

The Mighty 1051

Chapter 1051: Really Thick Skin In the year 157 of the Sapphire Calendar, September, the new season's Pioneer Mandate was being hosted by the Development Committee, while Li Si Te, bored of his stay on Flame Island, decided to visit the Fertile Lands.

Nemean the Giant Lion resided in this place; in several previous visits, he had never caught sight of this legendary Sub-dragon and had always left with a sense of regret. Now returning to the old site, he was more about trying his luck to see if he might encounter Nemean. Even if he didn't encounter it, he could still pick up some elves to take back.

During this season, the elves that were to be nurtured had mostly matured.

Riding on Formless Dragon Bard, with Crystal White Trajectory initiated, the magic power of the entire Fertile Lands was neatly arranged and prominently displayed within a special vision. However, the magic power feedback light from the elves was weak and easily overshadowed by the light emitted from the Magical Beasts, which is what he mostly saw along the way.

The meat of Magical Beasts, nourished by magic power, was highly nutritious, but it didn't necessarily taste better than the meat of poultry and livestock reared by humans.

Especially the higher the level of the Magical Beast, the more wood-like the texture of the meat, making it less palatable.

"It seems like this trip is a bust as well, we didn't find anything, Bard, let's head back," Li Si Te said after wandering twice around the Fertile Lands, ready to return with resignation.

However, Bard suddenly cried out, "woo yi ya!"

It noticed something unusual about the ground in the distance and conveyed through their soul-bound connection to Li Si Te—there was a ripple in the space at that spot, surely hosting something special.

It's undeniable that with age, thanks to the Red Dragon Water and the accumulation of numerous Magic Potions, Bard's development was rapid, and its abilities increasingly

strong. Although it was only over eighty years old, it was not far from maturity. The formidable space talent of a Sacred Dragon enhanced its observational capabilities tremendously.

“Oh, then what are we waiting for, let’s go check it out!”

Flapping its wings.

Like a flashing arrow.

In the blink of an eye, both dragon and rider arrived at the unusual spot Bard had discovered, searching around. This was a lush forest with a thick, sedimentary, and decaying layer of fallen leaves. There was no magic power feedback light around, and it looked just like an ordinary hill in the forest.

However, through the soul-bound connection with Bard, Li Si Te also noticed the anomaly and would not easily overlook it.

“It should be right here, stray magic power in the air causing ripples in space, something unusual buried beneath... Could it be Nemean?” A smile appeared at the corners of his mouth, the blue skull design on his face flickering.

With a soft call, the blue skull pattern burst forth from his body, transforming into a dragon constructed of bones.

“Vinnie, please.”

“Your Majesty, no need to be so formal, this is what I should do,” Bone Dragon Vinnie swayed her forelimbs and then suddenly plunged into the decayed layer of fallen leaves.

Like an extra-large, super-fast excavator, Bone Dragon Vinnie’s forelimbs continuously swung, digging through a large amount of sludge.

Just then, the layer of decayed leaves suddenly exploded open, and a massive creature burst from the pit, emitting a ferocious roar. This figure, like a small mountain, swung its vast claws at Bone Dragon Vinnie as it roared.

“Come back, Vinnie!” Li Si Te called.

In an instant, Bone Dragon Vinnie transformed into a Magic Form and projected onto Li Si Te. Their souls connected, turning into a set of Bone Dragon Armor and a Bone Dragon Sword.

Bard flapped its wings and rose high into the air.

Li Si Te, clad in Bone Dragon Armor, coldly watched the massive creature that had leaped out from above.

It bore the shape of a lion, but its mountain-like size was incomparable to any normal lion-type Magical Beast, nearly matching a dragon in stature. It had no mane but dense fur, resembling a fluffy overcoat, with thick legs, a large head, and a short tail, giving it a somewhat bloated appearance.

“Roar!”

This massive lion, tilting its head, stared at the Formless Dragon in the sky, its twin green orbs glistening with a chilling, ruthless light.

“Indeed, it is Nimia the Giant Lion, just as Piero described. It must be a Super Dragon Beast of the Earth Attribute, given its preference for living underground... But its size feels excessively large, even surpassing the size of the Lightning Dragon Turtle, and its magic power is also exceptionally concentrated.”

Liszt even felt that Nimia’s magic power might belong to the category of Superior Magic.

“Let’s test the waters first!”

No sooner said than done, as a Holy Dragon Knight, Liszt would not back down. He swapped his Bone Dragon Sword for the Thunder Fury Dragon Lance, and executed an “Avalanche – Snow Mountain” from the sky.

Moving along the material boundary, the Formless Dragon darted straight towards Nimia the Giant Lion as if it had teleported. Thunder Fury, enveloping a massive wave of Dragon Dou Qi, thrust directly in front of Nimia. At that moment, Nimia leapt high, dodging the attack with agility disproportionate to its size.

“Sonic Boom!”

Missing with the first strike, Liszt struck again, his offensive swelling like a tide.

Rather than retreating, Nimia advanced, leaping and pouncing, clashing head-on with the Holy Dragon. Its movements were agile, but the Formless Dragon was even more so, twisting its body to evade the attack. Then, coordinating with Liszt, it thrust forward with the Dragon Lance. Though it missed the aimed eyes, it pierced the creature’s backside.

“Roar!”

Nimia let out a furious roar.

With the Dragon Lance embedded in its back, it felt like piercing a cowhide with a wire, sensing a vast stagnation and resistance against the force of the lance. However, ultimately, Nimia’s skin could not withstand the piercing of the Dragon Lance and begrudgingly bore a small hole.

Dark red blood flowed heavily, further enraging it as its green eyes reddened.

“This is indeed tough; it definitely has the Superior Magic-level of Earth-Attribute Magic Power!” Liszt’s gaze hovered over the small healing wound on Nimia, having gathered much data. “Nimia has surpassed the level of a Super Dragon Beast, possibly on par with the Phoenix and Unicorn.”

Being on par with the Phoenix and Unicorn meant that it had reached a level equal to that of a dragon.

The brief skirmish had proved this point; able to withstand a fierce assault from a Formless Dragon Knight without any significant damage, was enough to attest to its immense strength.

“Nimia being so powerful indicates that its skin is genuinely valuable. If crafted into Magic Equipment, it could probably withstand attacks even from a Dragon Knight... Such a treasure cannot be missed. Leo, come out, let’s hit big, and slay this boastful Nimia!”

“Oh-ho!”

The Fire Dragon Pattern on his chest lit up, transforming into a flame that surged into the sky, scattering countless sparks as Leo’s massive black-red figure slowly emerged.

Almost instantly restored to a flesh-and-blood body, it charged headfirst at Nimia, clashing directly with the Giant Lion. Its forelimbs’ sharp claws viciously tore into Nimia’s skin, making blood spurt; Nimia, in turn, bit firmly into Leo’s shoulder area.

Several black-red scales burst apart, and what flowed from Leo was not blood but red flames.

“Shadow!” Liszt maneuvered the Formless Dragon Bard, diving into the material boundary and reappearing just as Nimia’s unguarded belly was exposed.

Thunder Fury ruthlessly pierced the supposedly soft belly.

However, to Liszt’s surprise, the skin on Nimia’s abdomen also gave him the feeling of piercing a cowhide with wire, the resistance so immense it was unimaginable.

“No wonder it’s called the Unkillable Nimia. With such thick skin, even a Dragon Knight would need to stab thirty or fifty lances!” Liszt remarked, but his desire to kill grew stronger, “Regrettably, no matter how tough your skin is, you’re just a target for beating. Tomorrow, I will be wearing your skin!”

Mind and spirit connected, Formless Dragon Bard and Fire Dragon Leo responded simultaneously to Liszt’s will.

“Wi-yee-ya!”

“Oh-ho!”

Chapter 1052: Guardian Beast The battle was not as evenly matched as imagined, or perhaps Nimia the Giant Lion was not as strong as imagined. Its combat methods consisted of pouncing, biting, tearing, pulling, and occasionally using a bit of Earth System Magic like causing the ground to shake. Its skin was indeed extremely thick, and the razor-sharp teeth and claws of the dragon could only inflict minor injuries.

Even though Li Si Te was controlling Formless Dragon Bard in Unity of Man and Dragon, and exerted the powerful Dragon Dou Qi Manual, he still couldn't inflict severe wounds on Nimia the Giant Lion.

After a full ten minutes of battle, though Nimia the Giant Lion was covered in blood, it was still lively with no signs of exhaustion.

“Really resilient!”

Li Si Te gritted his teeth, continuing to command Fire Dragon Leo to engage in close combat with Nimia the Giant Lion, while he maneuvered Formless Dragon Bard around the perimeter to launch sneak attacks, looking for any vulnerabilities to deliver a fatal blow. However, Nimia the Giant Lion appeared to have no vulnerabilities at all.

Even its buttocks, which Li Si Te had reluctantly stabbed twice, only bled profusely without any unexpected result.

When he stabbed its eyes, its eyelids dropped quickly, making it feel like stabbing steel, leaving only a slight white mark. As it roared with its mouth open, Li Si Te even tried to stab inside its mouth, but Nimia the Giant Lion quickly clenched its teeth, nearly breaking the Wrath of Thunder.

“It looks like it truly has no vulnerabilities... Then, I have to grind it down to death!”

The fight intensified for another twenty minutes. Though not a single attack seriously injured Nimia the Giant Lion, a series of small wounds, accumulated on top of each other, continuously weakened its vitality as it lost a significant amount of blood from Superior Magic.

At this rate, a little more grinding would lead to Nimia the Giant Lion collapsing right before his eyes.

Suddenly, this mountain-like massive beast heavily sank to the ground, melding into it at a visibly rapid pace.

“Merging with the earth? Trying to escape?” Although unsure what magic this was, it did not stop Li Si Te from interrupting Nimia the Giant Lion’s escape.

Through inner communication,

Fire Dragon Leo stomped forcefully, a surge of Dragon Magic Power furiously rushed into the earth, rapidly disrupting the balance of the magic that Nimia the Giant Lion was trying to cast. In that moment, the massive beast, as if equipped with a spring, was sent bouncing back up from the ground.

Splattered with mud in the process.

It twisted its body and sunk into the ground again, but with another stomp from Leo, it was bounced back once more. After a few repetitions, Nimia the Giant Lion realized that escape was futile. Its speed on the ground was not fast, and now it could not perform its “earth escape” magic.

It could only wait for its demise.

“Bard, another go, this time for its life!” The Dragon Lance was grasped tightly, Dragon Dou Qi mixed with Dragon Magic Power was violently infused into the lance.

However,

In the next moment,

Nimia the Giant Lion suddenly lowered its head, laying its body flat on the ground, allowing Leo to strike without showing any resistance.

And making a low, “woo woo” sound, Li Si Te did not understand why, but upon hearing it, he suddenly realized that this Earth Attribute Superior Magical Beast was submitting and pleading for mercy. It was a strange form of communication, not mental communication nor an illusion.

It seemed to have a very strong emotional influence in its voice.

“Submit to me?”

Li Si Te was stunned.

He had never considered this option.

Because his impression of Nimia the Giant Lion was that it was tough and unkillable, so from the beginning, he had thought about whether he could kill this legendary Sub-dragon. Furthermore, he coveted the skin of Nimia the Giant Lion, a kind of skin that could even block the attacks of dragons, definitely a superior material for armor.

Given the size of Nimia the Giant Lion, the lion skin stripped off would be enough to outfit several Knight Orders easily, and a Knight Order clad in lion skin armor would certainly be invincible.

After observing the submissive attitude of Nemean the Giant Lion, Liszt quickly changed his mind, “No need to kill, just one lion’s skin, how could that be more impressive than taming a Sub-dragon as a mount!” Nemean was not a Super Dragon Beast but a real Sub-dragon, on the same level as Phoenixes and Unicorns.

Of course, it wasn’t as magical as Phoenixes and Unicorns, with its only special trait being its resilience.

“Do you really want to submit to me?” Liszt asked cautiously, not sure if Nemean could understand him.

However, Nemean quickly made a whimpering sound, conveying its intentions to Liszt—it truly wished to submit, for Liszt possessed the capability to kill it.

“I’m glad you can understand me, but how can you assure me that you won’t rebel after submitting?”

“Whimper.”

Nemean indicated that it was the proud Undying Behemoth Nemean, which once subjugated, would not betray, and was willing to protect Liszt, only needing him to provide food.

Liszt believed it.

Powerful creatures like Magical Beasts and Dragons possessed an undeniable pride and rarely displayed deceitful traits—even Evil Dragons, once subdued by a Mind Battle, would obediently cooperate with Dragon Knights as long as efforts were made to eliminate any budding malevolent thoughts before they could flourish; such Evil Dragons would maintain their pride and not betray.

“Good, I accept your submission!”

“Roar!” Nemean stood up, glancing briefly at the menacing Fire Dragon Leo and the Formless Dragon Bard beneath Liszt, then began to lick its wounds. Moistened by its saliva, the still bleeding wounds quickly healed.

It shook its fur, and the crusted blood easily flaked off, resuming its previous bright yellow-orange hue.

Yet its overall vitality was visibly depleted, a battle, though not physically devastating, took a considerable mental toll.

“Now that you’ve submitted to me, you may keep the name Nemean, but you need to leave the Fertile Lands and follow me back to my domain on Flame Island. I need you to guard my King’s Castle, serving as its guardian beast.” Liszt provisionally assigned Nemean the role of a watchdog.

Frankly speaking, Nemean wasn’t very useful, perhaps in the prowess of Earth System Magic, it could level the grounds and such. However, it was more of a symbol; though a Sub-dragon did not have the same legendary status as a Dragon, it was still a mark of honor. It would be a gem adorning Liszt’s crown.

Nemean nodded almost humanly, following behind the Formless Dragon, racing towards Heroic Yellow City.

Its speed wasn't fast, but that was only in comparison to Dragons; for ordinary Magical Beasts, its pace was exceedingly fast. Traveling by day and resting by night, taking a whole week, they finally reached Heroic Yellow City. Its mountainous stature, visible from afar, had the Knights of Heroic Yellow City incredibly tense.

Fortunately, Liszt had notified his domains early on, preventing any misunderstandings.

Standing on Nemean's head, Liszt's silver armor shone brightly, and his crimson cape blew vigorously, making a grand entrance.

The Knights and civilians of Heroic Yellow City, pausing their work, looked up in awe at Nemean.

"What is that?"

"Such a huge lion!"

"His Majesty the King is graced with glory!"

"Nemean the Giant Lion, the legendary Nemean, a Sub-dragon!"

"A Sub-dragon is nothing, His Majesty owns so many Dragons, lifting a giant lion is a breeze."

"That's His Majesty Liszt!"

"Great!"

Amid the murmurs of amazement from his subjects, Liszt rode Nemean through the Magic Gate of Heroic Yellow City, leaving only the trembling ground in their wake. His monumental, unbelievable figure was destined to become a central topic among the residents of Heroic Yellow City for a long time, during casual conversations after meals.

Chapter 1053: Founding Diplomatic Note Nimia the Giant Lion took up residence in Flame King City, causing a huge stir, yet the commotion subsided swiftly, after all, the residents of Flame King City were often able to see dragons flying in the sky.

Compared to dragons.

Nimia the Giant Lion was much less renowned, even though its size was comparable to dragons, and it belonged to the same level as unicorns and phoenixes—a Sub-dragon. After abandoning the term “Sub-dragon,” Liszt had picked it up again recently, making it a distinct category.

Initially, it was thought that the term “Sub-dragon” was a misnomer for Super Dragon Beast, but it turned out not to be the case; it was merely that people confused Sub-dragon with Super Dragon Beast.

Sub-dragons were extremely rare, and so were Super Dragon Beasts, so the mix-up was somewhat understandable.

“Nimia, do you have any preferences for your nest?” Now that he had tamed him, Liszt was willing to respect Nimia the Giant Lion’s wishes.

“Roar!”

Nimia indicated that he preferred softer soil, which would facilitate his use of magic to move underground—he, as an Earth Attribute Superior Magic creature, could fully merge into the soil layer, just like a phoenix could merge into magma and flame, which was a special Magic Form.

“The soil around Flame King City isn’t soft enough?”

“Roar!” Clearly, it was not.

“Then you find a place nearby yourself.”

In the end, Nimia chose a forest adjacent to the Pegasus Ranch, about forty kilometers away from Flame King City. As per Liszt’s instruction, he would frequently go to Flame

King City, circling around the King's Castle and both Sun Mountain and Moon Mountain, then settling down at the foot of Sun Mountain, where he would enjoy the delicious food prepared for him.

Compared to raising dragons, raising Nimia the Giant Lion was much easier—there was only the need to provide a large quantity of meat, and there was no need to provide Magic Potions for his growth.

Of course, his meal was roughly equivalent to a month's rations for an entire Knight Order.

"Your Majesty, you really captured Nimia the Giant Lion and tamed it as the Flame King City's Guardian Beast, it's truly unbelievable," Duke Pierrot remarked with endless emotions when he came to select his duke mansion in Flame King City and saw the familiar Sub-dragon.

Originally, he had assembled a huge amount of manpower and materials multiple times, coordinating with Grey Iron Dragon Ornn, just to capture Nimia the Giant Lion.

Yet he had returned without success repeatedly, wasting resources in vain and eventually treating Nimia the Giant Lion as part of a deal, telling Liszt about it. He harbored a spiteful wish, hoping Liszt would also waste resources in the capture operation and end up with egg on his face.

The result turned out to be that people can be astonishingly different.

He couldn't even seriously injure Nimia the Giant Lion, while Liszt could tame it.

"Perhaps this is why I've fallen to become a duke without a fief, while Liszt has become the rising new legend of the Legendary Continent, there's a vast chasm between us." For the first time, Duke Pierrot's confidence in restoring the Grey Iron Duchy was significantly shaken.

Liszt didn't know about Pierrot's inner conflict. At his current status, he no longer needed to concern himself with other people's thoughts.

He said indifferently, "Nimia the Giant Lion is just a Sub-dragon. Bowing down to me was a wise choice; otherwise, the so-called 'indestructible' legend would have been shattered..."

which was quite a pity, actually. Originally, I intended to use lion pelts to craft a batch of standard leather armors for the Burning Legion.”

Pierrot opened his mouth but found no words to say.

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Sapphire Calendar 157, October.

Without donning the regulation lion-skin armor, the Burning Legion had also “disguised” itself as a Sapphire Knight Order and participated in the annual Pioneer Mandate War.

The Eagle Kingdom still adhered to a non-resistance strategy, letting the “flies” from Sapphire loot everywhere unchecked.

However, when the two-month war ended and it was time to tally the spoils, Li Si Te (Liszt) found himself quite dissatisfied—the lower-ranking knights and serfs had reaped a rich harvest, but there was a paucity of noble-class and elf resources.

“Adonis Moonlight Silver has grown wise, eh? He moved the great nobles and lesser nobles from the coastal hinterlands inland in advance, redrawing their fiefs. He intends to jettison the tail like a lizard, abandoning the fertile coastal lands... To endure and decisively cut the losses when necessary, it seems I must regard him more highly.”

Devising such a humiliating and onerous strategy required tremendous courage—regardless of his strategic intentions, Adonis Moonlight Silver had already lost the ‘fearlessness’ that characterized a knight’s noble quality.

That also meant he had lost ‘the hearts of his people.’

The low-ranking knights forced to migrate during this Pioneer Mandate had essentially come to understand their abandonment, so they quickly and gladly joined the Flame Kingdom, without the slightest resistance.

They were even grateful to become a part of the Flame Kingdom at such a time.

Indeed, this year's Pioneer Mandate War was a good opportunity.

This would likely be the last time the war was conducted under the banner of the Sapphire Duchy, and the last chance for captive knights to become elder statesmen in the kingdom.

Because.

Li Si Te (Liszt) had already notified the three great kingdoms and the numerous duchies in the northeastern corner of the Legendary Continent that the Flame Kingdom would officially be founded on the first day of the first month of Sapphire Calendar 158, and the Flame Calendar would be initiated, designating that day as the first day of the first month of the first year of the Flame Era. On this triple-first day, he would be formally crowned as king.

The era of the Flame Kingdom was about to dawn.

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"Is that day finally about to arrive?" Anthony Sapphire stood in the highest corridor of a room in the Azure Sky Peak Palace, gazing down at the entire Blue Dragon City beneath him.

His mother, Sarette Dahua Weilan, stood by his side and smiled faintly, "Anthony, do not harbor any resistance; this day was decided by your father while he still lived. Becoming a vassal of the Flame Kingdom isn't a bad thing, the Steel Ridge Royal Family will respect our decisions."

"I don't care about the attitude of the Steel Ridge Royal Family. Compared to the brilliant and resourceful Li Si Te (Liszt), Osborne wasted more than thirty years without even riding a Platinum Dragon, merely a man of great ambition but lesser talent." Anthony shook his head, "But it's easier to deal with someone of great ambition but lesser talent, while a resourceful person is far more dangerous."

"Are you referring to the Grey Iron Duchy?"

"Yes, Mother, a duchy even more ancient than our Sapphire Duchy just vanished into thin air; one cannot help but be vigilant."

“But that doesn’t prove the danger Li Si Te (Liszt) poses, it just shows the greed of the Eagle Royal Family. Adonis is a shortsighted and ineffective man. Li Si Te (Liszt) could have chosen not to save the Sapphire Dragon, but he did not do so. That generosity is not something Adonis can match.”

Anthony nodded, “Yes, any knight who can establish a kingdom’s foundations is indeed great.”

“If you can think this way, the future of the Sapphire Duchy will be very smooth... How we handle our relationship with the Flame Kingdom will be the most critical decision for our family’s future.”

“Of course, I understand. What I’m really curious about now is how the three great kingdoms will regard the Flame Kingdom. Although this world is vast and most of its resources remain unexploited, hidden in primeval forests with countless fertile lands, no one will willingly give up their interests.”

Anthony looked up at the sky and continued, “Li Si Te (Liszt) is gradually devouring the Eagle Kingdom, and with each bite, the Flame Kingdom grows stronger... Perhaps one day, I shall witness the birth of an empire?”

Chapter 1054: Not Self-Righteous White Gold Tooth Palace.

Osborne Platinum had met with the envoy group from Flame Kingdom, and after their departure, he gathered several high-ranking ministers of his kingdom for further deliberation.

“What do you think should be our appropriate response to the formation of Flame Kingdom?”

“Your Majesty, since our kingdom has good relations with Flame Kingdom, we should treat them with heightened norms to solidify the friendship between our two nations. After all, both our countries are currently discussing the partitioning of Eagle Kingdom, and it is only right that both sides present a higher level of sincerity for this matter,” one of the ministers said.

“I think there is no need to raise our standards excessively, as it might lead Liszt to think he has the upper hand. The division of Eagle Kingdom should be led by our kingdom, not the fledgling Flame Kingdom.”

“Although Flame Kingdom is young, Liszt is no ordinary man. Given the Dragon Slaying battle, there’s much we might still depend on him for; thus, giving high standards is not unjustified.”

“Normal protocols would suffice. Maybe we could compensate by facilitating a marriage between the Red and White Rose Family and the Flame Family.”

The ministers shared their diverse opinions, yet Osborne furrowed his brow, “Let’s not discuss the marriage just yet.”

“Why is that, Your Majesty?”

All present were Osborne’s trusted ministers, so there wasn’t much need for secrecy. He solemnly said, “Perhaps the Red and White Rose Family is too confident. The marriage proposal might have some unpleasant developments... It’s possible that Liszt has no intention of marrying.”

“Not intending to marry? How could that be, when the Steel Pearl from the Red and White Rose Family is considered the utmost beauty of the Northland and the most suitable royal for marriage among the three great kingdoms? Liszt wants to enter the Dragon Rearing Family; how could he pass on such an advantageous marriage!”

“You might think it’s advantageous, but perhaps he doesn’t see it that way,” Osborne said with narrowed eyes. “If you had a Sea Monster Magician and a Female Dragon Knight by your side, you might also reconsider your options... This Liszt truly incites envy.”

Being an Archmage, a Dragon Knight has already been a symbol impossible to reach. Now adding prefixes like Sea Monster and Female, it elevates them to an unthinkable level of nobility.

Osborne casually joked about being “envious,” but in reality, he was truly overwhelmed by jealousy.

Having a Sea Monster Magician and a Female Dragon Knight were fatally appealing to him too, yet such noble women were all revolving around Liszt. Given the chance, he would immediately abandon his current queen to choose either of them as his new queen.

After all, he already had a son, and the barriers of reproduction between Sea Monsters and humans were no longer an issue.

The same applied to the Female Dragon Knight.

However, he was doomed to only shout internally, “Why!”

“Why is all glory concentrated in Liszt’s hands, why am I, born of nobility and bathed in power, not the chosen Son of Glory!”

“Why is a little noble of minor significance from a remote countryside, whose lineage is a mere fraction as noble as mine, a Sapphire Fly, able to stand as an equal king to me!”

“Why is not the Fire Dragon mine, not the Formless Dragon, not the Mountain Copper Dragon, not the Bone Dragon, not the Unicorn... Why are neither the Sea Monster Magician nor the Female Dragon Knight mine!”

He cried out again and again.

Sadly, back to reality, he must set aside these emotions.

Diligently fulfilling his role as a king who operates strictly on interests, “You all have expressed your opinions, so I will make the final decision. For the inaugural ceremony of the Flame Kingdom’s establishment, prepare using the normal protocol, but have the Red and White Rose Family elevate their standards.”

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“Osborne has sent his letter, let us continue to increase our efforts to win over Liszt. Mathew, Marilyn, how many gifts do you think we should bring on this mission to the Flame Kingdom?” the Duke of Rose sat at the head of the dining table, cutting into a delicate slice of goose liver, as he inquired.

Mathew put down his knife and fork, revealing a handsome smile, “The Red and White Rose Family is never short of presentable gifts, but since Uncle Osborne is reluctant to spend his own money, we should give gifts in the name of the Red and White Rose Family. We cannot let Osborne get away with benefits without contributing anything.”

The Duchess spoke displeased, “Between relatives, we shouldn’t always be calculating these things, Mathew. You need to become more mature.”

Mathew responded gently, “Mother, although the Red and White Rose Family and the Platinum Family are like one family, we are not servants; we must show some stance. Otherwise, Liszt might think less of our family, which would be unfavorable for my sister.”

“What exactly is Liszt’s attitude? Hasn’t the matter of marriage alliance been put on the agenda yet?” the Duke of Rose lifted his head, looking at Mathew.

Mathew pondered for a moment, “The preparation work required to establish a kingdom is overwhelming. This time on my mission, I will propose an official alliance through marriage to Liszt.”

At that moment, Marilyn, who had been silent, suddenly spoke, “Brother, I think you don’t need to mention it.”

“Oh, why not?”

“Perhaps Liszt has no intention of forming a marriage alliance, and it’s just us wishfully thinking.” Marilyn picked up her napkin and wiped the cream from the corner of her mouth, “Moreover, I do not want our family to be the one initiating the marriage proposal. He needs to show sincerity, and at the moment, I see none.”

“Marilyn, Liszt and I are good friends—that is sincerity.”

“Perhaps that’s just what you think.”

“I am being presumptuous?” Mathew said with a confident and amused expression, “Marilyn, my dear sister, when the people of the Red and White Rose Family bring out their wealth, there will be no room for presumption. You must understand that kinship, love, and friendship can indeed be bought with money.”

“Perhaps all this is just an illusion brought about by money.”

“No, this is the magic power that money brings!” Mathew refuted his sister. Seeing she had no reply, he spoke more confidently, “Father, Mother, since Uncle Osborne has written to us, then we should give Liszt the batch of Red Dragon Water that was originally to be sold to the Platinum Family.”

The Duke of Rose chewed slowly on a piece of goose liver, nodding at the words, “If we are going to do it, we must do it splendidly. When your sister becomes the Queen of the Flame Kingdom, everything with interest will return to the Red and White Rose Family’s hands... remember, we have plenty of money, but we do not engage in unprofitable deals.”

...

How other countries arrange their envoy groups, Liszt did not attend to, as he was currently extremely busy.

Even after several years of preparation, when it came time to actually establish the kingdom, he realized that many things were still not ready. After the feudal nobles settled in Flame Island, a huge shortage in population was inevitable. How to properly manage the labor void after the feudal nobles left was a tremendous headache.

The problems were not limited to just this.

“Your Majesty, this is the Development Committee’s plan for feudal delineation for Earls and above, please see if anything needs to be modified or added.”

Goltai hurriedly arrived at the Sun Moon Star Palace with a list in hand.

This grand palace, standing between the Sun and Moon peaks, was now officially occupied by Liszt.

The Development Committee had also moved from the Reed City Office to the Flame King City Office, turning this brand-new major city into the true heart of Flame Island.

“Take a seat first, let me have a look.” Liszt took the list and scrutinized it.

Chapter 1055: Eighth-Rank Noble The list contained not only the information of every noble ennobled but also the detailed “Ennoblement Regulations” that introduced the noble ranks of the kingdom, which Liszt read with great seriousness.

The noble ranks of the Flame Kingdom were formally designated as eight grades.

The highest rank was King, followed by Prince or Grand Duke as the second rank, and Duke as the third rank; these three ranks belonged to the senior nobility. The King followed a primogeniture system and was the only rank; all knights of the kingdom must follow the King, conditioned or unconditioned, and obey the King’s dispatch.

Princes and Grand Dukes were of the same rank; Princes needed to possess the royal bloodline, specifically the Flame Family bloodline, and become a Dragon Knight. Grand Dukes had no bloodline restriction but had to ride a dragon not owned by the kingdom—that is, a dragon knight trained by the royal family could not obtain the rank of Grand Duke.

In other words, without a dragon of one’s own, one could not aspire to become a Grand Duke and establish a new nation.

The rank of Duke was somewhat more complicated, with three main sources.

First, if a Grand Duke’s offspring could not become a dragon rider, they would be demoted to the rank of Duke and continue to manage their nation; second, a dragon knight trained by the royal family could attain the rank of Duke after distinguished military service; third, Domain Knights who repeatedly earned military accolades could also be considered for promotion to Duke.

However, aside from the offspring of Grand Dukes, as Dragon Rearing Families, any qualification could be inherited unchallenged for the Duke rank.

For the other two types of Dukedoms, the offspring must become Domain Knights to smoothly succeed the title—to prevent the situation where the Duke dies unexpectedly and the offspring are too young and not sufficiently trained, a relaxation is allowed for one generation. That means the son of a Duke remains a Duke, but if he fails to become a Domain Knight, the grandson will only be a Marquis.

...

On the list,

There were no Princes, no Grand Dukes.

There were only three proposed candidates for Duke.

Among them, Duke Anthony Sapphire was merely listed by name and was not included in this enfeoffment—as an independent vassal state, the Sapphire Duchy required no enfeoffment.

The other two,

Duke Li Weiliam Tulip of Tulip Island, with the fief Tulip Island, the second-largest island of the Flame Islands, an area of 450,000 square kilometers; Duke Piero Grey Iron of Phoenix Tree Island, with the fief Phoenix Tree Island, the seventh-largest island of the Flame Islands, an area of 170,000 square kilometers.

The Tulip Family and Grey Iron Family both had the “Domain Knight Manual.” As long as the descendants weren’t too incompetent, it wasn’t difficult to train to become a Domain Knight, and the Duke rank could be inherited unchallenged.

“Father, promote Bruposy the Marquis of Salty Sea to Duke of Mermaid City, and let the fief be Mermaid City,” Liszt pondered and added a content.

“According to the Kingdom’s ‘Ennoblement Regulations,’ city ennoblement only goes up to Marquis; Duke of Mermaid City does not comply with the ‘Ennoblement Regulations,’” Li Weiliam said.

The “Ennoblement Regulations” had been previously reviewed and approved by Liszt. Although he was frequently fickle and acted on whims, it was not good to contradict

himself too often. Therefore, after a moment of contemplation, he said, “Then, let’s enfeoff Bruposy as the Mermaid Territory Duke.”

“But the Mermaid Territory belongs to Flame Island, didn’t you say that Flame Island would not enfeoff nobles outside of the Burning Legion?”

“Um...” Liszt hesitated for a moment, then continued, “The enfeoffment of the mermaids can be added as an exception to the ‘Ennoblement Regulations.’ Since it’s not yet officially printed, there’s room for modification. In the future, the enfeoffment of mermaid territories will just nominally encompass the surrounding seas of the Flame Islands.”

After a pause, he continued, “Bruposy’s title will be the Salty Sea Duke, and as for the Salty Sea, there’s no need to inquire where it is; his fief revenue can be chosen from Mermaid City.”

So after all this talk, he was still negating the previous “Ennoblement Regulations.”

Li Weiliam, the younger son, had probably grown accustomed to his brother’s way of doing things and didn’t mind the need to amend the “Ennoblement Regulations” again.

Instead, he asked, “Bruposy is ennobled as a Duke, should the other six Mermaid Marquises be enfeoffed as well?”

“There’s no need, Bruposy stays in the Flame Kingdom, managing Mermaid City diligently and contributing to the nation. The other six mermaids have gone to travel the world; how can such irresponsible people be enfeoffed with dukedoms... Their mindset is still living in ancient times; they must understand that only by integrating into the Flame Kingdom can they obtain status and resources.”

The mermaids were touring the seas, and once gone, they would be away for nearly a year.

Although charged with the task of mapping the coastline of the Legendary Continent, it was obvious they enjoyed themselves outside, no longer longing for home, and the cartographic work was barely touched.

Liszt was very dissatisfied with this and urged them several times, but he couldn’t get them to focus.

Therefore,

with quite a bit of resentment, he only enfeoffed one mermaid to Bluposi.

...

In the Flame Kingdom, the fourth rank of nobility was Marquis and the fifth was Earl, both of which were middle-ranked nobles.

Originally, Liszt planned to divide the rank of Duke into upper and lower grades. The upper Dukes, who hold territories, were to be the upper nobility, while the lower Dukes, without territories, were to belong to the middle nobility. This would complete a system of nine ranks of nobility, with three ranks each for the upper, middle, and lower echelons.

But in the end, he didn't do so, because instead of distinguishing upper and lower Dukes, it was more straightforward to create a new title.

Moreover, he had another thought—to intentionally downplay the status of vassal states, emphasizing the King's authority. After all, the rulers of Duchies were Dukes, and the landlords of many fiefs held the same title, reducing vassal states to nothing more than larger fiefs, even if they belonged to Dragon Rearing Families and were merely followers of the King.

Thus, in the end, the middle nobility comprised only Marquises and Earls.

To inherit these two titles, one had to reach the level of a Sky Knight, with a one-generation leniency period. However, if a Sky Knight was not born in the following generation, a demotion was compulsory.

On the list,

the first-ranked Marquis was the Jade City Marquis, Emily Flame—as a Light Green Sapphire Dragon Knight, Liszt asked her if she wished to become a Feudal Noble, but Emily decided to join the Burning Legion and hoped to follow Liszt for life.

So, Liszt granted her the surname “Flame” and enfeoffed her Jade City, located near the Dragon Nest Jade Mountain where Ethan lived.

The second-ranked Marquis was the Pea Island Marquis, Dimaria Jasper, whose territory was half of Pea Island. Pea Island was the eighth largest island in the Flame Islands, covering 150,000 square kilometers. Besides Dimaria, no other nobility were enfeoffed on Pea Island.

As one of the earliest Marquises to pledge allegiance, Liszt had already promised Dimaria that once the Jasper Family accumulated enough military achievements, he would be promoted to the Duke of Pea Island.

The entire Pea Island would become the Jasper Family's fiefdom.

The third-ranked Marquis was the Gemstone Left Territory Marquis, Geoffrey Begonia, with his territory being half of Gemstone Island, or the Gemstone Left Territory. Gemstone Island was the sixth largest island in the Flame Islands, spanning 220,000 square kilometers, divided into two domains—the Gemstone Left Territory and the Gemstone Right Territory.

Geoffrey was a Completion Level Sky Knight who had been captured as an Earl in the Eagle Kingdom and surrendered, performing excellently afterwards.

The fourth-ranked Marquis was Heroic Yellow City Marquis, Yevich Shuihuasheng, whose fief was the Flame Kingdom's gateway to the Legendary Continent, Heroic Yellow City—surprisingly, Yevich chose not to become a Feudal Noble, but to join the Burning Legion, becoming a town-serving noble instead.

He still disguised himself as a Noble from the Eagle Kingdom, stirring internal strife within the Snowstorm Mountain Duchy.

The fifth-ranked Marquis was Flame City Marquis, Paris Flame, whose fief was Flame City. Like Emily, Paris, a Great Light Magic Swordsman and one of Liszt's lovers, chose the town-serving nobility and also received the surname "Flame" granted by Liszt.

The sixth-ranked Marquis was Gemstone Right Territory Marquis, Durt Red Apricot, one of the earliest Eagle Kingdom captives who began the development of Flame Island. Initially an Earl, he earned his Marquis title through repeated military achievements over the years.

The seventh-ranked Marquis was Thorn Upper Territory Marquis, Mendes Cabbage, whose territory was a third of Thorn Island, also known as Thorn Upper Territory. Mendes was previously a Marquis of the Grey Iron Duchy and a Completion Level Sky Knight, but after joining the Flame Kingdom, he didn't make much of an impression.

Thorn Island was the fourth largest island in the Flame Islands, covering 270,000 square kilometers, and divided into three territories—the Thorn Upper Territory, Thorn Left Territory, and Thorn Right Territory.

The eighth-ranked Marquis was Dragon Valley City Marquis, Nickel Bellows, whose fief was Dragon Valley City, located next to the Dragon Pit Great Mine. The Bellows Family belonged to the Iron Knight Family, and originally the Sapphire Duke supported Liszt's nation-building by transferring the Bellows Family to him; they served diligently over the years and thus deserved a Marquis title.

The ninth-ranked Marquis was Thorn Left Territory Marquis, Amat Ice Shield, who was Yevich's father-in-law and a Marquis from Snowstorm Mountain Duchy who covertly pledged allegiance to Liszt. For the time being, Amat continued to serve as a Marquis in the Snowstorm Mountain Duchy, colluding with Yevich to incite conflict between the First Prince and the Second Prince.

Ranked ten to fifteen were all mermaids.

Marquis Great West-Etenia, Marquis Fisherman – Gulvig, Marquis Aquamarch – Tibidais, Marquis Sea Trench – Sharivara, Marquis Fugitive – Viswinti, and Marquis Lost – Coquelix.

Chapter 1056: Strength Does Not Allow The sixteenth-ranked Marquis is Earl Elton of the Thorn Right Territory, with the Golden Chrysanthemum Medal. Liszt did not like this follower with poor qualifications and character. Initially, he had been subjugated only because of the principle of buying a horse's bones for a thousand pieces of gold. Thus, Elton was a marquis before and remains a lower-ranked marquis now.

The seventeenth-ranked Marquis is Marquis Mary of Reed City, with the Dawnbreak. As the leader of the Blood Servants and a Pureblood Vampire, Mary had always been deeply trusted by Liszt, serving as his eyes in the dark to pry into intelligence from various countries.

The cultivation system of the Blood Servants, after being reformed by Ach and the Magic Association, discarded some elements of the magic system and shifted closer to the knight

system. Their combat power declined further, but their ability to remain undercover significantly increased. Consequently, Liszt officially incorporated them into the Burning Legion, creating the Blood Knights.

All vampires, therefore, are ennobled as city nobles.

The eighteenth-ranked Marquis is Marquis Winston of the Upper Domain of the Giant Algae, with the Glowing Grass. His fief is one-quarter of Giant Algae Island, also known as the Upper Domain of the Giant Algae.

He is one of the marquises who migrated from the Grey Iron Duchy and has shown average performance since joining the Flame Kingdom.

Giant Algae Island is the third-largest island of the Flame Kingdom, with an area of 280,000 square kilometers, divided into four domains—Upper, Lower, Left, and Right Giant Algae Domains.

The nineteenth-ranked Marquis is Marquis Johnson of the Lower Domain of the Giant Algae, with the Vine-based Roses. He, too, is a marquis who migrated from the Grey Iron Duchy, with similarly average performance.

The twentieth-ranked Marquis is Marquis Hilton of the Left Domain of the Giant Algae, with the Laurel. His son married Li Vera, Liszt's sister, so he migrated from the Sapphire Duchy to the Flame Kingdom quite early. Leveraging the familial relationship and respectable military achievements, he became the last of the twenty founding marquises of the Flame Kingdom.

...

Having reviewed the list of marquises, Liszt mostly approved of the allocation and ranking.

However, after contemplating, he promptly added, "Father, twenty founding marquises are too few. We should add another one, making it twenty-one... Let Sasumit the Saint join, and grant him the fief of the Marquis of the Right Domain of the Giant Algae. This is a special commendation for him."

Sasumit the Saint, was none other than Su, formerly the Listener of the Moon Slayer Holy Tribe.

After Liszt descended from the sky, riding a dragon, and forcefully killed the old Listener, supporting his rise to power. He displayed exceptional qualities of a “Moon Slayer traitor,” serving Liszt loyally by integrating the Moon Slayer Native Tribes and not hesitating to use all sorts of violent and bloody means.

Even when Liszt demanded ancient mages to integrate into the knight system, he promptly changed his surname to “Saint,” signifying that he is a follower of the holy man—namely, Liszt, the holy man.

Such a sycophant naturally deserved commendation.

Li Weiliam, however, frowned, “Liszt, Sasumit is a life-long Earl. As a noble of a non-knight cultivation system, according to the Ennoblement Regulations, one can only be granted a lifelong title, and not an inheritable title. Moreover, life-long nobility can only ascend to the rank of an Earl.”

“I am aware of that, Father, but I want to make a special exception for Sasumit.” Liszt spoke without shame, rather with a trace of pride, “I wish to use this method to remind the nobles of the kingdom that the Flame Kingdom is different from the three great kingdoms. Here, my authority supersedes any system.”

Li Weiliam glanced at Liszt.

He replied, “I just fear that this may provoke the resentment of most nobles, potentially undermining your authority... After all, the knight system has been in place for thousands of years.”

Liszt smiled lightly, “You needn’t worry, Father. My life span has already exceeded the limit of ordinary people, and I am destined to rule the Flame Kingdom for a long time to come. Gradually, the nobles will adapt, learning to measure their lives by the new knight system I have established.”

“Have you found the cultivation method of the Dragon Domain Lord?” Li Weiliam couldn’t help but speculate.

“Not the Dragon Domain Lord, but something similar.”

Liszt preferred to keep it vague, and Li Weiliam did not inquire further. Even though they were father and son, they now belonged to different families, and some secrets should no longer be probed.

He then said, “Since you have considered it, I won’t object to the ennoblement of Sasumit as a Marquis. I hope this action will not unsettle the boundaries between the feudal nobles, city nobles, and life-long nobles.”

The kingdom’s titles had three different forms beyond the eight ranks.

The first was the feudal title, possessing one’s own territory and enjoying absolute jurisdiction over it, as well as the ability to recruit one’s own followers and grant them titles. The second was the city title, with the city as the territory, enjoying a stipend and jurisdiction, subordinate to the Burning Legion.

Both these titles are inheritable and clearly stipulate a primogeniture system of inheritance.

The third was the lifelong title, which does not come with territory and cannot be inherited; once the holder dies, the title reverts to the state.

Apart from honorary lifetime titles,

Land and city titles have corresponding knight rank restrictions—Apprentice Knights could be ennobled as Honored Knights; Earth Knights could be ennobled as Barons; Elite Earth Knights could be ennobled as Viscounts; Sky Knights could be ennobled as Marquises; Domain Knights could be ennobled as Dukes.

Furthermore,

The Flame Kingdom renamed the lowest level of nobility—the Honored Knight, to simply Honored.

Thus, the eight ranks of nobility were—King, Prince/Grand Duke, Duke, Marquis, Earl, Viscount, Baron, Honored.

...

There were as many as sixty-four Earls on the list.

In fact, there were even more noble Earls, but these nobles, due to their original affiliations, after seeking their opinions, continued to follow several Land Dukes and Marquises—such as Deborah Yuhua Stone, who continued to follow her uncle Dimaria.

Ranked first among the Earls who were direct followers of Liszt was Earl Marcus of Storm City, with the Wheel. The former family tutor had ultimately chosen to join the Burning Legion and took on the role of the commander of the Burning Knights Group. His strength was only that of an Elite Earth Knight, but he had been specially permitted by Liszt to be promoted to Earl.

Storm City was located within the King's Domain, serving as a satellite city to the Flame King City.

Second in ranking was Earl Roland of Longtail Island, with the Pinecone, who was Liszt's uncle by marriage, also an Elite Earth Knight, specifically promoted to Earl.

Third in ranking was Earl Goltai of Fiery Liquor City, with the Mast. This former family tutor did not wish to join the Burning Legion. Of course, even if he wanted to, Liszt would not have agreed, as no high rank could conceal the fact he was just an Apprentice Knight—many whispered behind his back about his title.

As for Fiery Liquor City, it was located not far from Heroic Yellow City and was part of the Heroic Yellow Plains Domain.

The administrative division of the Flame Kingdom was Land—City—County—Town—Settlement, a five-tier system that essentially copied China's province—city—county—town—village model.

Cities were also divided according to administrative divisions into Land-level cities, City-level cities, and County-level cities. Lands or Land-level cities were used to enfeoff Marquises, Cities or City-level cities for Earls, and Counties or County-level cities for Viscounts. By the Town level, whether the title was a Land or a Town, all were designated by the town's name.

Belows the Viscounts, the Honored only carry titles and lands without a designation.

Marcus's enfeoffed city, Storm City, was a City-level city, while Goltai's enfeoffed land, Fiery Liquor City, was an independent city. In addition, some islands automatically replaced Lands, Cities, or Counties as the titles for enfeoffed noble lands depending on their size. Roland's enfeoffed land, Longtail Island, was an island in the Shell Sea about the size of a city-level island.

"Except for the fifth-largest island, Mangrove Island, and the ninth-largest, Anchor Island, all other islands, big and small, in the Flame Islands have been enfeoffed. In the future, any new noble enfeoffments can only expand out to the open sea and mainland," Li Weiliam reflected.

When they first discovered the Flame Islands, they thought it incredibly vast, even larger than the Sapphire Duchy.

It would have been enough to establish a duchy here.

But Liszt directly established a kingdom, and the Flame Islands suddenly seemed inadequate, with almost the entire archipelago being enfeoffed to nobles in the first batch of the kingdom's establishment.

"So using Heroic Yellow City as a gateway, we must continue to expand on the mainland, consuming the Eagle Kingdom is the best choice," Liszt put down the list.

He had not looked closely at the enfeoffment list for the lower-ranked Viscounts, Barons, and Honored; he had just glanced at the number of people in each rank—about three hundred sixty-six Viscounts, around one thousand two hundred forty Barons, and Honored reaching tens of thousands. Adding the three Dukes, twenty-one Marquises, and sixty-four Earls, these were all the nobles of the Flame Kingdom.

They all shared a common honor—inaugural nobility.

"Father, let's hold the inaugural enfeoffment ceremony according to this list."

Liszt stood up and walked out of the palace alongside Li Weiliam, “Furthermore, the lands can be slightly adjusted—the young, capable, but low-titled nobles should be enfeoffed to the mainland as much as possible, so they have the opportunity to continue their ambitious territorial expansion. After the initial chaos of establishment passes, the new war will soon be upon us!”

The war he spoke of would no longer be petty skirmishes like the Pioneer Mandate, but a formal declaration of war against the Eagle Kingdom in alliance with the Steel Ridge Kingdom.

“I always feel it’s too hasty, Liszt, perhaps we should slow down.”

“I, too, wish to slow down, but Father, our strength does not permit such sluggish development,” Liszt sighed with frustration.

Chapter 1057: The First Flame Pavilion The issue of enfeoffment was the first major problem in the establishment of the Flame Kingdom, but with the Development Committee handling it, Liszt didn’t have much to worry about.

He only needed to recognize the ranks of Duke, Marquis, and Earl, while the Development Committee took care of the statistics for wars and appointed Viscounts, Barons, and Honored Lords.

Now, another matter worthy of deep consideration lay before Liszt—the formation of the Inner and Outer Cabinets.

The knight system in this world was a feudal serfdom system, where every Noble Landlord was a feudal slave owner. The Landlord’s domain, aside from paying taxes to their superior Landlord, essentially held all other powers in their hands, including judiciary, finance, military, trade, agriculture, and so on.

Of course, the judiciary of the domain was still overall subject to the laws of the Kingdom.

Therefore, in governing the Flame Kingdom, Liszt primarily needed to consider the governance of Flame Island and other unenfeoffed lands, as well as effectively restraining the Landlords at all levels within the Kingdom. This involved the cabinet officer system for Flame Island and the outer cabinet officer system for the Flame Kingdom.

In other Kingdoms, general state affairs are usually discussed by the King in conjunction with the major Landlords, while the Nobles needed to enter the palace to hold office, managing the Royal Family for the King.

But it was different for Liszt.

He planned to strengthen centralization, hence he divided the officers into the Inner and Outer Cabinets.

The Outer Cabinet was easy to deal with; simply patching up the Development Committee was enough to put together an Outer Cabinet. So, as the year-end approached, he directly issued dozens of appointment documents in the name of the King of the Flame Kingdom, announcing to the entire country.

He appointed Li Weiliam Tulip Duke as the Prime Minister of the Outer Cabinet.

He appointed Emily Flame Marquis as the First Defense Minister, Marcus Wheel Earl as the Second Defense Minister, Sasumit Saint Marquis as the Third Defense Minister—the First Minister is the leader of the department, while the Second and Third Ministers are assistants.

He appointed Dimaria Yu Huashi Marquis as the First Foreign Minister, Yevich Water Peanut Marquis as the Second Foreign Minister...

He appointed Geoffrey Hibiscus Marquis as the First Minister of Internal Affairs, Durt Red Apricot Marquis as the Second Minister of Internal Affairs...

He appointed Paris Flame Marquis as the First Finance Minister, Goltai Mast Earl as the Second Finance Minister...

He appointed Piero Grey Iron Duke as the First Justice Minister...

He appointed Chris Truth as the First Arcane Minister, Kenley Truth as the Second Arcane Minister...

He appointed Bluposi Marquis as the First Ocean Minister...

He also appointed other Marquises and Earls as Ministers of Agriculture, Trade, Education, Craftsmanship, Health, Transportation, and so on.

The appointment of the Outer Cabinet didn't cause much of a stir; in fact, many Nobles were unwilling to serve as ministers of the Outer Cabinet. Now that the nation had been established, the Nobles had all become Lords of their domains, preferring to build their own lands, at most awaiting the King's dispatch during wartime.

But the Outer Cabinet was Liszt's command, and the Nobles who served as ministers must take time to exercise their responsibilities and powers.

As opposed to the widespread announcement of the Outer Cabinet,

The formation of the Inner Cabinet was much more low-key, for a simple reason: Liszt didn't want the Noble Landlords to participate in the management of his own Flame Island. He directly selected full-time managers from various academies and appropriate Knights from the Burning Legion to form an Inner Cabinet under his control.

While forming the Outer and Inner Cabinets, he also established the Inner Court of the Sun Moon Star Palace—put simply, the exclusive servants of the family.

The aged Butler Carter took on the role of chief steward of the Inner Court.

Mrs. Morson, exceptional at brewing tea, became the chief maid.

The increasingly plump Mrs. Abbie took on the role of chief of food services.

Thomas, who was originally a personal servant and later became the Butler of Thorn Castle, took charge as the chief male servant.

In addition to these, there were also the Master of Wine, Master of Drama, Master of Horses, Master of Etiquette, and so on. Only a few of these officials were people from Fresh Flower Town who had followed Liszt from the beginning; the majority were servants captured from the Eagle Kingdom in recent years—those Noble Landlords' Castles had a great number of servants.

Skilled servants were more expensive than craftsmen in the serf market.

Currently, the Sun Moon Star Palace had over eighteen hundred servants, responsible for maintaining the operations of this immense palace.

It was true that only Liszt was officially residing in the palace now, with Ach, Emily, Paris, and others not often living at the castle, and Lady Penelope also stayed with Li Weiliam. But even alone, Liszt was unwilling to treat himself poorly.

His palace had to be as luxurious as those in other kingdoms, not only for his own enjoyment but also to reflect the glory of the Flame Family.

How could a king destined to be legendary not have a grand palace and hordes of servants to accentuate his status?

...

“Is this the Sun Moon Star Palace? Truly majestic and beyond belief, it’s unimaginably grand and vast,” remarked the leader of an envoy group from a certain principality, coming to participate in the founding celebration of the Flame Kingdom. He stood on the balcony of the Flame King City’s diplomatic lodge and couldn’t help but admire the far-off Sun Moon Star Palace.

The envoy’s deputy immediately continued, “My lord, this is a palace built with the participation of archmages. Look at those two mountains—they were forcibly joined together by powerful magic to form what we see now.”

Another deputy chimed in, “It’s said that many more miraculous construction projects have yet to begin. The Flame Kingdom now has two archmages; for them, no architectural feat is too great.”

“Yes, time changes so fast. Who had heard of Liszt a few years ago? Yet now, in the northeastern corner of the Legendary Continent, he is an immense legend that no one dares ignore,” mused the envoy group leader with admiration.

“After all, the Flame Kingdom is acknowledged as the Son of Glory.”

“Hey, I would willingly give up ten years of my life to ride a dragon just once.”

“You’d trade ten years? I’d give twenty.”

“Heh, then wouldn’t you be dead the moment you got on the dragon?”

“What’s that supposed to mean? Do I look old to you? I’m only thirty!” The two deputies began to quarrel over the topic of dragon riding and life span.

The envoy group leader waited until their faces turned red with argument before interrupting, “Enough, both of you, don’t make fools of ourselves in front of the Flame People... The glory of knighthood isn’t for you; you haven’t even touched a dragon, let alone ride one. You should turn your attention to magical beasts. Look at the Flame Kingdom, how many knights you see riding birds.”

Following the direction he pointed.

One could see many knights flying on large birds above Flame King City. Some were part of the Royal Knight Squad – Red Sparrow Team patrolling the city, while others were noble landlords who had arrived in the king city to take part in the feudal ceremony. The Flame Kingdom, with numerous beast taming contracts, had an increasing number of knights riding flying birds.

However, not every knight could obtain a beast taming contract; one must contribute to the kingdom and sign a confidentiality agreement before getting one.

Of course, no matter how strict the confidentiality measures were, they couldn’t really be secret.

The Flame Kingdom’s huge advantage was Liszt’s Hundred Birds Toward The Phoenix ability. He could drive away the birdlike magical beasts and quickly form beast taming contracts with knights. Otherwise, magical beasts with their wild nature were seldom patient enough to be trained by humans, let alone recognize a knight and form a contract.

As the three members of the envoy group pointed and murmured about Flame King City.

Suddenly, a huge silhouette leaped up from the distant horizon. The figure grew closer and closer, and in the shocked eyes of the trio, the massive figure slowly approached Flame King City—it was a majestic giant lion with dense fur, sharp eyes, and a vibrant spirit surveying the entire Flame King City.

“Is that...”

“That’s Nimia the Giant Lion, the receptionist from the Flame Kingdom mentioned that Flame King City has Nimia the Giant Lion as its protector beast!”

“My goodness, was Nimia the Giant Lion always this huge!”

“Unicorns, Nimia the Giant Lion, and then there are the Phoenix (Flame Dragon Birds), right, there’s also that enormous Lightning Dragon Turtle. His Majesty the King of the Flame Kingdom is not only good at dragon riding but also has a great attraction to sub-dragons!” exclaimed the envoy group leader, his voice brimming with admiration.

He paused,

then added, “To be favored by the glory of knighthood, to live in the same era as such a great knight, and to personally meet His Majesty Liszt, is a tremendous honor!”

Chapter 1058: I Am a Good Person “Although the Flame Kingdom is located in the vast ocean beyond the Legendary Continent, witnessing the development here with my own eyes, I can’t help feeling deeply worried.”

The envoy group from Eagle Kingdom was still led by Alexander White Iron.

At this moment, he had already settled into the guild hall of the Flame King City. After following the reception staff to visit the Flame King City and the Sun Moon Star Palace and returning to the guild hall, a look of sorrow inevitably appeared on his face.

“Yes, my lord, the Flame King City is really too, too...” The deputy tried to express his feelings, but after opening his mouth for a long time, he couldn’t find the right words to describe what he had seen.

Realizing what the deputy was trying to convey, Alexander said, “It’s too much like the Moon Empire.”

“Exactly, my lord, that’s the feeling. It’s as if we are walking in the legendary Moon Empire. Tall stone buildings, wide and clean streets, neatly arranged shops and houses, the endlessly patrolling teams, and all those strange carriages sprinting around—the real Moon Empire must be just like this.”

After finishing his praises, the deputy couldn’t help adding a hint of jealousy: “Having an archmage truly makes a difference. The light of civilization brought by magic allows the Flame Kingdom to enjoy such wonders.”

Alexander sighed, “Moon Mountain, Sun Mountain, King Liszt’s ambition, I fear, is even greater than imagined. Just his vision alone is difficult to look up to.”

“What do those two mountains have to do with King Liszt’s vision?”

“Moon Mountain represents the Moon Empire, and Sun Mountain represents the Sun Empire. His royal palace is the Sun Moon Star Palace, doesn’t this mean that he is claiming to inherit all the glory of both the Moon Empire and the Sun Empire?”

“The Sun Empire?” The deputy was full of confusion.

“It is another ancient magical civilization as great as the Moon Empire, not located on the Legendary Continent but on the opposite side of the Devil’s Sea. After the collapse of the magical civilization, it has been impossible to reach the other side of the Devil’s Sea.” As a member of the Royal Family and a noble of high birth, Alexander knew a lot.

In fact, the legend of the Sun Empire was no secret, but due to limited information transfer, most commoners and minor nobles had never heard of it. Thus, when Liszt first learned of the ‘Child of the Sun’, he thought he had discovered an extraordinary new world.

History might not have been recorded, but in a fantasy world filled with magic power, the Dragon Rearing Family, with its long and storied history, naturally knew of many ancient secrets passed down.

“Then, my lord, has King Liszt truly inherited the Sun Empire?”

“Who knows? Maybe he has, and maybe he hasn’t...” Alexander didn’t elaborate further. He naturally knew that this so-called “inheritance” was pure nonsense. Between the ancient magical civilization and the knightly civilization, there was no real connection—it was just the Dragon Rearing Family’s own embellishment.

However, to fool the commoners and minor nobles proved quite effective. It made commoners hold great reverence for the nobility and minor nobles feel awed by the greater nobility.

In his view, Liszt was doing the same: giving himself unashamed accolades and claiming the glory of both the Moon Empire and the Sun Empire. But to Alexander, it seemed right for Liszt to do so because the Flame Kingdom had two archmages.

Whoever has an archmage can rightfully claim to have inherited an ancient magical civilization.

The era is now defined by the shrinking of the Magic Web, making it very difficult for archmages to advance. Without the favor of magic, without the attention of truth, it is impossible for an archmage to be born.

So Alexander swiftly changed the topic: “Many magicians from the three great kingdoms are now moving to the Flame Kingdom, which has become a sacred land for magic. And there he is, the ‘Son of Glory,’ the most favored by the knight’s honor. Dragons and sub-dragons almost revolve around him... This is not good for our Eagle Kingdom.”

“Indeed, the ‘Sapphire Fly’ Pioneer Mandate is now secretly supported by King Liszt. It’s just a shame that the victories of the two dragon-slaying wars have left our country unable to cope,” the deputy shook his head.

Mentioning the Pioneer Mandate, Alexander fell into silence. It was a century-long shame of the Eagle Kingdom. He had thought that upon Adonis’ accession to the throne and his heavy reliance on Alonso Immortal Arrival, they would be able to once for all deal with the hidden threat of the Sapphire Fly. Yet, he had not expected it to inadvertently highlight Liszt’s rise to power.

After a while, he managed to adjust his mood and expressed his emotion with a sigh,

“Dragons truly do whatever they wish!”

...

The very Liszt, who was giving Alexander such a headache, was currently hosting the Steel Ridge Kingdom Envoy Group that had just arrived at the Sun Moon Star Palace.

Group leader Mathew of the Red and White Roses was his honored guest, whom he accompanied personally to the banquet.

“Mathew, thank you for taking on the role of envoy group leader in person to celebrate the founding ceremony of the Flame Kingdom. And also, thank you for the gift from the Red and White Rose Family. This batch of Red Dragon Water is of enormous help to me,” Liszt sincerely thanked Mathew; raising dragons consumed vast resources, with Red Dragon Water being the scarcest magic potion.

“Your Majesty Liszt, you are the most honored friend of the Red and White Rose Family. Were it not for my father’s advanced age, he would have even wished to come in person to celebrate Your Majesty’s occasion.”

“I fully appreciate the Duke of Rose’s sentiment, Mathew. Tonight, we shall drink to our hearts’ content.”

“Indeed, I would like that.”

After several rounds of drinking, the atmosphere at the banquet became more lively. That was when Mathew brought up the matter of a marriage alliance, subtly hinting that his sister had come of age and was eagerly hoping to meet Liszt.

However, having no plans of marrying Marilyn Rose of Red and White to become Queen, Liszt deflected the issue with a laugh, indicating that he was simply too occupied at the moment to spare any thought for such matters. This was his non-offensive way of hinting that he would not be welcoming Marilyn.

He did hold a fondness for the generous Red and White Rose Family, who liked to win people over with money.

It's just that Mathew seemed not to grasp this, or rather, he believed in the excuse Liszt gave—that the early stages of founding a kingdom were indeed overwhelmingly busy.

He thought that once Liszt got past this busy period, he might then consider the matter of marriage.

So the banquet continued in high spirits. The drunken Mathew was assisted away to rest by a servant, while Liszt, who had already used Dou Qi to sober up, took a bath.

In the steam-filled bathroom, the crystal lamp fixtures emitted a soft glow.

He couldn't help but rub his head and mused, "Mathew, such an honest man... I made my hints so clear, how come he hasn't caught on... It seems after the founding ceremony is over, I will need to write a letter to clarify my stance explicitly. I can't delay Marilyn's life over a bit of Red Dragon Water."

Despite being a qualified noble, often considering things from a perspective of interests, deep down, he still retained a simple goodness.

No matter the politics or interests at play, they should not affect an innocent young girl.

He made up his mind.

He couldn't help but smile slightly, "I am indeed a good person."

Chapter 1059: Fashion Revolution "Your Majesty, this attire is designed in reference to the royal garments of the Eagle Kingdom's King, Steel Ridge Nation's King, and Blast Furnace Fortress's King, designed by Flack Abaie. Do you need any modifications?"

The best tailor in the Flame Kingdom, Morris, the Inner Court's ceremonial clothing officer, led an assistant holding a set of extremely luxurious outfits, standing in front of Liszt, respectfully asking.

"The Ruff collar is too bulky; remove it and don't embroider such a conspicuous flame badge on the chest. Just integrate the flame in a patterned form into the fabric. Also, make these dragon designs more abstract; don't make them too ostentatious. I don't like that."

“The dragon design can be easily handled, but Your Majesty, the large Ruff collar is a symbol of the king’s authority...”

“Don’t argue, learn to follow orders, Morris, go and make the changes.” Liszt waved his hand indifferently; he didn’t need a Ruff collar to flaunt his authority.

Long ago, he had been greatly dissatisfied with the local clothing, especially those Ruff collars, which could suffocate someone wearing them in summer. Now that he had become a king, it was time to put an end to the odd noble garments and innovate for simpler, form-fitting clothing to replace the bulky Flack Abaie.

However, there was no need to make drastic changes all at once, as that would be too eccentric and inappropriate.

He planned to take a year to gradually change the noble attire of the Flame Kingdom to Earth-style suits, tailcoats, and riding gear.

Suits could be worn in daily life, tailcoats at formal occasions, and riding gear for horseback riding.

Of course.

The colors of the Earth-style suits, tailcoats, and riding gear were all quite monotonous, which was not to Liszt’s liking. Although he advocated simplicity in clothing, he pursued color. He would stipulate that the king’s wardrobe could include gold and red, while other nobles could use colors other than gold and red.

A variety of colors would be truly majestic!

Just after sending Morris, the clothing officer, away, a servant came to report that Goltai requested an audience.

“Let him in.”

A moment later.

Goltai entered the Sun Moon Star Palace, and upon seeing Liszt, he saluted exaggeratedly, “Honored King Your Majesty, your most loyal follower, Goltai Mast, offers you his sincerest greetings.”

“Alright, Goltai, there’s no need to spout a load of insincere flattery every time.”

Goltai chuckled, “Your Majesty, this isn’t insincere flattery; this is my sincere reverence for you. It’s just that I’ve been too excited lately, with the Flame Kingdom about to be established—a great kingdom indeed. Back in Fresh Flower Town, I followed you, only experiencing such incredible scenes in dreams.”

“This means that you didn’t have much faith in me initially,” Liszt said, sipping his milk tea and glancing sideways at Goltai.

Goltai immediately protested, “How could that be? It’s really that Your Majesty’s glory was so dazzling, it blinded my eyes. And I, a destitute noble from the countryside, simply couldn’t see beyond Coral Island; it was Your Majesty who led me from Fresh Flower Town to this vast world...”

“Stop there, that’s enough flattery. What brings you here now?” Liszt cut straight to the chase; a little flattery was beneficial for mental health, but too much became sickening.

Having followed Liszt from Fresh Flower Town for nearly seven years, Goltai was very familiar with Liszt’s style and, therefore, restrained himself from continuing to flatter.

He then seriously said, “We have set up the procedure for the knights’ parade, crossing from the Gilded Boulevard of Flame King City through the Triumphal Arch, right up to the square in front of the Sun Moon Star Palace to receive Your Majesty’s review. Marquis Dimaria thinks the ennoblement ceremony should be held in the square, while Duke Pierrot believes it should be conducted inside the great hall.”

In the process of the kingdom’s founding ceremony, following the knights’ parade, came the ennoblement ceremony, which now faced disagreement.

Dimaria felt ennobling in the square, under the watchful eyes of thousands, brought more prestige; Pierrot felt conducting it in the great hall maintained the noble decorum.

“My father’s opinion?” Liszt asked.

“Marquis has no objections, so the Outer Cabinet cannot make a decision and can only report to you,” Goltai replied, the nobility titles are still referred to by their old names as they have not yet been conferred.

After a moment of thought, Liszt said, “After the parade of knights, the Honored, Barons, and Vicounts will receive their titles at the square, while Earls and Marquises will receive theirs inside the grand hall. Dukes will have a separate conferring ceremony.” The upper, middle, and lower nobles each had different conferring ceremonies, fitting for their respective classes.

“That I shall prepare immediately,” Goltai responded.

“Lord Lerald, are you sure you don’t want to be the First Grand Arcanist? Chris has already declined several times, believing you are closer to the truth, having served as the Chief Magic Consultant in the Kushan Imperial for many years. The position of First Grand Arcanist is more suitable for you.”

In the morning, Liszt was preparing the nation-founding ceremony at the Sun Moon Star Palace, and by the afternoon, he had already arrived at the Mage Tower in Reed City to meet with Archmage Lerald Truth and persuade him to take the position of First Grand Arcanist.

Lerald firmly declined, “No, Your Majesty Liszt, such an official position is not what I pursue. I am here in the Flame Kingdom to seek the truth, not to get involved in mundane affairs. Moreover, in terms of approaching the truth, Acherlroides is the one truly close to it. I am content to focus on research.”

Acher was an impossible candidate for First Grand Arcanist. She wasn’t human, had little regard for most humans, and only acknowledged Liszt.

She loved conducting research and exploring the truth.

Seeing Lerald’s firm stance, Liszt ceased his persuasion. Deep down, he also did not wish for Lerald to take the position of First Grand Arcanist. He trusted Chris more, who had

continually collaborated with him to innovate the system of magicians, allowing the Arcanist System to replace the Magician System.

Entering the lab, he saw Acher operating the Magic Microscope.

Liszt stood aside, gesturing to the now-grown sisters Lucy and Ruth not to come forward to salute but to focus on helping Acher with her experiment. After a while, Acher moved away from the eyepiece of the Magic Microscope, and upon seeing Liszt, immediately flashed a sweet, knowing smile.

“Brother, you’re here.”

“Uh-huh, what experiment are you conducting?”

“Observation of the Child of the Sun’s bloodline. By using the Magic Microscope, we can obtain detailed information about the Druid’s transformations,” Acher turned and said to the twins, “Lucy, go fetch the experimental records from this period. Ruth, clean the Magic Microscope and prepare the new samples.”

“Yes, Teacher.”

Although still minors, the twins had grown physically, beginning to exhibit feminine charms with increasing beauty.

Of course, they still had a long way to go compared to Acher.

However, this did not prevent Liszt from appreciating them with a look, as the unique charm of young girls blossoming was distinctly enticing.

Now Lucy was proficient in fire magic and Ruth in water magic, both showing the potential highly esteemed by the Smoke Mission. According to Acher’s observations, they could both advance to Grand Magician before reaching adulthood. If certain measures were taken to hasten their development, becoming an Archmage was also within reach.

“Teacher, here are the experimental records you asked for,” Lucy quickly returned with several notebooks.

Acher took the notes, handing one to Liszt, “Brother, look at this one first; it summarizes the barriers. After reading it, you should have a comprehensive understanding of how to interact with these barriers.”

Chapter 1060: New Inspiration The laboratory was very quiet.

After handing over the notes to Liszt, Ach pointed out a few things to pay attention to, then let Liszt quietly read while she continued to experiment with Lucy and Ruth.

Seconds and minutes passed by, and for Liszt, this summary note personally written by Ach was the most obscure and hard-to-understand book he had read in recent years. Yet he read it more seriously than ever before, not only word by word but also occasionally flipping back through the pages.

The content of the notes was not much, about 30,000 words in length, but it took him three whole hours to read. It wasn’t until the sky outside the window had darkened that he suddenly closed the notebook and softly exhaled a breath of stale air.

He closed his eyes and leaned back in his chair.

He quietly pondered the contents of the notes.

This content was Ach’s summary of all the research related to barriers from the past couple of years, analyzing the basis of barriers’ existence from three aspects: magic power, material, and spirit. She described the way barriers exist in abstract terms and proposed possibilities for touching the barriers through analysis and conjecture.

“Starting with magic power is currently the most likely way for me to touch the barriers. I devoured the Phoenix Incarnation and gained Fire Attribute Dou Qi with Superior Magic properties; Leo also possesses Fire Attribute Magic Power with Superior Magic properties. Training as a Dragon Knight with Leo is the easiest way to break through the magic barriers.”

Barriers are a very abstract concept.

However, they aren't difficult to understand, and Liszt summarized and deduced from Ach's notes that it's like "a deeper understanding that breaks through conventional concepts."

For example, on Earth, ancient people might have thought that matter was made up of tiny particles. Then, modern scientists using tools like microscopes came up with the concept of "molecules," believing that molecules were the smallest units of matter. Later, scientists discovered the concept of "atoms," considering them as the smallest matter.

Molecules and atoms were barriers for scientists of that era.

Yet, modern scientists discovered another concept, "quarks," and believed that quarks were the smallest units of matter. Therefore, they broke through the atomic barrier, making quarks the new barrier.

After pondering for a moment in his mind, Liszt sighed lightly, "So the barrier of magic power is the essence of its formation; Ach wants me to start from this and trace back to the process of magic formation... But how do I do that, how can I trace back magic power? What training method for a Dragon Knight can trace back magic power?"

He thought long and hard but couldn't figure it out.

So he stood up, "Ach, I'm going out for a walk; I still need time to digest some of the content."

"Mhm, brother, there's no need to rush; there is plenty of time," Ach comforted Liszt not to hurry, whereas it was usually Liszt who told her not to be a workaholic.

...

After leaving the Flame City Mage Tower, Liszt mounted the Formless Dragon Bard, tore through space, and arrived at the Endless Volcano Cluster, then immediately called Leo out from one of the volcanoes.

Man and dragon soared leisurely across the sky.

Liszt shared the information about the barriers he had obtained with Leo— the dragon's intelligence was no less than a human's. Leo also wished to become a stronger dragon, so it was very cooperative with Liszt's decisions about barrier training.

“Liszt, most of my Dragon's Super Magic originates from the volcanoes, which get their magic power from the endless flames and magma. Could the barrier be within the volcanoes?”

“Barriers are not a fixed object; they are a state, a perception, an essence. However, your words remind me, where does the Volcanic Super Magic come from, this could perhaps be considered as an existence of a barrier... No, according to the triangular theory, material and spirit can always become magic power at any time, and the Volcanic Super Magic might just be the transformation of materials such as magma, without involving the barriers.”

“Perhaps your thinking is too restricted. I am the flame, and the flame is me. You've said that the Fire Dragon is born from volcanoes and after death becomes part of the volcano. So why wouldn't the barriers of Fire Attribute Magic Power exist within the same volcanoes that birth and nurture me?” Leo counter-asked.

“The barrier has nothing to do with your birth, there have been so many dragons throughout history, yet it seems only the Dragon of the Magic Web has broken through the barrier.”

“I will be the first Fire Dragon to break the barrier!”

“I hope so too.”

“Then let's go to the volcano!”

A connection of hearts and minds, the questions they contemplate, are essentially what their own selves are pondering. Thus, the fleeting thoughts in their minds were directly translated into a man and a dragon flying out of the clouds, charging towards a smoking volcano crater.

“Liszt, if we bathe in the volcano for ten days and a half month, we might touch the barrier of Fire Attribute Magic Power!”

“Stop joking, we’re about to have the founding ceremony of the Flame Kingdom, I need to hurry back.”

“What’s so important about human kingdoms?”

“Without the Kingdom, where would you get the Fire Dragon Elixir to casually consume?”

“Leave those ants to work for us, you are the King and I am the Dragon, we only need to enjoy all of this, anyone who dares to refuse to sustain us will be annihilated!” Although Leo was suppressed by Liszt’s Mind Branding, its nature still betrayed its true colors as an Evil Dragon.

“I’ll accompany you down for a round, then I must set off back immediately, this is not up for discussion. But you can soak in the magma by yourself, slowly looking for the barrier of Fire Attribute Magic Power.”

“Of course I will.”

In their Magic Form, the man and dragon merged with the magma of the volcano. This place was constantly producing Volcanic Super Magic, but at such a slow rate that it couldn’t keep up with Leo’s absorption rate.

However, this time Leo didn’t consume the scarce Volcanic Super Magic, but observed the birth of the Volcanic Super Magic intently.

Liszt was also observing intently. Since he devoured the Phoenix and gained the Phoenix Incarnation that allowed him to swim freely through magma and flames, he hadn’t really taken the time to experience the magma thoroughly—he always rushed in and out of the magma, not particularly enjoying the environment.

This wasn’t like soaking in a hot spring; the sensation of losing all five senses and relying solely on magic perception was, for humans, akin to confinement.

Yet, upon observing closer, he found there was something quite interesting about the magma.

“I don’t feel a reduction in the magma materials, yet the Volcanic Super Magic just appears. Is it that the transformation from material to magic happens in too small a quantity, or does Volcanic Super Magic not actually derive from material transformation?” He concentrated, pondering the differences.

With the Eye of Magic, his awareness of the transformation between material and magic was very clear.

Especially when riding Leo and using the Dragon Eye Trajectory, he could clearly see that even a lump of mud could decompose into Earth-Attribute Magic Power under special circumstances.

And how Earth System Magic’s magic power formed rocks and soil was just as clear in his sight.

Flame, Fire Attribute Mana; seawater, Water-Attribute Magic Power; breeze, Wind Attribute Magic Power; ice block, Ice-Attribute Magic Power; lightning, Thunder Attribute Magic Power; they were all constantly transforming... Only Light Attribute Magic Power and Dark Attribute Magic Power were seldom observed to transform with materials, seeming more like a special kind of inactive magic state.

“Magma, flames...”

“Volcanic Super Magic...”

Faintly, Liszt felt he had grasped a crucial inspiration.