

## The Mighty 1001

Chapter 1001: Undersea Sanctuary In addition to Marquis Fugitive – Viswinti, who worked at the Overmarine Laboratory, and Salty Sea Marquis – Bluposi, who was constructing an overmarine city at the mouth of the Whirlpool River, the remaining five mermaids all dived into the ocean with Liszt, heading for the Undersea Sanctuary – Ach was focusing on researching the devil, so he did not join them.

The location of the Undersea Sanctuary was in the Shell Sea, situated between the Flame Islands and the Third Archipelago.

The mermaids' swimming speed was not slow, and a few hours later, they successfully reached the Undersea Sanctuary. The water depth was approximately eight hundred meters, and the light was somewhat dim, but the sanctuary resembled a massive crystal dome, enveloping an underwater region and shimmering with a faint rainbow glow.

Eternia stopped in front of the dome, "It's right here, Your Majesty, this dome is nothing special, just an ordinary bubble. But there is a weird power that keeps the seawater out. I tried to squeeze the seawater in, but I couldn't get it into the dome."

"Have you been into the Undersea Sanctuary, Eternia?" asked Marquis Fisherman – Gulvig.

"I haven't gone deep; I only walked a short distance along the edge of the sanctuary near the seabed... Walking with a fish tail is really troublesome."

Mermaids have noses and gills behind their ears, allowing them to breathe underwater or in the air.

However, mermaids do not have legs and can only bounce along on their tails, which is not only slow but also causes severe wear, so mermaids almost never go ashore. In this respect, the sea serpents have a great advantage; they and the mermaids are both darlings of the ocean, the mermaids are powerful, but sea serpents can go ashore.

"You wait outside; I'll go take a look," Liszt said, with a blue bone dragon totem on his face and a fire dragon totem on his chest.

After leaving the vast sea, his strength was bound to return to its peak, and he himself could transform into a phoenix, unafraid whether the sanctuary harbored danger or not.

He stepped forward, squeezing into the sanctuary through the water.

Instantly, he was greeted by a slightly moist, fragrant air, somewhat like the smell of a primeval forest, yet the environment here was completely different from a primeval forest or, indeed, from land. There were no green plants, only various glowing strange plants.

There were green ones, yellow ones, blue ones, red ones, multicolored.

Only a very few plants were non-luminous.

“These are some primeval ferns, fungi, lichens, and the like, and occasionally there are a few somewhat larger plants that look like little trees,” Liszt wandered through the sanctuary. The ground was very moist, consisting of waterlogged soil, possibly with decaying leaves.

The sanctuary was vast; it had felt at least as large as Fresh Flower Town when seen from the sea, perhaps even larger.

At least from within the sanctuary, one could not see the end.

However, looking up, one could see the underwater world, with fish swimming just above the rainbow light shield. This made Liszt worry whether the fish might fall from the sea bottom, but clearly, he was overthinking it; after watching for a while, not a single fish fell down.

If they had, the sanctuary would have been filled with fish carcasses long ago.

Drawing a Knight's Longsword, Liszt began to clear the chaotic plants in the sanctuary, carving a path deeper into it.

Using Eye of Magic, he did not see any magical feedback glow, meaning these were ordinary plants.

However, it was not certain, as the plants' natural glow could interfere with the judgment standards of Liszt's Eye of Magic. He looked up at the "sky," and feeling the space was large enough, he called out Little Fire Dragon Leo – at this time Leo had a wingspan and body length of fifty meters each and was a massive creature.

"Oh ho!"

With a commanding roar, Leo swooped down, and Liszt instantly entered Dragon Knight mode.

Using Dragon Eye Trajectory, the world immediately became exceptionally clear and colorful, and distinguishing colors quickly saturated, making it easy to differentiate between magical feedback glow and the natural glow emitted by plants.

Just then,

the Dragon Eye Trajectory swept over the ground and immediately spotted glimmers of magic feedback from four locations, three of which were ordinary chaotic light, but there was one spot where the blue-white light shone brilliantly—this could potentially be the reflection of Water Attribute Superior Magic, though it seemed slightly different from the Superior Magic found in Ach and the Mermaids.

"Don't rush, let's check out the three ordinary lights first," he commanded Little Fire Dragon Leo to head straight for the nearest source of chaotic light.

He leapt down.

He soon found a plant nurturing an Elf Bug, which was sleeping on the underside of a leaf. The Cordyceps looked somewhat like a clump formed from banana tree leaves, devoid of flowers, with only a thick short stem and five large leaves. There were several similar plants nearby.

Unfortunately, they possessed no magic power and were not Magic Potions.

Liszt quickly contracted this Elf Bug, then left it to continue sleeping on the leaf—this secret miniature world had no animals, so the Elf Bug was safe.

He then rushed to the second and third locations.

Both places held Elf Bugs, with the Cordyceps being a strange large flower and a small tree that seemed bare but actually had leaves and bark of the same texture.

They were not Magic Potions, and after contracting them, Liszt let the Elf Bugs live on their own.

Since the Elf Bugs couldn't move far from their Cordyceps, he planned to see if he could transplant these three kinds of plants to land. If not, it seemed like the Elf Bugs had no value to be developed.

After dealing with the ordinary chaotic lights,

he quickly reached the center of the sanctuary, approaching the spot emitting the blue-white Superior Magic glow. To his astonishment, there was a segment of grey-white bone exposed on the ground. The blue-white light was emanating from the bone, which was in sections, large and seemingly the tail bone of some creature.

“Could it be... dragon tail bones?”

A sudden jolt hit Liszt's heart, and he glanced at Leo's tail, comparing it to this segment of bone, guessing that the dragon's body might be slightly larger than Leo's: “Have I discovered another dragon's remains? Let me excavate and see if I can find any mines!”

With excitement swirling, even a deceased dragon represented a treasure trove of great value.

And a thought flashed through his mind: “The great war of old must have centered around the Flame Islands, hence so many dragon remains are here on these islands and in the surrounding ocean!”

On Black Horse Island were the remains of the Fire Dragon.

On Mind Island was the Jade Dragon's Hind Leg.

Flame Island Dragon Pit Megamine held the remains and mines of the Titanium Dragon, Black Heart Iron Dragon, Lead Dragon, Bronze Dragon, and Mercury Dragon.

The entire sea was still tainted by the pollution of the Cursed Dragon.

Now, in the Shell Sea, another new set of dragon remains had been discovered, with Superior Magic not even faded—clearly, the sea’s isolation of air slowed the decay of Superior Magic on the dragon remains.

“Vinnie, come and help me excavate the mine.” He called out Bone Dragon Vinnie, then entered the Unity of Man and Dragon with her, both of them shuddering simultaneously.

Driven by a strange, refreshing feeling, Bone Dragon Vinnie swiftly dug along the tail bone with its dragon claws.

As the excavation progressed, the dragon bone was slowly revealed, yet no mine was discovered. Liszt couldn’t help but ponder: “What kind of dragon’s remains are these? Could it be another Elemental Dragon? Which element would it be—Water, Fire, Earth, Wind, Lightning, Light, Ice, Darkness?”

Chapter 1002: Yoohoo If this is the remnant of an Elemental Dragon, then the type of Elemental Dragon it represents has become clear, the blue and white Superior Magic on the remnants is unmistakably Water Attribute Super Magic.

So it seems,

The remains of this dragon are most likely left by a Water Dragon.

“Wow, with no minerals this deep, it proves it’s not a Metal Dragon nor a Gemstone Dragon, and it’s definitely not a Sacred Dragon, even less likely an Evil Dragon... So it must be the remains of a Water Dragon!” Liszt concluded. As for why the remains of a Water Dragon would support a secret realm devoid of water, he still couldn’t figure out the reason.

The soil in the secret realm was very loose, making it easy and pleasant to excavate with the Bone Dragon. After several hours of work, he had dug a huge pit over a hundred meters deep and unearthed the entire skeleton of the Water Dragon.

All the bones had already scattered, but with his knowledge of dragons, he was still able to piece together all the bone fragments. From the reconstructed skeleton, it could be determined that this Water Dragon had a rather slender build, with the longest neck of all known dragons. Its total body length was eighty-five meters, with a wingspan of ninety meters.

Larger than a Light Dragon with an eighty-meter wingspan, but smaller than a Fire Dragon with a one hundred meter wingspan.

The size of a dragon is not the standard by which its combat power is judged; however, usually, the larger the size, the stronger the combat power is likely to be, and the Water Dragon's combat power obviously appears very formidable.

"The Superior Magic is still within the dragon bones; the degree of decay of these remains is much less than that of the Remains of the Fire Dragon on Black Horse Island." Looking at the bone skeleton brimming with magical energy, Liszt's heartbeat quickened again, and he couldn't help but breathe more rapidly, "If a Fire Dragon can be reborn from its remains, why not a Water Dragon?"

His eyes sparkled brilliantly as he took several deep breaths while looking at the skeleton.

He slowly calmed his restless emotions, "Now, I just need to find a way to resurrect the Water Dragon... I have the experience of successfully reviving the Fire Dragon, so I can do it again... Or, I could leave it to Ach!"

After all, this concerned an Elemental Dragon whose value was immeasurable. Liszt preferred to trust Ach's expertise rather than probe uncertainly on his own.

To be honest, Liszt still had no clear idea why Little Fire Dragon Leo was able to be born.

Since he had taught Ach all he knew, he had become too lazy to think and left the research to the professionals, just waiting to reap the results.

He tapped on the dragon bones.

The Dragon's Super Magic within the bones shivered, as if, like the few large bones remaining from the Fire Dragon, there was life being nurtured amongst the magic.

...

Leaving the secret realm.

Liszt quickly followed the Mermaids back to the Overmarine Laboratory, then he told Ach about the Water Dragon remains in the secret realm, and Ach quickly halted her current Devil research work—or rather, the research of the Cursed Dragon, as she had recently been analyzing the power of the Cursed Dragon.

She was close to concluding a new categorization of magical elements—Soul.

Water, Fire, Earth, Wind, Lightning, Light, Ice, Darkness, those are the eight basic magical elements recognized; Metal, some Magicians believe that the magic of the Metal Dragon, even that of the Gemstone Dragon, is the Metal element; Wood, some Magicians believe that the magic of the Elfs represents the Wood element, or the Nature element, Druid Magic is roughly similar to this.

Additionally, the Space element is the magic of the Formless Dragon, and the Time element should be the magic of the Twilight Dragon.

The fate represented by the Smoke Dragon, the mind or dreams represented by the Jade Dragon, the life represented by the Immortal Dragon, whether these are considered as concepts of magical elements, is uncertain.

Now.

Ach's research into the power of the Cursed Dragon has gradually unified her perception of the Soul, believing it to be a special kind of magical element, the Soul Element. And curses are but one application of the Soul Element; other things like Lich, Ghost Ship, and so on, are all branched applications of the Soul Element.

“Brother, Soul Element is different from the ordinary magic elements; after all, the soul involves the spirit, it's the third basic foundation of the world beyond matter and magic power,” Ach shared her speculation with Liszt while swimming in the ocean, “Reviving the Fire Dragon must have been where you inadvertently touched the Soul Element.”

“Having heard what you said, I suddenly recall how tapping on the Fire Dragon’s remains had no effect. However, when I used materials from the Ghost Ship as fuel, Leo was quickly born... It seems that for reviving an Elemental Dragon, the most crucial factor is the involvement of the Soul Element!”

“Yes.”

“So now that we are out of Ghost Ship materials, Ach, how are we going to resolve the Soul Element?”

Ach smiled cheekily, “Has brother forgotten? Ach has been researching the power of the Cursed Dragon recently and has collected a lot of pure Soul Elements. If the Water Dragon’s resurrection principle is the same as the Fire Dragon’s, surely these Soul Elements can be used to resurrect a Little Water Dragon for brother.”

Seeing Ach’s confidence, Liszt was elated, “Haha, once you resurrect the Little Water Dragon, I will have my seventh dragon.”

And as an Elemental Dragon, the Water Dragon would have no problem traversing the great seas.

It meant that once he rode the Water Dragon, he could roam the seas too, and as a Water Dragon Knight, he would no longer be confined to the skies.

They arrived at the center of the secret realm.

Ach quickly started examining the Water Dragon skeleton on the ground.

This study took a whole day and night, and finally, Ach concluded, “The Remains of the Water Dragon are full of Superior Magic, but like what I told brother about the Remains of the Fire Dragon, the Soul Element has been exhausted. Now, with the injection of the Soul Element and subsequent resonance, the remaining life force of the Fire Dragon can be awakened.”

In fact, the theory was very complicated, and Ach’s short explanation was just for Liszt’s easy understanding, “Now, how can I assist?”

“Brother just needs to initiate the Dragon’s Super Magic resonance, and Ach will inject the Soul Elements collected during this time, then, using a Magic Array to amplify the effect, I believe the Water Dragon can be resurrected quickly... In fact, Elemental Dragons are quite miraculous, they must have considered the issue of resurrection when they died, having long stored their life force deep within their bones.”

“Understood!”

So, Ach started to collect and arrange the materials for the Magic Array.

Although Liszt had nothing to do, he wasn’t idle either, trying to transplant three secret realm plants respectively named “Earth Banana,” “Nameless Flower,” and “Bare Tree” to the ground. The transplantation was naturally taken over by the Magicians from the Magic Guild, who found suitable planting environments.

In this way, by mid-May, when the weather turned hot,

Liszt stood in the center of the already prepared Magic Array, keeping company with the Water Dragon remains, while Ach stood beside, holding a large glass bottle with a faint wisp of smoke swirling inside—it was the pure Soul Element collected from the Cursed Dragon and other sources.

“Ach, are you ready?”

“Mhm.”

“Then let’s begin.” Liszt took a deep breath, his Superior Magic Dragon Dou Qi began to circulate, and he started drumming on the Water Dragon remains to provoke the vibration of the Dragon’s Super Magic.

The vibration got more and more intense, quickly reaching the degree of resonance.

At that moment, Ach pulled the stopper from the bottle and poured out the Soul Element. The next instant, the Dragon’s Super Magic began resonating. That miraculous reaction happened swiftly – the Dragon’s Super Magic permeated out of the dragon bones and merged with the spreading Soul Element smoke, forming a blue and white Magic Form of a little dragon.

The little dragon let out a “yoho” cry of infancy, before plunging into Liszt’s body.

Boom!

A wondrous Mind Connection rippled through Liszt’s mind, and he quickly felt an affectionate little creature burrowing into his abdomen, hiding in his left kidney. However, the creature seemed uncomfortable, so it swiftly switched to the right kidney, but still didn’t feel right.

Then,

It split in two, half taking residence in the left kidney, half in the right, linking the two parts together with Magic Power.

“Yoho!”

This time, it let out a joyous cry.

Chapter 1003: Devouring Magic Power He felt incredibly surreal.

Liszt could hardly believe it after the Magic Form Little Water Dragon entered his body and made itself at home. For the countless knights of the Legendary Continent, a dragon was a rare legendary creature. Yet, from a reward for a Smoke Mission, he had revived an Elemental Dragon from the Undersea Sanctuary.

Although the process was somewhat complicated and consumed a fair amount of resources, it was still easier than acquiring a Greater Elf.

It was so easy that it almost didn’t seem real.

“Of course, I shouldn’t think that way, I’m now the invincible Six-Headed Dragon Knight, with seven mermaids to assist me, and Ach, the invincible Archmage lending his hand, reviving a Water Dragon is naturally a breeze... If it were any other noble, even dragon-rearing families or the Imperial Emperor himself, it’s likely they would struggle to revive a Water Dragon.”

He felt quite emotional about this; it seemed to mirror the principle of the rich getting richer—only with money can one make more money.

A common person might have a thousand and barely make an extra few tens or hundreds despite being adept at investments. A wealthy person with ten million could simply earn tens or hundreds of thousands in interest from the bank.

In terms of opulence, within the domain of the ocean, Liszt was confident he outshone the Imperial Emperor.

However, his thoughts did not linger for long.

At that moment, commotion had already started brewing inside his body. Bone Dragon Vinnie took over the head and was unconcerned about the troubles of others. Leo, who had settled in the heart, now roared threateningly at the Little Water Dragon nestled in the kidneys. The Little Water Dragon, feeling wronged, croaked to Liszt, “Yo-ho,” in complaint.

“Leo, be calm, you’ve grown up, you need to show some grace,” Liszt had to intervene and soothe.

“Oh-ho!” Leo couldn’t calm down. If it weren’t for its hatred for Water-Attribute Superior Magic, it would be ready to devour the Little Water Dragon—just like it once tried to consume the Phoenix.

In the minds of evil dragons, creatures of Superior Magic that were on the same level were either enemies or food.

The only reason for peaceful coexistence was—being unable to beat them.

Luckily, Leo was ultimately suppressed by the Mind Branding of Liszt, and after Liszt comforted it by promising to provide plenty of Fire Dragon Elixir, it then calmed down its malice towards the Little Water Dragon. Nevertheless, its magic power remained mixed within Liszt’s Dragon Dou Qi, strongly suppressing the Little Water Dragon’s magic power.

Causing the Little Water Dragon to shrink back within the kidneys, too frightened to make a move.

“Yo-ho!”

It conveyed to Liszt the emotion of “I am very scared,” suggesting that despite both being classified as Evil Dragons, the Water Dragon seemed much friendlier and more approachable than Leo, which harbored far more negative and malevolent thoughts.

...

“Brother, has the Little Water Dragon been revived?” Ach asked, looking at the dazed Liszt.

Only then did Liszt snap out of soothing the Fire Dragon and Water Dragon, a brilliant smile on his face, “Everything is settled now, the Little Water Dragon is still in Magic Form for the moment, it might need to be nurtured for a while longer to draw enough Water-Attribute Superior Magic to evolve into a flesh and blood body.”

“That’s good, I, Ach, can provide the Water-Attribute Superior Magic for it, I believe it will grow up quickly.”

“From now on, it will be a bother, but I’ll need you, Ach, to take care of the Little Water Dragon frequently.”

“Hehe, Ach is very willing to take care of the Little Water Dragon.”

In the midst of their conversation,

The Rainbow Light Shield overhead suddenly began to tremble and started to contract inward, with seawater surging in, creating explosive popping sounds.

“This isn’t good, without the support of the Water Dragon’s Superior Magic, this sanctuary is going to collapse,” Liszt suddenly realized with alarm.

Although he couldn't comprehend how the Water Dragon's Superior Magic was able to hold up a bubble devoid of water, clearly this wasn't the time to ponder such questions.

He quickly said to Ach, "Ach, please gather the bones of the Water Dragon's remnants, I'll collect the Elf Cordyceps. And while at it, I'll harvest a batch of related plants to cultivate them on land... otherwise, these three Elf Bugs will certainly die with the disappearance of the sanctuary."

"Okay!"

Swiftly, Ach gathered all the Dragon Bones together and froze them with Eternal Sturdy Ice to prevent them from being scattered by the collapsing seawater. Meanwhile, Liszt quickly collected the three Elf Bugs and Elf Cordyceps, then pulled up lots of related plants and bound them together.

Once everything was finished,

The rainbow light shield above had already collapsed by more than half, its radiance having dimmed to almost invisible. Finally, under Liszt and Ach's watch, the rainbow light shield burst like a soap bubble with a pop.

Boom!

The seawater, under tremendous pressure, as if a great mountain was pressing down, instantly flattened the secret realm. Those bizarre glowing plants were pulverized in an instant, and aside from the batch that Liszt had previously collected, nothing remained.

"Let's go, Ach," said Liszt as he and Ach stood atop the sturdy ice formed by dragon bones and merged into the seawater, then drove the sturdy ice away from the now vanished secret realm.

Looking back, even the large pit that had been dug was gone, with no clue left to prove that a water dragon once perished here.

...

Without the Superior Magic, the remains of the water dragon were still materials of immense value.

The research on the glowing plants, Liszt left to the magicians of the Magic Guild, no longer taking interest himself. He returned the earth bananas, nameless flowers, and bare trees' Elf Bugs to the Flame Castle to care for them—whether the fate of the three Elf Bugs was life or death depended on whether their plant cultivation environment could be simulated.

Ach returned to the Overmarine Laboratory to study the power of the Cursed Dragon, and once she summarized and perfected the Soul Element, she would set out to build the second Teleportation Magic Array.

Leo also returned to the Endless Volcano Crater to continue sleeping in the magma.

Without Leo's suppression, the once meek Little Water Dragon no longer had to be constantly fearful. Unlike Leo, which "sprouted" from a Magic Fire Seed, it, due to the many Superior Magic remnants in the remains, bypassed the Magic Fire Seed stage entirely and possessed both a Magic Form and intelligence.

"Yo-ho!"

It cried out in hunger.

Liszt swallowed many Magic Potions, yet because he himself possessed Fire Attribute Dou Qi, which differed from the Little Water Dragon's Water-Attribute Magic Power, the magic he could provide was scarce: "Don't worry, even if I can't sustain you, there won't be a shortage of Water Attribute Superior Magic."

Wind, fire, water, earth, lightning, light, ice, darkness—these magic elements have no concept of generation or inhibition—in this world, fire and water are not opposed.

To put it simply.

All these magic elements are composed of basic Magic Particles, the different motion properties of the particles result in different physical properties. To a certain extent, magic,

matter, and spirit can all convert into one another, let alone different kinds of magic elements.

Many Dragon Knights do not match the magic properties of their dragons, yet it does not prevent the fusion of Dragon Magic Power and Dragon Dou Qi.

Therefore, Liszt's Fire Attribute Dou Qi could still provide sustenance for the Little Water Dragon.

It was just inefficient and uneconomical.

He then sought the merfolk to borrow Water Attribute Superior Magic, not wishing to burden Ach alone. The first he approached was Marquis Great West-Eternia: "Eternia, as you know, I have a Little Water Dragon to raise, so could I perhaps borrow some Water Attribute Superior Magic from you?"

"Of course, there is no problem, Your Majesty. I am very eager to provide the magic power necessary for the growth of the water dragon," Eternia agreed promptly, even with great joy—mermaids abhorred the Cursed Dragon deeply, but still held a great fondness for other kinds of dragons.

Thus, he took hold of Eternia's fingers—being a twenty-meter-long mermaid was too large, even a single finger was thicker than Liszt's thigh.

The Little Water Dragon, sensing the Water Attribute Superior Magic from Eternia, immediately cheered "Yo-ho" and greedily devoured Eternia's Superior Magic.

Gulp gulp.

It was as if the sound of drinking water could be heard, the Little Water Dragon greedily devouring every strand of Water Attribute Superior Magic.

Seeing this, Liszt said to Eternia, "There's no need to provide too much. When you feel enough has been drawn or if you feel uncomfortable, let me know, and I'll have the Little Water Dragon stop."

“Don’t worry about it, Your Majesty. I don’t lack that bit of Superior Magic. Mermaids can draw from the Magic Web...Oh, no more, Your Majesty. I can’t sustain the Superior Magic, the Little Water Dragon’s devouring power is too strong!” Eternia’s face turned pale in the midst of speaking.

Liszt hastily cut off the Little Water Dragon’s magic absorption, not allowing it to continue devouring.

“Yo-ho!”

The Little Water Dragon expressed its anger, a malevolent thought akin to Leo’s was continuously taking root.

Chapter 1004: Barriers “Control your anger, Little Water Dragon, or I’ll have to call Leo back,” Liszt disliked this dark thought greatly; he never imagined that the previously wronged Little Water Dragon could also harbor such malevolence, equating in intensity to the dark thoughts Leo once held.

It must be said, classifying Elemental Dragons as Evil Dragons was an astute generalization.

“Yo-ho!” Mention of Leo’s name made the Little Water Dragon visibly shudder, and it immediately restrained its furious emotions, daring not to display any more evil.

Only then did Liszt turn to Eternia, whose lips had turned white, “How do you feel now? Has the Superior Magic collapsed?”

Eternia exhaled deeply and rallied her spirits, “Thank goodness Your Majesty intervened in time, otherwise the Little Water Dragon’s absorption would have seriously drained my vitality... I thought, given a mermaid’s strong physique, I could sustain the Little Water Dragon’s draw on the Superior Magic, but who would have expected it to be so powerful right from birth.”

The enormous swallowing capacity that fired up all of a sudden frightened Eternia so much that she still felt residual fear; hence, one can see the gap in strength between mermaids and dragons, both Superior Magic beings.

“I am truly sorry, I didn’t expect the Little Water Dragon’s swallowing power to be this strong, though, of course, this might also be related to you not yet returning to your peak condition,” said Liszt gently, “Go back and rest well, health is more important than anything else, recuperate fully before you do more work.”

“Understood, Your Majesty,” Eternia responded with a wry smile, “But I’m afraid we mermaids won’t be able to help the young master cultivate the Little Water Dragon anymore, its absorptive capacity is beyond what any mermaid can satisfy.”

“Mhm, I will slowly cultivate it. There’s no rush.”

...

Since mermaids couldn’t withstand the Little Water Dragon’s absorption, Liszt didn’t dare to casually call on Ach to provide Water Attribute Super Magic either, just in case it caused Ach any harm. That was not something he wanted to see.

However, upon learning the situation, Ach said, “Brother, if the mermaids can’t provide magic power, that’s because the Little Water Dragon doesn’t just draw on Superior Magic but also their bodies’ unique Superior Magic. Just as with the tail feathers of the Flame Dragon Bird, they are a special form where soul and magic power fuse together.”

“That must be the case, it’s just a pity there’s no treasure like Phoenix Feather of Water Attribute that could speed up the Little Water Dragon’s growth.”

“Ach can do it,” the Sea Monster Magician said with a smile, “Brother mustn’t forget what Ach has recently been researching, precisely Soul Elements. Ach can entirely mix the Soul Elements refined from the Cursed Dragon’s power with Water Attribute Super Magic to encourage the Little Water Dragon’s growth.”

“Is that really possible?”

“Mhm,” Ach nodded seriously, “And Ach has also discovered a secret, a piece of information about something beyond Completion-term Dragon Knights.”

Liszt’s brows instantly raised, “Oh? Please, do share.”

He long surmised that once Dragon Knights reached completion, their further advancement must surely involve soul-level cultivation, yet he had never found any clues or leads. Unexpectedly, Ach's recent research into the Cursed Dragon had uncovered such clues.

"Dragon Knights, or to say, dragons, are beings at the pinnacle of strength. But this pinnacle still has its limits, to put it precisely, a kind of shackle... Ach calls it a bastion, and Completion-term Dragon Knights will face the shackles of this bastion, unable to proceed any further."

"Bastion?" Liszt didn't understand.

Ach continued to explain, "Brother has seen the Dragon of the Magic Web and should know of its existence, not bound by our current fixed space-time. Ach believes it's a dragon that has transcended the bastion, which perhaps is the dividing line between matter, spirit, and magic power."

The Dragon of the Magic Web does not belong to the material world, nor to the material boundary, nor to the world beyond the material.

Yet, it traverses all of these worlds, its presence felt from the material world to the material boundary, and even the world beyond material.

Ach referred to the barrier as the boundary between material things, or between magic powers, or even between spirits—the barrier that the Dragon of the Magic Web had broken was clearly one between material things.

"Material, spirit, and magic power are all cornerstones of the world, and once the barriers between these basics are broken, one will transcend the peak of strength. Therefore, Ach believes that the next step in the cultivation system for an Elemental Dragon Knight should be the magic power barrier; for Metal Dragon Knights and Gemstone Dragon Knights, it should be the material barrier."

"What about the Sacred Dragon?" Liszt inquired.

"For the Formless Dragon, it is obviously the material barrier; for the Twilight Dragon, it's unclear, as the significance of time is something Ach still can't explain; the Jade Dragon represents dreams and the mind, and should be about breaking the spiritual barrier; the

Smoke Dragon signifies fate, what fate is, Ach is also unclear; the Immortal Dragon represents life, which is also hard to say.”

“So does that mean if the Cursed Dragon progressed further, it would also be breaking the spiritual barrier?”

“It could be so... Of course, the above barrier information is just Ach’s speculation, and whether such a barrier exists still needs to be verified.”

When it comes to barriers, Ach can only speculate at present.

Therefore, for Liszt’s subsequent questions,

About whether “a Fire Dragon Knight breaking the magic power barrier could become a Water Dragon Knight,” “if a Formless Dragon Knight broke a barrier, could it become the next Dragon of the Magic Web,” “whether the Cursed Dragon has already broken the spiritual barrier to contaminate the ocean,” “what kind of dragon evolved into the Dragon of the Magic Web by breaking a barrier,” and so on, all were unanswerable.

In any case.

The barrier is, for the time being, just a concept. Even though Liszt is deeply fascinated by it and has already named the next phase of the Dragon Knights’ cultivation system “Bastion Knight,” it still doesn’t mean that barriers actually exist or that Bastion Knights are a feasible cultivation prospect.

The topic returned to the supply of Superior Magic. Ach quickly designed a Magic Array that integrated Superior Magic with Soul Elements, and then personally provided the Superior Magic.

Allowing the Little Water Dragon to fully absorb it.

Once the Magic Array was properly arranged and activated, Ach, in the form of the Water Elemental Embodiment, continually drew magic power from the Magic Web, then, with the help of Unicorn Charlie, amplified it to Superior Magic. Liszt then lifted the restrictions on the Little Water Dragon, which cried out “Yo-ho” and wildly absorbed the magic.

With no restrictions and a consistent supply of magic, Ach remained relaxed from start to finish, without experiencing the overexertion that Mermaids did.

After ten full minutes of absorption,

The Magic Power Little Water Dragon suddenly let out a “Yo-ho,” exhibiting a bout of “hiccup”-like emotions, no longer able to absorb more Superior Magic. It grew lethargic in spirit, its magic power retracted into Liszt’s kidneys, and it began to sleep soundly, digesting this sumptuous feast.

“This approach is good; after two or three more sessions of devouring like this, the Little Water Dragon should be well on its way to development... By the way, Ach, is there enough Soul Element left refined from the Cursed Dragon’s power?”

“There’s enough for two or three times, but no worries, if it runs out, we can just catch a bunch of Devils with the Mermaids at the bottom of the sea.” Ach, capable of obliterating a Devil Tower on her own, spoke very lightly—as far as she was concerned, the Devils that once loomed over the sea like phantoms were merely magical ingredients.

“Hmm, better not to venture into Devil’s Sea without thorough preparation. This time it was just a Devil Tower we encountered; if there are more Devils, it will still be dangerous.”

Ach nodded. “Understood.”

Liszt caressed Ach’s azure hair. “Remember, this is just a Little Water Dragon, its growth is not even one ten-thousandth as important as your safety.”

Ach suddenly squinted her eyes in enjoyment, like a little cat, “Hehe, brother, Ach is now even more powerful in the sea than a Dragon Knight!”

Chapter 1005: Equivalent Alchemy “Do you still remember this obsidian ring, brother?” After feeding the little water dragon, Ach continued chatting with Liszt, she wore a black ring on her hand.

“I do remember it, the divine artifact equipment of a Moon Slayer Archmage from ancient times—have you already cracked its usage method?” Liszt exclaimed in surprise.

According to the appraisal in the Knowledge Ancient Book, this obsidian ring is made of metal alloy, most likely an alloy of a large amount of unknown metals, its function being equivalent alchemy.

“Not yet, but I have some clues.” Ach said, “Records about alchemy are scarce, but considering the transformation between substances, Ach believes that equivalent alchemy is achievable, and this obsidian ring is a tool that assists in alchemy.”

“So how do you perform alchemy?”

“Brother, you mentioned before that substances are made up of very small particles called atoms, which consist of a nucleus and electrons; and the nucleus is made up of different protons and neutrons, very tightly packed and difficult to change; the change in a substance’s properties is due to the atom losing or gaining electrons.”

“Yes, I did say that, can’t remember which incomplete alchemist tome I read it from.” Liszt was embarrassed. He had indeed taught Ach a lot of physical and chemical knowledge, but having not been in contact with this area of knowledge for several years, he had forgotten it all.

Now, he could no longer understand what chemical reactions are in theory, only remembered something about electrons being gained and lost.

So, he couldn’t help but ask, “Ach, have you discovered something in this respect?”

“Mm, the losing and gaining of an atom’s electrons, changes only the temporary state of the material, not its essence. Brother, you said that changes to the atomic nucleus are real alchemy, which can turn iron into gold.”

“Hmm, did I say that? Probably.”

“Ach has discovered that the function of the obsidian ring is to stimulate the metamorphosis of metals; it can accelerate the nuclear activity of metal atoms, allowing the nuclei of metal atoms to easily break down and recombine. Once Ach fully grasps the methods and theories, the ancient art of alchemy can be replicated!”

Although Liszt could no longer remember anything about atomic nuclei.

He only knew that nuclear fission and fusion can change chemical elements.

Nuclear fission is the principle behind the atomic bomb, and nuclear fusion is the principle behind the hydrogen bomb—an atomic bomb seems to use something like uranium to fission, creating barium elements and releasing a large amount of energy; a hydrogen bomb, on the other hand, fuses hydrogen isotopes, deuterium and tritium, into helium, also releasing a tremendous amount of energy.

But this doesn't mean he didn't understand the significance of alchemy: "Ach, does that mean, once you develop alchemy, you can really turn stones into gold?"

"Not stones, brother, according to the obsidian ring's capability for equivalent alchemy, it is between metals that properties can be changed through alchemy. It's possible to turn iron into gold, or even into magical metal, although the meaning of equivalent alchemy might also include some loss."

"Loss?"

"For instance, maybe ten portions of iron could only be alchemized into one portion of mountain copper, the 'value' of mountain copper in material terms would definitely be far greater than the 'value' of iron."

He caught on quickly: "Does that mean that all metals have a different 'value' between them?"

"That's likely, but we need to explore the respective alchemy 'value' of each metal. Right now, it's not clear which metal has a higher value and which one has a lower value."

"Being able to figure out the value of metals would definitely allow one to earn a massive fortune through alchemy."

Liszt's eyes gleamed, the prospect clear to him: "From the current market prices, the price of a ton of iron doesn't compare to the price of a pound of mountain copper. If you can alchemize a ton of iron into a pound of mountain copper, you'd make money; if it becomes ten pounds, it's a windfall; and if it turns into a hundred pounds, that would be an incredibly lucrative business!"

“Ach will deduce the art of alchemy as soon as possible.”

“Don’t be too anxious,” Li Si Te said, having obtained the Phoenix Incarnation, although he was uncertain of his exact lifespan.

But he felt that his aging process had greatly slowed down.

According to the legend of the Phoenix’s five hundred-year cycle, he could definitely live for two to three hundred years, and perhaps even reach the five hundred-year lifespan of a Dragon Domain LandLord.

Of course, contracting an Immortal Dragon was still one of his dreams.

...

The Little Water Dragon was slumbering, digesting the Water Attribute Super Magic acquired from its gluttony.

Ach continued to research the power of the Cursed Dragon, preparing to summarize the Soul Element in the near future. Meanwhile, materials for setting up the Magic Teleportation Array were being collected; this time, the modified Magic Array would be far more stable, comfortable, and safe than the Heart Reed Teleportation Formation.

Li Si Te then inspected his dominion.

Now, with the large influx of the Knight Class, he had an increasing number of Moon Slayer Natives at his disposal, essentially completing the incorporation of the southeastern half of Flame Island. Apart from some small tribes hiding in the corners of the primeval forests, all other Moon Slayer Native Tribes had emerged from the woods to become subjects of the Flame Kingdom.

Moon Slayers were different from Africans. Although they too lived primitive societal lives, they generally had an upright attitude towards work and were willing to labor hard.

This was probably because the forests on Flame Island were not as rich in resources as anticipated.

In Africa, the abundance of food led the locals to develop a lazy and gluttonous temperament. In the forests of Flame Island, the Moon Slayers had to fight Magical Beasts and endure hunger in the winter, and as tribes grew, they had to split and migrate to farther lands for better survival.

Out of necessity, the Moon Slayer Natives developed a resilient and hardworking nature.

With the construction of Flame King City at its center, Flame Island was divided into a southeastern and a northwestern half, and the Knights of the Flame Kingdom were now expanding into the northwest.

There weren't many Moon Slayer Natives in the northwestern half, but there were also about a million Serfs that could be incorporated.

Li Si Te paused his inspection at Flame King City, where more and more trained and experienced Moon Slayer Serfs had been arranged to work. A huge city designed to accommodate a population of five hundred thousand was rising from the ground. The construction of the Royal Palace on the nearby Holy Mountain had also commenced.

Standing on the peak and merging with the mountain itself.

From afar, it complemented Flame King City, and the blueprint underwent several revisions before it was finally determined. The valley of the Holy Mountain was the home of Bone Dragon Vinnie's Dragon Nest; the forest behind the Holy Mountain housed the Dragon Nest of Mountain Copper Dragon Mata—Mata wasn't demanding about its environment but needed to be well-fed and taken care of.

Jade Mountain was home to Light Green Gem Dragon Ethan's Dragon Nest, while the Endless Volcano Cluster was Fire Dragon Leo's lair.

The Dragon Nest for Grey Iron Dragon Ornn was yet to be determined; it was flying aimlessly over Flame Island, ready to find its own favorite habitat to establish a nest.

Formless Dragon Bard needed no fixed abode, its home being the world beyond the physical realm.

As for the Little Water Dragon, it hadn't even gotten a name, let alone a Dragon Nest—worst case scenario, it could simply be tossed into the Vast Ocean, making the sea its Dragon Nest.

“By the way,”

He rode on Formless Dragon Bard, examining his Royal Palace from the boundary of the physical world: “The King's Castle could be directly called Flame King City, but what should the Royal Palace be named... The Royal Palace in Sapphire is called Azure Sky Peak Palace, in Steel Ridge it's called White Gold Tooth Palace, and the one in Eagle is named Iron Dragon Chain Palace...”

Chapter 1006: The Second Teleportation Array “For now, let's not name it yet; after we establish the kingdom, we'll surely have to come up with a batch of new titles, including re-naming the Holy Mountain, the King's Castle, and the surrounding locations.”

Liszt didn't have an appropriate name for the Royal Palace in mind, so he stopped fussing over it.

After touring around the vicinity of the King's Castle and having a chat with Mata, he left to continue inspecting the construction progress of other projects in his territory.

The evolution of the Fierce Earth Dogs into greenhide, whitehide, and goldhide had all been successful—transforming into Intermediate Magical Beast Blizzard Beasts. Although not yet mature, they were ready to breed under the stimulation of the Bloodline Fruit.

What was most unexpected was the failed evolution of the purplehide. Although its physical development had always been slow, its performance in magic was outstanding, having already mastered the Advanced Earth System Magic – Rock Thorn Rampart. It was overshadowed by the greenhide, whitehide, and goldhide in brute combat strength, but it totally dominated them in magic.

Unfortunately,

it seemed that purplehide had evolved into a different species, which could not breed with the Blizzard Beasts, making reproduction even more difficult.

With the current pregnancy of this batch of Blizzard Beasts, the hope of forming a Blizzard Knights Order was no longer a luxury. Following the Mammoth Knight Brigade, the formation of the Blizzard Knights would also happen soon.

The mount problem for the Royal Knight Squad was already solved—Flame Dragon Birds, Fire Ravens, and Red Sparrow Birds all qualified as mounts.

However, finding knights was not easy; there weren't many young Elite Earth Knights of Fire Attribute and Sky Knights willing to join—Liszt simply could not consider those of advanced age.

But training young knights took time.

As of now, no one had been selected for the Dragon Knight reserve plan. There were only a list of potential candidates, such as Dulontan Red Apricot, Curster Windmill, Hippolyta, and other little geniuses attending the Royal Academy. But these geniuses were still a distance away from becoming reserve Dragon Knights.

Moreover, the Fire Paladin initiative had not yet begun.

Little Fire Dragon Leo hadn't matured, and it had no interest in wasting magic power to infect a few "Dragon Wraiths"—unlike the traditional Dragon Magic Power infecting White Dragon Wraiths and Black Dragon Childe, which eventually returned the magic power to the dragon, once a Fire Paladin was complete, the magic power would not return to the dragon.

This was a loss-making deal, and Leo was quite shrewd; Liszt couldn't easily fool it.

Unless the monthly Magic Potion yield from the Phoenix Perch Parasol Forest entered a period of abundant harvest and Fire Dragon Elixir could be supplied without limit, Leo would find it difficult to cooperate.

There was no relationship of enslavement between dragons and Dragon Knights, it was simply cooperation.

Even with the Mind Branding suppressant, it was akin to having an additional layer of a "marriage" ceremony—while the wife could do chores at home and take care of children,

if she truly decided to go out and enjoy freedom, there wasn't much one could do. If Leo did not cooperate, there was not much Liszt could do either, except to offer incentives.

"I hope the Little Water Dragon isn't as cunning as Leo in the future... Although my first dragon is Leo, I still believe that Formless Dragon Bard is the best."

Bard was truly very easy to command; only needing a bit of Smoked Grass and putting up with its occasional habit of chewing Smoked Grass, it would cooperate perfectly with any of Liszt's requests. Traveling through space without any complaints, and its demand for magic power wasn't great, a bit of Red Dragon Water was enough.

At most, provide it a tender roast cow every few days.

It indeed deserved good treatment.

As for the other dragons, Bone Dragon Vinnie required no eating or drinking, and human souls made her more peaceful; Light Green Gem Dragon Ethan was a drunkard, but now with Emily taking care of him, Liszt didn't need to worry; Grey Iron Dragon Ornn had needs for food and often needed to replenish magic power.

But once it found a suitable Dragon Nest, it would start producing iron ore.

Mountain Copper Dragon Mata was somewhat unreliable; it freeloading and had a picky taste yet stubbornly refused to produce mountain copper ore—without a mind branding to suppress it, it didn't have a good sense of Li Si Te and wouldn't infect the mountain copper ore—possibly also because the magic potion incentive wasn't sufficient, making it feel that infecting the ore wasn't worth the effort.

In the end, minerals couldn't just emerge out of thin air; it still came down to consuming dragon magic power.

Maintaining a dragon to produce minerals would consume countless magic potions, let alone maintaining six dragons... which was now seven dragons.

After several days of inspection, construction in various places was underway vigorously, and there was nothing that needed Liszt's intervention; the Development Committee was managing Flame Island very well.

Liszt was even too lazy to contract with the Elf Bugs in various places.

One could simply raise the wild Elf Bugs—that was because the Moon Slayers had a method that could stimulate the Elf Bugs to collect and release Cordyceps, so whether they were contracted or not made no difference.

Quickly.

The Magic Guild had made the latest advancements in Elf Bug research; in a growth environment simulation for three types of plants—Earth Bananas, Nameless Flowers, and Bare Trees—they had successfully nurtured the first batch of plants—these plants reproduced asexually and needed to be cultivated in dark, warm greenhouses.

The cultivation was difficult, and the value of the plants was still being explored, but nonetheless, the three Elf Bugs finally had a chance at survival.

At the same time, the Little Water Dragon was still asleep, and Ach had concluded the research work on the soul element.

“Do you need a few days to rest?”

“No need, brother, setting up the Magic Teleportation Array isn’t tiring at all, and for Ach, this is relaxation.” So, under the urging of the Little Sea Monster, the work of setting up a new Magic Teleportation Array officially started.

The starting point was located at the foot of Jade Mountain, only a kilometer away from Jade City.

The endpoint was in the Endless Primeval Jungle within the Legendary Continent, less than a hundred miles from Snowstorm Mountain Duchy—an area with flat jungle terrains, where Liszt had burned down all the trees leaving only charred soil along with uneven muddy ground.

“Heroic Yellow City, Heroic Yellow Plains... One day, this place will become the bridgehead for the Flame Kingdom’s venture into the Legendary Continent, causing empires and kingdoms on the continent to shudder in fear!”

Looking at the barren expanse of charred soil, Liszt felt a rush of enthusiasm.

He called this place Heroic Yellow Plains, taking one character each from the Eagle Kingdom and Yellowstone Kingdom, also implying a deeper meaning of wanting to annex the two great kingdoms.

During the day, he would set up the magic arrays; at night, he would ride the Formless Dragon Bard back to Flame Castle to rest.

In this way, three days flew by, and with a spirited “yoho” in his heart, the Little Water Dragon woke from its slumber, its magic power more robust than ever. Upon waking, it clamored to eat and drink, leaving no choice but to have Ach set up another array to supply it with Superior Magic.

After eating the Superior Magic, the Little Water Dragon let out a satisfied belch and fell into a deep sleep again: “Actually, raising a dragon is quite simple; you just have to keep it well-fed... the worry is that when the Little Water Dragon grows up, it will be difficult to keep it fed.” Like Leo, who often wasn’t satisfied and couldn’t casually indulge in Fire Dragon Elixir.

Once the Magic Array was properly arranged, it was Liszt’s turn to ride the Formless Dragon Bard and, under Ach’s direction, tear through natural nodes to connect the Magic Teleportation Array.

Thus.

By early June, the newly established Heroic Yellow City-Jade Mountain Magic Teleportation Array was officially operational. There was no grand celebration ceremony, only the first group of knights led by Yevich Water Peanut who crossed the array and stood at the foot of Jade Mountain, full of emotion as they gazed at the towering Jade City in the distance.

After two years, they finally set foot on the soil of Flame Island for the first time, returning to the land that would be their country from now on.

Chapter 1007: Piero's Call for Help "Your Majesty, is this Jade City, and are these the Moon Slayers?" Yevich Water Peanut sighed. "I had originally thought Flame Island was still a desolate wilderness, and that no amount of development over two years could change the savage environment. Yet, I never expected Jade City to have grown so immense."

Despite being captured early and following Liszt, he had not experienced many great battles and was unaware of Liszt's powerful organizational abilities as a socialist successor.

For any landlord, opening up a piece of farmland could take years, yet he always emphasized the need to work hard and fast—paying well gave the serfs the strength to grind stones into sand. Not to mention the simple tasks of burning forests, cultivating farmland, constructing wooden houses, all overseen by an Ancient Mage.

Jade City's current size far exceeds that of a typical metropolis of one hundred thousand people—it just lacks the luxury, but in terms of sanitation and civilization, it surpasses any large city.

Toilets, sewage systems.

These were the standard constructions that Liszt specifically demanded.

A city can lack grand architecture, can be filled with small wooden houses, but it absolutely cannot be without toilets or have sewage running in the streets.

"The Male Jade Transmission Array is now complete, and Heroic Yellow City has also begun construction. The Snowstorm Mountain Duchy is now in constant internal strife, with the battle between the First Prince and the Second Prince reaching a fever pitch. There will definitely be knights ruined by this conflict, and you need to make more connections, to try to recruit them."

"Rest assured, Your Majesty, I have always been planning this matter, but I've only been in contact with some minor nobles. Though the Duke of Snowstorm Mountain may be senile, he remains vigilant against outsiders meddling in the struggle between his sons. If I overstep, it could easily provoke the old duke into action."

“Do not be afraid, the Flame Kingdom is your support. If the old duke dares to make a move, tell him that if something happens to you, I will send Dragon Knights to intervene in the internal affairs of the Snowstorm Mountain Duchy.”

“Still in the name of the Eagle Kingdom?”

Liszt thought for a moment, “You could pose as a middleman between the Eagle Kingdom and the Flame Kingdom, dealing in serf trade or other trades. When the crucial time comes, you can reveal your true intentions. In any case, an alliance with the Snowstorm Mountain Duchy is mutually beneficial; without it, they are the ones who will be harmed.”

Even the Kushan Imperial had designs on the Flame Kingdom, so Liszt was not concerned about the hostility of a minor duchy.

His power was enough for him to move unimpeded in the northeastern corner of the Legendary Continent.

...

“Complete the mission, reward a Greater Elf.”

With the Male Jade Transmission Array completed, the Smoke Mission was naturally concluded, rewarding a Greater Elf, though its origins were still unknown.

Liszt did not pay too much attention to it, as all his focus was now on the new Smoke Mission.

“Mission: The Duke of Grey Iron returns to the Grey Iron Duchy. Despite losing the Grey Iron Dragon, he still firmly controls state power. However, his envoy group has secretly gone to the Flame Kingdom, carrying a request for your help once more—surely, this is an opportunity. Please assist the Duke of Grey Iron. Reward: Aluminum Dragon leads.”

“Aluminum Dragon leads!”

He immediately understood Duke Grey Iron Piero Grey Mouth Iron’s intention for trading the Mountain Copper Dragon leads in exchange for twenty years of protection. It seems

that Duke Grey Iron still holds the leads to the Aluminum Dragon. He must be secretly strategizing on the Aluminum Dragon, planning to rely on it to stabilize the nation.

“But him seeking my help—what does that mean? Does he really expect me to aid him in conquering the Aluminum Dragon? Is he not afraid that I might snatch it away from him? When it comes to Dragon Riding, there are no friendships involved—it’s finders keepers!”

No matter what, as long as the Aluminum Dragon remained without a master, it was internally decided that this Aluminum Dragon, Liszt.

In the northeastern corner of the Legendary Continent, an Aluminum Dragon had never been heard of. Aluminum is a common metal, but like titanium, known as “lesser Mithril,” aluminum is called “lesser Crystal” and is a material for making high-grade magical devices. It has great effects in conducting magic power and solidifying Magic Runes.

The value of the Aluminum Dragon may not match that of a Magic Metal Dragon, but it is still highly valuable among Metal Dragons. If Duke Grey Iron were to acquire the Aluminum Dragon, he would undoubtedly become the most enlightened ruler of the Grey Iron Duchy.

“What a pity you came to me...”

Liszt did not have to wait anxiously; almost two hours after the mission was posted, he received a message from the Fortress of the Mind via the magic platform.

Someone claiming to be an envoy from the Grey Iron Duchy wanted to meet with him.

“Let him come over. I will meet with him at the Reed City Office,” Liszt was interested to know what Duke Grey Iron might need his help with.

Soon, at the Reed City Office, Liszt met with the envoy of Duke Grey Iron.

He was a young Sword Saint with blond hair and green eyes, quite handsome: “The envoy of Duke Grey Iron, Lawrence Green Luo, pays respects to His Majesty the Flame King.”

“Dispense with the formalities; has Duke Grey Iron sent you here secretly for something important?” Liszt always preferred to get straight to the point and did not care for insincere pleasantries.

Lawrence adapted to Liszt’s direct style before revealing the purpose Duke Grey Iron had sent him for: “A knight raised by Duke Grey Iron has been abducted by the Eagle Kingdom... He may be a bastard son of Duke Grey Iron, hence His Grace hopes to request Your Majesty’s help.”

“A bastard son... for a bastard son, you seek my assistance?” Liszt spoke with a hint of mockery, “What does Duke Grey Iron think would be an adequate price to move me to action?”

“His Grace is willing to offer five Greater Elves.”

“Five Greater Elves, yet you have me risk delving into the heart of the Eagle Kingdom?”

“Not so, Your Majesty. The one who kidnapped the knight is not of the Eagle Royal Family but a Feudal Marquis. However, this Feudal Marquis is an inheritor of the Ancient Warrior and very powerful. Knowing that the Grey Iron Duchy has no dragon’s protection, he holds no regard for His Grace.”

It was clear that Lawrence was not telling the truth, painting Liszt as naively trusting.

A bastard son, no matter how exceptional, couldn’t possibly be worth the cost of five Greater Elves to rescue. If there really were five Greater Elves, a direct exchange with that Feudal Marquis would suffice.

Besides,

Even if there were discrepancies with the Eagle Royal Family, if it really came to asking the Royal Family for help, they might ignore the affair out of indifference to their vassal’s dignity. To take ten thousand steps back, it was not as if the Grey Iron Duchy couldn’t find other duchies willing to help, doubtless eager to earn five Greater Elves.

There’s no way they would have come directly to Liszt to rescue this bastard son.

Moreover, now that the Smoke Mission had already hinted at the Aluminum Dragon clue, even if Liszt were foolish, he wouldn't believe such an excuse.

It must be that this knight had information about the Aluminum Dragon.

"Lawrence, stop with these pointless words. What exactly does Duke Pierrot mean? Speak plainly. Otherwise, you might as well return now, I won't keep you for dinner."

Chapter 1008: Giving You One Chance Lawrence hesitated for a moment before clenching his teeth and saying, "Your Majesty, to be frank, that knight is indeed Prince Duke's illegitimate child, named Florenza Pursuit Arrow. He is in the process of subjugating a dragon, an Aluminum Dragon, and has nearly reached the stage of the Mind Battle..."

Liszt raised his eyebrows and narrowed his eyes, "Aluminum Dragon?"

"Yes, at the critical moment of subjugating the Aluminum Dragon, he was discovered by the Marquis of Boulder. As a result, the Marquis captured Florenza, with the intention of obtaining the Aluminum Dragon through him... The Prince Duke did not dare to mention this to anyone, but he trusts in Your Majesty's character, so he wishes to seek your assistance."

If he truly trusted him, Lawrence wouldn't have blabbed nonsense earlier, treating Liszt like a fool to be deceived.

It was just that now, he had no choice but to reveal the truth.

Liszt did not immediately respond to the request to rescue Florenza but diverted the subject, "The Marquis of Boulder, is he the Cloaked Bear-wearer?" He remembered the landlord that Yevich Water Peanut used to follow, was the Marquis of Boulder, an Ancient Warrior Inheritor whose strength wasn't far from that of a Domain Knight.

"Yes, that is Marquis Pilof the Earth Frenzy."

"He, an Ancient Warrior Inheritor, also wants to ride a dragon, are you sure he can handle Dragon Riding?"

“His progeny are many, among whom two possess exceptional talents and have trained in the Knight Dou Qi. They have participated in the Dragon Knight selection program but were unsuccessful.”

As they went back and forth, the whole story became clear.

Duke Pierrot’s illegitimate son, Florenza Chase Wind Arrow, had notable talent and was close to successfully subjugating the Aluminum Dragon. However, he was intercepted by Marquis Pilof of Boulder, the Earth Frenzy. The funny thing was, neither Pierrot nor Pilof, both Nobles with the surname “Pi,” dared to make a fuss about it.

Because once they did, the fight over the Aluminum Dragon wouldn’t be just between their two families. Any Noble capable of Dragon Riding wouldn’t miss out on this opportunity.

However, the Grey Iron Family had lost their Grey Iron Dragon, which tremendously weakened their combat power, and they were simply unable to overpower Pilof and thus couldn’t reclaim Florenza.

That’s why Pierrot gave it a lot of thought and finally turned to Liszt.

He considered himself a follower of Liszt, and since the Aluminum Dragon was located within the borders of the Eagle Kingdom, Liszt would find it hard to subjugate the Aluminum Dragon for an extended period in the Eagle Kingdom—he didn’t know that when Liszt had first sought to subdue Mountain Copper Dragon Mata, it had taken just one night. Otherwise, he wouldn’t dare to ask for Liszt’s help.

After all, dragons were creatures that stood at the apex of power and have always been the domains of those “with virtue.”

Moreover, since Florenza Chase Wind Arrow hadn’t even completed the Mind Battle, he couldn’t really claim to have any connection to the Aluminum Dragon. Many knights failed at the Mind Battle stage during their campaigns, ending up fruitless. Thus, if Liszt were to attempt to seize the Aluminum Dragon, there wouldn’t be any ethical concerns.

For anyone, it would be considered natural to vie for a dragon, even between blood brothers.

“His Highness believes that since you are willing to protect the Grey Iron Duchy for twenty years, you would certainly want to achieve justice for your devoted follower. As long as Florenza can escape from the castle of the Marquis of Boulder safely, the Prince Duke will immediately offer up five Greater Elves, all of the grain and Magic Potion varieties.”

“Aluminum Dragon... what is Duke Pierrot thinking, why does he believe I would not be interested in the Aluminum Dragon?”

“Although the Aluminum Dragon is incomparably precious, and everyone would want to ride it, Your Majesty already has several dragons. Moreover, the Aluminum Dragon lives in the Eagle Kingdom, making it difficult for continuous subjugation. Furthermore, once the Prince Duke obtains the Aluminum Dragon, he will immediately declare allegiance to the Flame Family as a follower, and will not break his promise!”

Nonsense.

All nonsense, only a fool would believe it.

The relationship between Liszt and Pierrot was nothing more than a trade of interests, with no element of friendship. Liszt would certainly not believe that Pierrot, after obtaining the Aluminum Dragon, would become his follower—the two countries were thousands of miles apart, and even if Pierrot were sincere, he wouldn’t dare to follow.

The Eagle Kingdom would be the first to not let the Grey Iron Duchy off the hook.

Therefore, all this was just a front, and the subtext was that Pierrot intended to use five Greater Elves in exchange for Liszt’s efforts to rescue Florenza. And banking on Liszt being a foreigner who wouldn’t dare to linger long in the Eagle Kingdom, thereby posing no threat to the Aluminum Dragon, he dared to openly orchestrate this trade.

After finishing his persuasive words, Lawrence calmly waited for Liszt to quietly contemplate.

Liszt was indeed contemplating. His ambition for the Aluminum Dragon went without saying—anyone who wasn't attracted to a dragon probably had an issue with their intelligence.

"The Smoke Mission requires me to help Piero, clearly, Florenza must be rescued, and the five Greater Elves also warrant my intervention... Now the question is, how to conquer the Aluminum Dragon. Obviously, the clues to the Aluminum Dragon are in Florenza's hands, and Piero will definitely have a backup plan."

When planning with me, he would also be making plans with others, not putting all his eggs in one basket.

After careful consideration,

He slowly began, "I will intervene, but five Greater Elves are not enough, I need seven."

"Your Majesty..."

"Don't haggle over the price, I don't like haggling."

"I... I, on behalf of Prince Duke, agree to Your Majesty's terms, as long as Florenza Chase Wind Arrow can be rescued," Lawrence agreed through clenched teeth, looking like he was putting on a performance. Perhaps this did not even reach Duke Pierrot's bottom line.

Of course, Liszt didn't care anymore, "I know that Duke Pierrot is full of confidence, thinking that Florenza can ride the Aluminum Dragon. How about this. Let's make a Mind Battle our agreement. If Florenza succeeds in Dragon Riding, I congratulate the Grey Iron Duchy; if she fails, then give me a chance to conquer."

"I... I can't promise on behalf of the Prince Duke."

"I will talk to Piero personally."

...

It was unclear whether the matter with the Aluminum Dragon was real or a conspiracy targeting him, so a trip to the Grey Iron Duchy required some preparation.

At the very least, safety had to be absolutely assured.

He sent Lawrence Green Luo back first, as Lawrence had a flying mount. It would take about ten days to return to the Grey Iron Duchy from Flame Island.

Fortunately, although Florenza was captive, she refused to speak, and Marquis Pilof of Boulder couldn't get the information about the Aluminum Dragon for a while. It would inevitably take several discussions with Duke Pierrot to reach an agreement. This gave Liszt ample time to prepare and plan methodically.

Ach was now a powerful combat force. With her by his side, Liszt felt completely secure.

Fire Dragon Leo and Bone Dragon Vinnie were readily deployable combat forces.

Light Green Gemstone Dragon Knight Emily stayed behind to guard Flame Island, the Grey Iron Dragon and Mountain Copper Dragon were left behind as well, only Formless Dragon Bard had to be ridden.

Without Bard's formidable space-travel capability, Liszt wouldn't dare to be so arrogant.

As for the Little Water Dragon, that would be a matter for when it was finally born.

"This trip to the Grey Iron Duchy is primarily for rescuing Florenza, but I must avoid falling into a targeted conspiracy," Liszt told Ach. "It's hard to guarantee that this isn't a ploy of the Eagle Kingdom, or even the Kushan Imperial, so Ach, you must be extra vigilant."

"Ach will be careful to ensure Brother's safety," Ach said, clenching her fists. "But Brother, are we giving up on the Aluminum Dragon?"

"Of course not."

Liszt smiled faintly: “To be honest, only one Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruit is left, and while the Jade Dragon’s Hind Leg still remains, I have no idea how long it will take to cultivate another one. So it’s difficult to decide whether or not to use it. Let’s give Florenza a chance at a Mind Battle.”

Then, he spread his hands: “Eight out of ten Knights fall at the stage of the Mind Battle. Maybe with Florenza’s failure as a learning experience, I won’t need the Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruit to succeed.”

Chapter 1009: Bargaining Liszt was well-grounded.

Not only did the Smoke Mission act as a golden crutch, allowing him to harness the power of fate even in a Mind Battle, but he also now possessed a Phoenix Incarnation. He had tried it; within the spirit of a dragon, the Phoenix Incarnation could still be used, and its power was formidable.

With the help of the Phoenix Incarnation, he was absolutely going to call the shots in the Mind Battle.

As long as the requirements of the Aluminum Dragon’s Mind Battle weren’t as quirky as those of the Formless Dragon, he wasn’t afraid of not being able to win—most dragon Mind Battles were primarily about brute force, with other requirements playing a supporting role; only the Formless Dragon’s was mostly about navigating a maze, which had caught Liszt off guard.

That’s why he agreed to give Florenza Chase Wind Arrow a chance at a Mind Battle, letting Florenza get a taste of the Aluminum Dragon’s Mind Battle requirements first.

Then, starting from those requirements, he could easily solve the Mind Battle.

Just as he was preparing to head to the Grey Iron Duchy, the Greater Elf rewarded by the Smoke Mission finally surfaced. It wasn’t evolved from a Little Minor Elf but was a wild Greater Elf discovered by the Pioneer Knights.

It was a Coffee Greater Elf, and there were many coffee trees in the primeval forests of Flame Island.

Coffee was a very common beverage among the nobility, and even though the nobles of the Flame Kingdom took pride in drinking tea due to Liszt's promotion of it, they still consumed a large amount of coffee. Therefore, even though the Coffee Greater Elf didn't produce Magic Potions, it was equivalent in value to grains.

"Let's call you Mundo," he declared.

There was no particular reason; Liszt just felt like naming the Coffee Greater Elf "Mundo."

"Jē lǐ wālā!" Mundo obviously didn't appreciate its name and didn't seem too pleased with the new environment, as it was accustomed to living in the wild.

However, this was a fact that couldn't be changed. Moreover, as a Greater Elf, it might be highly valued elsewhere, but it couldn't feel the same wholehearted love in Liszt's care—no other reason, but the number of Greater Elves that Liszt had was increasing, and this trip out might very likely add another seven Greater Elves to his collection.

Up to this point, not counting those Elves that were forcibly enlisted by the hands of Noble Landlords,

he already possessed three Dragon Elves:

Man-Eating Tree Dragon Spirit – Kali, Buckwheat Dragon Spirit – Yadi, Phoenix Perch Parasol Dragon Greater Elf – Ani.

Eleven Greater Elves:

Giant Algae Greater Elf – Pike, Pea Great Elf – Ash, Thorn Greater Elf – Jela, Mangrove Greater Elf – Nami, Potato Great Elf – Kuchi, Banana Greater Elf – Poppy, Millet Greater Elf – Tic, Corn Greater Elf – Mickey, Troll Taro Greater Elf – Karl, Gourd Greater Elf – Klay, Coffee Greater Elf – Mundo.

Further, he had over one hundred Little Minor Elves and more than five hundred Elf Bugs, and these spirits were still increasing continuously.

The sources mainly came from three aspects.

On one hand, the plantation nurtured spirits that emerged from the crops; on another, they were won from the Moon Slayer Natives as they expanded through the primeval forests; and the last was the mermaids who frequently swam in the sea, searching for spirits in the ocean.

Of course, whenever the horn of war sounded, there was a fourth, and largest, source of spirits—capturing them from the enemy.

“Now that there are more and more Greater Elves, naming them is getting more and more difficult,” Liszt sighed as he rubbed Mundo’s head.

Mundo swatted Liszt’s hand away with a palm and cried “Jē lǐ wālā,” annoyed when the red coffee cherries on its head tumbled down at a touch. These fallen coffee cherries were excellent seeds; if dried, they would be high-quality coffee beans, and the ground coffee tasted superb.

However, Mundo was very protective of these little fruits atop its head and rarely gave anyone the opportunity to pick them.

...

In June, Flame Island was in the rainy season and heavy rains were frequent.

To the former Moon Slayers, the greatest fear in the primeval forest during torrential rains was flooding. But now in Flame Island, every inhabited area had extensive ditches constructed, ensuring smooth drainage and irrigation.

Moreover, driven by the Mermaid Saltwater Marquis Bluposi, the Fish Ugly Race thoroughly reorganized several rivers, including Whirlpool River. They widened and deepened them, virtually eliminating the possibility of flooding and also created numerous large water storage lakes.

These man-made lakes could store water in the summer rainy season and in the winter dry season, water could be channeled for irrigation, allowing crops to grow even in winter.

With such efforts sustained,

in a few decades, Flame Island would become a land of abundance, providing ample food and clothing all year round.

On such a rainy morning, Liszt set off with Ach. Accompanied by Little Fire Dragon Leo, Bone Dragon Vinnie, Unicorn Charlie, and the sleeping Little Water Dragon, they mounted Formless Dragon Bard and tore through the material boundary to enter the world beyond matter.

They found a natural node located in the Eagle Kingdom and crossed through it.

Following the map provided by Lawrence Green Luo, they flew towards Grey Iron Duchy. When Formless Dragon Bard grew tired, they switched to Little Fire Dragon Leo for high-altitude flight.

Without stopping, they arrived at the Grey Iron Duchy just as it had been eleven days since Lawrence left Flame Island.

In other words, Lawrence should have returned to the Grey Iron Duchy yesterday and reported the preliminary results of the negotiation to Duke of Grey Iron Piero Grey Mouth Iron.

Thus Liszt flew directly to the Royal Palace of the Grey Iron Duchy – Iron Shell Fort.

Sure enough.

As soon as Liszt emerged near Iron Shell Fort, knights came forth to pay respects and quickly galloped to the fort to notify Duke Pierrot. Shortly afterwards, Duke Pierrot arrived on horseback and, after dismounting, performed a follower's courtesy to Liszt.

“Liszt Your Majesty, thank you for your arrival. Please allow me to show you around Iron Shell Fort; I have already arranged a banquet,” said Duke Pierrot.

“Duke Pierrot, let's dispense with meals and touring. It's the matter at hand that's urgent. What do you think of the cooperation proposal I had Lawrence bring back?” Liszt asked.

“I can agree to the seven Greater Elves, but for the chance to participate in Mind Battles, I hope to add two more opportunities,” Pierrot, familiar with Liszt’s character, did not beat around the bush.

“Why two times?” Liszt inquired.

“Besides Florenza, I have another illegitimate child who also has the talent to be a contender for Dragon Knight,” Pierrot mentioned proudly.

His own talent was mediocre, but the talents of his two bastards were unexpectedly excellent.

This was why he was determined to return home and take charge of the Grey Iron Duchy.

The legal heir, his eldest son Petterford of Grey Mouth Iron, did not possess outstanding talent and was merely capable of maintaining the status quo. If the Grey Iron Dragon hadn’t been lost, Petterford’s succession as duke would have been harmless, but with the loss of the Grey Iron Dragon, the family was sure to decline under Petterford’s leadership.

Therefore, he wanted to leverage the talents of his two bastards to help the Grey Mouth Iron Family return to the ranks of the Dragon Rearing Families.

“Two chances for Mind Battles?” Liszt squinted his eyes, feeling that he could agree; after all, becoming a Dragon Knight was not so simple. Every year there were so many contenders for Dragon Knight, yet only one in a hundred would succeed, “I can agree, but in return, I want ten Greater Elves.”

He then added, “If you cannot provide them, then give me a Dragon Sprite.”

Duke Pierrot smiled bitterly, “Your Majesty, your demands are too harsh. I can only offer eight Greater Elves... The opportunity of the Aluminum Dragon is more valuable to you than any Dragon Sprite.”

“The opportunity of the Aluminum Dragon is indeed invaluable, but without my help, you would lose that opportunity, wouldn’t you?”

“How about this? I provide eight Greater Elves and ten Minor Elves, and in addition to that, if you help me eliminate Marquis Pilof of Boulder, I will provide you with an extra lead on a Sub-dragon.”

Chapter 1010: Stopping the Child’s Crying “I’m not an assassin, Piero,” Liszt said with a cold undertone in his voice. It was preposterous to him that Piero saw him as a hitman for hire.

If it weren’t for the Aluminum Dragon, he wouldn’t want to get involved in Piero’s trivial matters at all.

Indeed.

In his eyes, Pilaf the Earth Frenzy was just an ant he could crush at will, yet as a Dragon Knight, he had his own pride. To plan wars and personally plunder resources had already made him, the Flame King, lose quite a bit of dignity, and now, if he were to assassinate a noble, his reputation would be completely ruined.

A tree lives on its bark, a man lives on his face.

He could engage in life-and-death battles with other Dragon Knights but was not willing to kill ordinary knights lightly. It was a matter of principle.

Seeing Liszt’s attitude, Piero couldn’t help but curse inwardly, “You’re not an assassin, but you are a vampire!”

Of course, on the surface, he quickly assumed a frightened and apprehensive demeanor: “Ah, please forgive Piero’s indiscretion, Your Majesty. It’s just that Pilaf is too greedy, having forcibly abducted my son Florenza, wanting to claim the Aluminum Dragon for himself, leaving me powerless.”

“Pilaf is certainly greedy, and it is necessary to give him some punishment,” Liszt said with a smirk. “As much ability as one has, so should one enjoy resources. As an inheritor of the Ancient Warrior, he is destined to be eliminated by this era, yet he still acts so recklessly. It’s unwise.”

While he seemed to be scolding Pilaf for not understanding the rules, he was actually warning Piero. To request the involvement of a nation's king in one's game requires an equivalent stake to be paid.

"According to what you're suggesting, Your Majesty, if I'm willing to pay with eight Greater Elves and ten Little Minor Elves, and provide a Sub-dragon lead, what kind of reward can I expect?" Piero was no fool. He quickly guessed Liszt's intentions and asked.

"You could invite Pilaf to come out for a talk; one Aluminum Dragon is here, the three of us could all try our luck."

"How to try?"

"Start with a Mind Battle on your side; after a failure, let it be Pilaf's side's turn for a Mind Battle, then it's my turn. If we all fail, we'll start a new round. As long as you and Pilaf both pay a certain number of elves for the toll, I'll oversee your Dragon Riding affair."

After considering for a moment, Duke Piero replied, "I can try to invite Pilaf out, but the price must be lowered."

"Agreed."

...

The territory of the Grey Iron Duchy was directly adjacent to that of the Marquis of Boulder, and the distance between the King's Castle and the central city of the Marquis was equally short. Previously, when the Grey Iron Dragon Ornn was still part of the Grey Iron Duchy, Piero never missed an opportunity to bully others using his status. Now it was the Marquis of Boulder's turn to suppress Piero.

Considering himself to have the upper hand, Marquis Pilaf of Boulder eventually consented to Duke Grey Iron Piero's request to meet in a border town.

"Duke Piero, I will not return Florenza to you. My son will undergo the Mind Battle first; that's the only option!" As soon as Pilaf entered the castle and sat down, he laid out his attitude, "After my sons Picart and Pilet fail in the Mind Battle, then it's Florenza's turn."

“Pilaf, are you taking me for granted?” Duke Piero looked coldly at the man before him, with his disheveled beard and broad, bear-like figure.

The Marquis of Boulder was true to his name, like a massive rock.

Such was the figure unique to the Cloaked Bear-wearer, whose sheer bulk, even without the aid of magic power, could unleash the brute force to tear apart tigers and leopards with his bare hands.

After consuming Dog’s Mantle Mushrooms, a toxic kind of little mushroom, his magic power went unrestrained, and his aura surged fiercely.

Pilaf laughed heartily: “The glory of knighthood doesn’t just favor your knightly families. My sons are also knights and are likewise graced with the glory of knighthood. Duke, the Aluminum Dragon belongs to the glory of the Earth Fury Family. You should just get used to it.”

“If I ask for assistance from the Eagle Royal Family, you won’t stand a chance!”

“The Grey Iron Family won’t stand a chance either. We’re the same, and who would dare to risk a leak. Moreover, losing the glory of the Aluminum Dragon, my family might be reprimanded by the Royal Family at most, but we wouldn’t suffer any loss. However, the Grey Iron Family would risk the danger of decline, hehe.”

Pilaf might have looked like a simple brute, but in reality, he was quite perceptive and had a deep understanding of the pros and cons involved.

Unfortunately, he miscalculated one thing: Duke Pierrot, having had a taste, chose to collaborate with Liszt again—Duke Pierrot thought he was pulling a tiger’s skin to make a big banner, unaware it was a case of waving the tiger only to usher in the wolf.

Be that as it may.

At a time when Pilaf was feeling extremely satisfied with himself, Liszt, having already surveyed the surrounding area for hundreds of kilometers and confirmed there were no Dragon Knights lying in wait, descended from the sky and walked into the small, unnamed castle. Flack Abbaie enhanced his imposing figure, making it impeccably erect.

The handsome face no longer bore the naivety of his early years, just wisdom and maturity, steadiness and dominance.

“Who are you?” Pilaf’s gaze was inextricably drawn towards Liszt as he entered, his pores constricting and goosebumps covering his body, already feeling a massive pressure.

“Allow me to introduce him,” Duke Pierrot chuckled, “This is the most outstanding legendary figure from the northeastern corner of the Legendary Continent, the king of Flame Kingdom, His Majesty Liszt Flame, the Sacred Dragon-Invisible Dragon Knight. He will preside over the Aluminum Dragon distribution matter for us.”

Liszt casually sat down, his gaze briefly assessing Pilaf. His Eye of Magic revealed the thick Chaotic Magic Power within Pilaf’s body.

This power needed only a spark to trigger a violent explosion.

It must be said that the Cloaked Bear-wearer’s Ancient Warrior Inheritance was a very interesting and unique Cultivation System, worthy of deeper study.

“The Formless Dragon Knight!” Pilaf stood up in shock on the spot.

His retinue of knights, too, clustered around Pilaf in a panic, pulling out their Knight’s Longswords and looking fearfully at Liszt with the atmosphere tense enough to ignite at any moment.

Liszt suddenly unleashed his Dragon Might at the crowd and commanded authoritatively, “Sit down!”

Crack!

Marquis Pilaf of Boulder couldn’t help but sit down again, took a deep breath to quickly adjust his mentality, and gestured his retainers to disperse, “Without receiving news from His Majesty Liszt, Pilaf failed to personally welcome Your Majesty. Please forgive me.”

“These trivial matters are of no concern.”

Liszt offered a slight smile, “I am here to reiterate my facilitation plan: it will be a trilateral agreement signed by the Grey Iron Family, Earth Fury Family, and myself. Duke Pierrot will pay me seven Greater Elves along with a clue about a Sub-dragon, and I ensure that Florenza Chase Wind Arrow gets the first chance to engage in the Mind Battle with the Aluminum Dragon.”

“He has no right to be first!” Pilaf was about to slam his hand on the table upon hearing this, but then he glanced at Liszt and lowered his hand, “Your Majesty Liszt, that doesn’t seem fair, does it?”

“First come, first served—Florenza is entitled to the first opportunity. You, Marquis Pilaf, also have a chance to participate. If you pay me five Greater Elves, I will allow your son Picart to have the second opportunity, and I would graciously settle for third.”

Pilaf’s hand rose again as if to hit the table, but he restrained himself, “I don’t agree with this order; Florenza has no right to precede my son!”

Liszt’s eyebrows rose, “Pilaf, are you questioning my authority?”

“This is the Eagle Kingdom!”

“Even if we were in the Neverfall Empire, I can exhibit my authority all the same. Pilaf, you don’t seem to see it that way?”

“Indeed, I can’t stop Your Majesty Liszt’s formidable strength, but I have a backup. The Eagle Royal Family could hear about everything happening here at any moment, and once the Royal Family intervenes, nobody gets the Aluminum Dragon!”

“That’s why I propose a tripartite cooperation. You can attempt the first and second Mind Battles, and I only ask for the third. In reality, this is merely to avoid distractions. Even if King Adonis Moonlight Silver of the Eagle Kingdom himself were to come, if I fail to secure the bond with the dragon, I could simply kill the Aluminum Dragon, annihilate the Earth Fury Family, and then leave.”

To kill a dragon as though it were no different from a chicken—

Such words from another, Pilaf could spit in his face, but with Liszt speaking, Pilaf could only accept—after all, this Dragon Knight once forcefully killed two Dragon Knights and alone challenged five dragons. Such a ferocious reputation that could quiet a three-year-old child's crying.

If Pilaf dared to arrange things carelessly, the Earth Fury Family truly faced the risk of extermination.