

The Mighty 551

Chapter 551 : The Grand Magic Work Debuts

With the territory returning to peace, the officials and knights retreated to their posts, and the civilians praised Lord Landlord and Greater Elf Pike together with the double wages they received, as the influence caused by the Giant Algae Elves had settled.

Following an afternoon nap.

Liszt rode on the Landwalker Bird Loki to a secluded place where he and the Little Fire Dragon Leo indulged in magic potions. The continuous supply of Giant Algae Magic Potions made by Chris really kept both the man and dragon ecstatic every single day.

"Scorching Sun Sting!"

In mid-air, man and sword united, Liszt plummeted toward the ground, and his surging Dou Qi like the Sun smashed into the earth, producing a massive crater with flames erupting all around.

Drenched in flames, Liszt maintained a half-kneeling posture to calm down the Dou Qi that had just violently erupted within him.

"Oh-ho!"

The Little Fire Dragon Leo, circling in the sky, saw Liszt engulfed in flames, folded its wings, and landed on the edge of the crater. Then, opening its mouth, Leo exhaled a light yellow flame of Dragon Breath that instantly enveloped Liszt. Instead of harming him, the breath seeped into his body, aiding in the expansion of his cellular capacity.

This was the latest training method that Liszt and Leo had agreed upon, which he named—Dragon Breath Tempering.

The former training method where he unified with the dragon to expel impure magic power was named by him—Dragon Magic Refining Qi.

Dragon Magic Refining Qi aimed to upgrade Dragon Dou Qi, while Dragon Breath Tempering focused on developing cellular capacity. These two distinct training methods were both constantly enhancing Liszt's strength.

Even though he hadn't received the "Dragon Knight Dou Qi Secret Manual" from the Grand Duke.

He had still independently figured out how a Dragon Knight should train—though it couldn't really be said that he figured it out on his own since Dragon Magic Refining Qi was a function inherent to the Little Fire Dragon. In contrast, Dragon Breath Tempering came about during training when Leo unexpectedly sprayed him with Dragon Breath, which had initially terrified Liszt as he thought Leo intended to murder him.

In the end, it was a false alarm, and he discovered the Dragon Breath had properties like a magic potion, capable of helping him strike at the Dou Qi capacity in his cells.

So, now.

Liszt would generally hand over all the magic potions to Leo to consume, and in turn, Leo would help him with Dragon Magic Refining Qi and Dragon Breath Tempering, striving towards becoming a Dragon Knight.

Unfortunately, Leo was still too young, and its Dragon Breath was scarce.

After spraying for a short while, it began to droop and look utterly exhausted.

"Continue." Liszt directly stuffed ten vials of Giant Algae Magic Potion into its mouth.

Leo, which had previously looked dejected, suddenly revved back to life with energetic "Oh-ho's" and took to the skies with a powerful leap.

After a casual flight, it suddenly transformed into a ball of flame and rushed into Liszt's body.

Liszt shook off the ashes that were once his clothes, threateningly stating, "You're lively when feasting on potions, but try to be sly during training sessions. Leo, you can't escape, it's your destiny to be ridden by me!"

"Oh-ho!" Leo responded with a disdainful cry.

Liszt just chuckled.

Regardless of how smart the Little Fire Dragon was, it was still just a young drake; even the craftiest fox couldn't outwit an old hunter. Now, "Liszt's Dragon Taming Manual" was already taking shape in his mind, and sooner or later, he would create a dragon riding masterpiece more detailed than the "Dragon Knight Dou Qi Manual."

A legacy to be passed down to his progeny for generations.

After changing into a new set of clothes, he whistled.

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"Clomp!"

Not far away, Loki, who was grazing, came striding over with long legs, clearly not averse to being ridden by Liszt.

Award it a handful of superior wheat kernels.

Liszt issued an order, "Home!"

The next morning, early.

Mr. Grandini Truth had packed his magic experimental tools and was riding a carriage to Fresh Flower Town, having accepted a teaching position at the Magic Academy as an instructor for Magic Equipment, teaching the first batch of students.

Liszt received Mr. Grandini.

Despite this stubborn magician, he still showed respect, "Mr. Grandini, I'll have to trouble you with the teaching duties at the Magic Academy."

"You can rest assured, Viscount." Mr. Grandini exuded an air of arrogance, but facing Liszt, who had been promoted to Sky Knight, he knew to maintain the proper etiquette and spoke much more politely.

"You will take a ship to Black Horse Island, where someone will receive you. The Mage Tower has just been completed and the Magic Academy is on its first floor. Arrangements for your daily living have been made by a dedicated person. I hope you enjoy your life on Black Horse Island."

"Thank you for your concerns, Viscount."

Mr. Grandini did not stay in Fresh Flower Town; he took that day's merchant ship directly to Black Horse Island. Unfortunately, he was the only magician who had arrived; the other two magicians who had been hired hadn't reached Coral Island yet, so the Smoke Mission was still incomplete, and it was unknown what kind of drifting fruit the reward would be.

Practiced "Multi-Arrow" in the apple orchard for a while.

He also pondered over the "Unification Theory of Triangle Theory and Magic Array Structure," which he was writing. He wasn't a magician, but this was the second magic book he had created. The previous one, "Theory of Tri-State Magic Arrays and Reality Interaction," received high praise from Chris Truth.

"According to the clues I hold now, the products formed by magic power should be separated out of the material sequence, or to say, removed from the physical realm and listed under a separate magic category."

He wrote a series of characters on the blank thick paper—Magic Molecule → Rune → Magic Array and Magic → Elves and Dragons.

In his view, magic molecules were the basic units that constituted magic power, which arranged and combined into runes, with runes then forming magic arrays and crafting

various types of magic. The level of the magic array determined the power and effect of the magic, and at a higher level, the magic array possibly became magical beings.

The so-called magical beings included Magical Beasts, Elves, Dragons, Sea Serpents, and so forth, even magicians could be considered artificially created magical beings.

They were all direct users of runes and magic arrays, the difference being that the bodies of Magical Beasts and magicians belonged to the physical realm, and also possessed the capabilities of the magic category.

While Elves, Dragons, and Sea Serpents not only had the abilities of the magic category, their bodies also belonged to the magic category—the body of a Dragon was always producing, Elves were the same, and even the Sea Sprite Ake was very different from humans, seemingly an incarnation of magic power.

"Perhaps, there are two sets of fundamental rules in this world, one is the physical rules, and the other is the magic rules. They interfere with each other yet remain independent. Along with the intermediary spiritual rules, they form this strange world... That is the core idea I wish to explicate!"

For a moment.

He felt a sudden rush of inspiration.

After the grand tome "Dragons Fight in the Wild" by the historical inventor stagnated, the flurry around "Liszt's Piano Collection" by the renowned Piano King subsided, and following the preliminary successes of "Three-Phase Magic Array and Reality Interaction Theory" and "The Earth Chronicle of Liszt," he was now embracing his role as a theoretical magician.

He threw himself wholeheartedly into the creation of "The Unification of Triangular Theory and Magic Array Structures."

A sweeping masterpiece of thirty thousand words was finally completed that day. Gazing upon fifteen pages of thick paper still reeking of ink, along with more than nine hand-drawn diagrams, he felt immensely satisfied.

He planned to show it to Ake first for feedback. After receiving her opinion, he would revise it slightly before showing it to Chris for her input.

Perhaps it could even become a textbook for the Magic Academy.

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Chapter 552 : The Golden Pearl of the Golden-Lipped Clam

When Liszt arrived at the seaside castle, he just happened to find Ach teaching Pike to speak. Elves are truly easy to please; after only a few days of contact and the right amount of Jade Powder, Pike had already stopped resisting Ach.

Even the Rainbow Whale Rose could play around the castle without being attacked by Pike.

Not to mention the three Little Minor Elves, Fizz, Tam, and Eddie, who were already jumping for joy upon seeing Ach. It made Liszt wonder if, should the contract be revocable, these three little guys might promptly throw themselves into Ach's arms.

"Liszt!"

"Liszt!"

Upon seeing Liszt, Pike called out loudly. Liszt crossed through the glass door and stood on the shore inside the room. He waved to Pike, "Pike, study well."

Pike grinned, his teeth glaringly out of place.

He pointed his finger at Liszt, then at Ach, and finally towards himself, "Liszt, Ach, Pike, family."

Then he pointed at the Rainbow Whale Rose outside and said disdainfully, "Rose, fish."

"Rose is not a fish; she's a Rainbow Whale, a member of the dolphin family, a mammal just like humans," Liszt wanted to say. But then he thought about the existence of magic in

this world, the richness of the species far surpassing that of Earth, and seemingly without the need for detailed classification.

Whether the Rainbow Whale is truly a fish or a dolphin need not be pursued.

He waved his hand, indicating Pike to go play, then prepared to take out his grand magic work for Ach to review.

However, Ach spoke first, "Brother, near Rocky Island on the seabed, I found a group of very large Shell Sea Monsters. When they open their mouths, there is a big golden pearl inside each one of them!" As he spoke, he controlled the flow of water and swept up a pale golden shell about the size of a basin towards them.

Seeing the shell, Liszt immediately used the Eye of Magic.

Clearly, the shell emanated a bright Magic Radiance, yet another mollusk sea monster!

"Brother, be careful, it can release magic - Water Bullets, and it's a bit dangerous," Ach quickly added. However, there was no need for such a warning; with the Eye of Magic, Liszt could clearly see the flow of magic on the sea monster, thereby determining whether it was releasing magic.

He picked up the pale golden shell and threw it directly into the room.

Then he drew out the Sky-Cleaving Greatsword and stabbed it into the shell's gap. The shell was tightly closed, and held together with great strength. Nevertheless, Liszt's Dragon Dou Qi surged, and he forcefully prodded the Sky-Cleaving Greatsword into it, then pried it open with effort, causing the two halves of the shell to fall apart instantly.

Even the flesh inside the shell was torn to shreds.

Without casting any magic, the pale golden shell had already been violently killed by Liszt.

Though it was dead, the lustrous golden pearl inside was perfectly revealed. Gently slicing open the enclosing membrane with the blade, a round golden pearl as large as a grown man's fist unfurled, shining brilliantly as if it were a sphere made of pure gold.

There was only this one, but its rich blue-white Magic Radiance already displayed its value.

"This... is probably the reward for the last Smoke Mission, the pearl-producing shell?" Liszt already had his suspicions, and it was quite clear that this group of shells discovered by Ach was the belated mission reward.

He looked at the now-dead shell.

He noticed within the shell's flesh at the gap, there was a line of golden coloration, resembling lips.

"Golden-Lipped Clam... Golden Pearl." It took him only three seconds to determine the name of this shell and the pearl it produced—the official record of sea monsters was scarce, and nearly every new encounter with a sea monster was a new species with naming rights resting in the hands of the discoverer.

"Ach, was this Golden-Lipped Clam found near the seabed around Rocky Island?"

As a woman, Ach's eyes sparkled when she looked at the pearl: "Yes, brother, do you think its pearl is beautiful? It's golden, just as lovely as the Black Pearl from the Tridacna."

"Indeed, it's very beautiful, but I'm not sure about its usefulness yet. I need to study it carefully. If it's of great value, our territory will gain a new specialty product. Even if the pearl is worthless, the meat of the sea monster is highly nutritious."

Black Tridacna, Fen Hai Luo, and now Golden-Lipped Clam.

All of them are specialty products.

Regrettably, the technology to farm and mine them hasn't been figured out; fishermen can only do some auxiliary work or plant gravel for the Black Tridacna. For a sea monster like

Fen Hai Luo that releases magic, the serfs are unable to cope. Mining them still needs to be done by Ach or Liszt personally.

The Golden-Lipped Clam is likely the same.

However, should the Golden Pearl prove to be of immense value, even if it requires personal mining, Liszt will not find it tiring.

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Setting the Golden Pearl aside for the moment.

He took out his magnum opus, "The Unification of Triangular Theory and Magic Array Structures," and passed it to Ach: "This is a guess I have about the magic power system. There might be some errors with data referencing, or perhaps logical errors I haven't noticed. Help me review it."

"Alright."

Ach was now a Water System Grand Mage in her own right, even if she progressed through talent rather than accumulating knowledge, but she still read a great deal of magic books seriously.

Not like Liszt, who would pick magic books that contained interesting little stories to read.

He gathered a huge collection of amusing tales, but his knowledge remained half-baked.

No longer disturbing Ach's reading.

He called Ros and headed straight for the ocean. Following the location indicated by Ach, he prepared to go to the waters of Rocky Island to find that group of Golden-Lipped Clams and study them closely.

Ever since he had the Rainbow Whale Ros as his mount.

Liszt nearly went down to the sea on it every day to appreciate the splendid scenery of the ocean—for many people, the sea is an unknown forbidden land, always associated with various mysterious legends, unknown sea monsters, and pitch-black abysses. Ordinary people dare not set foot in the seas lightly.

Back when he was searching for the Giant Algae Forest.

Had it not been for Ach's company, Liszt wouldn't have dared to go into the sea rashly.

But with the number of times he went into the sea increasing, he has overcome his fear of the deep sea and fallen in love with the sensation of galloping and swimming freely in the sea. The ecosystem there, so different from that on land—with its colorful fish, coral, seaweed, and sea floor dwellers, as well as sharks, sea turtles, and more—all deeply attracted him.

The Rainbow Whale, even as a Low-Level Dragon Beast with only one type of magic—the Rainbow Breathing Membrane—still reigned as a tyrant of the sea with few threats.

In the waters around Coral Island and Black Horse Island, there was no danger. Even when he once encountered a large group of sharks, the Rainbow Whale bravely charged at them, flipping one over and easily tearing open its belly to eat its liver. The remaining sharks were all scared away.

Even when they encountered a humpback whale tens of meters long, seeing the Rainbow Whale, it turned and swam away, not daring to approach.

"As sea monsters, creatures like the Fen Hai Luo and the Golden-Lipped Clam are probably akin to the Fire Rabbits and Rock Goats kept by nobles—hardly capable of any real combat. Whereas, this Rainbow Whale, a Low-Level Dragon Beast, probably holds the same status and combat power as an Intermediate Magical Beast like a Douson." Having safely reached Rocky Island, he couldn't help but reflect.

Chapter 553 : Searching for Dodo Island

Surrounding Black Horse Island are four other islands.

Mangrove Island, Sandy Beach Island, Rocky Island, and Seagull Island. Mangrove Island is Nami's hometown, populated with many green caterpillars and green-headed ducks;

Sandy Beach Island is full of fragrant coconut trees, and the cordyceps from the trees have also been transplanted here; Seagull Island also has a mangrove forest, but it has not yet been developed.

Rocky Island, however, has always been overlooked.

Because the island is entirely made up of basalt columns and it was once mined, revealing no volcanic glass buried underneath, it was completely abandoned.

Standing atop the basalt columns of the island, Liszt carefully determined his bearings, then, guided by Ach's directions, rode the Rainbow Whale Rose towards that area of the sea. Upon diving into the ocean depths, he could see that the island's base was all rock, with little silt.

Many corals clung to the rocks, forming coral reefs.

All kinds of fish and shrimp lived among the coral reefs.

Liszt, making use of the Eye of Magic, continued to search the seabed as he followed Rose's movements, hoping to find Golden-Lipped Clams and perhaps even encounter an unexpected surprise.

Unfortunately.

The ocean seemed infinitely vast, but objects radiating magic radiance were scarce, and even sea monsters were far fewer in number than magical beasts on land.

So, after swimming around for half a day, not a trace of magic radiance was found.

When he did detect a glimmer of magic radiance, he had entered the habitat of the Golden-Lipped Clams, not far from Rocky Island. However, he had moved away from the rocky reef area of the seabed into the silt area, where the water was about one hundred meters deep, and the pressure was considerable, making breathing difficult.

Nevertheless, Liszt's physique was strong. He and the Rainbow Whale had tested that without protection, they could dive to a depth of four hundred meters, which was barely

their limit. As for the Rainbow Whale Rose, according to Ach, she could dive down to a depth of fifteen hundred meters, which was also Ach's limit.

Usually, Rose would swim within a range of two hundred meters below the surface.

"Indeed, there is a vast area of Golden-Lipped Clams. It's a pity I have little fighting power underwater; otherwise, I'd really like to open more clams and extract a batch of golden pearls for research," Liszt gestured to Rose to swim around the periphery, not to intrude into the territory of the Golden-Lipped Clams, "I'll have Ach catch the golden pearls later."

After observing for a while, he saw that the largest Golden-Lipped Clams were about the same size as the one Ach had brought back, the size of a washbasin. There were hundreds of them, and their distribution was not extensive.

There was no longer any value in continued observation.

He then patted Rose's belly to signal her to leave. They did not return to Fresh Flower Town but headed towards Black Horse Island. After reaching the shore, he signaled Rose to wait and quickly switched to a horse, galloping towards the Mage Tower. He gave the golden pearls to Chris for her to research their properties.

Only then did he return to Fresh Flower Town.

However, just as he reached the seaside of the little town, he suddenly noticed several white objects floating on the sea surface, which from a distance looked somewhat like human skulls.

His gaze sharpened as he quickly directed Rose toward the white floating objects.

Only upon getting closer did he see that these were not human skulls, but rather some kind of white fruit.

"Fruit?"

"Could these be the Drifting Fruit mentioned in the hint for the Smoke Mission?" He quickly scooped up one of the fruits and found it was indeed the size of a human head and

definitely a fruit, which immediately reminded him of a type of fruit he had a vague memory of, "It seems, it resembles the Human Skull Fruit that Old Tanner once mentioned?"

He called for the Smoke Mission.

And indeed, the mission was already completed.

"Complete the mission, reward: Drifted Human Skull Fruit."

"Just as I thought, these are Human Skull Fruits, the fruits of the Human Skull Tree. Old Tanner had said that when he was a child living on Dodo Island, the island's natives relied on eating these fruits to stave off hunger," Liszt's memory was good, and he still remembered the conversation from two years ago.

At that moment, the Smoke Serpent Script before his eyes changed.

"Mission: Does the discovery of Human Skull Fruit remind you of a past memory, of the island destroyed by a volcanic eruption, Old Tanner can no longer remember the location of Dodo Island, but it should not be far from here, why not search for it. Reward: The volcano of Dodo Island."

"Hmm."

"The volcano on Dodo Island?"

Liszt suddenly recalled what Old Tanner Phil had mentioned. He said that Dodo Island was named after the volcanic eruption that destroyed a large number of Human Skull Trees, causing the indigenous people to lose their source of food.

Thus, the natives cut down trees to make canoes and subsequently drifted from place to place.

The author of "Philip, Scion of the Sun's Diary" had been on the same canoe as Old Tanner Phil. Unfortunately, Philip himself accidentally fell into the water while fishing and

perished, leaving behind only his diary, which was collected by Old Tanner Phil as a keepsake and eventually ended up in the hands of Liszt.

"I never considered that the volcano on Dodo Island, which had erupted decades ago, might still be active and could erupt again!"

The Little Fire Dragon had always lacked a volcanic environment for growth. Liszt had inquired about many islands in the Duchy of Sapphire, but there were no active volcanoes ready to erupt. The few active volcanoes with a history of eruptions were all on distant, larger islands, and Liszt simply couldn't reach them.

"To think that the Smoke Mission directly rewarded me with the volcano on Dodo Island, could it mean that this volcano is active and that it's quite likely I could find magma from its crater?"

An active volcano doesn't necessarily indicate the presence of magma; basically, most volcanoes expose their magma only during an eruption. Usually, this magma and high temperature are hidden deep underground, tens to hundreds of kilometers below. Whether the volcano on Dodo Island has visible magma is uncertain, but at least there's a chance.

Even setting aside other factors, the island itself is valuable.

Deserted islands are seen by many landlords as burdens with no value for reclamation, but for Liszt, every inch of land can be utilized.

"I need to prepare, when I find some time, I will set out to search for Dodo Island."

...

Two magicians applying for a job were waiting in the castle.

Their names were Garcia Truth and Randolph Truth, both ordinary magicians, not young and with limited potential; otherwise, they wouldn't choose to be teachers as a profession.

Of course, the opportunity to interact with the Grand Magician Chris Truth was one of the reasons they applied.

After all, the chance to discuss truths with a grand magician doesn't come by often.

"Since you two have accepted the job offer, you have also accepted the regulations of Black Horse Island. As long as you don't violate the regulations, you have complete freedom on the territory. Someone will also take care of arranging your living necessities, so you don't have to worry about the details... I wish you a pleasant life on Black Horse Island."

"Thank you, Lord Viscount, rest assured, we are magicians with good records and won't violate the territory's prohibitions."

After a brief reception, the two set sail for Black Horse Island.

Liszt then had a servant call Old Tanner Phil. Phil's Tanners' Shop had not been relocated to the harbor town. He had lived in Fresh Flower Town for half his life and was not willing to move again. Though he had not adopted the manservant Jessie as his son, he had married a middle-aged widow and his life was looking up.

However, his wife had not become pregnant, and the blood of the Child of the Sun still needed to be obtained from Old Phil.

"Old Phil, how much do you remember about Dodo Island?"

"Lord Landlord, I was very young when I left Dodo Island. Drifting in a canoe, I could hardly distinguish any directions. However, I remember Philip mentioning that eight hundred kilometers south of Dodo Island was the island where he used to work, Hot Spring Island. I also drifted southward, eventually reaching Hot Spring Island," Old Tanner replied.

Hot Spring Island is located to the west of Coral Island, about a day's voyage away, and is the territory of an earl.

Therefore, the approximate location of Dodo Island is somewhere in the sea north of Hot Spring Island and Coral Island, but its exact position cannot be pinpointed.

Only known to be over eight hundred kilometers away.

It would take about two and a half days by boat to travel eight hundred kilometers; riding the Rainbow Whale Rose would take about ten hours.

Liszt calculated silently, "It's not too far, I can ride on Rose, bring Ach, and thoroughly search the sea territory eight hundred kilometers north of Hot Spring Island... Ach has already self-taught a lot of nautical knowledge and is able to determine directions, so we should not get lost."

With this thought, he sent Old Tanner away and went directly to the seaside villa to find Ach.

"Ach, I've received some news. Eight hundred kilometers north of Hot Spring Island there is a place called Dodo Island. I want to find it with you. Can you navigate at sea?"

Ach, setting down "The Unification of Triangular Theory and Magic Array Structures", nodded and said, "Yes, Ach has learned how to use a sailor's guide and can also use the stars for navigation. Plus, Ach naturally remembers sea routes and won't get lost aimlessly in the sea."

"That's right, you are a Sea Serpent, a spirit of the ocean; naturally, you won't get lost," Liszt decided at once. "Then get ready, the day after tomorrow we'll go together to search for Dodo Island."

Chapter 554 Marquis Merlin's Resentment

On the day before setting off in search of Dodo Island, another delightful event occurred, the Elf Bug that had been gestating in the Green Yuanbao Bonsai gifted to Liszt by his grandmother on his birthday was finally born.

After the contract was made.

It became Liszt's thirty-eighth Elf Bug.

Up until now, including the Elves contracted by Ach, he had a total of one Greater Elf, six Little Minor Elves, and forty-three Elf Bugs. With such a large family and business, gone

were the days of his humble beginnings in Fresh Flower Town. He was not much different from some of the lesser noble Earl families.

He reminisced about the birthday party at Meioubao, where he met Lady Martha Yiniang Peng, the widow of the Feudal Marquis of Diagonal Island.

When she mentioned that by simply staying at her Daisy Castle for a while, he could obtain a Little Minor Elf, he was almost tempted.

"I agonized over a single Little Minor Elf back then, and now I have so many Elves... But why does it still feel like there's an agony within me?" He had thought he could easily overlook the invitation to Daisy Castle, only to find that he was still hung up on that Little Minor Elf.

To stay for a while and obtain a Little Minor Elf, what else in the world could be more profitable than that!

The image of Lady Martha would occasionally surface in his mind, a lady in her thirties, graceful and of noble temperament, with an irrepressible allure in her brow and eyes. One could imagine that in her prime, she must have been stunningly beautiful.

Unfortunately, after Meioubao's birthday banquet, he never saw Lady Martha again.

And they did not exchange contact information.

While he didn't correspond with Lady Martha regularly, Liszt always maintained correspondence with the Long Taro Family. Frequent trade relations were kept between Coral Island and Red Crab Island, with Fresh Flower Brew, glass, and Fresh Flower Soap all having caused quite a sensation on Red Crab Island, receiving wide acclaim.

At the moment, within the main bedroom of Long Taro Castle, Marquis Merlin suffered a relapse of his old illness and was resting in bed.

Yet he couldn't idle away his time; he buried himself in writing at the small desk on his bed, summarizing the achievements of his life. Just then, Meioubao knocked and entered with a smile, "Grandfather, a letter from Liszt has arrived, and you won't guess what has happened. I've read the letter and I can still hardly believe it."

Marquis Merlin raised his head, his face etched with the wrinkles of old age, the flame of life flickering like a candle in the wind, "Did he become a Sword Saint so quickly?"

"Not that, it's about the Elves."

"Has he obtained another Little Minor Elf?"

Knowing he should not tease Marquis Merlin too much, Meioubao spoke directly with an astonished tone, "It's a Greater Elf! A Giant Algae Greater Elf that can cultivate vast quantities of Magic Medicine Kelp and it's even found in the sea!"

Marquis Merlin was taken aback but soon regained his composure, "Encountering a wild Greater Elf in the sea is indeed praiseworthy, but how will he overcome the numerous obstacles to cultivate Magic Potions in the ocean?"

"The letter did not mention these details, but Liszt has written that he has planned out ten-thousand-mu of coastal sea area, all to be planted with Magic Medicine Kelp. In doing so, he must have a way to cultivate Magic Potions in the sea. I remember he has always been interested in the ocean and always sends me a lot of oyster sauce."

"Oyster sauce is indeed a delicacy, and the seafood he mentioned, enjoyed occasionally, has a distinctive flavor." Marquis Merlin nodded, "All the beauty and intelligence of Melissa have passed on to Liszt, William is a lucky fellow indeed!"

"When Liszt was undervalued in the Tulip Family, I thought it was due to his lack of talent, so I always wanted to look after him a bit more. But it turns out he simply hadn't shown his abilities. After being enfeoffed these past two years, his development has been so rapid, he has already become a Sky Knight."

Meioubao's eyes held much envy, yet his admiration was sincere, "The 'The Earth Chronicle of Liszt' he sent to me has been very enlightening to my cultivation, and I feel I am close to a breakthrough as well... Perhaps in another year and a half, I could become a Sky Knight too."

"I look forward to that day, the Long Taro Family will eventually be in your hands."

"I understand!"

Marquis Merlin motioned for a servant to place a pillow behind his head before continuing, "That notebook was well written. Among all the descendants of the Long Taro Family, his understanding of cultivation is the most profound. He has even come up with many innovative methods of practice, far surpassing how he performed when he visited me the year before last."

"I wonder what the limits of Li Si Te could be in the future. Grandfather, do you think Uncle Li Weiliam could become the seventh Feudal Marquis in the Grand Duchy?"

"The territory of Iron Hoof Island could be divided among three Marquises, and the Grand Duke is also planning to expand the Blue Blood Alliance, making room for two more Marquises. Out of the five Marquis positions, Li Weiliam should be able to secure one without any problem, and he might even become the Feudal Marquis of Iron Hoof Island, as he probably wouldn't be interested in the Blue Blood Alliance."

The titles within the Blue Blood Alliance consist of only one city, and all its resources depend on the support of the Sapphire Family. It's far less appealing than a feudal title, after all, who would want to be a lackey when they could be an emperor in their own right."

Marquis Merlin rested a moment, then continued, "As for Li Si Te, he's the rising star among the country's nobility, with a bright future. Perhaps the Grand Duke has already taken notice of him."

"Indeed, after all, he's the youngest Sky Knight in the country."

"I've seen many people, and Li Si Te is of good character, one to be relied upon. However, what's most important is to rely on oneself, this country... it's a time of many troubles."

"Grandfather, it can't be as bad as you think, can it? When Angela went back to visit her family, everything with the Grand Duke and the Sapphire Dragon was normal."

Marquis Merlin squinted his eyes, and his gaze flickered as if recalling something, but eventually, it turned murky again, "Is there still no sign of Angela being with child?"

Caught between embarrassment and anxiety, Meioubao replied, "We've been trying hard."

Then he hurriedly found an excuse to leave Marquis Merlin's bedroom.

Watching his grandson flee, Marquis Merlin sighed with a complex expression, then buried his head back into his writing, furiously documenting his life.

The aged butler brought over a cup of green tea, "My lord, this is the new tea that Young Master Sun Li Si Te just sent. The color and fragrance after brewing are much better than before. After finishing the tea, you ought to rest; you've been writing for two hours straight and shouldn't overexert yourself anymore."

"I don't have much time left."

"My lord, I am certain you will live a long and healthy life."

"There's no need for comforting words. We've known each other for over fifty years, and although there's a difference between master and servant, we're both of the same age. There's no need for noble platitudes," Marquis Merlin said with a carefree smile before sighing again, "I've had many splendid times in my life; I thought I could die contented, but ultimately there are many things I am concerned about."

"Is the master worried about the young lord and Young Master Sun?"

"The descendants of the Long Taro Family are few in number. I only have Mesiro for a son, and Mesiro only had Meioubao. With Meioubao, there has been no word from Angela for half a year."

"Young Master Sun and his wife are still trying; you should have confidence in them, my lord."

"Let's not talk about that anymore. Have you heard any news from that old man Wallace recently?"

"All is quiet on Deep Throat Island. It's said Marquis Wallace is in good health, capable of eating three pounds of Magical Beast Meat in one sitting."

The more Marquis Merlin thought about it, the angrier he became, "That old scoundrel, about the same age as me, still hopping around, chasing young men on the battlefield, it's shameless!"

What's even more irksome is that the progeny of Marquis Deep Throat, Wallace Pineapple Green, are many in number; with three sons all married with children, and his eldest son even has a grandson.

Comparing oneself to another is indeed infuriating.

Chapter 556 The Whale Action Blockbuster

Lost in thought, Ach also noticed the movement in the distance, and even Rainbow Whale Ros rapidly swam over, carrying the sampan-carrying Liszt, while emitting an urgent "squeak" sound.

It was signaling danger.

"Brother, Ach feels a very great pressure."

"It's a Sea Monster Whale, huge in size, abundant in magic power, I suspect it's an Advanced Sea Monster," Liszt quickly said, "Ach, be careful, follow me, and we'll avoid this whale... Its sheer size suggests it shouldn't be interested in us."

"Hmm, big whales are very gentle sea creatures," Ach breathed a sigh of relief, following Liszt and swimming to the side to avoid the path of this enormous creature.

The Sea Monster Whale's size was truly colossal.

Wherever it went, it constantly slapped the seawater, splashing huge waves with a smack. And it would also make a strange noise, a sound that was ethereal, silent, sharp, quiet, and cold, giving off a very eerie feeling, as if one was in the midst of deep-sea terror.

Boom!

Smack!

The Sea Monster Whale suddenly burst out of the water and then crashed back down onto the sea surface, creating even larger waves than before. It rolled and swam around, apparently without a clear target, oblivious to not-far-away Liszt and Ach, simply indulging in its own solitary play.

"Brother, what is this big whale doing?" Ach asked, using the faint starlight to barely discern the Sea Monster Whale's movements, the commotion being too great.

Liszt squinted his eyes, thoughtfully saying, "Perhaps, it's courting."

His words became a prophecy.

Half an hour later, the two suddenly discovered, apart from the whale that kept rolling on the sea surface, another slightly smaller but equally magic-powerful Sea Monster Whale approached from afar. It circled around the rolling whale, swimming in continuous loops, seemingly assessing the other.

Seeing this newcomer Sea Monster Whale, the roller intensified its rolling.

It kept roaring as if to show off its robustness; its body length was at least fifty meters, and each roll and crash caused roaring waves.

Moreover, it could release magic, an impressive feat indeed. The Sea Monster Whale's surrounding seawater was pushed out by some strong magic force, creating a huge ring of vacuum. But quickly the vacuum was filled by intense pressure and exploded.

It was an explosion without smoke or dust, immense force tossing tens of thousands of tons of seawater into the air.

If there were any fish nearby, they would undoubtedly be crushed into powder by the sheer explosive power, and Liszt could distinctly feel that surging force in his Eye of Magic vision. Even he, if caught within the range of this magic, would probably be mercilessly torn apart.

"I suspect these two Sea Monster Whales might not just be Advanced Sea Monsters but should be classified as Super Sea Monsters. The magic they exhibit is unprecedented yet astonishingly powerful."

There is no clear boundary between Super and Advanced.

Indeed, the classifications of Low-Level, Intermediate, and Advanced Magical Beasts are vague beyond the difference in the number of magics – the strongest among the Low-Level beasts can even kill the weakest amongst the Intermediate ones. Just like the current Landwalker Bird Loki, an Intermediate Dragon Beast, whose fighting ability, aside from its skill at escaping, might not outdo a Fierce Earth Dog.

Even some fierce wild animals are capable of hunting Magical Beasts.

Liszt had witnessed with his own eyes a hunting dog at Tulip Castle, which took down a Low-Level Magical Beast Fire Rabbit in just ten seconds – the Fire Rabbit, readying its Fireball Technique, was bitten to death. The Fire Rabbit, a Magical Beast bred for its meat, is basically a disgrace amongst Magical Beasts.

In summary.

The classification of Magical Beasts is chaotic; there are no clear changes like those seen with Knight Dou Qi, only differences in physical condition, magic power dissipation, and the number of magics.

Describing these two enormous creatures as Super Sea Monsters is not at all far-fetched.

With their body size alone, the water pressure caused by their rolling could annihilate some Low-Level sea monsters. Just like earlier when this Sea Monster Whale slapped the water, if Liszt approached too near riding the Rainbow Whale Rose, it's not surprising if they were instantly smashed into a mush.

Of course.

Should an actual battle begin, Liszt wouldn't foolishly dash towards the Sea Monster Whale to be flattened; the sea is the monsters' domain, while the sky is the battlefield of a Sky Knight.

At this moment.

The whale and he, well, they kept to their own waters.

In fact, it even provided a free live show of a behemoth's courtship for him to observe and learn from, which turned out to be quite interesting. After releasing the incredibly powerful magic known as "Vacuum Water Burst," which Liszt had named, the subsequent Sea Monster Whale finally took a fancy to the tumbling Sea Monster Whale.

Approaching slowly.

And then the two Sea Monster Whales, just like that, swayed shoulder to shoulder, emitting calls that sounded like singing.

After that, the bigger Sea Monster Whale slowly placed its pectoral fin on the smaller one, rubbing to find the right spot.

With a forceful thrust.

It began a piston motion.

"Ugh, my eyes," Liszt uttered with a click of his tongue.

These actions could only be seen through the perspective of the Eye of Magic, and the outline of the organs made of Magic Radiance was clearly visible, showing the brilliant light at the mating spot. It was as if the magical essence of the two Sea Monster Whales was mingling, with the Magic Power rapidly rotating and mixing.

However.

The eye-watering process only lasted a brief thirty seconds before hurriedly coming to an end.

The female Sea Monster Whale seemed to be quite satisfied, cheerfully emitting strange calls, and swam away shoulder to shoulder with the male Sea Monster Whale.

Until they disappeared from sight.

The sea returned to calm, and Ach asked as he looked at the dark ocean surface, "Brother, have the big whales gone?"

"They've gone."

"Ah, what a pity it's night, Ach couldn't see clearly what the big whales look like."

Liszt took out the sampan again, laid down in it, and smiled, "There's not much to see anyway, they look pretty much like ordinary whales, just larger in size."

...

In the legends of sailors, seeing a whale meant good luck.

This seemed to be just a wishful thinking of the sailors, but the next day, good luck indeed followed, as Ach discovered a mountain range-like gentle slope on the sea floor.

Immediately, he swam up the gentle slope, and eventually, they saw an island with faint smoke rising from it.

"Dodo Island!"

Liszt perked up, he had estimated it would take a week to find Dodo Island, yet after watching a free whale action movie, good fortune had swiftly followed. On the second day of reaching this sea area, they had found their target—Dodo Island.

Looking at the volcano-shaped island, the shoreline surrounded by lush forests, and the volcano crater at the top shrouded in smoke.

He already understood that the volcano he was searching for was right here.

It was very likely the kind of active volcano that was currently erupting!

"Oh ho!"

"Oh ho!"

"Oh ho!"

Feeling the presence of the volcano, Little Fire Dragon Leo who had been soundly sleeping on his chest, woke from its slumber, urgently crying out.

Liszt could empathize with its extreme longing for the volcano.

"Stay calm!"

Chapter 557 The Unfamiliar White-Eye Dragon

Dodo Island was just a small island, possibly not even one-tenth the size of Black Horse Island. The Sun Descendants who originally lived on Dodo Island numbered fewer than three hundred.

The entire volcano occupied about eighty percent of the area of Dodo Island.

At this time, the sun had not yet set. From where Liszt had landed, he could just see the sun hanging on the edge of the volcano crater. A faint mist swirled around the sun, and as it reflected the sunlight, there seemed to be a barely visible rainbow suspended in the scene. It was exceptionally beautiful.

"Ach, you and Ros, wait here for me. I'll go search the island first," he said.

"Okay," came the reply.

Without a mount, Liszt needed to walk. He first looked at the treeline by the shore. Just as he had speculated, these tall trees were the Human Skull Trees. Hanging from them were mature, immature, human-skull-like fruits—the edible Human Skull Fruits.

He had tasted a few that had drifted at sea.

After opening the outer shell, inside was a soft, white flesh that tasted sweet, had a chewy texture, and a faint citrus aroma. If he had to make a comparison, it was somewhat similar to the jackfruit Liszt had eaten on Earth, only different in taste and color.

They weren't particularly delicious, but they weren't bad either.

Indeed, the Human Skull Fruit was quite filling and could be eaten as a meal.

Liszt only glanced at the forest and did not linger. He headed straight for the volcano, starting his climb. Beyond a height of fifty meters on the slope, there were basically no Human Skull Trees to be found, only some shrubs and weeds. Higher up, even the shrubs and weeds disappeared.

All that remained was the pitch-black mountain. Stepping on it, Liszt clearly saw that the mountain covered in cracks and pores was nothing but cooled lava.

It was unclear how long it had cooled for, but it was definitely not from a recent eruption.

"Oh!"

The Little Fire Dragon in his chest could no longer hold back, anxiously wanting to come out. Liszt did not let him out, as he needed to determine the environment of the volcano before deciding whether the Little Fire Dragon would cultivate there.

Jumping up.

Climbing toward the volcano crater, as he got closer, the temperature rise became noticeable. Approaching the summit, the heat became so intense it was like being in a sauna. Enduring the scorching heat, Liszt jumped onto the edge of the volcano crater and looked inside.

He saw the crater, as large as a football field, with a depth of twenty to thirty meters filled with large black rocks. On the right side, there was a pond, bubbling and releasing large amounts of steam. On the left side, there was a pool of rolling deep red color.

"That's lava!" Liszt exclaimed with joy. Indeed, this active volcano was in the midst of an eruption.

As the stench of sulfur from the bubbling lava assailed him, he could no longer stop Little Fire Dragon Leo from bursting out of his chest, transforming into a majestic, ten-meter-long Fire Dragon, emitting a loud dragon cry: "Oh!"

It glanced at Liszt, then immediately dove into the volcano crater, plunging into that pool of deep red lava.

The deep red lava, in truth, was not exactly a liquid; it was more like melted rock, moving slowly like thick mud. Leo plunged right into it. Just as Liszt thought it might get stuck, it suddenly transformed into a ball of flame and merged into the lava.

"Hmm?"

Liszt, watching the lava as calm as ever, could no longer see Leo. After using the Eye of Magic, he immediately perceived that the entire volcano crater seemed to be enveloped in a faint red Magic Power.

The red Magic Power at the lava's location was the most intense.

And Leo's Magic Power seemed to form a net, spreading throughout the lava. However, this net was thinning and soon disappeared from sight.

Liszt didn't know what this meant and waited for a moment.

Leo did not surface. As the sun sank lower, about to dip below the horizon, he began to worry—Leo certainly wouldn't be drowned by the lava, but if Leo went in and never came back out, that would be no laughing matter.

He had no choice but to call out loudly: "Leo!"

"Leo!"

"Leo!"

No response.

"This ungrateful White-Eye Dragon!" Liszt cursed under his breath, his Dragon Dou Qi circulating as his figure immediately soared into the air before plummeting down onto the black rocks inside the volcano crater.

Upon landing, he felt the air blisteringly hot and the smell acrid, as if he himself were about to be roasted.

"Leo!"

"Leo!"

"Leo!"

He called out to the lava again, moving towards it as he endured the high temperatures. The lava must have been several hundred degrees, with even the air temperature reaching tens to hundreds of degrees, mixed with a large amount of sulfur. From ten meters away, he didn't dare get any closer to it,

He could only hold his breath, stand still, and shout.

After ten minutes, still no response.

He had already cursed Leo to high heaven in his heart, having raised it from a Magic Fire Seed, through its birth until now, a full six months. He had fed it who knew how many invaluable servings of Fire Dragon Magic Power, spent who knew how many Magic Potions and beef, single-handedly causing the price of beef on Coral Island to skyrocket several times over!

And yet, without so much as a goodbye, it just ran into the volcano's lava and disappeared from sight.

Utterly heartless.

"Leo!" He called out several more times unwilling to give up, still no response. By now, the sun had completely set, leaving only a sliver of light on the horizon, inside the volcano crater one could only see by the red glow of the lava.

Looking at the slowly churning lava,

Liszt had a sour expression on his face.

For the first time, he felt that there was a lack in his method of training Little Fire Dragon Leo. With a mature dragon, perhaps compromise and adaptation were the way to live together, but with a young dragon, to give in was a mistake. Perhaps strict training was the correct approach.

Only in this way could it properly understand its role as a mount.

"A miscalculation."

He rose to his feet, leapt up onto the walls of the volcano crater, and sat there, attempting to wait a little longer.

A moment later, misty smoke began to materialize before his eyes.

"Complete the task, reward: Dodo Island Volcano."

Next moment, the Smoke Serpent Script transformed: "Task: Dodo Island Volcano will become an important habitat for Little Fire Dragon's growth, and it will also be an important place for your Dragon Knight training. Take a good look at this island and establish an appropriate training plan. Grow together with Little Fire Dragon. Reward: One Elf Bug."

"Grow together? This guy has already forgotten about me!" Liszt looked at the task content with a very bad mood, but he wasn't panicked.

After all, Leo was inside this volcano, and sooner or later he would be caught again. That was when he'd need to whip it into shape and let it know that some behaviors were unacceptable.

"From my observation just now, there don't seem to be any animals on this mountain, and if there are, they're small creatures. Even though Leo has the volcano for company, it still needs to eat. With hundreds of kilometers of sea all around, it can't survive on its own. This is my opportunity."

Liszt stood up, suppressing all his negative emotions, his mentality returning to calm: "If I cut off its food supply, won't it still be at my mercy to mold as I please?"

He sneered cruelly.

He turned and slowly left the volcano crater.

Preparing to talk to Ach and start touring Dodo Island tomorrow, and to draft a new training plan.

Chapter 558 Brother Has a Dragon

By the seaside.

A crystal lamp illuminated the beach at night.

Liszt sat on a rock, pondering how to communicate with Ake, "Ake, have you ever seen a dragon?"

"A dragon? Ake really wants to see a dragon. They say dragons are the most beautiful creatures in the world, but Ake has never seen a real dragon." Even as a Sea Sprite, she harbored an unending yearning for dragons.

"Dragons are indeed very beautiful."

In the end, Liszt decided to share the secret of the Fire Dragon with Ake: "Actually, big brother has a dragon, a young Little Fire Dragon named Leo. But this Little Fire Dragon is quite disobedient, even somewhat ungrateful." Seeing Ake's mouth gape in astonishment, he didn't forget to add a few bad words about the Little Fire Dragon.

"Ah! Does big brother really have a Fire Dragon?"

"Yes, it's a Little Fire Dragon I revived from the remains of a Fire Dragon on Black Horse Island, and that is my biggest secret. A dragon's influence is simply too great, so I haven't mentioned it to anyone. Therefore, Ake, you are the first person to know this secret."

Ake was both surprised and delighted, nodding earnestly, "Mmm, Ake will definitely keep the secret of the Fire Dragon for big brother!"

Liszt stroked her azure hair, smiling, "Actually, when it comes down to it, Ake, you are my most precious secret. Who would have thought that I would have a Sea Sprite sister?"

"Hee hee." Ake squinted her eyes, as comfortable as a contented little kitten.

Liszt wasn't lying; in his heart, Ake was far more important than Leo. The relative he recognized most was Ake, not the Tulip Family. Perhaps his physical blood ties couldn't be severed from the Tulip Family, but his soul was incompatible with the Tulip Family, as it was with this world.

Only the pure and blank Sea Sprite Ake was his warmest emotional refuge.

"I came to Dodo Island to find a volcano, to provide Leo with a suitable habitat, but Leo forgot about me the moment he burrowed into the volcano."

"Ah, what will big brother do? Don't lose Leo."

"No worries, ever since its rebirth, Leo requires food to sustain its flesh and blood body. There aren't many animals on Dodo Island to stave off its hunger, so sooner or later it will fly over from the volcano on an empty stomach to apologize to me."

As if she could envision the Little Fire Dragon apologizing to Liszt, Ake chuckled and said, "Hee hee, hearing big brother say this, Leo also sounds quite adorable."

"No, it is a poorly trained capricious young Evil Dragon."

"Perhaps Leo is still too little to understand, big brother could be a bit more patient with it. I believe that one day Leo will recognize big brother and become your most important companion. Like those legendary Dragon Knights, standing atop the most supreme power in the world."

"I think so too, which is why it needs proper guidance," Liszt shared his plans, "I need to constantly develop my territory to provide for this Fire Dragon, so I won't often stay on Dodo Island. I might visit every few days to train with Leo, and when I'm not here, I'll need you to take extra care of him."

"Mm-hm!"

"Moreover, if I take part in the Pioneer Mandate, I'll be gone for months, and the care of the Little Fire Dragon will also fall to you. We can't really let it starve to death." Being young, Leo would just be a burden if he followed him into battle, apart from providing no help, there was also the risk of exposure.

"Ake can catch fish for it to eat."

"Mm, once I find it in the Volcano Crater, I'll bring it over for you to meet. But be careful with Leo, he has a bit of a vile temperament, and you don't want to get hurt by him."

"Don't worry, Ake will take good care of herself," said Ake with an expectant expression, her eyes almost sparkling with stars. Even as a Sea Sprite, she was utterly defenseless against dragons—in this world, dragons represent all that is wonderful, even if there are Evil Dragons.

The Little Fire Dragon Leo belonged to the rank of Evil Dragons.

Humans could, without hesitation, valiantly set out to slay Evil Dragons to earn the heroic title of Dragon Slayer. They could also bestow countless positive epithets upon any dragon.

After revealing Leo to Ake.

Liszt suddenly felt much more relaxed; he hid too many secrets with nowhere to vent. Secrets such as the Smoke Dragon and the Formless Dragon were manageable, bearing no burden and could be kept for a long time. But the secret of Little Fire Dragon Leo couldn't be kept forever; he always needed someone to help share the burden.

Originally, he was inclined to tell the Earl about the secret of the Little Fire Dragon, so that the Earl could help him raise the dragon.

However, with the discovery of the Giant Algae Forest, it was possible to maintain the independent care of Little Fire Dragon Leo in his territory. So, he extinguished the idea of seeking family help in raising the dragon, trying to minimize exposure risk as much as possible.

Now, revealing the secret to Ake was the most suitable choice.

She could take care of Little Fire Dragon Leo in Liszt's absence—he couldn't expect a dragon, less than a few months old, to take care of itself. Liszt didn't know how other young dragons were nurtured and grew, perhaps they were naturally strong enough to cope with crises.

Just burrowing into the vast forest, they could grow up safely.

But Leo was different; he was a Fire Dragon, born on an island in the sea!

He couldn't turn invisible like a Formless Dragon, so he couldn't hunt without revealing himself, nor could he swim in the sea to catch fish. Hunger could expose him to human sight at any time, and then he might be captured by powerful knights, ending up either being forced into dragon riding or converted into a Dragon Domain Landlord.

Meeting Liszt was his good luck—he helped him revive, fed him sparingly to grow up, didn't ride him or force him, and even put in great effort searching for a volcano.

Like this.

After talking about dragons for half the night, they each went to sleep.

...

The next day, before dawn broke, Liszt had already gotten up, taken his toiletries out of the Gemstone Space to carefully clean up, and then enjoyed a hearty breakfast.

He hurriedly went up the mountain.

The path was familiar; he could just fly up directly. Soon, he arrived at the Volcano Crater. The pool was still boiling, the magma was still tumbling, and the smell of sulfur was still pungent and acrid.

"Leo!"

"Leo!"

"Leo!"

Besides the echo from the Volcano Crater, there was no response. Even using the Eye of Magic, he couldn't spot any trace of Leo. Despite being mentally prepared, the lack of response after a night still made him feel instantly terrible. It took a while to adjust before he went down the mountain to explore the Human Skull Tree Forest.

The island wasn't very large, and the Human Skull Tree Forest was even more distinctly ring-shaped around the island's shore, making it easy to scan with the Eye of Magic.

So by the afternoon, he had explored the entire Dodo Island, and he had also found the Elf Bug—a Human Skull Tree Elf Bug—awarded for the Smoke Mission.

On a noticeably taller Human Skull Tree, the Human Skull Worm was comfortably basking in the Sun.

Suddenly, a lot of delicious Jade Powder fell from the sky, which it ate and ate until it bit onto a finger and instantly contracted to become Liszt's thirty-ninth Elf Bug.

"Mission completed, reward: one Human Skull Tree Elf Bug."

The Human Skull Tree Forest had no potential for development on Dodo Island; Liszt had no plans to develop this island, it was just a training ground for himself and Leo.

Therefore, this Cordyceps was to be taken back to Black Horse Island for cultivation.

He quickly turned his attention to the new Smoke Mission.

"Mission: The astronomical knowledge you brought has greatly inspired Ake, leading her to gradually refine her understanding of Magic Power. Perhaps more knowledge could provide her a better reference to understand the essence of magic operation. Reward: Ake's new magic."

Chapter 559 Draining the Little Fire Dragon

"Hmmm."

"Indeed, my half-baked knowledge of astronomy has given Ach a deep inspiration! Perhaps my remaining half-baked knowledge of physics, chemistry, biology, and geography can also inspire Ach! Magicians are always seeking the Truth, and my knowledge is Truth too, right?"

This world is different from Earth; in addition to the category of physical rules, there are also the rules of magic power.

Therefore, simple Earth knowledge cannot measure this world, but those physical category rules and knowledge are obviously a very meaningful reference.

Dodo Island had already been explored once over, and Little Fire Dragon Leo still hadn't come out.

With time to spare, he naturally prepared to have a good chat with Ach and explain more astronomical, geographical, physical, and chemical knowledge to her, inspiring her cognition of the Truth.

He found a stretch of beach.

Picked up a stick.

He drew a star system on the sand: "This is a star, the ones you see in the sky at night, stars emit light and heat. Many planets that don't emit light revolve around stars; these planets might be very cold or very hot, uninhabitable, but there are also worlds like ours."

Ach kept nodding her head.

She was digesting Liszt's knowledge.

She even actively asked questions: "Big brother, why can those planets revolve around the stars?"

"Planets revolve around stars because of gravity. All objects produce gravity, the larger the object, the greater its gravity. A star's gravity can capture a planet, making it revolve around it. That's why you see, the Sun is always the Sun, it doesn't go far or come close."

"Then why don't the planets crash into the stars? If they attract each other, they should come together quickly, right?"

"This, well," Liszt coughed, he apparently didn't really know why, it seemed to have something to do with rotational speed and centrifugal force, "requires further exploration, it seems related to the rotation of the planet, like when you spin a ball tied by a string, it flies outward, perfectly offsetting the gravitational pull."

"Oh."

Ach didn't seem to understand, then she asked another question, "Why can stars hang in the sky, won't they fall down?"

"The universe doesn't have the concept of falling down."

"Why not?"

How come you have so many whys!

Liszt forcibly changed the topic: "No reason, the essence of the universe awaits exploration. Now, let's talk about the relationship between stars and galaxies. Based on the information I've received and some deductions, innumerable star systems make up huge galaxies, possibly revolving around central black holes. As for what black holes are..."

...

In the following two days,

Liszt was either filling Ach with his superficial knowledge or searching for Leo at the volcano crater. Unfortunately, Leo never responded, and he couldn't jump into the magma to look for him; he could only wait passively.

"It's been three days without eating, it should be getting hungry... Even if the volcano holds extreme Fire Attribute Mana, it can't use it as food."

However,

Little Fire Dragon Leo still hadn't shown up, but on the morning of the fourth day on the island, Ach, who had been pondering and meditating by the seaside, suddenly sprang into action. She stood on a shell, slowly raising her hands, then with a nightingale-like chirp, a glimmer of light flashed on her palms, and a huge explosion happened far out at sea.

Boom!

The explosion was so big, it was almost as powerful as the Vacuum Water Burst created by the Sea Monster a few days ago, and it took a long time for the waves on the sea to calm down again.

Such commotion naturally drew the attention of Li Si Te, who hurried over and asked, "Ach, are you creating a new magic?"

Ach replied with a hint of excitement, "Yes, brother. Ach listened to what brother said about stars and planets orbiting each other, and the principle of nuclear fusion where two atomic nuclei merge into one... So Ach condensed a dynamic, spinning Magic Array and forced a merger, ultimately causing an explosion."

"Hmm, my Ach is impressive!" Liszt couldn't help but exclaim with envy and admiration—the talent of this Little Sea Monster was terrifyingly astonishing.

With only a smattering of knowledge, she had created such a powerful magic.

He then asked, "Is your magic considered Advanced Magic, or is it of an even higher level?"

"It is just one form of a Dynamic Magic Array, so it should still be classified as Advanced Magic, having not broken through the properties and principles of a Dynamic Magic Array."

"Give it a name."

"Brother, you name it."

It seemed Ach trusted Li Si Te's ability to name, and without declining the task, he thought for a moment and said, "Just call it Whirlpool Convergence."

The name aptly encompassed the two principles constituting the magic.

"Brother, Ach will write down the spell scheme for Advanced Magic-Whirlpool Convergence right away. You can give it to Her Excellency Chris for reference," said Ach, aware of Chris's existence, though Chris was unaware of Ach's. In a way, Chris could be considered Ach's teacher since she answered many of the difficult questions Ach posed.

"She will be delighted to see a new magic spell scheme."

"Actually, after brother told Ach so much fascinating knowledge, Ach has many more inspirations to test and create new magic."

"Then don't rush to write the spell scheme. First, hold on to those inspirations. Chris has many other series of Advanced Magic to learn. There's no hurry to learn Whirlpool Convergence."

"Mhm."

Ach nodded and continued with her magic experiments.

Li Si Te, on the other hand, leaped toward the Volcano Crater once again, looking for Little Fire Dragon Leo, while simultaneously calling out the Smoke Mission, "Complete the mission, reward: Ach's new magic—Whirlpool Convergence."

Immediately thereafter.

A new mission was issued, "The stubbornness of the Little Fire Dragon has angered you, altering your attitude towards it. Now that you have come to understand the Little Fire Dragon's nature, why not exhaust it completely this time to make it fundamentally recognize its mistakes and adjust its behavior. Reward: A large swath of Hemp Rope Vine."

"Hmm?"

Seeing this mission, Li Si Te fully understood that the Smoke Mission was a projection of his own Spiritual Power. At least in the formation of the mission, his personal will played a dominant role.

It was somewhat akin to the adage "The day's thoughts become the night's dreams."

Exhausting the Little Fire Dragon to teach it how to be a proper Dragon was precisely the issue Liszt had been contemplating over the past few days. Now it was truly reflected in the Smoke Mission, much to his satisfaction.

"The reward for this mission is a large swath of Hemp Rope Vine. What kind of plant is that?"

With so many species of plants, Liszt's knowledge was limited; he had never heard of Hemp Rope Vine. Judging by the name, it should be a vine-like plant that grows like hemp rope. Its purpose was unknown, as was whether it grew on Dodo Island, Black Horse Island, or perhaps even in Fresh Flower Town.

He didn't pay too much attention to the Hemp Rope Vine.

Eager to figure out how to exhaust the Little Fire Dragon, just then, the fading light of the setting Sun barely cast its last rays on the Volcano Crater. The slowly rolling lava erupted with a boom, and immediately a Flame burst forth, rapidly outlining the shape of a dragon, accompanied by a loud "oh" of a roar.

The flame slowly extinguished, and the figure of Little Fire Dragon Leo appeared, spiraling as he flew towards Liszt.

Chapter 560 Grilled Beef and Hunger

"Oh ho!"

Leo landed in front of Liszt and began to shout at him. Such actions and tones signified that he was hungry and wanted Liszt to feed him beef.

"You want beef?"

Liszt's face was expressionless, but his actions were resolute. "Leo, I know you are smart and can understand my words. Now I give you two choices. The first choice, continue to resist my commands, wander freely, and then starve to death; the second, obey my commands, let me ride you and fight by my side, and you'll have meat and potions aplenty."

Leo took a step back, grinning, "Oh ho!"

He rejected both choices.

"If that's the case, then go hungry," Liszt said without further ado, and turned around to leave. Of course, he still needed to be wary that Leo might rebel—although with his current strength, the young Little Fire Dragon was no match for him; it fundamentally lacked any substantial fighting ability.

Seeing Liszt leave the mountain,

the Little Fire Dragon paused, then snorted with disdain like a horse. It then flapped its wings and flew towards the foot of the mountain.

It intended to hunt on its own.

However, after circling the forest at the base of the mountain and scorched a small area of Human Skull Trees, it didn't even spot any prey as large as a rabbit. It barely saw a few flightless birds, whose calls sounded like "dodo," but the Dodobirds would dive into holes hundreds of meters away, completely beyond discovery.

"Oh ho!"

It let out a reluctant roar, which was in vain, until the night turned pitch-dark, it still had not found any prey. It wanted to fly out of Dodo Island, but looking at the tumbling waves of the seawater, it was too frightened to go down.

A few experiences of nearly drowning left a deep impression on it.

Without Liszt there to protect it, it didn't have the courage to fly over the ocean.

Unable to find anything to eat, it flew into the sky and saw a bonfire in the distance. Liszt was roasting some Magical Beast Meat; the fragrance wafted through the air, and even from a kilometer away, it was discernible. However, the Little Fire Dragon turned around and headed towards the Volcano Crater, determined "not to bend for five bushels of rice," preferring to starve rather than accept charity!

But upon reaching the Volcano Crater, and standing on the scorching lava, it attempted to transform into a ball of magic power.

Yet it couldn't muster any movement.

Its ravenous stomach was bit by bit eroding its will—this was the first time it felt the harshness of the world outside.

...

Liszt had intentionally roasted the meat.

The food in his Gemstone Space was already prepared and could be eaten straight away. However, he still sprinkled seasoning and grilled it over the fire, diffusing the scent of the Magical Beast meat to lure Little Fire Dragon Leo.

He wondered how Leo was faring now.

But he wasn't in a hurry; in fact, when he saw Leo demanding food from him, he knew everything was under control. Nearby by the seaside, Ach rested her chin on her hand and pondered. She was still immersed in magic, striving to connect the knowledge Liszt had taught her with magic power.

He didn't disturb her.

Liszt gnawed on the greasy Magical Beast Meat while cracking open a Giant Algae Magic Potion, with a steaming cup of Banpo Cattle milk by his side.

Even in the wild, every meal he had was of Castle standards.

He would never allow himself to suffer the slightest discomfort.

"Oh ho!"

A little distance away, the call of the Little Fire Dragon came.

He activated the Eye of Magic, scanning towards the sound, and through the haze, he saw the Little Fire Dragon squatting halfway up the mountain, seemingly looking in his direction.

However, until he finished all the Magical Beast meat, the Little Fire Dragon did not come down the mountain. On the contrary, after Liszt packed up, it let out another "Oh ho" and rushed towards the Dodo Island Volcano Crater, disappearing from view.

"Quite enduring, alright, let's see how long you can hold out," Liszt said calmly as he put away his utensils. After nodding to Ach, he headed to his makeshift shelter made from Human Skull Trees and tarpaulin and began to sleep.

He slept very comfortably that night.

The next morning, Liszt went around the volcano crater again and simply took out a luxurious breakfast to feast on by the crater. However, he didn't see any trace of the Little Fire Dragon. After eating, he descended the mountain to look for a large patch of Hemp Rope Vine, the reward for completing the Smoke Mission, to see if it could be found on Dodo Island.

The Hemp Rope Vine is probably a normal plant, so it would require searching with the naked eye, a slightly more difficult task.

He searched all morning but found nothing.

At noon, he tried once more to tempt the Little Fire Dragon at the volcano crater, and in the afternoon, he didn't continue searching for Hemp Rope Vine. Instead, he rode the Rainbow Whale Rose around the shallow seas surrounding Dodo Island, looking for any marine Elf Bugs. When he returned to shore in the evening, he saw the Little Fire Dragon circling in the sky.

Ach also saw the Little Fire Dragon; it was her first time seeing a real dragon: "Brother, is that Leo?"

"Yes, but it's being a bit disobedient right now, rebelling against me. It won't get to eat any meat until it apologizes. Only by being obedient and following training will it be forgiven. When that time comes, I'll introduce you to it, and you might even get to touch it."

Ach immediately expressed her surprise, "Ah, can Ach really touch a dragon?"

"Of course."

"Hehe, thank you, brother."

A moment later.

Liszt began preparing food, lighting a fire to barbecue, letting the delicious aroma drift around. This time, the Little Fire Dragon was hovering above nearby, occasionally crying "oho" without leaving or landing. As the sky gradually darkened, the scent of the food was sufficiently dispersed.

Liszt glanced up at the Little Fire Dragon in the sky and slowly began eating, savoring each bite very slowly.

"Oho!"

The Little Fire Dragon flew closer and closer, and finally, unable to restrain itself, landed on the beach ten meters away.

Its eyes stared fixedly at the large piece of grilled beef leg in Liszt's hands, saliva dripping from the corner of its mouth, sizzling and evaporating as it hit the ground.

Liszt had observed that the saliva of Fire Dragons was more impure magic that would directly merge into the air—unlike the saliva of Gemstone Dragons and Metal Dragons, which could give birth to Crystal Mines; it was different—Dragon dung was the same way, with the Little Fire Dragon's dung evaporating into the air directly.

And when it took drugs in Liszt's body, the impure magic excreted was definitely not dragon dung!

In its Magic Form, the Little Fire Dragon had no shape or structure; it was merely a converter that could exchange magic power.

Ssslah!

Liszt forcefully tore off a chunk of beef leg, then chewed it with big bites. He usually ate with the refinement of a noble, chewed slowly and thoughtfully. However, this time he made a lot of noise as he chewed, smacking his lips loudly. Each smacking sound was a direct hit to the Little Fire Dragon Leo, whose stomach was growling with hunger.

By the time he had eaten half a grilled beef leg, Leo finally gave up its pride and called out to Liszt, "Oho!"

It wanted to eat meat.

Liszt merely glanced at it impassively, without response.

"Oho!"

"Oho!"

"Oho..." Leo walked closer step by step, its voice growing weaker with each call. By the time it reached Liszt, it had almost turned into a pitiful plea.

Only then did Liszt look at it and asked, "The same choice as before. First, starve to death; second, let me ride you, and you'll eat your fill, top-quality beef every meal."

Leo threw back its head, "Oho!"

"You don't want to be ridden?"

"Oho!"

"Are you sure?"

"Oho!"

"Then you just wait to starve to death. The nearest island from Dodo Island is eight hundred kilometers away, you won't be able to fly there. Even if you do, you'll be discovered by humans, then captured. After that, no one will be as easy to talk to as me. If you don't let them ride you, just wait to be slaughtered for your meat."

Upon hearing this, Leo took three quick steps back, using its wings to prop itself up against the ground, showing resistance.

Liszt calmly took out another beef leg and placed it on the fire to roast, brushing a layer of golden-yellow oil onto it. The dripped oil sizzled as it hit the flames.

Leo couldn't help but swallow its saliva, uttering a low whine: "Oho..."