.

Zhao Fu and his subordinates once again brought a large number of corpses to the region of bones and used the Heaven and Earth Refining Formation to refine them into Grade Orbs. Luckily, they were mostly A grade corpses, so they did not consume too much energy – otherwise, there may not have been enough energy to refine them all. The energy stones in the jade channels from before had already been completely emptied, and Zhao Fu was already using the ones that he had bought from Qin Nan.

After refining the A grade corpses into Grade Orbs, Zhao Fu took out the corpses of the three Masters. They were refined into one SS grade Orb and two S grade Orbs. The SS grade Orb belonged to the First Master, and the other two orbs belonged to the Second and Third Masters.

After returning to the surface, Zhao Fu gave the A grade Orbs to the soldiers who had done well in the battle. As for the S grade Orbs, Zhao Fu once again conducted a competition. This time, the competitors were not only tested in their fighting prowess but also their overall abilities, such as adaptability and tactics.

The victors of the competition were a male Elf called Yassi and a Grey Dwarf called Shandi, and Zhao Fu gave them an S grade Orb each. As for the SS grade Orb, Zhao Fu had long since decided who to give it to.

Chapter 76: Exceptional and Famous Swords

Zhao Fu called Xiao Jian over, and by now, most of his injuries had recovered. However, his body was still quite weak, and there were a few scars on his face, making his decent-looking face seem quite terrifying.

Zhao Fu offered to give him some medicinal pills to help with the scarring, but Xiao Jian refused, saying, "I want to keep these scars to remember everything that happened and to motivate myself to become stronger."

.....

"This is for you, Xiao Jian!" Zhao Fu handed Xiao Jian the SS grade Orb.

Xiao Jian received it with some hesitation, but after looking at it, he felt incredibly emotional. He knelt down on one knee and said, "Thank you for your great favor, Your Majesty!"

Zhao Fu lightly nodded and replied, "I value you greatly, so don't let me down."

Xiao Jian quickly nodded and promised that he wouldn't. He then thought of something and quickly took out a blueprint before saying, "Your Majesty, this is a wine brewing recipe from our village; perhaps it will be of use to Your Majesty."

Zhao Fu took it and looked at it.

[Hundred Flower Wine Recipe]: Can create fragrant and enchanting wine from flowers.

After looking at the recipe, Zhao Fu decided that it could be the signature wine of the Westfall Restaurants. Right now, they were using normal wine that any village could create, so the Hundred Flower Wine would attract quite a few customers.

Zhao Fu accepted the recipe and chatted with Xiao Jian for a while before a soldier came in to report that the General Platform had been completed. Zhao Fu went over to the General Platform and thought about who he would make Generals. In the end, he decided on the three people who had been with him since the beginning: Old Logue, Zhang Dahu, and Liu Mei.

After taking care of these matters, Zhao Fu took the teleportation channel to Holy Light City and went to a Smithy. The guard outside respectfully saluted him, and Zhao Fu nodded before walking to the door and knocking.

Gongsun Lin said from within with an annoyed voice, "Who is it? Go away and don't bother me!"

An awkward expression appeared on Zhao Fu's face as he replied, "It's me!"

Hearing Zhao Fu's voice, Gongsun Lin quickly ran over to open the door. When she saw Zhao Fu, she asked, "Zhao Xin, why are you here?"

Zhao Fu looked at Gongsun Lin, whose face and clothes were covered with soot, and she was no longer as cute as she had been at the auction. Now, she looked like a real blacksmith.

Zhao Fu smiled before taking out the Black Iron Ore and giving it to her. Gongsun Lin immediately exclaimed happily, "Zhao Xin! You obtained yet another Gold grade material!"

Zhao Fu nodded and replied, "I want to use this to make a large saber."

Gongsun Lin happily nodded and replied, "I'll forge it after I'm done with the shield!"

Zhao Fu asked, "How long will it be until the shield is completed?"

"About that..." Gongsun Lin tilted her head in deep contemplation before saying, "Maybe another five or six days!"

Zhao Fu talked with Gongsun Lin a bit more, and when he saw just how crazy she was about forging, he reminded her not to overwork herself because he wasn't in a rush for the shield.

When she heard Zhao Fu's caring words, her face became red, and she nodded, indicating that she understood, before running back in to work on the shield.

After that, Zhao Fu left the Smithy. Some people may have been curious as to why Zhao Fu trusted Gongsun Lin so much as to even give her such precious materials.

In actuality, he believed that she was someone from the Gongsun family from the very beginning because the aura she gave off was not one that anyone could have. Moreover, every large family had pride – for example, ancient forging families have forged many exceptional and famous swords, but none of them had ever used them for themselves. As such, it was unlikely that Gongsun Lin would be blinded by greed and betray him.

Moreover, Zhao Fu was now a massive force among players. If anyone dared to steal his materials, that person would not be able to live in the Forest of Horrors anymore. Right now, players could only develop where they had spawned, and it was almost impossible for them to run away.

Just as Zhao Fu arrived at the Westfall Restaurant, someone came to report, “There are two people here to see you!”

Zhao Fu nodded and went to the guest hall. He saw that both people were military men with deep auras. Zhao Fu understood what was happening and a slight smile appeared on his face as he asked, “Hello, what matters would you like to discuss with me?”

The leading middle-aged man did not try to hide anything and said forthrightly, “My name is Tang Zhan and this is my subordinate Qiu Wenjie. We’re from the military faction in the Forest of Horrors. We would like you to join our military faction and work for our country. The country will definitely greatly reward you in the future.”

Zhao Fu’s smile did not change as he immediately refused, “Sorry, but I’m not interested in joining the army.”

What a joke – which large family would join the military faction? It would be better to be a king of robbers than to be restricted by so many rules and regulations. And the rewards? Zhao Fu was the Legatee of the Great Qin Empire, so why would he want rewards from the country? Moreover, who could guarantee that the military faction would be able to unify the world? Who didn’t have their own ambitions?

Qiu Wenjie said with displeasure, “What sort of attitude is that? Serving the country is a very glorious matter.”

Zhao Fu lightly chuckled – taking glory in serving one’s country was indeed an attitude people would have taken in the past, but times had long since changed. After a long time of peace and enjoyment, people’s hearts had changed. Those words couldn’t move anyone now, and they were instead taken as a joke.

However, Zhao Fu felt some respect towards the soldiers who were loyal to their country. He respected them for being willing to sacrifice their lives for their country, and he also respected them for the effort they put in and the price they paid to be soldiers. However, if they became enemies, he would not show any mercy when destroying them.

Even though Zhao Fu didn’t want to do such a thing, if it really came to it, he would not hold back. In the Heaven Awaken World, it was currently a very chaotic and violent period of time.

Qiu Wenjie was quite angry when he saw Zhao Fu’s expression, but just as he was about to say something, Tang Zhan stopped him and said, “Mr. Zhao, we hope that you will think about this some

more. The military faction will welcome you at any time; we have some other matters to attend to, so we'll be taking our leave now."

Zhao Fu nodded and replied, "Take care, I won't be seeing you out."

After leaving the Westfall Restaurant, Qiu Wenjie said unhappily, "Captain, what was with Zhao Xin's attitude? The military faction put down its pride to invite him, but he didn't even think about it before refusing."

Tang Zhao sighed and replied, "Alright, that's enough. Times have changed, as have people's hearts. What you said just then won't be able to win anyone over, and in such a chaotic world, I don't even know if what we're holding on to is the right thing."

Chapter 77: Mysterious Skeleton

After doing everything that he needed to do in Holy Light City, Zhao Fu returned to the Great Qin Village but was given some bad news: Li Wen's exploration team in the passage had suffered casualties. As such, Zhao Fu quickly went to take a look.

"Li Wen! What's going on?" Within the medicine shop, Zhao Fu looked at Li Wen, who was being bandaged up.

When Li Wen saw Zhao Fu arrive, Li Wen said with an ashamed expression, "Your Majesty, this subordinate deserves to die. I didn't lead the team well, resulting in casualties this time."

Zhao Fu knew that Li Wen had been following his battle tactics this entire time, and he had done quite well. To have suffered casualties this time, something unexpected must have happened. Zhao Fu did not blame him and said, "Alright, tell me what happened."

Li Wen nodded and started to explain. His team had been exploring a passage when they arrived in a large open area that was 100 meters high and 500 meters wide. There was nothing in that area apart from a strange Skeleton. The Skeleton looked just like a normal Skeleton, and it even had similar equipment. The only difference was that it had a sword-like shard that gave off a golden light in its chest.

They acted carefully and wanted to report to Zhao Fu, but they were discovered by the Skeleton. Moreover, the Skeleton was unexpectedly powerful, and normal Holy Light skills did not seem to have any effect on it. What's more, it shattered one of the Goblin Warrior's shields, and they were barely able to escape.

After hearing Li Wen's account, Zhao Fu nodded – indeed, it was not Li Wen's fault. However, just what was that Skeleton? After thinking about it, Zhao Fu went to Rhode Village and ordered for some thick shields to be created out of bronze concentrate.

Before, the shields that the Goblin Warriors had been using had bronze concentrate on the outside, but the inside was Ironwood. This was because lifting a shield made completely made of bronze concentrate was quite difficult for even the Goblin Warriors, so they were not suited for long explorations. However, they needed such shields to deal with the mysterious Skeleton.

Following this, Zhao Fu returned to Holy Light City. Since ordinary Holy Light skills didn't work, it seemed that they needed more powerful skills. As such, Zhao Fu bought 10 Holy Hall Magic Seal skills.

After making these preparations, Zhao Fu took Bai Qi, Zhang Dahu, Daisy, Saar, Old Logue, 20 Goblin Warriors, 20 iron hammer Infantrymen, 20 Archers, and 10 Elven Priests towards the place that Li Wen had told him about.

The passage was incredibly dark, and walking through it took quite a long time. After a while, they finally arrived at the area that Li Wen had spoken about. It was exactly as big as Li Wen had said, and there was a Skeleton sitting cross-legged in the center.

This Skeleton was quite special: the spirit flame in its head was a golden color, its body gave off a faint golden light, and it did not give off the eerie and gloomy feeling that normal Skeletons gave off.

As Zhao Fu's people appeared at the entrance of the area, the mysterious Skeleton slowly stood up. Zhao Fu did not show any courtesy and immediately ordered the Archers to attack.

Swish, swish, swish...

Arrows covered with strands of yellow aura flew towards the mysterious Skeleton. Right from the beginning, Zhao Fu had ordered his Archers to use their strongest skill, the Rock Crushing Arrow.

The mysterious Skeleton seemed incredibly calm when facing so many arrows shooting towards it so quickly. It remained where it stood, pulled out a rusty sword, and lightly flicked with its wrist. A formless sword qi swept out and knocked all of the arrows away, so the mysterious Skeleton was not harmed at all.

Zhao Fu was not too surprised – after all, he had been prepared for the mysterious Skeleton to be quite strong. Following this, the 20 Infantrymen launched 20 Holy Light Bullets towards the mysterious Skeleton.

The Skeleton continued to calmly stand there. Only when the Holy Light Bullets drew near did it raise its sword and point it towards the Holy Light Bullets. A formless sword qi stabbed out, its powerful force causing the air to tremble. The Holy Light Bullets were completely destroyed and scattered into motes of light.

Zhao Fu's expression became serious. Long-range attacks were essentially useless against the mysterious Skeleton, and at that moment, it started to walk towards them. It did not seem as savage as the normal Skeletons when seeing living beings; rather, it was as if it looked down on Zhao Fu's party.

Bai Qi, Zhang Dahu, and Saar, the Great Qin Village's 3 strongest fighters, stepped out from within the shield wall.

The mysterious Skeleton looked at the three people who walked out, and its body blurred as it instantly appeared in front of them.

Clang!

The mysterious Skeleton slashed at the three of them, its sword covered with massive sword qi. Facing this terrifying strength, the three of them didn't dare to be careless, and Bai Qi gripped the Star Slashing Sword with both hands, barely stopping the mysterious Skeleton's strike.

Bai Qi could be said to be the strongest person in the Great Qin Village, and even he found it difficult to block the mysterious Skeleton's attack. From this, anyone could see how powerful the Skeleton was.

The mysterious Skeleton pushed down on its sword, and Bai Qi was forced to take a step back, and he was clearly weaker than the Skeleton.

Luckily, Zhang Dahu and Saar raised their sabers and attacked the mysterious Skeleton from both sides, relieving the pressure on Bai Qi.

However, Zhang Dahu and Saar clearly weren't a match for the mysterious Skeleton either. They used all of their might to slash at the mysterious Skeleton, their sabers giving off harrowing saber lights.

However, the mysterious Skeleton casually flicked its sword, and an arc of light appeared and knocked Zhang Dahu and Saar back by many steps.

At that moment, Bai Qi used all of his strength to release a Qi Slash. His sword erupted with sword light and he leaped into the air, attacking the mysterious Skeleton from mid-air.

The mysterious Skeleton raised its sword and easily blocked Bai Qi's full-strength strike. However, at that moment, Bai Qi's body suddenly spun to the side as an arrow pierced through where he had just been. The arrowhead glinted in the light and shot straight for the mysterious Skeleton's head.

Zhao Fu nocked another arrow on his bowstring. The arrow just then had been shot by Zhao Fu, and if it wasn't for Zhao Fu and Bai Qi being familiar with each other after fighting together so many times, he wouldn't have done such a thing. After all, he had used all of his strength in that attack, and if Bai Qi had not been able to evade it, he definitely would have been injured.

Facing this sudden and unexpected attack, the mysterious Skeleton tilted its head, causing the arrow to narrowly pass by. However, this resulted in an opening, and Bai Qi once again used his full strength as his sword erupted with sword light, sweeping towards the mysterious Skeleton and sending it flying.

"Hurry!" Zhao Fu loudly yelled.

The 20 Infantrymen, 20 Archers, 10 Elven Priests, and Old Logue unleashed their skills, resulting in countless skills landing on the mysterious Skeleton while it was still in the air.

Bang, bang, bang...

A chain of explosions sounded out as the mysterious Skeleton wretchedly fell down from the air. At that moment, a white light silently shot towards the mysterious Skeleton. As it flew through the air, the light split into 2, then 3, then 4, and then finally 7 differently-sized rings of lights before landing on the mysterious Skeleton.

Daisy had also appeared outside of the shield wall and had unleashed Holy Ring Light.

BOOM!!!

The mysterious Skeleton was once again sent flying, and it smashed into a wall 100 meters away. 7 ring-shaped craters also appeared on the wall, and the Skeleton was in even worse shape than before, looking as if it was going to collapse as it fell from the wall.

Seeing this, everyone let out a breath of relief. However, in the next moment, the Skeleton once again stood up with its sword held by both hands. It lifted its sword to its chest with the blade pointing upwards, and its body gave off a brilliant golden light as it started to chant.

Chapter 78: King's Oath

“The oath I made that day is engraved on my heart: to serve my king from life to life, age to age!”

“To offer everything in this life and accompany my king's side!”

“I will be my king's sword, slashing away both light and darkness, both heaven and hell; no one can stop my king's sword!”

“Even though tens of thousands of years may have passed, I will not change. In my king's name, I will sweep everything away!”

The mysterious Skeleton seemed both holy and dignified as it recited its oath, and the golden light around it became more intense.

At the same time, the aura it was giving off became stronger to the point that ripples of energy started to emanate out from its body. The light coming from its body illuminated the 5-meter radius area around it, and there was not a trace of Undead aura coming from it; instead, it seemed like a paladin reciting a king's oath.

Boom!!

As it finished speaking, an explosion sounded out as the mysterious Skeleton released an incredibly powerful aura, which swept towards its surroundings like a berserk wind. The entire area was covered with the golden light, and the sound of steel interweaving could be heard. A suit of golden armor started to form on the Skeleton, and a hazy body started to form around the Skeleton. Even though it wasn't very clear, they could see its face clearly.

Even if Zhao Fu wanted to stop what the Skeleton was doing, it was too late. By now, the mysterious Skeleton had completely changed, and the powerful aura coming from its body seemed to cause the air to freeze. Zhao Fu called Bai Qi, Zhang Dahu, and Saar back, and then he took out five Explosive Spirit Pills and gave them to Bai Qi, Zhang Dahu, Saar, Old Logue, and Daisy.

The Explosive Spirit Pills deserved their status as Stage 3 Pills. Normally, people who were not even at Stage 1 would not be able to use such powerful pills; it was usually only after they reached Stage 3 that they would obtain such pills. However, now that they had used such a powerful pill before even reaching Stage 1, the powerful effects of the pill could be clearly seen.

Their eyes became blood-red, and strands of blood-red aura rose up from their bodies. Their auras rapidly became stronger, and combined, they did not seem any weaker than the mysterious Skeleton.

The auras from the two sides clashed, causing the atmosphere to become incredibly heavy, making it difficult for others to breathe.

The mysterious Skeleton did not look down on them, and it raised its golden, glowing sword and rushed towards the five of them. Bai Qi, Zhang Dahu, and Saar rushed forwards to meet it.

Clang! Clang! Clang!

Massive metallic collisions rang out, and the mysterious Skeleton seemed to be on equal footing with Bai Qi and the others.

Old Logue raised his wooden staff and chanted in a low voice. The energy around him gathered towards him and turned into a small tornado, raising a lot of sand and dust. Blood-red fireballs started to form until there were 10 Hell Fireballs about the size of washbowls. As they appeared, an extremely powerful aura of destruction swept out.

Old Logue's blood-red eyes stared intently at the mysterious Skeleton. It was completely caught up in its battle against Bai Qi, Zhang Dahu, and Saar, and Old Logue waved his staff, causing the 10 Hell Fireballs to shoot towards the mysterious Skeleton.

The mysterious Skeleton coldly harrumphed and slashed out with its sword, causing a 10 or so meter long golden arc of light to fly out and tear through the air.

Bang, bang, bang...

Old Logue's 10 Hell Fireballs were all destroyed, and they exploded into blood-red patches of fire, forming a sea of flames.

Suddenly, countless 1 meter long wooden spikes rained down on the mysterious Skeleton – this was the joint attack of Daisy and 10 or so Elven Priests.

Facing the wooden spikes, the mysterious Skeleton gripped its sword and rapidly spun around, forming an extremely powerful tornado of sword qi. When the wooden spikes descended and hit the sword qi tornado, they were reduced to splinters and sent flying.

After all of the wooden spikes were gone, the mysterious Skeleton stopped spinning. At that moment, the 10 soldiers with the Holy Hall Magic Seal skills stretched out their hands. A sun-like rune shined on their hands as 10 rays of burning, golden light shot out.

The Skeleton seemed to be shocked when it saw those 10 golden lights flash towards it, but it was unable to evade them and could only try to block with them with its sword.

Bang!

The 10 golden rays simultaneously landed on the mysterious Skeleton, causing an explosion to sound out. The Skeleton was knocked backwards and only stopped after sliding back 10 or so meters. White smoke rose up from its body as if water had been poured on red-hot iron.

Even though the mysterious Skeleton no longer looked like a normal Skeleton, it was still a Skeleton-type Undead, and Holy Light skills dealt extra damage to it.

The mysterious Skeleton seemed to be enraged, and it stared at Zhao Fu, who was behind the shield wall giving orders this entire time. In the next second, it shot towards Zhao Fu, but Bai Qi, Zhang Dahu, and Saar refused to let it get past them, and they once again kept it occupied.

However, a powerful sword light erupted from the mysterious Skeleton's sword, forcing Bai Qi and the others back. Following this, the mysterious Skeleton once again rushed at Zhao Fu.

However, in the next instant, 10 massive Hell Fireballs once again appeared above the mysterious Skeleton like 10 blood-colored suns.

The mysterious Skeleton's expression became savage, and it tried to evade each of the descending Hell Fireballs. Despite this, it was unable to avoid the shockwaves from each of the explosions, and the golden armor on its body dimmed.

Right after it rushed out of the sea of flames formed by the Hell Fireballs, the mysterious Skeleton was shocked to see countless ballistae bolts coming towards it.

Zhao Fu saw that the Infantrymen were unable to do much, so he took out 10 ballistae from his spatial ring for them to use.

Facing so many powerful ballista bolts, the mysterious Skeleton did not dare to be careless. It quickly brandished the sword in its hands and released countless sword lights, barely blocking the ballista bolts.

At that moment, Daisy's eyes lightly closed, and she raised her head as a holy light descended on her body. Her surroundings were also illuminated by that light, and white motes of light drifted down from above, painting a beautiful and pure scene.

Daisy slowly opened her blood-red eyes and looked at the mysterious Skeleton, who had just blocked all of the ballista bolts. When she lightly raised her jade-like hand and pointed at the Skeleton, a white light shot out from her index finger. It soundlessly reached the mysterious Skeleton in an instant, confusing it.

BOOM!!!

A massive explosion sounded out as the mysterious Skeleton was once again sent flying into the wall. This time, the largest of the 7 rings was 30 meters wide, and the mysterious Skeleton's golden armor shattered as it lay on the ground with its dying breath.

Just as Zhao Fu was about to order his subordinates to finish it off, the mysterious Skeleton shakily stood up and raised its sword high in the air as it said, "Glory... to the king!"

Following this, the mysterious Skeleton howled. The entire world became quiet, and time seemed to stop.

Boom!!!!

A shocking explosion sounded out as a pillar of golden light erupted from the Skeleton, making it seem as if it was daytime in this dark area.

Within the golden light, the mysterious Skeleton's expression was sacred and dignified, and an aura that could cause one to feel despair and terror emanated from its body. The aura formed a windstorm; the ground started to crack; and a terrifying aura swept into everyone's hearts.

By now, the mysterious Skeleton's bones had been dyed completely gold, and a golden aura started to rise from its body like a flame. It stood with its sword raised high, and it looked like it could destroy the heavens.

Chapter 79: Monstrous Power

They all felt as if they were in a small boat in a massive sea when they felt this monstrous power, and terror spread within their hearts.

The mysterious Skeleton coldly stared at Zhao Fu and started to walk towards him.

Bai Qi and the others had no choice but to summon up the courage to rush at the Skeleton. However, the mysterious Skeleton did not even bother to look at them.

It casually slashed as a massive wave of sword qi engulfed the three of them. Bai Qi and the others desperately tried to defend but were sent flying.

The three of them crashed onto the ground and coughed up blood, causing their bodies to be stained red. They lay powerlessly on the ground and did not even have the strength to stand up. What's more, this was only a casual attack from the mysterious Skeleton, yet it had dealt such heavy injuries to Bai Qi and the others. They were the three most powerful fighters in the Great Qin Village, yet they seemed so weak in front of the mysterious Skeleton.

Swish, swish, swish...

Ballista bolts containing massive force shot towards it, but the mysterious Skeleton coldly harrumphed and slashed with its sword. A crescent-shaped sword qi reduced the countless ballista bolts into dust, and the boundless sword qi did not stop, continuing on towards the ballistae.

BOOM!!

The sword qi landed on the 10 ballistae, and a massive explosion rang out as the ballistae exploded into fragments. A 20-meter wide crater appeared on the ground, and two of the Infantrymen who had not been able to escape in time were turned into a bloody mist.

At that moment, a white light soundlessly arrived before the mysterious Skeleton again. Daisy had once again attacked, and the light split into 2, then 3, then 4, then 7 rings of different sizes.

Just as the rings were about to fully take shape, the mysterious Skeleton stabbed them, destroying the 7 rings of light and causing them to dissipate as white motes of light.

Powerful beyond belief. Terror, fear, despair, and helplessness assaulted everyone's hearts. The mysterious Skeleton was not something that they could stop.

The mysterious Skeleton's cold gaze once again fell on Zhao Fu, who was behind the shield wall and many other soldiers. It slowly leaned forwards as its sword hummed and gave off a blinding, golden light.

Bang!

The mysterious Skeleton lightly pushed against the ground, causing the ground to crack. It flew towards Zhao Fu like a golden ray of light, and all of the soldiers blocked its path to Zhao Fu. However, they were

all sent flying, and the mysterious Skeleton came before Zhao Fu. It raised its sword high into the air, preparing to slay Zhao Fu.

“Your Majesty!”

Many of the soldiers coughed up blood and lay paralyzed on the ground. All they could do was watch in terror and cry out at the scene before them.

BOOM!!!

A shocking explosion sounded out as two bursts of absolute power collided together, resulting in a massive energy shockwave. The ground cracked and collapsed, resulting in a 10-meter wide crater.

Zhao Fu’s body gave off a dark, ink-like aura that looked like demonic flames. Zhao Fu’s expression was one of dignity and might, and his eyes were completely cold as if he was a different person. The bronze sword in his hand stopped the mysterious Skeleton’s attack, and his entire person radiated killing intent.

Zhao Fu had used up a massive amount of Fate to activate the power of the Nation Armament, the Twelve Metal Colossi. He had even used the bronze sword of the Twelve Metal Colossi.

The mysterious Skeleton seemed to be quite shocked because it hadn’t expected Zhao Fu to be able to block its killing blow. Sensing dense killing intent from Zhao Fu, the mysterious Skeleton also became serious and retreated 10 meters away.

“Hurry and go!” Zhao Fu looked at his soldiers struggling to their feet, who were preparing to enter the fray. He immediately ordered them to retreat because this was no longer a battle that they could participate in.

They understood how weak they were and that they were no help at all when they heard Zhao Fu’s unquestionable tone. As such, they all obeyed and retreated out of the area.

At this moment, the mysterious Skeleton once again attacked Zhao Fu. Its body disappeared and reappeared at Zhao Fu’s side, and its sword seemed to contain enough force to shatter mountains as it sliced towards Zhao Fu’s waist. In response, Zhao Fu spun and used his sword to block it.

Clang!

The two swords collided, resulting in a massive metallic collision. Just as Zhao Fu blocked the attack, the mysterious Skeleton suddenly raised its leg and kicked at Zhao Fu, and Zhao Fu used his free hand to punch at the mysterious Skeleton.

Bang!!

The leg and fist smashed together, resulting in another massive explosion. Both sides were knocked 10 or so meters away, but Zhao Fu’s fist was bleeding, and his blood was dripping to the ground. On the other hand, the mysterious Skeleton seemed completely fine – that was the advantage of not having a fleshly body.

Suddenly, the mysterious Skeleton once again rushed at him, and Zhao Fu no longer remained as passive. He raised his bronze sword and pointed it up as a black aura spiraled around it, and a blood-red

spark appeared at the tip of the sword. It rapidly grew bigger and bigger until it formed a gigantic, 10-meter wide fireball, which looked like a blood-red sun, and its destructive aura covered the entire area.

Even the mysterious Skeleton was shocked by this and quickly dodged. Zhao Fu slashed down with his sword, causing the massive fireball to shoot towards the mysterious Skeleton as a blur of red light.

Bang!!

The fireball exploded, and just as it was about to cover the mysterious Skeleton, it turned into 10 or so illusory blurs and avoided the massive fireball.

Boom!!!

However, Zhao Fu appeared right before the mysterious Skeleton in the next second, his sword unleashing large amounts of dark sword light. With a full-powered strike, the mysterious Skeleton was sent flying 100 meters away, and it smashed into a wall and caused that section to crack and collapse.

Also immediately, a blur shot out from within the rubble, reaching Zhao Fu in an instant. Zhao Fu was caught off guard, and he quickly used his sword to defend himself.

Bang!!!

Zhao Fu felt as if he had been hit by a massive beast, and he was also sent flying 100 meters and hit a wall. Zhao Fu coughed up a mouthful of blood and wiped his mouth before standing up and looking at the mysterious Skeleton.

At this moment, the mysterious Skeleton was giving off an aura that was 10 times as powerful as before, and it was to the point that its power was becoming corporeal. The air twisted and turned, and the ground slowly sank down. The mysterious Skeleton dragged its golden sword across the ground, which was now almost four meters long. The ground was like tofu, and it was easily split apart by the golden sword.

Under the mysterious Skeleton's monstrous aura of despair, Zhao Fu's body instinctively started to tremble, but he resolutely bit his tongue. Immediately, pain traveled through his body, stopping his trembling. Zhao Fu then gripped the bronze sword and gathered all of his strength.

By now, the mysterious Skeleton had reached Zhao Fu, and it slowly raised its near 4-meter long golden sword and slashed down at Zhao Fu.

Boom!!!

The air seemed to be cleaved in two, and the sword qi was like a river that slashed at Zhao Fu. Even though Zhao Fu used all of his strength to defend against the attack, he still seemed incredibly weak and small, and the sword qi slammed him against a wall. Even then, the sword qi continued to blast at him until a crater that was 30 meters deep, which was filled with cuts from the sword qi, was left within the wall.

Within the depths of the crater, Zhao Fu's body was covered with both large and small cuts, and his blood covered his entire body. At this moment, he looked incredibly wretched.

Chapter 80: Heaven Exterminating Sword

Within the crater, Zhao Fu feebly took out six bottles, which contained roughly 300 or so Little Spirit Pills, and he swallowed all of them with great difficulty. He then consumed the remaining Explosive Spirit Pills.

The instant he swallowed all of these medicinal pills, Zhao Fu felt as if his heart had been gripped by a pair of large hands, causing it to thump with a low sound, and his entire body was wracked with pain by the powerful medicinal energy.

“Arghhhhh!!!” Zhao Fu tilted his head back and screamed in pain, and his body doubled in size as his veins bulged. His entire body became red, and his skin seemed to be on the verge of tearing – indeed, Zhao Fu’s body was almost at the point of exploding.

Zhao Fu stopped screaming as large amounts of blood-colored aura streamed out from his body. Over in the Great Qin Village’s Village Hall, the Twelve Metal Colossi clanged noisily as a massive amount of killing energy flooded into Zhao Fu’s body.

BOOM!!!

An explosion sounded out as an aura that was extremely powerful burst forth from Zhao Fu’s body.

At the mouth of the crater, the mysterious Skeleton coldly gazed at the black and blood-red aura streaming out.

Bang!!

Suddenly, a figure flashed out like a blur, and the mysterious Skeleton quickly used its sword to defend. However, it was still forced back by 10 or so meters.

There was now a figure where the mysterious Skeleton had originally been standing. Zhao Fu’s appearance had completely changed: his muscles bulged, his expression was savage, and his eyes started to leak blood. Massive amounts of black and blood-red aura streamed out of his body, making him seem like a demonic god.

Zhao Fu gripped a bronze sword with each hand, and four bronze swords floated behind him. The six swords gave off a bronze light, making it seem as if Zhao Fu was dressed in bronze clothing.

Right after forcing the mysterious Skeleton back, Zhao Fu rushed towards it and appeared above it in an instant. The two swords in his hand were filled with terrifying power as they hacked down at the mysterious Skeleton.

The mysterious Skeleton coldly harrumphed, and its 4-meter long golden sword lightly hummed as it also released a powerful slash.

BOOM!!!

The three swords collided, resulting in a massive explosion. The air seemed to be blasted apart, and even the ground beneath them cracked and sank down to form what looked like the inverse of a tortoise’s shell.

In that instant, a 500-meter wide, 50-meter deep crater was formed.

Under a pile of dirt, a golden sword light flashed, sending dirt and rocks flying, and the mysterious Skeleton crawled out, looking wretched.

It looked at Zhao Fu, who was in front of it, and dragged its 4-meter long golden sword as it roared and charged at Zhao Fu.

The 4-meter long golden sword gave off clear hums as traces of golden aura arose from it. The sword gave off a terrifying destructive aura, and even the ground was unable to withstand its power. As the mysterious Skeleton rushed up, the ground sank down wherever the sword passed over.

Zhao Fu raised the swords in his hands, and adding on the four swords behind him, the six swords hummed as bronze sword light covered the surrounding 100-meter radius area. An extremely powerful sword aura was formed, and under this aura, the ground started to disappear.

The mysterious Skeleton rushed up to Zhao Fu and brandished its massive, golden sword, sweeping it towards Zhao Fu.

Zhao Fu raised the 2 bronze swords in his hand and slashed towards the mysterious Skeleton with an extremely powerful sword aura.

BOOM!!!

A shocking explosion sounded out as Zhao Fu's swords crossed with the mysterious Skeleton's golden sword, annihilating everything around them. It was as if time and space had both disappeared.

Far away, Bai Qi and the others heard the continuous explosions and realized how terrifying the battle was. It was on a level that could destroy the heavens and the earth, and they were as powerless as a group of ants. All they could do was tremble when facing such power. Back on the battlefield, Zhao Fu and the mysterious Skeleton both flew backwards and crashed onto the ground. Zhao Fu cried out and coughed up a large mouthful of blood, but the mysterious Skeleton did not fare so well this time either – its golden bones had started to crack.

Zhao Fu gritted his teeth and once again stood up before quickly going towards the mysterious Skeleton. The mysterious Skeleton also got to its feet and dragged its sword as it rushed towards Zhao Fu.

Explosions rang out as the two sides faced off in this decisive battle, and everything around them was reduced to nothing.

“Eight Direction Sword Cry!” The mysterious Skeleton used the skill that the Skeleton General had used before – eight massive rays of golden sword qi suddenly shot towards Zhao Fu.

Zhao Fu raised one of the bronze swords as countless black and blood-red auras spiraled around the sword, making this ordinary-looking sword look like a demonic blade. Above the tip, 30 gigantic fireballs instantly appeared, which looked like 30 small suns, and covered the entire area with a destructive aura.

Zhao Fu pointed his sword at the mysterious Skeleton as the 30 massive fireballs flew towards it.

BOOM!!

The eight massive rays of golden sword qi and the 30 gigantic fireballs collided. Both contained incredible power, and after slamming into each other, an even more terrifying might was unleashed, resulting in an incredibly destructive shockwave.

Everything around them either collapsed or was reduced to dust, and the shockwaves instantly covered the mysterious Skeleton and Zhao Fu as well.

After the dust settled, a 1,000-meter wide, 100-meter deep hole had appeared. Because of their battle, the area had been expanded.

Zhao Fu, covered in blood, climbed out of a heap of rock shards, while the mysterious Skeleton, covered with fractures, also climbed out of a pile of rubble.

By now, both sides had more or less run out of strength, and even their life forces were flickering. However, this was the moment that would determine victory or defeat.

“Heaven! Exterminating! Sword!” the mysterious Skeleton howled as it stood up and raised its 4-meter long golden sword upwards. A golden pillar of light shot up, forming a cloud layer of sword qi.

Clang! Clang! Clang!

Sword qi collided in the air, releasing golden lightning. The golden cloud layer seemed to give off an aura that could exterminate the heavens, the earth, and all creatures.

Zhao Fu also stood up and roared, releasing a black pillar of light that rushed upwards.

Clang! Clang! Clang!

Twelve ancient-looking bronze swords appeared above Zhao Fu’s head, and they released black lightning. An aura that seemed as if it could slaughter the heavens and the earth and cause all creatures to tremble in fear slowly emanated outwards.