

The Mighty 711

Chapter 711: You Can Roll Out Now

The tearing bites of three dragons.

The frenzied attacks of three Dragon Knights.

The spectacle of dragon blood spraying and Dou Qi erupting mingled together, shocking the hearts of all who witnessed it. Regardless of whether they were ordinary Knights from the Eagle Kingdom's fleet or those from the Duchy of Sapphire, everyone stood at the railings, straining to see the dragon-slaying battle unfolding in the distance.

Many saw a real dragon for the first time.

That suffocatingly beautiful posture, that powerful and agile form, all declared the dragon as the noble and unattainable pinnacle of the food chain.

But today,

a dragon-slaying war had come early, so bloodily before the eyes of all.

The Bronze Dragon Knight, Alonso Xiankelai, and the Light Green Sapphire Dragon Knight, Carlo Violet, joined forces to slaughter the Sapphire Dragon Knight, Andrew Sapphire.

Blood scattered across the sky!

"The Sapphire, it's time to take a bow," many nobles from the fleet of the Eagle Kingdom exclaimed at the bow of their ships.

Some showed a frantic expression: "It should have been this way a long time ago, the flies of Sapphire finally have their day!" The Duchy of Sapphire, with more than one hundred

and fifty years since its founding, had issued the Pioneer Mandates for nearly half of that time, pestering the hinterlands of the Eagle Kingdom's coastline like flies and locusts, looting and pillaging.

One could say that because of the Duchy of Sapphire, vast fertile lands along the coastal areas of the Eagle Kingdom had become lands of wickedness.

Mercenaries were seen everywhere burning, killing, and looting; serf trade was rampant.

Many Landlords had suffered great losses or were forced to take part in these evil deeds, and they could only take blows without returning them. But now, at last, the time for revenge had come; after this dragon-slaying war, it would be the moment for the Knight Order of the Eagle Kingdom to blood-wash every single island of Sapphire.

"The Sapphire Dragon is about to fall; witnessing the death of a dragon, that is the grace of a knight's glory!"

"Andrew Sapphire, such a resounding name, claimed to be the lord of the boundless seas, he too has this day! Haha!"

"Blood-wash the Sapphire! My spear is already starving for blood!"

The Knights of the Eagle Kingdom were ecstatic, mocking, waiting; everyone was fantasizing about the upcoming bloody banquet of Sapphire, determined to feast to their heart's content.

In contrast, were the ships of Sapphire.

The knights aboard the ships were pale-faced, with bitterness in their hearts, watching the ongoing dragon-slaying battle in the sky, the increasing wounds of the Sapphire Dragon, and the Grand Duke's angry roars.

Their beliefs were crumbling bit by bit.

The reason the knights of Sapphire had been able to develop steadily these years was first and foremost due to the advantage of their ships, and secondly, the protection of the Sapphire Dragon.

But now the advantage of ships had been offset; the Eagle Kingdom had actually built such an enormous fleet.

Even more so, the pillar of the Grand Duchy, the Sapphire Dragon, was about to be slain before their very eyes.

Crown Prince Anthony Sapphire felt a chill in his hands and feet.

He stood at the prow of the ship, looking towards the horizon, his voice beginning to tremble, “How could this happen, how could this happen, how could Steel Ridge let the Dragon Knights of the Eagle Kingdom break away from the standoff, what on earth are they doing!”

He knew his father’s plan.

Ever since the Marquis of Bull defected and planned the dragon slaying, the Sapphire Family had anticipated that it was all a conspiracy of the Eagle Kingdom, so they had to make a plan. After paying a sufficient price, they finally made the Grand Duke a Dragon Knight who could once again protect the security of the Grand Duchy.

But they had never imagined that the Eagle Kingdom would make such a bold move, two Dragon Knights!

“Aren’t they afraid of turmoil at the border, Steel Ridge, Blast Furnace Fortress, as well as the two kingdoms to the south, they all border the Eagle Kingdom, and need Dragon Knights to defend the frontiers. How could they possibly dispatch two Dragon Knights to... to a dragon-slaying battle! How dare they do this!”

“Alonso is stationed at the northern border of the Eagle Kingdom, confronting the Steel Ridge Kingdom; Carlo is stationed at the western border, confronting the Blast Furnace Fortress Kingdom. Anthony, I don’t know how they managed to get these two Dragon Knights to withdraw from the front, but it’s already a done deal, what we need to do now is to discuss what to do next,” said Nesta Big Flower Hydrangea, walking over and placing a hand on the Crown Prince’s shoulder, patting it firmly.

The Crown Prince took a deep breath, trying to compose himself, “Uncle, my father will be alright.”

Nesta remained silent for a moment before speaking determinedly, “We are utterly unable to intervene in the Dragon Slaying Battle, no matter what, the outcome is already clear. As the heir to the Sapphire Family, you need to shoulder the responsibilities that belong to you.”

“I...”

“This is not the time to be weak. Once the Dragon Slaying Battle ends, the misfortune of the Sapphires will come upon us... The glory of the knights no longer favors us.”

Anthony struggled to say, “Then what should I do?”

“You must be prepared to make a painful decision.”

“I...”

“Make your decision, the fleet is about to dock. I believe that no matter what you decide, the Grand Duke will not blame you, because you now bear the life and death of the Sapphire Family!” Nesta looked at the Crown Prince with a stern gaze, the Grand Duke’s downfall was a foregone conclusion.

The Crown Prince tried to speak several times, but could not bring himself to voice his thoughts.

However, under Nesta’s intense gaze, he finally gave the difficult order, “Send the message to all fleets, scatter and retreat, abandon Iron Hoof Island...”

But before his words could take effect,

Suddenly, a loud and majestic dragon roar interrupted him.

The Crown Prince, Nesta, and the others all turned their heads towards the source of the sound and saw a burst of flames in the distance above a certain fleet, which then outlined the figure of a dragon. A knight whose form wasn't clear leapt onto the back of that red and black dragon.

Suddenly it soared into the sky, heading towards the scene of the two-on-one Dragon Slaying Battle.

"That is..."

"Another dragon!"

"My god, another Dragon Knight!"

"The fourth Dragon Knight!"

"It looks like a Fire Dragon!"

"Inconceivable, how did this dragon appear?"

The knights on the ships shouted in surprise, some in astonishment, some in disbelief, some anxious, and some excited. The Crown Prince clenched his fist, his heart a swirl of emotions, "Who is that, who is this Dragon Knight? Is he from the Eagle Kingdom or the Steel Ridge Kingdom, is he here to support us? Who can tell me!"

Nesta's mouth was agape, rendered speechless.

He could only, like the ordinary knights, crane his neck to watch the not-too-large Fire Dragon, carrying an unidentified knight, quickly rush into the battlefield.

Suddenly,

Someone said, "That Dragon Knight seems to have emerged from the Tulip Family's fleet!" But this voice was quickly drowned out by the cries of the crowd.

As the Dragon Knight joined the battle, the Bronze Dragon Knight and the Light Green Sapphire Dragon Knight, who had been slaughtering the Sapphire Dragon Knight, were all taken aback—the Dragon Slaying Battle they had meticulously planned did not account for the appearance of a fourth Dragon Knight in such a short time at sea.

Nor was it a Fire Dragon Knight who had never before appeared in any records.

Andrew Sapphire, however, had no time to be stunned and urgently called out in a hoarse voice, “Fire Dragon Knight, please save me!”

Riding on the back of Fire Dragon Leo, activating the Dragon Knight Resonance, Liszt had calmed his agitated emotions, feeling both collected and triumphant.

As a Dragon Knight,

One needed to make an entry in such a grand scene under the watchful eyes of all!

He gripped the Ice Soul Dragon-Slaying Sword tightly, surveyed the three Dragon Knights, and then slowly spoke, “Dragon Knights of the Eagle Kingdom, you can leave now!”

Chapter 712: The Might of the Fire Dragon

A roar.

It was dripping with overbearing power.

This was not originally Liszt’s style, but after his mind harmonized and became one, it incorporated some of Leo’s nature. Being an Evil Dragon is the nature of an Elemental Dragon, and this “evil” mainly manifests as malevolence, tyranny, and arrogance. Fortunately, Liszt’s values as an adult were only slightly influenced by Leo’s nature.

“Ohoh!”

Leo also let out a domineering roar.

It was directed at the Bronze Dragon and Light Green Gemstone Dragon, as well as at the Sapphire Dragon, which even as a young dragon had the boldness to challenge three dragons at once.

Under its red-black scales burnt perpetual sparks, changing like breath in the light and darkness, adding to Leo's formidable presence. Although its wingspan was only twenty meters, making it the smallest among the four dragons, its fierce appearance was far more overbearing than the other three.

Whether they were Metal Dragons or Gemstone Dragons, all were extremely beautiful dragons.

Leo's beauty did not lie in being pretty, but in the explosive power of beauty etched out by its scales, lines, and sharp angles.

...

Facing this unexpected Fire Dragon Knight, Andrew Sapphire breathed a sigh of relief; from the other party's words, he understood that this was a Dragon Knight here to support him.

The expressions of Alonso Xiankelai and Carlo Violet, however, quickly darkened.

The Sapphire Duke's transformation from Dragon Domain Landlord to Dragon Knight did not surprise them much, as it was all within their expectations. But the sudden appearance of the Fire Dragon Knight had the potential to play the role of a spoiler and change the tide of the war. Furthermore, from the moment the word "scram" was uttered, there was no room for easing tensions.

"Marquis Alonso, engage Andrew and make sure the Sapphire Dragon dies!"

Carlo gave up continuing to slaughter the Sapphire Dragon and immediately rode the Light Green Gemstone Dragon to confront Liszt head-on, saying, "An adult Fire Dragon is indeed the most powerful among Evil Dragons and possesses great deterrence, but you are merely riding a young dragon. This is not about creating trouble, this is courting death!"

“Are you taking my warning as a joke?” Liszt’s eyes twinkled with a vortex-like vastness of the universe, profound and serene as if piercing through everything.

Within the vision of Dragon Eye Trajectory, the states of the three dragons and three knights were particularly clear, the magic power and Dou Qi pathways of each one could not escape his detection.

The Sapphire Dragon was too heavily injured to continue, and the Bronze Dragon was not faring much better.

Only the preying mantis Light Green Gemstone Dragon still possessed abundant magic power, and its rider Carlo Violet, similarly, flowed with abundant purple Dou Qi — he was a Thunder Attribute Dragon Knight whose mount was an adult Light Green Gemstone Dragon, undeniably powerful.

With a five-meter-long Silver Dragon Lance in hand, pointing obliquely at Liszt, he shouted coldly, “Fire Dragon Knight, announce your name. If you are seeking death, I can only oblige you.”

“Ohoh!”

Leo roared angrily, disliking others threatening it like this.

Liszt wouldn’t allow it either, but he ignored the verbal clashing; after all, Dragon Knights ultimately had to speak with strength, and this was the time for opening remarks, “My name is Liszt Tulip! You still have time to choose to scram, or else stay in this ocean forever!”

Liszt Tulip!

The Dragon Riding Grand Duke gasped in disbelief, looking at the formidable, cape fluttering in the breeze like burning flame Fire Dragon Knight — Liszt Tulip, the second son of his follower Li Weiliam Tulip, that impressive, mere eighteen-year-old inheritor of the Ghost Swordsman.

“So that’s how it is, he’s not a Ghost Swordsman Inheritor, he is a Fire Dragon Knight!” With this realization, the Grand Duke truly relaxed; given the relationship with Li Weiliam, the hidden Dragon Knight surely stood on his side.

No matter what the future holds.

At this moment, he understood that as long as Liszt did not suffer a swift defeat, then the Sapphire would be preserved.

Alonso on the opposite side was equally shocked.

He glared, trying to etch into memory the half-covered handsome face beneath the Mithril helmet, “So it’s you who stole my Trapped Dragon Mountain Iron Mine, captured my followers. I thought you were only an Ancient Warrior Inheritor, planning to recruit you as my follower after the dragon slaying battle, but you turned out to be a Fire Dragon Knight!”

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“Are you Liszt?”

Carlo clearly had heard of the name before, “Eighteen years old? Indeed young and inexperienced. A young man riding a juvenile Fire Dragon has a boundless future ahead. Although a bit hot-tempered, I find myself faintly moved by a love for talent... Liszt, I give you a choice, pledge allegiance to the Eagle Kingdom, and you will enjoy the treatment of waging wars across the continent!”

“Carve out a piece of land for me to make a duchy?” Liszt snickered. As a Dragon Knight tasked with several dragons, a duchy was just a transition, and given the opportunity, he would directly establish his own kingdom.

Such was his attitude.

Seeing this, Carlo no longer spoke of allegiance, “It seems that you’re hell-bent on seeking death. An eighteen-year-old Dragon Rider is indeed a prodigy, but it’s a pity you probably don’t know what a Dragon Knight’s war is like.”

“Let’s make it quick, Marquis Carlo,” Alonso reminded him from the side.

There was no answer.

Just a nod.

It seemed he understood the principle that villains often die from talking too much. With only a few words exchanged, the battle began without any hint of chit-chat. The next moment, Carlo’s aura surged violently, and his mount, the Light Green Sapphire Dragon, let out an angry roar as it charged straight towards Liszt. The Silver Dragon Lance rippled with Thunder Attribute Dragon Dou Qi, thrusting fiercely.

Boom! Thunder surged, charging straight towards Leo.

Liszt’s gaze turned icy as he maneuvered Leo to swiftly dodge, simultaneously countercharging with flapping wings. His Ice Soul Dragon-Slaying Sword carried his surging Fire Attribute Dou Qi in a powered-up move – Scorching Sun Sting, striking back swiftly. This was his first time participating in a Dragon Knight’s war; there was no nervousness, only boiling blood.

Just like Leo, his body also seemed to be burning.

The thunder brushed past, and the Scorching Sun Sting also missed its mark. He and the Light Green Sapphire Dragon Knight exchanged probing moves. Then, a new round of attacks unfolded. Even without mastering the Dragon Dou Qi Manual, Liszt was undaunted, relentlessly and violently assaulting the Light Green Sapphire Dragon Knight with Leo.

Pffcht!

The Silver Spear suddenly shifted like lightning, striking Leo’s side with pinpoint accuracy, creating a large, fiery hole.

No blood flowed out, only flames ascended.

“Ooh!”

Leo winced in pain.

Liszt also felt a searing pain, and he quickly turned around, pouring Fire Attribute Dragon Dou Qi into the blue greatsword in his hand. With an Ice Soul Dragon-Slaying Sword, he fiercely executed another powered-up move – Crimson Dawn Burn. “Rising Sun Blaze” was his most powerful attack at the moment.

Boom!

The flames spread out in a fan shape, barely grazing the Light Green Sapphire Dragon’s skin. This forty-meter long dragon with a wingspan to match, agile in movement and well coordinated with Carlo, quickly figured out Liszt and Leo’s routine after several probes and began to dominate forcefully.

Bang thud!

The massive body of the Light Green Sapphire Dragon swayed and struck Leo’s abdomen with its hard back, knocking Leo into an aerial flip.

Liszt also felt dazed.

A juvenile dragon was still vastly outmatched by an adult dragon, even if Leo was a powerful Elemental Dragon. The difference in age could not be overcome — all its physical attributes had not yet reached their peak, like a wolf pup of a fierce breed struggling to walk without stumbling, let alone fight, allowing the adult dog to arrogantly lay claim to the sunlit days!

“I told you, you’re here to die!” Carlo became more proud as he gained the upper hand.

But his actions did not slow down in the slightest; he continued to bully Liszt and Leo by relying on the Dragon Dou Qi Manual and the adult physique of the Light Green Sapphire Dragon.

Liszt remained silent, staunchly resisting the oppression of the Light Green Sapphire Dragon Knight.

In the midst of being overwhelmed, he familiarized himself with Dragon Knight combat. His gaze never showed panic, as if he had predicted the current situation from the start. As he fought and retreated, he gradually led the Light Green Sapphire Dragon Knight towards the sea surface — despite the brutal side of Leo within him.

But it was undeniable that a clear-headed mind was Liszt's greatest strength.

No one knew that beneath the sea, there was an Archmage lying in wait, as formidable as a Dragon Knight — that was Acherloides Truth, ready to strike!

Chapter 713: Raging Waves of Fury

This chapter is an extra update sponsored by the leader “Xie Bi Yi”, temporarily one update, with the rest to follow up to five.

A juvenile Fire Dragon paired with a Dragon Knight who doesn't know the Dragon Dou Qi Manual stands no chance against a mature Light Green Sapphire Dragon and its Dragon Knight versed in the Dragon Dou Qi Manual. This is a very normal phenomenon.

Liszt felt no pressure regarding this.

Although he was not a true Dragon Knight with a heritage, he dared to challenge three Dragon Knights alone because he had everything under his control since the dragon-slaying battle began. He was not fighting alone; Archmage Archy was his important ally.

Thus, in the process of fighting and retreating against the Light Green Sapphire Dragon Knight, he kept adapting, learning the opponent's combat style quickly, and using it to refine the Dragon Knight Resonance between himself and Leo.

His combat power was constantly increasing, and his battle experience was skyrocketing, giving him a significant insight into the combat methods and styles of Dragon Knights.

These were not skills that could be easily mastered alone or by watching others fight.

Even though he had yet to learn any Dragon Dou Qi Manual, he felt that after gaining more combat experience, creating his own Dragon Dou Qi Manual would not be difficult at all.

“Are you feeling fear now?”

Carlo Violet’s momentum was overwhelming; he firmly controlled the battlefield, so he did not mind taunting Liszt with a victorious air, “Aren’t you the one who arrogantly tried to disrupt the status quo? Let’s see if you can still cause a stir. In a dragon-slaying battle, killing one dragon is ordinary, killing two makes a legend!”

Liszt said nothing, nor did he have the luxury to, as he had to focus on two tasks at once. While passively defending and learning to fight, he was actively leading and changing the position on the battlefield.

Words could not shake his firm belief in the heat of the moment.

Even before he became a Dragon Rider, in his battle against the Domain Knight Marquis Nuta, he was desperately suppressed, but ultimately turned the tide with his archery skills. Afterwards, no one remembered how he was chased and crushed by Marquis Nuta – only how he defeated the Roaring Knights, how he triumphed over a Domain Knight!

Here, there wasn’t a simple arithmetic of positive and negative, multiplication or division, there was only the victor takes all!

In the sea below him, Archy watched the battle in silence, locking eyes on the figure of the Light Green Sapphire Dragon. He needed but a signal to unleash powerful magic. His aim wasn’t to vanquish Carlo but to lock down the Light Green Sapphire Dragon for a brief moment, giving Liszt a chance to strike for the kill.

...

Deborah Yuhua Stone.

Her expression was contorted, as if she stepped into the role of Light Green Sapphire Dragon Knight, mumbling to herself, “That’s right! Crush him, crush him! Kill the Fire Dragon, annihilate the Duchy of Sapphire!” Watching the Light Green Sapphire Dragon Knight pressuring the Fire Dragon toward the sea, her features twisted with excitement.

Just like Marquis Nuta, who became the laughingstock of the Eagle Kingdom, she, a young Sword Saint, was easily captured and her castle swiftly occupied, turning into a jest in the vicinity of Roaring River Mouth.

The Yu Huashi Family’s reputation was utterly ruined by this uncle-nephew duo.

Therefore, when Prince Alonso called his knights to join the battle, the two hesitated not a moment to participate, all to redeem their family’s honor. However, before victory could be claimed, Marquis Nuta was captured under everyone’s watchful eyes again – now, even if the war were won, the Yu Huashi Family could never hold their heads high again.

A Domain Knight captured twice was enough to make anyone laugh a molar loose.

Unaware that the Fire Dragon Knight was Liszt, she only knew that after defeating the Duchy of Sapphire, rescuing Marquis Nuta amidst the chaos would salvage some dignity.

“You Sapphire maggots, nothing can prevent your downfall. Once the dragon-slaying battle is done, I, River-Cleaving Swordsaint Deborah, will behead a thousand knights to wash away the shame brought to my family!”

...

The flagship of the Court Fast Sailing Ship.

The First Prince breathed tensely, not daring to breathe loudly for fear that his breaths would affect the dragon-slaying battle in the distant skies, where his father rode the Sapphire Dragon, struggling to fend off the Bronze Dragon Knight’s assault. The Sapphire Dragon was bleeding out, its breath weakening, seemingly on the brink of collapse.

“Thank goodness, Prince Alonso is also struggling, his attacks are weak; father can hold on for a while longer!” He spared only a quick glance at the battle between the Sapphire and Bronze Dragon Knights.

Then he focused on the fight where the Light Green Sapphire Dragon Knight was overwhelming the Fire Dragon Knight, “Even though I don’t know which Prince Dragon Knight you are, I pray you can hold on. The fate of the Duchy of Sapphire rests solely on you!”

By his side.

Nesta Big Flower Hydrangea was equally tense; it was evident to everyone that the Grand Duke’s side was running on fumes. The Fire Dragon Knight was also teetering on the brink of crisis, clearly outweighed by the mature Bronze Dragon, dwarfing in size by more than half.

“Anthony, we are nearing shore,” noticed Nesta suddenly.

“I know.”

“The decision that needs to be made, still has to be made. The Fire Dragon Knight can’t hold on much longer; he’s about to plunge into the sea. If he falls into the water, given the Fire Dragon’s elemental nature, he’s likely to suffer a wretched defeat.”

The First Prince interrupted Nesta, his face contorted with unsettled conflicts and hopes, “Wait a bit more, just wait a bit longer!”

He was waiting.

Everyone was waiting.

The knights of the Eagle Kingdom stood at the bow of the ship, gazing forward expectantly, hoping to see their kingdom’s Dragon Knight brutally annihilate the two Sapphire Dragon Knights.

To complete the conquest of the Sapphire, burn, kill, loot, and plunder, avenging over one hundred and fifty years of humiliation.

“Hahaha!”

“You scared me, I thought the Fire Dragon Knight was ferocious, turns out it’s nothing special!”

“Witnessing a battle between four Dragon Knights, witnessing the downfall of two dragons, I have no regrets in this lifetime!”

“The glory of the knights favors us, our Dragon Knights are invincible in battle!”

“Prince Alonso, Prince Carlo, mighty and domineering, those Sapphires are destined to be nothing but flies!”

The opposing fleet of the Duchy of Sapphire was silent.

No one was in the mood to talk.

When the Fire Dragon had appeared, they were shocked and pleasantly surprised, feeling that everything was back on track, and no one could defeat the Duchy of Sapphire. But now the Grand Duke’s dragon was still bleeding, while the Fire Dragon Knight kept getting battered by the Light Green Sapphire Dragon, not at all as cool as when it had first appeared.

“Fight harder!”

“You can’t die!”

...

Liszt didn’t know what the onlookers in the distance were thinking.

He didn't care whether they were filled with anticipation or curses, whether they were swearing or cheering, he was just seriously executing his own plan. Throughout half an hour of battle, Leo, despite not being able to bleed, was seriously weakened after sustaining damage under Carlo's onslaught.

But it was all worth it.

Because he had successfully brought the battlefield down to less than a hundred meters above sea level, as if sensing that Archy was waiting on the sea's surface for his signal.

He abruptly made Leo roll, dodging the assault of the Silver Dragon Lance.

Then he fiercely made Leo emit a sharp scream, which trembled the sea's surface, sending out a unique rhythm. Almost as soon as the scream reached below the surface of the sea, Liszt saw countless blue and white magic powers converge in the seawater, forming a huge pattern resembling a magic array.

The next moment.

Countless water pillars, blades, and whirlpools rose from the sea, and the air was suddenly filled with water tornadoes formed by streams, all these magical illusions targeting only one person – Carlo they were chasing.

Caught completely off guard, Carlo had no time to react before he was bombarded by these powerful spells.

Water rings bound the Light Green Sapphire Dragon's body as water pillars and blades washed over it continuously. The invisible streams, concentrated by magic, were more impactful than steel. If a Dragon Knight had been prepared, it would not have been difficult to dodge the seemingly grandiose but actually loosely targeted magic.

However, Carlo was utterly unprepared.

His eyes bulged.

“What is this!”

He had barely shouted out in alarm before the Light Green Sapphire Dragon was hit by the magic, tumbling and rolling in confusion, unable to perform any defensive maneuvers.

By the time the Dragon and its rider were a bit clearer and attempted to struggle out of the magic,

Liszt, eyes fiery, had already steered Leo skillfully dodging the aftermath of the magic, rushing next to the Light Green Sapphire Dragon. The Ice Soul Dragon-Slaying Sword, fueled with surging Fire Attribute Dragon Dou Qi, was thrust forcefully into the Light Green Sapphire Dragon's shoulder blade, then with the momentum of Leo's charge, tore open a massive wound.

Warm dragon's blood spurted, splashing over Liszt's head and face, then burned by the flames, fell scattered.

“Roar!”

The Light Green Sapphire Dragon let out a massive cry of agony, heard for dozens of miles!

Flicking the dragon's blood off the Ice Soul Dragon-Slaying Sword, Liszt's clear voice echoed through the roaring of the magic, “Carlo, the battle has just begun!”

Chapter 714: Brutal Thoughts

The terrifying magic surge turned the tide of the battle in an instant; as Liszt spoke those words to boost morale, he was already driving Leo to charge at the Light Green Sapphire Dragon Knight once again.

“Take advantage when she's drunk, sleep with her,” cough cough...

“Strike him while he's sick, take his life” was always Liszt's personal combat style—never wasting a moment once an opportunity presented itself.

Bombard them viciously until it's over!

At that moment, the Light Green Sapphire Dragon Knight was stuck in a passive state, being pummeled with devastating magic from all directions. Paired with the Fire Dragon Knight, who could evade magic with Dragon Eye Trajectory, their offense seemed unstoppable. The Ice Soul Dragon-Slaying Sword struck like a phantom, always leaving wounds on the Light Green Sapphire Dragon's body.

Although the gaping wounds might not seem significant to a dragon, the cumulative damage of those wounds deepened over time.

"Why is this happening!"

"What's going on here!"

Carlo's mind was filled with confusion; he could not fathom how the situation had turned out like this. He was dominating the Fire Dragon Knight just moments ago, and now he suddenly found himself on the receiving end of a brutal beating, where each sword strike on the Light Green Sapphire Dragon felt no different from cutting into his own flesh.

Breathing was painful from the agony, but everything happened too swiftly for him to react.

Thrust!

Liszt's sword pierced the Light Green Sapphire Dragon, which was bound and immobilized by the Water Magic – Water Ring Rupture, much like plunging a heavy sword into Carlo's heart.

Seizing the moment, Leo clawed and kicked the Light Green Sapphire Dragon's body, sending it tumbling toward the sea surface once more.

The Light Green Sapphire Dragon had no chance to counterattack; it was just flapping its wings desperately, trying to avoid plunging into the ocean. Both the dragon and Carlo understood that falling into the sea could very likely cost them their lives, as all the magic came from the depths of the sea, unleashed by some unknown magician.

Carlo had never seen such violent magic before; it was certainly not something a Grand Magician could conjure. However, besides a Grand Magician, it seemed that only sea monsters could release such powerful magic.

“Could there be a mighty sea monster hiding in the sea?”

“An advanced sea monster?”

“Or a super sea monster?”

“Or even a super dragon-type sea monster? A sub-dragon from the ocean depths?”

Countless questions flashed through his mind, but he had no time to ponder them deeply, as Liszt’s attacks combined with the relentless assault left him barely able to breathe.

The thoughts of the Light Green Sapphire Dragon began to take precedence—in other words, escape!

At this very moment, the Gemstone Dragon wanted nothing more than to flee. It instinctively loathed the Elemental Dragon and feared the unknown attacks from beneath the sea. It had no desire to engage in battle on the ocean unless absolutely necessary.

Boom!

Another magic assault came, this time hitting the Light Green Sapphire Dragon’s belly with the Water Magic – Strong Water Column, almost causing the dragon to vomit out its organs along with everything it had eaten in the past few days. However, before the Light Green Sapphire Dragon could react, the Fire Dragon’s breath descended, and its claws tore fiercely into the dragon’s wings.

“Roar!”

“Oh roar!”

Two dragon roars rang out, one was a scream of pain, the other an excited one.

“Leo, flip over; I want to strike down Carlo!” Liszt’s excitement was laced with utter calmness as he accurately assessed the battle situation. He noticed that the currently screaming Light Green Sapphire Dragon had arched its neck, perfectly exposing Carlo Violet on the Dragon Tooth Platform.

An opportunity!

Leo’s heart moved with the thought, and he rapidly rolled his body over.

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Liszt was in a position to attack Carlo and swiftly swung the Ice Soul Dragon-Slaying Sword, unleashing the Crimson Dawn Burn and striking Carlo’s back with precision.

Thud!

Carlo looked up and spewed out a mouthful of blood.

The silver spear in his hand wobbled unsteadily before plummeting downwards.

“No!”

Enduring the pain of his wounds, Carlo managed his Light Green Gemstone Dragon’s descent, trying to snatch his Silver Dragon Lance back. However, Liszt wouldn’t miss this opportunity. He reflexively switched to the Swift Shadow Bow, firing three arrows in quick succession, not at the man but at the Silver Dragon Lance.

With a clang of impact, the Silver Dragon Lance was sent flying, tracing a parabola into the depths of the sea.

Quickly retracting the Swift Shadow Bow and clutching the Ice Soul Dragon-Slaying Sword, Liszt continued his assault on the Light Green Sapphire Dragon Knight, his movements smooth without pause.

Now was the time.

Without his weapon, magic continually baptizing him, and Dragon Knights relentlessly assaulting him, Carlo finally resigned to his fate, bellowing out, “Alonso, save me!”

The brief skirmish had left him terrified, nearly to the point of wetting himself.

It wasn’t supposed to be like this! But reality was unforgiving, and he found himself utterly disarmed by the very Fire Dragon Knight Liszt Tulip whom he had previously overpowered. The stark contrast was too jarring for him to stay calm, and he experienced the bitter plight that the Sapphire Duke had once endured—being outmatched in a two-against-one.

Hence, he had no choice but to indignantly call for help, just as the Grand Duke had humiliatingly done upon seeing the Fire Dragon Knight.

“Hold on, Carlo!”

The roar of Alonso Xiankelai, the Bronze Dragon Knight, echoed through the air. He had to abandon the teetering Sapphire Duke to rescue the Light Green Sapphire Dragon Knight. The exhausted Bronze Dragon mustered the last of its strength to accelerate into the magical baptism that was the sea battle.

The Sapphire Duke hoarsely shouted, “Liszt, I’m coming too, tell your friend to stop attacking me!”

The Grand Duke dared not stay away; if Liszt were to fall, he too would suffer the consequences, even though the Sapphire Dragon was already in dire straits. Fortunately, he saw hope in Liszt, the young Fire Dragon Knight whose force in the sea seemed not much less than a Dragon Knight’s.

Now, with three against two, perseverance equaled victory!

All four dragons plunged into the magically charged battlefield, and Ach had to rise from the sea to maintain precision and strength in his magic.

Standing on a pristine giant clam, his delicate arms adorned with a Sapphire Ring and a Space Ring, he continually raised them to unleash magic.

Giant waves roared and water columns shot into the sky, while misty vapors created a rainbow, glimmering brilliantly under the setting sun. At this moment, her figure was spotted by three Dragon Knights in succession. Though her petite body was cloaked in a Magic Cloak, her identity invoked the memory of a legendary profession.

A profession from lore that hadn't appeared for many years, standing at the apex of power alongside the Dragon Knight—the Archmage!

“How is this possible!”

“An Archmage!”

“Why would a new Dragon Knight and a legendary Archmage appear in this sea!” Carlo and Alonso were both incredulous.

Even the Sapphire Duke was dumbfounded: “Liszt even has an Archmage for a friend!”

The shock didn't last long as the fierce battle raged on.

The Bronze Dragon Knight's arrival did not affect Liszt's performance. He relentlessly bombarded the Light Green Sapphire Dragon Knight, swinging the Ice Soul Dragon-Slaying Sword and not ceasing until his opponent was thoroughly vanquished—he would not shift his target! It was about persistence, and he couldn't afford to lose the watermelon while picking up sesame seeds.

Moreover, through Dragon Eye Trajectory, he had observed that Carlo was considerably weaker than Alonso. Alonso appeared to be a veteran Dragon Knight, while Carlo was likely a newly-minted one.

His combat style still showed signs of immaturity, such a Dragon Knight was the most likely to be left behind!

Brutal and stimulating images kept emerging in Liszt's mind, filling it completely with one thought: "I will leave Carlo behind, leave the Light Green Gemstone Dragon behind! I want the whole world to know my name, Liszt Tulip! The dragon-slaying battle is not to be feared; what's truly terrifying is me, Liszt Tulip!"

Chapter 715: Tearing Up Carlo

This chapter is an additional update as a reward for the "Myriad Self" killing move.

True Dragon Knights are of one mind, their thoughts intertwined and synchronous, each containing the other, undivided in their unity.

Little Fire Dragon Leo became more and more excited as the battle raged on. Despite heavy fatigue in his body, he was still thrilled to charge back and forth. Battle was his nature; plundering and slaughter were his instincts—the future he was destined for was that of an Evil Dragon. Liszt was naturally influenced, his heart set on slaying Carlo Violet.

Ach understood Liszt's thoughts. Seeing Liszt's determination to charge at Carlo, she continuously unleashed magic to strike at the Light Green Gemstone Dragon.

At the same time, she entangled with the Bronze Dragon Knight and provided support to the Sapphire Duke, together restraining Alonso.

Supported by the Water Tornado, the White Scallop with Ach stood atop like a goddess in the center of a storm, her expression hidden underneath the hood. One could only see her slender, fair wrists flipping continuously, casting one ferocious Water Magic spell after another. She maneuvered everything from atop the sea, yet no Dragon Knight could reach her.

Bronze Dragon Knight Alonso did try to attack her, but the Sapphire Duke kept clinging and harassing him close. Plus, with Ach's constant changes in position and the savage output of her magic—

Already exhausted, Alonso couldn't get close to the sea's surface, nor did he dare to approach it easily.

Archmages had become a legend for many years, and he too feared this unidentified Archmage might suddenly unleash more powerful magic to keep him trapped in this ocean—he was a Dragon Knight in his prime, with a grand youthful life to enjoy, and he did not wish to become just a backdrop in the famous battles of Liszt or Ach.

“Alonso, save me!”

Carlo cried out again, trembling with fear.

He had never seen such a bloodthirsty Dragon Knight, hounding him like a hyena. Looking at just a juvenile Fire Dragon and an eighteen-year-old Knight who had not practiced the Dragon Dou Qi Manual, the damage from each attack might not seem too severe, but the mixture of Magic and Dou Qi left him running ragged.

His mount, the Light Green Gemstone Dragon, was already bleeding from countless wounds, its vitality greatly damaged. With each entanglement, its strength significantly diminished.

The frustration of being unable to retaliate was suffocating, offering no hope of escape.

The more he panicked, the more chaotically he struggled, and the more chaotically he struggled, the less he could break free from Ach's magic and Liszt's assaults.

“Hang in there, Carlo, don't panic!”

Alonso roared repeatedly from the back of the Bronze Dragon. He couldn't rush to Carlo's rescue immediately, so he could only remind Carlo not to panic. If he could just stay calm, with the mighty power of a Dragon Knight, escaping wouldn't be difficult after paying a small price—a gecko can still live by shedding its tail, let alone a dragon at the peak of its strength.

“I can't hold on any longer!”

Carlo roared.

If he had not reached his limit, he wouldn't have asked for help at all. And yet, in this moment, Alonso could only blurt out empty encouragements to hang on, which were utterly useless! Carlo's heart was sinking, he was in utter desperation, even the mental fusion with the Light Green Gemstone Dragon was experiencing violent fluctuations.

Liszt heard the conversation between Carlo and Alonso clearly, as loud and distinct as a dragon's roar. After all, Dragon Knight Resonance was a dual-boost special state, where human speech and dragon roars interfered with each other. The words spoken were as if they were shouted from the dragon's mouth, also carrying over ten miles away.

"Panicking already, are you panicking now?"

Liszt sneered inwardly, himself a novice Dragon Knight who didn't even know the Dragon Dou Qi Manual, yet he was still able to fight calmly. The opponent might also be a new Dragon Knight, but he had held the title for several years, his practice of the Dragon Dou Qi Manual quite skilled, and yet he panicked at the slightest sign of danger.

With such a mentality, he would never amount to anything more than a weakling.

With this thought,

Liszt couldn't help but let out a villainous cackle, "Grand Duke, Ach, hold Alonso back for me, I'm about to tear Carlo apart!"

The Sapphire Duke was utterly exhausted, his voice hoarse to the point of barely being able to speak, but he still managed to concur, "Don't worry, even if it shortens my life by ten years, I'll hold Alonso back!"

Ach was even more succinct, "Brother, go ahead!"

A few simple sentences of dialogue.

Mostly, Liszt was blustering.

However, to Carlo's ears, it sounded like the burst of thunder, with only one thought flickering in his heart, "I'm about to be torn apart!"

Not everyone can face death with composure.

Even Liszt, who prided himself on having died once, still feared death and would panic unconsciously when faced with danger. Carlo was clearly the same, already in utter panic, and with Liszt's scare, he became even more frantic, almost wetting his pants.

At this moment.

It was unclear whether there was a lapse in the thinking between the man and the dragon.

The Light Green Gemstone Dragon's body clearly hesitated, allowing the magic to bombard the softest part of its underbelly. Seizing such an opportunity, Liszt certainly wouldn't let it go.

"Charge!"

The Ice Soul Dragon-Slaying Sword swung fiercely, chopping down hard, and the violent Fire Attribute Dragon Dou Qi blasted the scales of the Light Green Gemstone Dragon, revealing a blurry wound of flesh and blood. However, instead of responding, the Light Green Gemstone Dragon began to twitch, even its wings failing to flap correctly.

Carlo's body also became very stiff, motionless.

Unsure of what happened to the opponent, Liszt knew he couldn't miss this opportunity.

"Leo!"

"Turn around, do it again!"

"Oho!"

Responding with a resonant dragon roar, Leo suddenly flipped over, grazing the spine of the Light Green Gemstone Dragon back-to-back. Meanwhile, Liszt gripped his deep blue sword tightly and, in the process of crossing with Carlo, thrust out his sword firmly into the gap in Carlo's armor.

Pfft!

The sound of a blade entering the body was unusually crisp as the wound spanned between chest and abdomen.

Flames rose from the blade, searing the wound frantically like roasting meat and then violently pulled out, bringing with it the slight aroma of cooked flesh.

As he withdrew the Ice Soul Dragon-Slaying Sword, the Light Green Gemstone Dragon seemingly regained freedom in an instant, its body swiftly recovering, wings flapping furiously. With a fierce contraction and extension, it broke free from the Water Ring's restraint in mid-air, heedless of the exploding wounds all over its body, and slammed into a Strong Water Column.

Boom, thud!

Dragon blood sprayed from the wounds.

Yet, the Light Green Gemstone Dragon took advantage of the impact from the Strong Water Column, successfully breaking free from the Water Ring Rupture released by Ach again. Then it continued to deliberately slam into magic, twisting its body and, relying on the magic's Impact Force, escaped Liszt's subsequent pursuit.

And at that moment, Carlo Violet on the back of the Light Green Gemstone Dragon, like a puppet with its strings cut, fell straight down as the dragon flipped its body, plunging into the sea.

A small splash was raised.

“What?” Even with his mind filled with Leo’s savage thoughts, Liszt was still stunned by this unbelievable scene, “Did Carlo just die like that, killed by my sword?”

By the time he came to his senses, the Light Green Gemstone Dragon had already escaped the battlefield of the Magic Baptism, trailing its broken body, bleeding and rapidly fleeing.

In the blink of an eye, it flew to the horizon, disappearing from everyone’s sight without looking back.

Chapter 716: The Fainting Dragon

His entire body felt uncomfortable.

The Light Green Gemstone Dragon’s head swam dizzily, yet it dared not pause for even a moment; its body was already in tatters, and its bonded Dragon Knight had perished on the spot.

For the dragon, who had lived more than four hundred years, it was the bleakest moment of its life, one even more difficult than when it had to hide in its youth.

It did not like the sea.

Yet, due to Carlo and the Eagle Kingdom, it had no choice but to fly over a thousand miles of ocean to fight a bloody battle here. Had it been victorious, it could have enjoyed the fruits of its victory. Unfortunately, it suffered a crushing defeat, nearly leaving its own life on the battlefield. The Archmage who rode on the shell, and that insane Fire Dragon Knight, both made its heart tremble with fear.

“Carlo is nothing but useless waste!”

“If it weren’t for the Dragon Knight succession plan, how could I have willingly let such a hothouse flower ride me! Fighting alongside him, I was unable to exert my true power, it’s infuriating, so infuriating!”

“Roar!”

The Light Green Gemstone Dragon roared in anger, and as it opened its mouth, a deep roar erupted.

But it tugged at the wound on its neck, and another spray of dragon blood gushed out, frightening it into clamping its maw shut, fearful that it might indeed bleed to death. Even dragons at the peak of their power feared death, and at least in its prime, the Light Green Gemstone Dragon didn't wish to die.

“I must leave!”

“Leave this place, return to the Eagle Kingdom!”

“I need time to recuperate now, and only the Eagle Kingdom can offer me the best sanctuary!”

The Light Green Gemstone Dragon continued to fly, but its wings grew heavier with each beat, and its eyelids felt as if they weighed a thousand pounds. It wished to fly among the clouds, but its body kept pulling it down, forcing it to fly low above the sea. With every flap of its wings, it felt a tearing pain throughout its body.

Pain, though unbearable, was still not as powerful as the creeping drowsiness.

“I must not fall asleep, plunging into the ocean would mean certain death!”

The Light Green Gemstone Dragon kept reminding itself, trying to shake off the sleepiness and muster its spirit. But the more it struggled, the more powerless it felt to resist, much like in the previous battle of Magic Baptism when Carlo's frantic struggles led it to be trapped between the combined assault of the Archmage and the Dragon Knight, unable to break free.

It didn't know how long it had flown.

The Light Green Gemstone Dragon only knew that the sky had grown pitch-black, with stars winking above the clouds. Deprived of nourishment, its body failed to recover, and

flying was a considerable drain on its strength. It could feel itself weakening, slowing down.

Sleepiness, like a persistent maggot gnawing on bone, invaded when it was most vulnerable, nearly causing it to fall asleep midflight.

Memories from its youth to adulthood flickered through its mind like a fast-forward scene – its confusion and curiosity about the world when it was newly born, its life in the Wild Forest ducking and hiding during its youth, and the encounter with a knight from the Eagle Kingdom when it was nearing adulthood.

It was not a pleasant encounter.

The knight and his team came to capture it, and ultimately, it fell into the knight's trap. It held its head high, refusing to submit. But it could not overcome the sweet allure of the gifts offered: countless Magic Potions, delicacies, and Bone Burning Wine, which led it to lose itself and allow the knight upon the Dragon Tooth Platform.

After the Mind Battle, it became the knight's mount.

Thereafter, they fought together for sixty years until the knight passed away. The dragon then took up residence in the Dragon Nest built by the Eagle Kingdom, becoming the kingdom's guardian dragon. Whenever there came candidates of superior talent for the role of Dragon Knight, passing the tests it set out, it would easily engage in a Mind Battle with them.

In the following three hundred years, it worked with four Dragon Knights. Carlo was the recently partnered sixth.

"These knights, each generation is lesser than the last; you cannot raise a qualified Dragon Knight in a greenhouse!" The Light Green Gemstone Dragon no longer cared for the bond between dragon and rider.

Perhaps it still yearned for the first Dragon Knight who rode it, the one with whom it had achieved mind melding for the first time, an experience deeply etched in its memory for life. The subsequent Dragon Knights were merely fulfilling a duty, unable to open their hearts and achieve a deep connection.

“Was it Carlo’s panic or my disdain for him that led to the collapse of our mind melding, beginning a cycle of mutual obstruction?” it wondered, somewhat perplexed.

What followed was an even stronger sense of drowsiness.

It shook its head vigorously, not caring if the wound on its neck worsened, just to regain a bit of alertness. At that moment, a distinctive scent drifted into its nostrils, causing its already unfocused eyes to glaze over, and its movements became stiff, gradually deviating from the intended direction.

The moon was directly overhead.

It was now the dead of night.

The Light Green Gemstone Dragon, lost in its confusion, had unconsciously followed the scent and arrived at a small rocky island, surrounded by craggy rock walls, with only a small forest at the top. In the centre of the forest seemed to be a large pit, in the middle of which a small sapling with only two or three leaves stood.

The scent was emanating from the sapling.

At this moment, the Light Green Gemstone Dragon was exhausted. It barely managed to land in the woods on the island and collapsed beside the small sapling.

Warm dragon blood seeped from the wound on its neck, flowing through the crevices in the rock ground towards the little sapling. Under the dim starlight, the sapling seemed to suddenly flicker with iridescent hues.

...

Time rewound to the afternoon sea bathed in sunset.

With Carlo Violet’s demise, the Light Green Gemstone Dragon fled, the battle scene changed in an instant, everything happening unexpectedly.

“Carlo!”

Seeing Carlo plunge into the sea, Alonso Xiankelai was heartbroken. He had come with his head held high, never anticipating that a high and mighty Dragon Knight would perish over these seas.

But now was not the time to question Carlo’s death, but a moment of crisis concerning whether he himself could escape.

He didn’t dare linger in the battlefield marked by the Magic Baptism; the massive spells, unleashed after the Light Green Gemstone Dragon’s escape, now swept towards him. This, together with the restraint from Sapphire Dragon Knight Andrew Sapphire, and the turnabout and charge from Fire Dragon Knight Liszt Tulip, made the scene even more dire.

With such an imposing line-up, one misstep could lead to the same fate as Carlo, falling into the sea.

The Bronze Dragon roared in defiance, quickly turning around with Alonso, braving several heavy blows, relying on its thick scales for protection, and forcibly broke free from the battlefield of Magic Baptism. Without looking back, it fled towards the direction it had come from, not daring to stay a moment longer.

It didn’t even offer a bitter retort.

“Ach, chase!” Liszt called out, riding on Little Fire Dragon Leo, who was panting with fatigue. They pursued for several kilometers, only to see the Bronze Dragon fading into the horizon, beyond reach.

As for Ach.

Being unable to fly, there was no use in catching up.

And so, they had to let Alonso escape. Reluctantly gazing at the clouds in the sky, Liszt quickly grabbed handfuls of Magic Potion from his Space Ring and threw them over. Leo

opened its mouth and swallowed all the Magic Potions along with their glass containers, the medicines slowly rejuvenating its exhausted body.

Liszt himself quickly consumed a few Magic Potions to replenish his depleted Dou Qi.

Only then did he call to Ake, "Let's go back."

Chapter 717: Wrath of Thunder

The battle to slay the dragon ended without the death of a dragon, which was a regret for Liszt, but being able to kill a Dragon Knight and rout two dragons with the strength of a young Dragon Knight and a newly promoted Archmage,

was already a brilliant victory.

"Brother, aren't you missing a Dragon Lance? Ake, go salvage that Dragon Knight's Silver Dragon Lance," Liszt said as they flew back to the battlefield of the Magic Baptism, with Ake suddenly suggesting.

Liszt nodded, "Also, bring up Carlo's body."

"Mhm."

The sea area wasn't very deep, only about two to three hundred meters, a depth that, for the Sea Sprite Ake, was no different from strolling through his own backyard. In the blink of an eye, a five-meter-long Silver Dragon Lance and a body, not yet stiff, were salvaged and handed over to Liszt for handling.

He had Leo grab Carlo's body, while he himself took hold of the Dragon Lance.

Five meters in length and as thick as a wrist, the silver shaft seemed to be forged from a mixture of Mountain Copper and Mithril, with intricate patterns along its length, with many Magical Beast Materials inlaid into it. Upon close inspection, these patterns and

Magical Beast Materials were intricately intertwined, seemingly faintly forming four Wind Languages.

“Wrath of Thunder.”

“Nice name, I like its domineering aura,” Liszt commented fondly as he stroked the shaft, looking pleased before turning his attention to the tip of the lance.

The tip appeared to be made from a mix of Mountain Copper and Fine Gold, shimmering with a cold light, but the very tip was bony.

“Is it like taking a dragon’s tooth, refining it, and then casting it in Mithril, Mountain Copper, and Fine Gold on the outside? So would Wrath of Thunder be considered a Dragon Tooth Weapon?”

Dragon Tooth Weapons are a class of weapons even higher than those of the Greater Elf Warriors.

However, the classification of weapons is rather vague, with the properties of weapons forged from different materials varying greatly, blurring the lines between them, making precise distinctions difficult.

But regardless,

Liszt could feel that this was a powerful Dragon Lance.

Because the moment he gripped Wrath of Thunder, he was instantly filled with a lofty sentiment and generous spirit, as if having the Dragon Lance in hand meant the world was his.

In a moment,

Liszt and Ake had returned to the original dragon slaying battlefield where, at this time, a great pursuit was unfolding.

The ships of the Eagle Kingdom were scattering in all directions, with the Sapphire Fleet in hot pursuit—following the end of the battle to slay the dragon, the Sapphire Duke, having returned on his damaged Sapphire Dragon, had immediately ordered his fleet to attack. The knights of the Eagle Kingdom, who had lost the trace of their Dragon Knight, were panicked and disheartened, only concerned with escaping.

Looking at the fleeing ships,

Not having spotted any new Domain Knights, or inheritors of the Ancient Warriors or other valuable targets, Liszt didn't make a move. Instead, he flew over the top of the fleet.

Now that his identity as a Dragon Knight had been revealed, there was no need to keep a low profile, and he naturally had to display the bearing of a Dragon Knight, not deigning to strike at ordinary knights.

As he flew over,

Ake stood on a white seashell, riding a Water Tornado that roared and raced ahead, closely following behind Liszt.

Such a flashy appearance nearly caused the knights of the escaping Eagle Kingdom to abandon ship and jump into the sea. They didn't dare to breathe heavily, fearful of alarming the slowly flying Fire Dragon Knight and the unidentified Archmage—who must be the caster of the sea-turning Magic they had seen earlier.

None dared to provoke an Archmage who had been a part of the dragon slaying battle.

“Terrifying!”

“A Dragon Knight and an Archmage, Sapphire is too powerful!”

“Thank goodness, the Dragon Knight and Archmage didn't even care about us.”

“Did you see? In the claws of the Fire Dragon, there's a person!”

“Ah, silver helm and armor, is that... Prince Carlo?”

“Impossible!”

“Prince Carlo, how could you...”

“I’m afraid it’s true. That Fire Dragon Knight was holding a silver dragon lance, which is Prince Carlo’s weapon.”

With just a fleeting glimpse, a multitude of bitter information was revealed. At least the Knights of the Eagle Kingdom, who had seen Liszt riding a dragon, had already guessed the outcome of the dragon-slaying battle.

They knew one result—the Light Green Sapphire Dragon Knight, Carlo Violet, had fallen.

A Dragon Knight had fallen!

Apart from natural deaths, it had been decades since the demise of a Dragon Knight had occurred. One can only imagine the upheaval that would ensue in the Eagle Kingdom once the news spread. The Knights dared not think about what kind of reception awaited them after such an invasion war turned out like this.

How furious would the King be.

Most crucially, the Kingdom raised nine dragons to shelter its borders securely and fostered six Dragon Knights to guard the frontier. Now with Carlo Violet gone, who would replace him to defend that frontier? Without the protection of a Dragon Knight, the borderlands were bound to signal for war.

As a Dragon Knight, an existence that suppressed a nation.

Once dead, it would cause a chain reaction, overly impacting the Eagle Kingdom, which would violently destabilize. Even the Steel Ridge Kingdom and the Blast Furnace Fortress Kingdom would be shaken, and their vassal states would be dragged into this great whirlpool.

What the future held.

No one knew.

But these Knights of the Eagle Kingdom knew one thing—if the Fire Dragon Knight and the Archmage were present in the Sapphire, it was unlikely the Eagle Kingdom could conquer this vast sea anymore. Its coastal hinterland would still suffer the constant nipping and tearing of the Sapphire like flies, leeching nutrients from the vast Kingdom.

However.

They were more curious about the identities of the Fire Dragon Knight and the Archmage. Before long, these two peak powerhouses would surely become renowned across the world.

...

Liszt didn't find the Tulip Fleet among the chasing fleets in the sea, so he directly steered Leo toward the Port of Bull Hoof City.

In fact, the best approach now was to recall Leo, letting him slumber and rest within his body, recovering his energy.

But Liszt needed a spectacle.

Because next was counting the spoils of war and negotiating with the Sapphire Duke. He needed to convey to the momentarily breath-relieved Duke the current situation—that he could choose to not take over the Duchy of Sapphire and instead establish a new Kingdom overseas, but this sea must submit to its new master.

For single-handedly saving the Duchy of Sapphire, he couldn't afford to miss out on even a little benefit!

The port was in sight.

The ships of the Tulip Family were visible as well, along with the Sapphire Dragon lying dormant not far from the port. Liszt flew slowly, wanting everyone to open their eyes and see clearly who the last Dragon Knight laughing in the dragon-slaying battle was—it was him, Liszt Tulip.

At the same time, he took this moment to call forth the Smoke Mission, wondering what kind of unknown reward would be granted for such a terrifying dragon-slaying battle.

Wisps of smoke rose.

He was the only one who could see them.

“Mission complete, reward: ‘Dragon Knight’s Dou Qi Secret Manual’.”

“Hmm...” Liszt didn’t show much surprise after reading the content. He had already envisaged that after the dragon-slaying battle ended, he would have to ask the Duke for the ‘Dragon Knight Dou Qi Manual.’ The Duke had no reason to refuse, so the manual was as good as his.

To present it as a reward now felt somewhat perfunctory.

However, the new smoke mission quickly dispelled Liszt’s disappointment.

“Mission: After winning the dragon-slaying battle, your name will spread to every corner of the sea, and establishing a brand-new Kingdom will be effortless. However, considering the long-term development of a country, resources are of utmost importance. Perhaps the Light Green Gemstone Dragon can provide for you; it lies hidden on an island within your domain. Reward: One Light Green Sapphire Dragon.”

Chapter 718: The Order of the Sea

“A Light Green Sapphire Dragon!”

Liszt scrutinized the details and confirmed that the reward for the Smoke Mission was a Light Green Sapphire Dragon. His heart leaped with excitement, and he could hardly wait to change his course and search his territory for the Light Green Sapphire Dragon.

However, he still managed to control his eagerness.

A fierce and exhilarating battle had left him in poor condition. Venturing on a long trek and exhausting his strength might not enable him to capture the Light Green Sapphire Dragon. It would be best to wait until he, Leo, and Archy had all recovered to their optimal states before undertaking the capture mission and claiming the Light Green Sapphire Dragon as his own.

“Leo, Archy, and I have merely overexerted ourselves, which is easy to recover from, but the Light Green Sapphire Dragon has been severely wounded and will undoubtedly need a long time to heal. Moreover, at this stage, it must be extremely vigilant, ready to flee at the slightest disturbance. It would be ill-advised for me to show up too soon.”

Regardless,

the Light Green Sapphire Dragon resided within his territory...

“Hmm, residing on the islands of my territory?” he suddenly snapped back to reality. The content of the Smoke Mission pointed to his own territory. He had been so captivated by the Light Green Sapphire Dragon that he had neglected the information about the territory islands. “My territory islands, Coral Island? Black Horse Island? Seagull Island, Sandy Beach Island, Rocky Island? Or perhaps Coral Reef or Dodo Island?”

All these were far off in the northeast direction.

The Light Green Sapphire Dragon, however, had fled towards the southern skies. It was improbable that it would double back and employ the tactic of “the most dangerous place being the safest” to hide on Liszt’s islands. Besides, nearly every island had his businesses established, so it would be rather unlikely for a dragon to slip in unnoticed.

“So it couldn’t be around Black Horse Island... Dodo Island is even further away. I doubt the Light Green Sapphire Dragon could find its way there.”

Furrowing his brows, an island he had almost forgotten surfaced in Liszt's mind. "Perhaps it's Mind Island? The island where the Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruit was born. When I removed the deadwood, I remember declaring Mind Island as part of my territory."

"It seems certain that it's this island, no doubt!"

"Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruit, Light Green Sapphire Dragon, I wonder if there is a connection between the two. Could it be that the remnants of the Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruit attracted the Light Green Sapphire Dragon?"

Having located the Light Green Sapphire Dragon's healing sanctuary, Liszt felt a sense of calm in his heart.

At this moment, he and Archy slowly made their way to the Port of Bull Hoof City, where the Sapphire Duke stood on the dock to welcome them, flanked by Li Weiliam and other knights who hadn't participated in the pursuit at sea. Everyone craned their necks in anticipation, waiting for the slowly approaching Fire Dragon Knight Liszt and Archmage Archy.

"Li Weiliam, you make me envious."

The Grand Duke gazed at the ferocious and domineering Fire Dragon descending from the sky, filled with a myriad of emotions.

Li Weiliam stood tall and proud beside the Grand Duke. Since the moment Liszt became a Fire Dragon Knight, he had basked in the envy, jealousy, and various other gazes of countless onlookers. He reveled in this sudden elevation of status, despite the mix of constant anxiety.

Especially during the episode where Liszt was being dominated by the Light Green Sapphire Dragon Knight, he truly feared that Liszt might inadvertently become a sacrifice in the dragonslaying battle.

But once Archmage Archy made his move, the situation instantly flipped, and his worries dissipated.

He maintained his proud posture without a moment of slack.

“Knightly honor shines upon him. I never dared to hope that Liszt might become a Dragon Knight, yet those around him call him the ‘Son of Glory’. Perhaps he truly is the Son of Glory.”

“He is indeed the Son of Glory!” the Grand Duke affirmed. “An eighteen-year-old Dragon Knight, accompanied by an Archmage, with nearly all the knightly glory favoring him. In this vast sea, and even across this land, there is no one more deserving of the title ‘Son of Glory’ than he.”

Amidst the admiration.

The Fire Dragon had already been circling above the harbor when it suddenly plummeted directly toward the dense crowd below, causing the knights who were crowded at the port to retreat quickly in fright.

“Ohoho!”

Leo snorted flames, emitting a tremendous roar, and landed swiftly in the space created by the parting crowd. A pair of crimson eyes swept over the surrounding people, flickering with an evil light that seemed to be choosing its next victim. Waves of Dragon Might radiated from its form, swelling around it like countless giant hands grasping at the knights’ throats.

Even Li Weiliam was not immune, feeling his breathing become constricted.

The Dragon Might was simply too oppressive for ordinary knights.

Only the Grand Duke remained unafraid of the Dragon Might, as he himself could unleash it with the help of the Sapphire Dragon. However, seeing his own knights, one by one, in pain and gasping for air, he could not help but let out a wry laugh, fully understanding the meaning behind Liszt’s actions; it was nothing more than a show of force toward him.

Thud.

Carlo's body hit the ground, as Liszt gracefully jumped off the dragon's back. Behind him, Archy also leapt steadily from the Water Tornado, standing shoulder to shoulder with Liszt.

Liszt's gaze swept across the Grand Duke, Li Weiliam, and the others, finally settling on the knights of the Tulip Family: "A few of you come over and collect the body of Carlo Violet."

The knights swept by his gaze came over excitedly and reverently, bowing to Liszt and beginning to move Carlo's body.

Liszt gave a detached command, "Careful, dignified. This, after all, is the body of the first Dragon Knight I've slain; it holds significant commemorative value."

Upon hearing these words,

The surrounding knights visibly shuddered, once again oppressed by Liszt's powerful presence, the fear deeply planted in their hearts. A powerful Dragon Knight, capable of subduing a nation, had just died, slain by the handsome, imposing Fire Dragon Knight Liszt Tulip standing before them.

The Grand Duke's mouth twitched, feeling that he truly was getting old, and that the young people of today really didn't understand the meaning of subtlety.

Killing a Dragon Knight was one thing, but it seemed he was afraid others wouldn't know who was responsible, insisting on repeating it in front of him, declaring who the victor of the dragon-slaying battle was.

Although he had contempt in his heart for Liszt's behavior,

The Grand Duke stepped forward, his face breaking into a kind smile: "Lord Liszt, Lord Acherlroides, thank you both for lending a hand to rescue the Sapphire at this critical moment of peril." He expressed his thanks in front of everyone, with sincerity that was more than enough.

Liszt was pleased with the Grand Duke's attitude; this was recognizing the pragmatist for the astute.

Therefore, he subdued his aggressive demeanor, exhibiting the good manners of a noble, and replied with restrained authority, “The sea has its own order, and as a knight born of the Sapphire, I will not allow the Continental Kingdoms to interfere with the order of the sea.”

The Grand Duke concurred, “We are all knights of the Sapphire, and the sea should be left to the knights of the sea to decide its order.”

After speaking, he extended his hand in invitation: “Lord Liszt, Lord Acherlroides, I formally invite you both to Bull Hoof Fortress, on behalf of the Duchy of Sapphire, to attend a banquet. As for how we can restore the order of the sea, I believe we need a detailed and cautious discussion.”

“That aligns with my thoughts, so please, Grand Duke, lead the way,” Liszt responded with a smile.

As the Grand Duke took the lead, Liszt suddenly snapped his fingers at Leo: “Come back!”

The Fire Dragon Leo, stationed on one side, beat its wings and shot up into the sky, circling above the harbor of Bull Hoof City before launching a deafening roar at the Sapphire Dragon slaving in unconscious slumber on the nearby hillside. Only then did it transform into a ball of flame and rush into Liszt’s body.

Liszt tossed the Wrath of Thunder to a knight of the Tulip Family and, under the awestruck gaze of the surrounding knights, calmly followed the Grand Duke’s entourage.

Toward Bull Hoof Fortress they went.

Chapter 719: Celebration

After Liszt withdrew Leo,

the knights who had just caught their breath from the dragon's intimidation at the port watched the departing figures, not only bearing no grudge against Leo's intimidating presence but also abuzz with excitement.

"Such terrifying dragon might!"

"Does this count as a close encounter with a dragon, a fire dragon at that—an evil dragon? When the fire dragon's gaze fell on me, my legs shook uncontrollably!"

"I've heard that fire dragons are the most formidable dragons, and no one can kill a fire dragon that has become evil!"

"Unbelievable, Prince Liszt is actually riding a fire dragon!"

"That archmage looks quite powerful too, appearing as young as Prince Liszt."

"Son of Glory!"

"Prince Liszt is only eighteen. I remember that he was promoted to Sky Knight just half a year ago—now he's already the noble Dragon Knight."

"So beautiful, the dragon is so beautiful!"

The knights of Sapphire began whispering among themselves, today's events felt like a dream, beyond belief.

A magnificent battle featuring four Dragon Knights and an archmage.

Ending with the fall of a Dragon Knight.

The new Fire Dragon Knight and the legendary archmage were even more astounding, especially since they hailed from the recently ennobled Tulip family within the Nobles of the Duchy of Sapphire.

Different from the amazed Sapphire knights, the knights of the Tulip family were walking tall with chest puffed out, wishing they could enlarge the tulip emblem on their armor tenfold: “Hahahaha, Lord Liszt is the Son of Glory of the Tulip family! I’ve fought under Lord Liszt’s command during the Pioneer Mandate!”

“Yes, I witnessed Lord Liszt’s glorious journey from an ordinary knight to a Dragon Knight!”

“I’ve long known that Lord Liszt is the Son of Glory. He’s destined for greatness—the Dragon Knight is the best proof!”

Viscount Jonas, who accompanied the Marquis of Bull Tail on the campaign, became the center of attention like the moon surrounded by stars. Many nobles, not privileged enough to walk behind Grand Duke Sapphire and Liszt, surrounded Viscount Jonas, incessantly inquiring about every detail concerning Liszt.

Jonas boasted contentedly.

Liszt’s name had already been shining in the skies above Sapphire.

If a day before, all the nobles thought Liszt would be the most brilliant amongst the future Nobles of Sapphire, now they did not dare to imagine Liszt’s future.

What would the future hold for a Dragon Knight?

And an archmage!

With a Dragon Knight and an archmage joining forces, it would probably be easy to overturn the Grand Duchy of Sapphire—but fortunately, the affectionate scene just now showed that Liszt had no intention of doing so.

Then, founding a nation overseas would likely be the inevitable outcome. With a Dragon Knight and an archmage as the founders of the nation, it would be easy to establish a country, either at sea or on the continent. The number of vacant noble positions waiting to be filled once such a principality is established is imaginable.

Glory!

How many knights had their hearts fluttering with this thrilling thought!

...

The pursuit battle at sea continued.

But it did not prevent the Sapphire Duke from entertaining Liszt at Bull Hoof Fortress.

Only five high-backed chairs were arranged at the main table, occupied by Grand Duke Andrew Sapphire, Marquis Nesta Big Flower Hydrangea of Quicksand City, Marquis Li Weiliam Tulip, Fire Dragon Knight Liszt Tulip, and Water Mage Acherlroides Truth.

Liszt had been introduced to Acherlroides's identity before by Li Weiliam, as his "adopted sister."

Noble banquets did not favor discussing serious matters, and they mostly revolved around mutual flattery, gossip, and anecdotes, mainly ancient court tales recounted by the Grand Duke.

They included information about kingdoms on the continent.

For example, there were three empires, twenty-one kingdoms, and a multitude of duchies that had risen and fallen on the continent.

The continent actually had a quite impressive name, "In the era of the Moon Empire, when it completed the only unification of this land, the high officials of the Moon Empire believed the nation no longer needed to exist and that 'Legendary Continent' should be the direct name. Though the proposal was ultimately not passed, the name Legendary Continent still spread."

Liszt curiously asked, "Does this mean there are other continents besides the Legendary Continent?"

“I’m not sure, we just live in a few isolated countries at the northeast corner of the Legendary Continent, where news doesn’t travel well. And in my lifetime, I have only visited Steel Ridge Kingdom and Eagle Kingdom, not even Blast Furnace Fortress Kingdom where our family originated,” the Grand Duke said with a laugh.

“The Sapphire Family originated from the Blast Furnace Fortress Kingdom?”

“Yes, our ancestor Anderson Sapphire was a marquis in the Blast Furnace Fortress Kingdom. Only after being recognized by the Sapphire Dragon, did we migrate to establish our own kingdom. However, Blast Furnace Fortress Kingdom never supported my family, so eventually, the family pledged loyalty to Steel Ridge Kingdom.”

As they were all Dragon Knights, the Grand Duke did not beat around the bush.

Ordinary knights might look up and endlessly fantasize about how noble, mysterious, and incredible dragon-rearing families were. In reality, a dragon-rearing family was just a more prominent kind of nobility. The families also had complicated interpersonal relationships, and they needed to earn money for food and drink and to support their knights.

The only difference was that owning a dragon could protect a nation and claim a greater share of resource allocation.

Liszt disapproved of the chef’s skills at Bull Hoof Fortress, merely sampling some magical beast meat, “Grand Duke, theoretically all Dragon Knights have important garrison duties, and it’s quite difficult to mobilize them. How did Eagle Kingdom manage to dispatch two Dragon Knights to attack Sapphire this time?”

“I’m not clear on the specifics, but Carlo and Alonso left the frontier defense area, and Steel Ridge Kingdom didn’t notify me. It’s likely that someone within the kingdom was dissatisfied that the profits from the yearly tribute to the kingdom did not flow into their pockets, or perhaps they received some kind of benefit and felt that Sapphire could be sacrificed,” said the Grand Duke.

It was nothing but plots and conspiracies.

Liszt could have guessed that it was the scheming and strife between the power of the duchies and the kingdoms. He did not pursue the topic further but switched the subject, “I

killed Carlo, how much turmoil will this cause Eagle Kingdom? I wonder if Eagle Kingdom still has the courage to invade Sapphire a second time.”

“Carlo’s death shouldn’t affect too much, as the Light Green Gemstone Dragon escaped successfully. There’s a special agreement between dragons and kingdoms: it will return to Eagle Kingdom, and after healing, it will remain an important military force.”

“A special agreement, what does that mean?”

“We can discuss that in detail in the library later,” the Grand Duke said with a smile. The implication was clear; some matters were to be kept among Dragon Knights, without the need to involve others.

Even if Nesta was his uncle by marriage and Li Weiliam was Liszt’s father.

It did not matter.

Nobles prioritized interests above all else, and kinship was only an essential appendage to interests. History was full of countless examples of fathers and sons, brothers turning into enemies over interests. Matters concerning dragons were obviously not suited to consider the option of kinship.

Liszt also smiled, understanding the Grand Duke’s intent.

Acherlroides, as always, remained indifferent, simply mimicking whatever Liszt did, not wanting to say an extra word.

Neither Nesta nor Li Weiliam showed any reaction. What the Grand Duke could grasp, naturally, they were not foolish enough to misunderstand, being experienced nobles themselves.

Thus, they raised their glasses together, celebrating the victory of the dragon-slaying battle.

Chapter 720: Mind Branding

The banquet ended in a harmonious atmosphere.

Accompanied by Nesta, Li Weiliam proceeded to the living room to accept compliments from the nobles both great and small. Today was the moment Liszt's name thundered across the ocean, and it was also Li Weiliam's moment to stand proud before all the nobles of the Duchy of Sapphire. Having been recently advanced to Marquis of Bull Tail, he had already basked in countless compliments once before.

Yet, the flattery from others could never be too much, and Li Weiliam wished he could hear such compliments every day.

Moreover, the intensity of the flattery this time would be spectacularly unprecedented—being the father of a Dragon Knight and, to the keen observer, probably the “father” of an Archmage as well, his status was immeasurably elevated, no different than if he had become a Dragon Knight himself.

“Lord Marquis.”

“Lord Li Weiliam...”

As soon as they reached the living room, the collective nobility rose, enthusiastically greeting them.

Li Weiliam hung a faint smile on his face and gently waved his hand, “Please, take your seats, there's no need for such courtesy. I am still me, the Marquis of Bull Tail, one of the Sapphire followers. Liszt's achievements are his own, whether as a Dragon Knight or Archmage, he will found a new family, and I will still represent the Tulip Family.”

“Lord Marquis, you are too modest. The crowns of Dragon Knight and Archmage are also your glory.”

“Lord Liszt has yet to marry or establish his own family; he still needs your support.”

“Indeed, you are a solid pillar of Sapphire and will also be a steadfast pillar for Lord Liszt.”

A barrage of blatant flattery left Li Weiliam floating, but he did not lose his composure, responding modestly, “My son is independent and has his own ideas. All I can do is smooth the path for his future as much as possible, so together, father and son, we can revitalize the glory and heritage of the Tulip Family.”

Nesta twitched his mouth at the side.

As the Sapphire “in-law” and the Grand Duke’s brother-in-law, he had seemingly become an accessory to Li Weiliam. Although he was accustomed to the “spirit” of nobility’s interest above all else, the sight of all those ingratiating smiles still left him feeling stuffy. He did not dare to show his displeasure openly.

Even he himself had to occasionally chime in with flattery for Li Weiliam—today’s Duchy of Sapphire had to rely on the strength of Liszt and Ach to secure the right to continue existing.

The overlord of the sea was no longer the Sapphire Duke who had narrowly escaped being slain by a dragon.

Even the Duke himself had to accept this reality.

In the study of Bull Hoof Fortress, the once undisputed lord of the ocean, the Sapphire Duke, watched the exceptionally young Liszt and Ach, feeling a mix of emotions—loss, envy, jealousy, gratitude, concern, and more swirled together in his heart.

His face still wore a gentle smile, “In this small study, there sit two Dragon Knights and one Archmage, a veritable case of ‘the humble room becomes brilliant.’

‘The humble room becomes brilliant’ is a Chinese idiom; the Duke spoke in Serpent Script.

However, the meaning the Duke wanted to convey was, in Liszt’s eyes, indeed the idea of ‘the humble room becomes brilliant.’

“Had the dragon slaying battle not come so quickly, I did not intend to reveal my identity as a Dragon Knight so soon, and Ach’s identity as an Archmage would not have been disclosed either,” Liszt said with a touch of regret. Although the battle against the dragon was thrilling, he preferred a more steady development, fitting his style, over the troubles that came after.

“You needn’t concern yourself with these matters. Although you and your dragon are very young, and you have little experience as a Dragon Knight, there’s no need to hurry with nation-building or carving out a domain from within the Kingdom’s sphere of influence. The mobility and flexibility of a Dragon Knight are your greatest strengths.”

“It was fine to not hurry before, but now that my identity has been revealed, I think it is better to establish a nation soon. Moreover, Sapphire probably can’t support two Dragon Knights and an Archmage, and there will be a clash in the order of rule,” Liszt stated plainly, candidly expressing his ambition.

If he did not build a nation, then he would inevitably have to overthrow Sapphire’s rule and declare himself king.

The Grand Duke laughed.

Not knowing what he was thinking, he could only nod and say, “Do you have any ideas for the location of the new kingdom?”

“It will still be at sea. I plan to send people to find new island groups, without contending with the Duchy of Sapphire for the current sea area. However, founding a kingdom involves many intricate matters, and I will need your help, Your Grace.”

“Don’t worry, I will do my utmost to help,” the Grand Duke promised cheerfully.

“Then I won’t hold back,” said Liszt as he nodded his head, then pulled out a stack of lists from his bosom, which contained the resources he had imagined he would need when founding the kingdom.

Seeing the thick stack of white paper, the Grand Duke was half curious what kind of paper it was and half unconsciously twitched the corner of his mouth.

Liszt simply flipped through the list and said, “I will entrust my father to discuss with you, Your Grace, to determine which resources we will need help with. Right now, what I’m more concerned about is the issue of Dragon Knights. As a senior Dragon Knight, Your Grace, I hope you will not hesitate to impart your wisdom.”

“Please speak.”

“What kind of agreement did the kingdom sign with the dragons?” Liszt asked his first question—he was about to have a second dragon and needed a means to control it.

In his plan, he would own multiple dragons, and he must have a way to control these creatures, so as not to have them stolen midway by others or turn against their owner—he himself was not afraid, but the key was how his descendants, if not sufficiently talented, could control the dragons.

“That agreement is actually a Branding from the First Dragon Knight,” the Grand Duke replied.

“Branding?”

“A dragon’s life is very long and can have multiple Dragon Knights fight alongside it. Being a Dragon Knight yourself, you should understand the mystery of the Mind Battle.”

“I understand, but what does this have to do with Branding?”

“After a Dragon Knight and dragon’s minds have united for a long time, the Dragon Knight can leave his own mental Brand on the dragon’s mind, continuously influencing it until it becomes a part of the dragon’s own psyche. In this way, even after the death of a Dragon Knight, the dragon will still protect the knight’s descendants.”

“Is this method foolproof? Especially when handing the dragon over to the Dragon Knight you’re raising to ride, wouldn’t it be a loss of both person and dragon if they eloped?”

“I don’t know how you went through your Mind Battle. Dragons are proud and their minds are powerful, especially those dragons that have been with the First Dragon Knight, their

minds can be said to be complete. Subsequent Dragon Knights simply cannot breakthrough the dragon's mind and replace the influence of the First Dragon Knight."

"So even if I captured the Light Green Gem Dragon in this dragon-slaying battle, I wouldn't be able to ride it?"

"Correct, and this is the reason why the dragon-slaying battle is known as 'dragon-slaying.' Wars often end with the slaughter of the opposing side's dragons as the final outcome. Capturing them is pointless; no amount of ransom can match the value of a dragon. And a dragon that cannot be tamed is better off dead than kept resisting, extracting all its value."

Listening to the Grand Duke's explanation, a myriad of thoughts flickered through Liszt's mind.

If what the Grand Duke said was true, it meant that even if he captured the battered Light Green Gem Dragon, he probably wouldn't be able to ride it—unless he was willing to use a Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruit to cut away the Light Green Gem Dragon's First Dragon Knight mental Branding. But setting aside the uncertain chances of success, whether it was worth using a Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruit was also hard to say.

He only had three Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruits, with one already used on Leo.

Of the two remaining, one was definitely for the Formless Dragon, and the last was to be used in the future for binding the Immortal Dragon, to become a Dragon Domain Land Lord and extend his own life.

Even if he couldn't find an Immortal Dragon, it wasn't worth using on a few hundred years old Light Green Gem Dragon.

Pondering this issue, he continued to inquire, "Your Grace, could you tell me how you came to ride the Sapphire Dragon? I'm very curious about all information regarding Dragon Knights."