

## The Mighty 781

### Chapter 781: Golden Fleece

The arrival of the Fengxiang family did not immediately necessitate any tasks for them, so Liszt simply decided to provide for them for a few years until he found a suitable location to build a nation, at which point they could make long-term plans.

Then, he arranged for members of the Fengxiang family to take positions at the Knight Academy, joining Alvin Eagle Sword in overseeing the Iron Knight training—there was a great demand for Iron Knights in the future nation, and no matter how many were trained, there was no worry about them being without sustenance, and each Iron Knight trained was calculated as a contribution to military achievements.

Thus, the Iron Knights of the Fengxiang family were also willing to teach.

Afterward.

Liszt received an audience with Kenley Truth and her party. Kenley, now thirty-six years old and unmarried, had become a Grand Magician at twenty-two. Being from the Magic Elephant Family, which passed down magic from generation to generation, she had some prestige in the magic community of Eagle Kingdom and had once studied under the Court Grand Mage.

However, she did not stay to serve at The Court but returned to her family's domain to continue studying magic.

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Later on, she also organized a magician exchange group called “Elephant Assembly.” Hearing that the Duchy of Sapphire had produced an incarnation of Truth walking the earth, she couldn't resist the urge to bow before the Archmage. After her brother brought back a positive response, she brought along the willing magicians from Elephant Assembly for the pilgrimage.

Upon meeting these magicians, Liszt didn't say much but directly handed them over to Chris Truth for arrangements.

As the vice president of the Magic Guild, Chris was in charge of the daily operations of the guild, which strictly followed the procedures that Liszt had laid out.

“To follow and learn from Her Excellency Archmage, you must strive to earn this privilege by yourselves. You may continue to study magic in this domain only if you join the Magic Guild, adhere to the guild's order, and abide by the local laws... Should you choose not to, please leave on your own accord. If you agree, then immediately disband Elephant Assembly and submit your membership applications.”

Kenley immediately responded, “Elephant Assembly was merely for exchange among magicians. Upon arriving in Flame Territory, the Elephant Assembly no longer exists. I represent only myself, and I formally request to join the Magic Guild.”

The other magicians also expressed their desire to apply for membership.

As for how to arrange them next, Liszt did not inquire further, as several Grand Magicians had arrived for pilgrimage during this period, and Chris had everything well organized.

Of course, there might be part-time “rats” from other countries among them, but Liszt was not worried.

The territory was closely monitored by Blood Servants, these Vampires were Liszt's eyes in the shadows. Should any magician be found engaging in espionage, they would be humanely destroyed—no one dared accuse Liszt for the disappearance of a few magicians in Flame Territory.

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Following the arrival of the Iron Knights from the Fengxiang family and the magicians from Elephant Assembly, the “new Super Dragon Beast clue,” a reward from the previous mission, was quickly obtained.

Liszt specifically had someone inquire with these two groups. The Iron Knight family knew nothing about Super Dragon Beast clues, and they considered “Sub-dragons” to be

myth. However, among the magicians from Elephant Assembly, Kenley Truth had conducted substantial research on Sub-dragons and was aware of much information about them.

During her exchanges with Chris, this information was collated into a report presented to Liszt.

The Sub-dragons known to Kenley included the Phoenix, Great White Bull, Unicorn, Night Qi, Gallant Eagle, and Golden Mountain Goat—six kinds in total, and she had even witnessed the Golden Mountain Goat herself.

“The Golden Mountain Goat is a giant goat covered in golden wool, with goat horns like those of a dragon on its head. Its wool is extremely valuable. Earth Attribute Knights wearing the golden wool can receive powerful blessings. Much like the effect Phoenix Feathers have on Fire Attribute Knights.”

Without a doubt, the Golden Mountain Goat was a kind of Earth Attribute Super Dragon Beast, and the Royal Family of Steel Ridge was raising a herd of them. The golden wool shed by these goats was an excellent reward given by the King to his Knights.

Besides that.

The Royal Family once hunted Phoenixes and obtained many Phoenix Feathers; a Duke’s family that had birthed Dragon Knights bred a Sub-dragon called Gallant Eagle, a creature that looked like a combination of a horse and an eagle, reputed to cover a thousand miles in a single day; the Night Qi was a Sub-dragon that only the dead could see; the nature of the Great White Bull was unclear, but the throne of King Osborn of the Steel Ridge Nation was covered with the hide of the Great White Bull.

Among them was the Unicorn, a creature of very high legendary status, yet with detailed records.

In the Rose Duchy, a vassal to Steel Ridge, there had been an attempt to marry off a Princess (the Duke’s daughter) to the imbecile youngest son of the former King. The Princess, however, rode a Unicorn to escape the encirclement of the Knight Order and wandered into the forest—this incident was confirmed by the monarchs of both countries.

All six of these Sub-dragons existed in reality.

Of course, there are still many legendary Sub-dragons that have yet to be confirmed.

Such as the Hellhound Cerberus that suppressed the Exiled Lands, Leviathan from Devil's Sea, the Chimera with the head of a sheep, lion and snake, the giant wolf Fenrir from Ice Snow lands, Ouroboros that has its head connected to its tail, Nimia the indestructible giant lion...

And the keeper of the legendary Golden Apples, the Ladon Dragon which is a flightless Earth Dragon.

Furthermore, some legends record three Sub-dragons as strong as dragons themselves, which are Leviathan the sea monster, Behemoth the land monster, and Ziz the sky monster.

Of course.

While most of the legends are based on real prototypes, such as the Phoenix's prototype being the Flame Dragon Bird, which, although a Sub-dragon, isn't as magical as the Phoenix of legends.

But legends like Behemoth, Leviathan, and Ziz are likely just tall tales; dragons are the epitome of peak power.

"In the Pegasus Great Forest on the East Coast of the Kingdom, there are scattered high-level Dragon Beasts known as Pegasus. These white Pegasus are extremely majestic and attract many Knights to venture into the Pegasus Great Forest in search of them. Some Knights have revealed that they saw a Pegasus with a horn on its head among the herd, which was extraordinarily majestic and should be a Unicorn."

The Super Dragon Beast clue revealed by Kenley was roughly this one: "Unfortunately, Pegasus are powerful and incredibly fast, making them difficult to capture; Unicorns are even more elusive, disappearing into the forest after just one glance... Many Knights have testified to this, and it even prompted King Osborn to personally dispatch Knights in an attempt to capture one, but sadly the Unicorn was not found."

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“Pegasus Great Forest.”

Liszt recorded this location and planned to send Blood Servants who could understand Serpent Script to Pegasus Great Forest to investigate, to confirm the map trajectory and make time to search for the Unicorn himself.

Be it folk tales or the descriptions in the Knight’s Novels, the Unicorn has always been a symbol of purity.

Many people confidently claim that only a pure, beautiful, innocent, and kind maiden can be accepted by a Unicorn.

However, from the restoration of the Phoenix legend, Liszt had roughly understood that all Sub-dragons were excessively described, and these Super Dragon Beasts were merely somewhat magical Magical Beasts. Unicorns were probably no exception. Considering it appeared among a herd of Pegasus, it could be a Pegasus with the bloodline of a dragon.

Its characteristic was incredible speed, and hence, to capture a Unicorn, one must set a trap, or it would be difficult to give chase.

“However, according to Kenley’s description, how did the Rose Duchy’s Princess manage to tame a Unicorn and escape the encirclement of the Knight Order? Could it be that Unicorns are truly as sensitive to maidens as described?”

After pondering, he still shook his head: “That shouldn’t be the case.”

## Chapter 782: Sea Monster

The arrival of Kenley Truth brought many new magical ideas to the Magic Guild, as well as a large collection of Magic Books. In particular, her experience studying with the Court Grand Mage helped her understand the mainstream development of the magical world in the Steel Ridge Kingdom, which was outside the scope of what magicians from remote island nations could access.

However, there were Archmages here.

Liszt had the intention to mythologize Ach, avoiding arranging too many interactions between Ach and the common magicians, and he did not disclose the methods of advancing to Archmage. In truth, even if he disclosed it, it wouldn't matter much; in the current state of the Magic Web's contraction, telling Grand Magicians how to touch the Magic Web wouldn't help them to actually reach it.

Even a talent like Ach had barely touched the Magic Web with the help of Mermaid's Tear.

How could the common folk fathom the unattainability of the Magic Web?

He hoped more to wield Ach's influence to guide magicians to serve their territory and, when a magician made a contribution, to arrange for Ach to give them a bit of guidance. Only magicians who were wholeheartedly devoted to the Magic Guild and who were powerful Grand Magicians could earn the privilege to follow Ach.

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Currently, only Chris had the privilege to follow Ach, while the twins Lucy and Ruth were not included; they were magic seeds cultivated by Liszt himself.

After reading the knowledge brought by Kenley and others and under the collision of new thinking combined with the Earth knowledge provided by Liszt, Ach quickly developed the third Super Magic—a Centrifugal Water Molecular Shield.

This magic involved a special Magic Array that caused magic particles to move in uniform circular motion, separating the Water-Attribute Magic Power from the Chaotic Magic Power and then generating a stable magic shield. The circular magic shield had an exceptionally strong defense, nearly able to withstand a casual hit from a Dragon Knight.

Without a doubt, once this Super Magic could be instantly cast, Ach would play a significant role in aiding Liszt in battle.

It was not only about shielding for Liszt but also about protecting herself.

If a competent support couldn't even protect themselves, how could they protect the front-line damage dealer?

As Ach succeeded in developing three Super Magics, Liszt still hadn't managed to figure out the fourth move of "Fire Dragon Knight-Dragon Knight's Manual."

However, after experiencing the volcanic eruption, Liszt had made some progress—he could now use Leo's Dragon Might and stimulate it himself to intimidate the enemy. It was a very good offensive tactic, especially when unexpected and particularly against Magical Beasts.

He had envied the Grand Duke for displaying Dragon Might while fishing and acting cool, and now he could finally exude Dragon Might himself.

He was delighted.

However, just then, the sisters Lucy and Ruth, who had started to master the operation of the Magic Platform, brought him explosive news.

The news came from the Adventure Fleet: "On the sailing chart at XX direction... encountered a terrifying Sea Monster resembling a giant sea turtle. Initially thought to be a small reef, but realized it was a Sea Monster on approach. The Opportunity was too close, and when the sea turtle suddenly rose, it looked like a small island, lifting the Opportunity out of the water. The Sea Monster is now slowly moving southeast, requesting Lord Landlord's rescue."

"A Sea Monster comparable to a small island?"

Liszt immediately thought of the Thunder Attribute turtle shell worn by Emily, and this Sea Monster could be a type of Super Dragon Beast: "It's even possible that the clue for the Super Dragon Beast from the Smoke Mission isn't the Unicorn mentioned by Kenley, but the sea turtle Sea Monster reported by the Adventure Fleet?"

Whether it is or it isn't, the rescue must commence.

Battling Sea Monsters wasn't Liszt's forte, so he could only send Ach, and with Ach's identity as a Water Mage, even daring to fight against a Water Dragon, let alone a Super Dragon Beast.

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They set out according to the directions on the sailing chart.

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The Adventure Fleet was now searching for groups of islands south of the Three Islands, and it was pure luck to find the Three Islands in the vast sea. Therefore, when heading further south, luck was no longer on their side, and finding islands wasn't so easy; they hadn't seen even a shadow of an island for over ten days.

That's why, when they saw that turtle Sea Monster, they mistook it for a reef, thinking that where there are reefs, there may also be islands nearby.

Approaching in a hurry caused the Sea Monster to startle and move, forcing the Opportunity to run aground.

“We are now over thirteen hundred kilometers away from Black Horse Island. At the speed of Ach controlling the watercraft, it should take about two and a half hours. I hope that in this time, the turtle Sea Monster doesn't get restless and destroy my Opportunity,” Liszt mumbled to himself. The Grand Duke had only given him six Court Fast Sailing Ships.

The dockyard had yet to fully grasp the manufacturing technology of three-masted sailing ships, and the destruction of each Court Fast Sailing Ship represented a huge loss.

The Flame Number rapidly loaded up large quantities of supplies prepared for the Adventure Fleet and set sail an hour later under Ach's control, headed immediately towards the accident area.

Two and a half hours later, they arrived precisely, but there was no sign of the Adventure Fleet. Liszt called out for Leo, mounted him, and began a slow aerial search.

With constant communication with the Adventure Fleet through the Magic Platform, they finally pinpointed the fleet's location.



“Thank you, Your Highness, for coming to our rescue!” Yevich Water Peanut, with a face turned purplish-red by the sea wind, dispensed with formalities and went straight to the point: “The Sea Monster is swimming one kilometer ahead. It isn’t moving fast, but we dare not approach it for fear of provoking it again and causing unnecessary loss.”

At that moment, the Trident-Styled Rending Staff trembled as Virginia Truth, transformed from the Necrofish Ugly, appeared, “Your Highness, I’ve tried to approach the great Sea Monster, but it is extremely sensitive to me. I can sense its abhorrence of my undead identity.”

“I understand. Get ready to rescue the Opportunity. Leave the Sea Monster to me.”

After inquiring, Liszt handed over the Flame Number to Yevich for managing and transporting supplies, while he himself mounted the Little Fire Dragon Leo, flew up to assist Ach. There was no doubt that Ach was the main force in this battle.

“Be careful.”

“Don’t worry, brother. Ach will definitely protect himself.”

Having said this, the Nixie swiftly swam forward.

Liszt, concealing his Dragon Might and using the Dragon Eye Trajectory, continually swept his gaze ahead. The Magic Radiance feedback from the turtle Sea Monster shone in a purplish-white color, clearly indicating that it was a Thunder-Attribute Sea Monster.

Moreover, the intensity of the Magic Radiance indeed warranted the title of a Super Dragon Beast.

Most importantly, the concentration of Magic Power in the turtle shell was the most vigorous, which compelled Liszt to associate it with that palm-sized turtle shell he got from the Fire Dragon Knight, Carlo.

“Judging by eye, the diameter of the turtle shell is close to a hundred meters, meaning this Sub-dragon Turtle is probably larger than an adult Fire Dragon... Thankfully, even with its rich Magic Power, it can’t compare to that of a dragon’s, otherwise I’d really start to wonder if dragons truly stand at the pinnacle of strength among all creatures.”

In the midst of his observations, Ach had already approached the Sub-dragon Turtle.

However, she didn't immediately attack, as if she was confronting the Sub-dragon Turtle. At this moment, the Sub-dragon Turtle also noticed Ach, stopped moving, and slowly turned around.

On its turtle shell, indeed, there was a stranded fast sailing ship.

This Sub-dragon Turtle had lived for who knows how many years, its shell covered in corals, making it truly resemble a reef in the middle of the sea at first glance.

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#### Chapter 783: Island on the Devil's Sea

Ach faced off with the Sub-dragon Turtle, with each minute and second ticking by.

This left Liszt baffled; he had always been short-tempered in battle, getting things done after a few words, and since this world hailed strength as king, displaying strength was the best way to communicate. Once strength was shown, everyone knew how to speak to each other.

However, half an hour had passed, and Ach still hadn't made a move.

It was at this point that the Sub-dragon Turtle made a move, slowly sinking, its carapace dipping into the water bit by bit, and thus the Opportunity, which had been stranded on its shell, returned to the sea.

The next moment, a current of water carried the Opportunity away swiftly into the distance.

“So, that's the problem solved?” Liszt looked at the calm sea, feeling a bit uncomfortable. In fact, aside from rescuing the Opportunity, he had also wanted to hunt the Sub-dragon

Turtle—after all, it was a Super Dragon Beast, and its shell’s changing properties could be of immense help to his cultivation.

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The tail feathers of the Flame Dragon Bird had previously hinted at the changes between the soul and magic power, but he had not had the chance to witness more detailed aspects, which he greatly regretted.

It seemed as though to dispel Liszt’s thoughts.

Once the Opportunity was safe, the same Sub-dragon Turtle soon resurfaced, and on its shell, to everyone’s surprise, stood Ach in a Magic Cloak.

Ach waved at Liszt in the sky, signaling for him to come down.

Out of trust in Ach, and confidence in his own strength, Liszt leapt from the air, landing on the shell of the Sub-dragon Turtle. The large shell, almost one hundred meters in diameter and covered with many coral reefs, looked quite peculiar, making it hard to imagine how the Sub-dragon Turtle lived.

If you said it was a shellfish that didn’t move much and had coral growing on its shell, it wouldn’t be impossible, but for a sea turtle to have coral, it suggests that it barely moved at all in its daily life.

“Brother.”

“What’s with this turtle?”

“The Dragon Turtle poses no threat. Ach felt its heart was very peaceful, so I communicated with it for a while, and it has agreed to come home with me,” Ach said, beaming with a smile, very pleased with having won over a Super Dragon Beast Dragon Turtle, “Brother, please don’t kill it, okay?”

“It can really understand you?”

“Mhm. When Ach used to live in the sea, I saw many sea turtles, and I know they communicate through the vibrations in the water currents. So just now, Ach tried out different vibrations in the water current to make this Dragon Turtle understand. Though, it seems a bit slow in its thinking.”

“There’s such a technique.” Liszt believed him, after all, Ach was an Elf of the sea, and should have no problem taming marine creatures, “So what do you intend to do by taming it? To have it protect the territory, as a transport ship, or for research purposes? Does it really obey commands?”

“Brother, although the Dragon Turtle is slow, it has lived for a very long time. It says it knows many islands!”

“Islands?”

Liszt immediately smiled, “Good, good. If it can lead us to the islands, then its merit will be tremendous. When my country is established, perhaps I can keep it as a protector beast.” The value of a shell versus discovering islands suddenly seemed unimportant.

After all, he had Little Yellow, Little Red, and Little Purple to study at any time.

“The Dragon Turtle can definitely find islands. It says it returns to the island every year to reproduce.”

“How many little turtles has it bred?”

Ach replied, “The Dragon Turtle says there are many like it on the island where it was born. It doesn’t know how many exactly, but there are a lot, though none are as big as it is. Ever since it grew too large, it has rarely returned to its birth island, drifting in the sea instead.”

“Then let’s go take a look at its birth island first!” Liszt decided at once.

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He signaled the Adventure Fleet to protect Flame Number as it rested in place and to repair the damage to Opportunity. Liszt and Ach promptly urged the Sub-dragon Turtle to swim towards its birth island.

“This giant sea turtle is a Thunder Attribute Sub-dragon, and currently, there is no information on what it should be called in legend,” Liszt remarked as they set off. “So according to our naming convention, let’s call it Lightning Dragon Turtle. Its speed doesn’t seem very fast.”

The swimming speed of the Lightning Dragon Turtle was roughly around thirty to forty kilometers per hour.

Certainly faster than a sailboat’s speed, but accustomed to the speed and excitement Ach brought, Liszt found this pace unbearable.

“Don’t worry, brother,” Ach said.

Ach raised his hand, seemingly controlling the currents and communicating with the Lightning Dragon Turtle. After a moment, he said, “The Lightning Dragon Turtle is sensing the direction; once it selects the birth island’s direction, Ach will control the currents to help speed it up.”

Ten minutes later.

The Lightning Dragon Turtle finally determined its direction — slightly southeast of due east. Following this course seemed to indicate they were heading towards the Devil’s Sea, beyond the Sea of Azure Waves.

The sailing records of the Duchy of Sapphire showed that the Sapphire Archipelago was surrounded by the Sea of Azure Waves, and beyond that was the Devil’s Sea, with no detailed delineation of other waters. Strictly speaking, the current location of the Adventure Fleet had already left the Sea of Azure Waves, where Sapphire ships were active, and were now sailing in a new area.

But regardless, this new area was also considered part of the near seas of the Legendary Continent — Liszt hoped to establish a nation in the near seas.

Sailing further east would bring them increasingly farther from the Legendary Continent.

That unknown ocean was collectively called the Devil's Sea.

Ach began controlling the currents, allowing the Lightning Dragon Turtle to ride the flow she created, suddenly accelerating to about two hundred kilometers per hour. This continued for five straight hours, covering a distance of over a thousand kilometers. As a crescent moon rose, the Lightning Dragon Turtle became visibly excited.

It sensed the aura of its birth island, or rather, it felt a natural affinity for the seas surrounding its island.

Continuing to swim for another half an hour under the moonlight, Liszt and Ach finally saw the outline of an island. The island was not big, possibly much smaller than Black Horse Island. However, in the view of Liszt's Eye of Magic, it shimmered with specks of purple and white light.

These were likely the Lightning Dragon Turtle's kind.

"We're going to be rich!"

This thought flashed quickly through his mind, but soon gave way to confusion as he drew closer. The Lightning Dragon Turtles in his view emitted a weaker magic glow than the one beneath him, and most importantly, their shells did not have a special brightness.

Their size was also much smaller than the Lightning Dragon Turtle, with the largest one estimated to have a diameter of only about twenty meters: "Are they juveniles, or not Lightning Dragon Turtles at all?" He suddenly remembered the unicorn information brought by Kenley Truth — it was said that unicorns lived among a herd of Pegasus.

Clearly, Pegasus and unicorns had inherent differences, making it difficult to consider them the same species.

Perhaps this Lightning Dragon Turtle differed essentially from the turtles on the island — it remained a mystery whether this difference was innate or caused by growth.

Flame Dragon Birds and their fledglings, unicorns and Pegasus, Lightning Dragon Turtles and ordinary Lightning Turtles... Information about these Super Dragon Beasts quickly flickered in his mind as he sought patterns and clues.

At this time.

The Lightning Dragon Turtle had already approached the shore and began to crawl towards the land.

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#### Chapter 784: Heaven and Earth Strangulation

Among the nightfall.

Liszt pulled out two Hand Magic Tubes—as the name suggests, Hand Magic Tubes are flashlights that use magic power to emit light. Unscrewing the cap of the flashlight, the light converged into a beam within the crystal-carved shade, its brightness comparable to a car’s headlamp. Undoubtedly, this was a new product developed by the Magic Guild.

He and Ach each held a Hand Magic Tube.

Following the Lightning Dragon Turtle ashore, it seemed that the presence of the Lightning Dragon Turtle stirred the other Dragon Turtles of varying sizes in the vicinity. Within the view of the Eye of Magic, pulsating purplish-white lights could be seen, indicating that the Dragon Turtles were preparing to cast magic.

However, with a roar from the Lightning Dragon Turtle that sounded like “Angchi,” the other Dragon Turtles immediately ceased their unrest and slowly approached the Lightning Dragon Turtle.

After several “Angchi” roars from the Lightning Dragon Turtle, all the other Dragon Turtles returned to their spots and continued to settle down.

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Holding the Hand Magic Tube, Liszt jumped off the back of the Lightning Dragon Turtle and inspected the quiet Dragon Turtles. He noticed that they were eighty percent similar in appearance to the Lightning Dragon Turtle, but their shells were different. The shell of the Lightning Dragon Turtle had three raised ridges, while the other Dragon Turtles had shells that were very smooth.

He really wanted to kill a few Dragon Turtles to study their internal structure, but with the Lightning Dragon Turtle nearby, he didn't have the nerve to kill—after all, who knew if these counted as its offspring or not.

“Actually, they probably don't.”

After observing for a while, Liszt concluded, “These Dragon Turtles fundamentally differ from the Lightning Dragon Turtle in terms of lineage. The hatchlings of the Flame Dragon Bird are High Magic from birth, with the seven feathers at the end of their tails being distinctive; whereas these Dragon Turtles are merely Low Magic, with no special qualities to their shells.”

Reaching this conclusion, he actually felt quite disappointed; he had hoped to find a large group of Lightning Dragon Turtles, only to discover they were just a bunch of Magical Beasts.

“Ach, take note, judging from the size of this group of Dragon Turtles, the largest one approaches a diameter of twenty meters and should be classified as Advanced Magical Beasts... They haven't reached the level of Super Magical Beasts, let alone Super Dragon Beasts.”

“Okay, brother.”

After observing the Dragon Turtles, Liszt prepared to inspect the island, which he had named “Dragon Turtle Island.” However, after sweeping back and forth with the Hand Magic Tube, he quickly realized that the island was simply a desolate one, devoid of trees and composed entirely of stones and sand.

Without trees, it meant there were no Elves, Magic Potions, or other resources; in essence, it lacked value.



Therefore, after a brief inspection, he did not continue, and returned to the Lightning Dragon Turtle's location, where Ach was sitting on the shell, sketching and writing. A Crystal Lamp illuminated the small table in front of her, the white paper notebook and quill pen continuously producing Serpent Script and drawings as she charted the nautical map.

In fact, she was predominantly using the nautical map to compose books about celestial navigation.

The ships of the Duchy of Sapphire had begun to use the stars to navigate, and after Liszt taught Ach astronomical knowledge, she combined the knowledge of her predecessors with that of Liszt to create a completely new form of astrology—currently, the new astrology only served the purpose of determining location.

“Brother, according to Ach's measurement and calculation of the constellations, Dragon Turtle Island is about one thousand eight hundred and fifty kilometers away from Black Horse Island in a straight line.”

She waved her hand casually.

A Telescope formed from condensed water flow appeared before her eyes, scanning across the sky before dissipating just as quickly.

In her hand, the quill rapidly produced a clear picture: “Brother, look, this is the grid map of the Sea of Azure Waves that Ach drew based on the longitude and latitude you taught.”

The difficulty of measuring longitude and latitude made them temporarily impossible to record, so a coordinate system was established for preliminary application instead.

Within the grid of coordinate lines, there were several small dots, representing the discovered islands.

Black Horse Island was at the northernmost end of the grid, the Three Islands were in the center, and Dragon Turtle Island was positioned to the southeast, forming a blunt-angled triangle with the other two points.

“Hmm, this is drawn quite well, very lifelike,” Liszt praised.

Ach spoke again, “Brother, I am prepared to dive into the depths of the sea now. I want to investigate the submarine part of Dragon Turtle Island to see whether it is still within the continental shelf or has approached the continental slope... According to the boundary you use the continental slope to define, Liszt—the near sea, the Sea of Azure Waves and the deep sea, the Devil’s Sea, it’s very likely that Dragon Turtle Island lies at the juncture of both seas.”

“Let’s go tomorrow instead; it is night time now. Rest well for now and don’t wear yourself out,” Liszt said.

“Brother, you go ahead and rest. Ach isn’t sleepy at all.”

“If you’re not sleepy, do something else. Don’t go into the sea at night,” Liszt said. Although Ach was the ocean’s ruler by night as much as by day and sea monsters posed no threat to her, Liszt just felt the sea at night was dangerous and unsuitable for random wanderings.

Ach didn’t insist. After chatting with Liszt for a while, she continued to look up at the starry sky at a 45-degree angle, probing the secrets emanating from the cosmos.

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The next day.

Ach dove into the vast sea early in the morning to proceed with the task she could not accomplish the night before, investigating the geographical position of Dragon Turtle Island. Liszt, on the other hand, continued to inspect the island. In the daylight, the view was wide, allowing an unobstructed view of the entire island—a desolate one devoid of life.

Only a group of dragon turtles inhabited this place.

But as the sun rose higher, the dragon turtles also entered the sea, and soon there was only a Lightning Dragon Turtle left on the island. The Lightning Dragon Turtle nestled in its

shell, deep in sleep and yet to wake. Since it had landed on the island the previous evening and let out a few “Angchi” cries, it hadn’t moved once.

Perhaps for a Lightning Dragon Turtle of such colossal size, remaining still was the major part of its existence.

In the afternoon.

Liszt was eating lunch.

Ach returned and brought the information she had gathered: “To the west of Dragon Turtle Island is the continental shelf, and to the east, the continental slope. This is indeed the boundary between the near sea and the deep sea; further east lies the Devil’s Sea.”

Legend has it that the Devil’s Sea is capricious, and storms are a constant occurrence.

As if to underscore Ach’s investigation, shortly after she finished speaking, a storm rolled in from afar, enveloping the clouds and furiously assaulting Dragon Turtle Island. The island shook in the ferocious wind and thunderous lightning, leaving it quivering in extreme weather. Far from being frightened, the Lightning Dragon Turtle awoke from its deep slumber.

Purple-white lightning-attributed Magic Radiance continually rose from its shell, drawing lightning from the sky and using the power of the storm to strengthen its own aura.

“Ach, I’m suddenly feeling that the so-called Super Dragon Beasts aren’t infected by dragons, but by the Superior Magic that nature ferments... Can you feel it? Every bolt of lightning is brewed with a vast amount of thunder-attribute Superior Magic, which the Lightning Dragon Turtle captures,” Liszt said.

“Ach can only feel it vaguely,” she replied.

“The Lightning Superior Magic can’t be stored within its body, but during the breakdown process, a great deal of High Magic borne from lightning becomes nourishment for its growth... Perhaps this is why it evolved from an ordinary Dragon Turtle into a Lightning Dragon Turtle, its bloodline forged by postnatal factors,” Liszt mused.

Liszt realized the essence of the Super Dragon Beasts: “It has mutated!”

Looking at the Lightning Dragon Turtle bathing in lightning.

His eyes slowly sparkled with the luster of wisdom, and he was struck with a multitude of inspirations in an instant.

He summoned Little Fire Dragon Leo directly: “Leo, the elves depleted by the volcanic eruption should have recovered by now. Let’s embrace the storm together to refine the fourth move of “Fire Dragon Knight-Dragon Qi’s Manual”... I have figured this one out, to strangle everything by leveraging the force of nature—it shall be named—Sea-Boiling!”

Chapter 785: Discovering Archipelago

“Let the storm rage fiercer!”

As one with his Dragon, resonating in Dragon Knight harmony, Liszt grasped the five-meter-long Dragon Lance – Wrath of Thunder, his spirit soaring to the skies with bold ambitions.

Dragon Dou Qi burst forth from his body, evaporating the raindrops the size of soybeans before they could even draw near. Wherever the Dragon Knight passed, even the fiercest storms could only turn into steam and mist, tracing a path of haze in the air. It added a third color between heaven and earth, a tearing trail of water and fire.

Leo was a Fire Dragon, and he did not like storms or ocean environments.

However, his previous incarnation had perished at sea, and upon rebirth, he emerged from the ocean, forced to leave his rightful home and to endure the test of harsh environments.

This made him angry: “Oohoo!”

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Liszt and he were two of a kind, understanding each other's thoughts, and they dominated each other's thinking: "Anger is the most useless emotion, Leo. You must learn to overcome anger! Destiny made your forebear die in the very sea you fear, so in this life, you should start learning young to conquer the ocean!"

"Oohoo!"

"Yes, mastering the storm is just the first step for you and me to conquer the ocean. Once we conquer the sea, what on the Legendary Continent could possibly stop our steps and wings!"

"Oohoo!"

At this moment, man and dragon felt no fear or loathing for the storm, only a soaring fighting spirit to tear through the winds and rain, the flashes of lightning and thunder.

Suddenly.

Leo twisted his body, diving down in a spiral. Liszt tightened his grip on Wrath of Thunder, vibrating the Dragon Lance in his hands following Leo's twist, rhythmically releasing bursts of Dragon Dou Qi. Rings of flame expanded outward, continuously tearing apart the roaring wind and rain.

Even the Superior Magic of lightning strikes were shattered upon colliding with the Dragon Knight's attacks.

By the time Liszt and Leo had plummeted a kilometer from above Dragon Turtle Island, crashing to the other end of the island, the clouds that had darkened the sky were lit up by their persistent dive-attack trajectory, with countless flames hanging in the sky, boiling the wind and rain.

"Sea-Boiling!"

"This is the fourth move of my Dragon Dou Qi Manual, and currently the most powerful one!" Liszt finally channeled the Dragon Knight's attack towards the chaotic rocks by the sea, directly blasting out a meteorite-sized crater and melting the surrounding rocks with the high temperature, forming many glimmering pieces of glass.

Many of the stones in this area were quartz.

After a while.

The flames in the sky slowly died down, and the giant pit on the ground was filled in by seawater, as the storm smoothed over the Dragon Knight's attack. Liszt, riding Leo, floated leisurely by the sea, gazing at the fearsome weather and thought quietly, "What if I used Fire Dragon Overmagic to drive this attack, would it be eternally engraved above Dragon Turtle Island's skies?"

This was just a thought, as the current Leo couldn't afford to use Fire Dragon Overmagic as a regular means of attack—igniting the Dodo Island Volcano eruption had already consumed much of his Fire Dragon Overmagic.

Flapping his wings.

Returning to the Lightning Dragon Turtle's position, the sea monster bathed in thunder was quite frightened of Leo. Thankfully, Liszt suppressed Leo's Dragon Might. Ach kept soothing the Lightning Dragon Turtle, which prevented it from fleeing into the sea—even a Super Dragon Beast had no choice but to shiver in the presence of a Dragon.

Even though the Lightning Dragon Turtle was a hundred meters in diameter, Leo compared to it was like a small bird.

Bang! Thump!

Liszt exited the Dragon Rider Mode, leapt down from Leo, and stood on the turtle shell. Leo then transformed into a ball of flame, returning to Liszt's body to rest and recover.

"Once the storm stops and the Lightning Dragon Turtle finishes its training, Ach, have it continue to look for new islands... This Dragon Turtle Island isn't of much developmental value, but those ordinary dragon turtles might be worth trying to tame a few large ones to see if they can be used to pull ships."

He had some more lines that he didn't say—next time, they should hunt a group of dragon turtles to taste the meat. If it's good quality and nutritious, it could be a rich source of magical beast meat.

...

Three days later, after the Lightning Dragon Turtle had finished its training.

The Adventure Fleet had already set sail again, continuing to search the unknown seas.

Liszt and Ach continued to make the Lightning Dragon Turtle search for the islands it had visited before. However, much to his frustration, the Lightning Dragon Turtle's choices of direction were always heading east towards the Devil's Sea. Its former habitats were mostly in the Devil's Sea, not near the coast.

The Devil's Sea was not yet within Liszt's planned scope of exploration—the fact that the edge islands could be hit by a three-day and three-night storm implied the interior of the Devil's Sea would be terrifying, to say the least.

So the current focus remained on searching the nearby seas.

It wasn't until Ach repeatedly objected that the Lightning Dragon Turtle chose a new direction, heading towards the southwest. Relying on Ach's control of the currents, it took seven hours before a new island came into Liszt's view, a green island.

Not very big.

But there were several more island outlines around it.

"This is an archipelago!" Liszt's heart surged with anticipation. Finding an archipelago meant finding hope for nation-building.

Ach handed over a piece of grid paper: "Brother, here's the map of the archipelago."

On the map, using Black Horse Island as the starting point, and including Dragon Turtle Island and this New Archipelago, they could form an obtuse triangle—though Dragon Turtle Island’s position became the obtuse angle. While connecting the islands, Ach also marked the distances, looking very professional.

From Black Horse Island to Dragon Turtle Island is 1850 kilometers, and from Dragon Turtle Island to the archipelago is about 1300 kilometers; from Black Horse Island to Three Islands is 800 kilometers, and from Three Islands to the archipelago is about 2500 kilometers. This means the distance from Black Horse Island to the archipelago is nearly 3300 kilometers, sufficiently far from the Sapphire Archipelago.

Such a distance, by sailing ship, with favorable winds, might take around twenty days.

“Ach, take the Lightning Dragon Turtle to land on the island and check it out. Leo and I will go up to observe and see just how many islands there are around this archipelago.”

“Okay.”

Dragon rising into the sky.

The view suddenly expanded, and one by one, islands came into sight—indeed, it was a vast archipelago. However, the more he flew, the more disappointed Liszt became. There were over a hundred islands observed near the archipelago, but not a single one was as large as Black Horse Island.

The islands were arranged in an arc, sparsely scattered around the arc, stretching out over two to three hundred kilometers.

“Such an archipelago is impossible for nation-building. All of the islands combined might not even be as big as Red Crab Island.”

Liszt returned to the Lightning Dragon Turtle’s location, expressing disappointment in the results of this trip, and hoped the Lightning Dragon Turtle would continue to lead him to new islands.

However, the Lightning Dragon Turtle indicated that this was the farthest it had been; its other habitats were all in the Devil’s Sea.



With this, Liszt could only regretfully accept it and make a new decision, “Since that’s the case, then let’s direct the Adventure Fleet here and use this archipelago as a coordinate to continue the search in the surrounding area. Now that we’ve found a new archipelago, perhaps there are even larger ones nearby.”

“Anyway, discovering such a series of archipelagos is still of great value. We should thoroughly search them and see how many elves, magic potions, and magical beasts we can find!”

## Chapter 786: Eye of Magic Power

This arc-shaped archipelago was named by Liszt as “First Chain Island.”

Beyond the already named “Flame Islands,” which was slated for future use, he intended to use designations such as First, Second, Third, and so on for similar archipelagos. As for other scattered islands, those worthy of individual names would be named after landmarks like Dragon Turtle Island; those not worthy would simply be named as Island One, Island Two, Island Three, and the like.

Liszt and Leo were utterly exhausted from flying over First Chain Island for three whole days.

Throughout these three days, he frequently executed the Dragon Eye Trajectory, searching for green vegetation on the islands, both large and small, in an attempt to find Elves, Magic Potions, and Magical Beasts.

However, these islands were too small to support the living needs of Magical Beasts. Even if there were some animals, they were only small herbivores like groundhogs and rabbits. Or there were marine mammals like birds and seals, among which only a few birds and seals were Magical Beasts.

Most of the islands did not even support the growth of trees, and the majority of the plants were various weeds.

...

These weeds were very suitable for grazing and contained many high-quality pasture grass species. Yet, whether the islands were too barren or for some other reason, these weeds did not give birth to any Elves. In three days of search, he found only seven Elf Bugs, all of which were associated with weeds.

On a few slightly larger islands, small woodlands were sporadically dispersed. But due to the poor soil, no Elves were nurtured.

In short.

First Chain Island appeared to consist of more than a hundred islands, stretching over two to three hundred kilometers of ocean, but the actual resources were incredibly scarce. It was only suitable as a trading hub for sailors, not for human habitation—although it must be said the scenery here was beautiful, with beaches connecting one after the other.

If it were on Earth, it would definitely become a famously luxurious vacation resort; unfortunately, Nobles here did not favor traveling far for holidays.

They had their own territories where they could construct landscaped estates, with abundant pleasures in horse riding and hunting.

Just as Liszt was preparing to journey back to the Flame Territory, an exciting surprise came from Ach; his eyes suddenly showed a profound vortex akin to the Milky Way in his blue pupils, almost identical to when Liszt used the Eye of Magic Power.

“Brother, Ach has already researched the Eye of Magic Power, and the effects are quite similar to the Eye of Magic that you described, brother. He can see the light of magic feedback!”

“Impressive!” Liszt did not skimp on his praise.

Transforming Combat Skills into Magic, naturally, the difficulty was immense, and most crucial was that Ach was not solely dedicated to this single project; she was simultaneously working on many projects. Essentially, it was in her spare time that she improved The Eye of Magic, completing the Eye of Magic Power easily within half a month.

Beyond calling it a work of genius, Liszt did not know how else to describe it.

Perhaps, it could be described as “favored by the Truth of Magic,” just as Liszt himself was always “favored by the Glory of the Knight.” It must be said, among all the rewards from the Smoke Mission, Ach benefitted the most, and moreover, the benefits would continue to accrue endlessly.

“However, brother, the implementation of the Eye of Magic Power is quite difficult. It must be driven by the High Magic of the Magic Web, and only an Archmage can release it.”

“That’s not an issue; as long as it’s convenient for you, that’s what matters.”

His original intention was just to provide convenience to Ach. The idea of popularizing ‘The Eye of Magic’ or the ‘Eye of Magic Power’ was out of the question.

When the right moment came, he went to investigate Steve Vulture – Steve Vulture, the knight of the Blast Furnace Fortress Kingdom.

This Sky Knight was the author of “The Eye of Magic” and “Breath Decay.” Of course, it was hard to say if it was actually created by Steve Vulture himself, but it was certain that this was the Dou Qi Secret Technique inherited by the Vulture Family. Liszt wanted to know what caused it to end up in the Duchy of Sapphire.

He had a hunch — perhaps the Vulture Family had some origins with the Sapphire Family, because the Sapphire Family originally came from the Blast Furnace Fortress Kingdom as well.

Moreover, it was certain that “The Eye of Magic” recorded on a piece of golden parchment and “Breath Decay” recorded on a silver parchment hadn’t been circulating for hundreds of years; they must have begun circulating only in recent years, perhaps within the last decade or two. The reason was simple: the second-hand books that wrapped the papers weren’t very old.

Thick paper is not easy to preserve; in about a few decades, it would slowly decay — which is another reason why history gets lost in the sands of time. After the destruction of the Moon Empire, which ruled the world with magic, perhaps decades or even centuries of wars accelerated the extinction of all books that recorded civilization.

Once he confirmed whether the Vulture Family still existed or whether the family had passed on their Dou Qi Secret Techniques to others, Liszt would then plan his next move.

In any case, he intended to make these two Dou Qi Secret Techniques a family heirloom to pass on to his descendants, to establish a legacy for generations to come. Although he came from a good, young man within the community's egalitarian system, feudalism and the idea of the family ruling the world still lingered in Liszt's mind.

One's own possessions should naturally be left to one's own descendants, not to be given away to others!

Calling for Jack Ma day in and day out, but you don't see Jack Ma writing off your Ant CreditPay debts. Ultimately this society still operates on the principle of "everyone should sweep the snow from their own doorsteps and not bother about the frost on their neighbor's roofs"; what's mine is not yours. Even if they are brothers and sisters, once they marry and settle down, if you're poor, you stay poor. It's not like you get money just because of blood relations.

Liszt had already split off from the Tulip Family and founded the Flame Family. From now on, his wealth would only be passed down within the Flame Family.

He could be as close to the Tulip Family as if they were one family, partner in business ventures, but their interests had to be separated. Even Marquis of Bull Tail, who was his father — all of the Marquis's wealth had nothing to do with Liszt; that was the wealth that his brother Levis could inherit.

The money he borrowed from the Tulip Family had to be repaid, and the Tulip Family also had to repay the money they borrowed from him.

Even from the perspective of someone from Earth, once families split apart, they live their own lives; all the more so in this society that prioritizes interests within the Noble and Knight system.

It's not that just because Liszt had two dragons, he must give one to his father Li Weiliang; otherwise, he would be unfilial, selfish, without affection, and greedy for profits above all else. Anyone stepping out of the ivory tower should understand the meaning behind "even blood brothers should settle accounts clearly."

There's wisdom in sayings that last through the ages.

Many families have been riddled with conflicts over money, and even who a house is registered to can cause a full-blown fight; how much more so when two families have split — only by settling the property clearly, without causing conflicts, can they get along easier and live more harmoniously.

For an instant, his thoughts drifted too far, but Liszt quickly gathered his thoughts back and smiled as he gently stroked Ach's deep blue hair.

Then he called out the Smoke Mission.

“Complete the mission, reward: ‘The Eye of Magic’ improved version Super Magic – Eye of Mana.”

In a moment, new Smoke Serpent Script condensed.

“Mission: After diligent training, Light Magic Swordsman Paris has finally reached the bottleneck of intermediate Light Attribute Dou Qi, but she has no clue about how to make a breakthrough. Why not increase the research on Light Magic Swordsman to help Paris make a successful breakthrough and collect data on the practice of Light Magic Swordsman? Reward: clues on Fire Paladin.”

Chapter 787: Hands-Off Shopkeeper

In the Flame Territory, Black Horse Island, Thorn Castle, on the fifth floor, there was Liszt's exclusive training room.

Paris was wielding a great sword, practicing the Dou Qi Manuscript “Flash Slash”, a light attribute Dou Qi Manuscript that Liszt had purchased at considerable expense—since knights with the light attribute Dou Qi are very rare, so too are the manuscripts, making them precious and naturally expensive.

Liszt sat in a large chair, employing the Eye of Magic Power to closely observe the operation of Dou Qi and magic power within Paris's body.

Unlike regular light attribute knights, a light magic swordsman can not only refine their own light attribute Dou Qi but also naturally absorb the free light attribute magic power in the air.

...

As both magic and Dou Qi were cultivated together, the route for operating magic power was also rather complex.

With Paris's not-so-sharp mind, without guidance, it would be difficult for her to break through the limit of an Earth Knight.

In other words, without Liszt helping her navigate the path of cultivation, she would remain at the level of an elite light attribute Earth Knight and an average light system magician for the rest of her life. However, she was fortunate to have followed a Dragon Knight as a landlord, who often trained her and guided her on how to cultivate.

"Paris has good physical talents, but her comprehension is lacking. Her Dou Qi has reached a bottleneck, and under normal conditions, she should be striving to break through to become a Sky Knight," Liszt observed and discussed with Ach, "But a normal breakthrough is very difficult for her, and the root cause is her body."

Paris could be described as a success because of her affinity for the light attribute, and yet also a failure for the same reason.

Her affinity for the light attribute allowed her to cultivate Dou Qi at an extraordinary speed, and coupled with her original talent, she quickly reached the bottleneck of intermediate Dou Qi. However, due to her affinity for the light attribute, her body naturally attracted the free light attribute magic power, which interrupted the boiling of her Dou Qi, causing interference with the breakthrough.

Ach, too, was using the Super Magic – Eye of Mana to carefully observe the flow of Dou Qi within Paris, as well as the interference from the light attribute magic power.

"Brother, Paris's breakthrough is affected by the variable of light attribute magic power. If we resolve this variable, she should be able to break through quickly."

“How to resolve it?”

“Ach has thought of three solutions. The first is to rely on a special environment to shield the free light attribute magic power; the second is to cut the connection between Dou Qi and magic power to establish a new Dou Qi circulation route, reducing the frequency of magic power mingling with Dou Qi; the third is to use a magic array.”

“A magic array?”

“Yes, by using a magic array to accelerate the light attribute magic power in Paris, allowing her to break through the bottleneck together with her Dou Qi... Currently, we can modify the advanced light system magic – Invisibility Technique, to intersect with her “Flash Slash”, thereby achieving a simultaneous breakthrough.”

Invisibility technique, a kind of magic that was almost instinctively used by Paris when she was a Black Dragon Childe, and there was no strategy more familiar to her.

However, at that time, it was a power given to her by the Light Dragon—Light and Shadow Tug.

Now that the power of the Light Dragon had been cleared, she could no longer use Light and Shadow Tug, but she still grasped the principle.

“Then, Paris’s breakthrough will be left for you, Ach, to handle, and keep an eye on the operation method while you’re at it,” Liszt naturally took the role of a hands-off manager, “I plan to see if I can train a group of Fire Paladins, since there’s no volcano and Leo is idle anyway.”

“Mhm,” Ach nodded, also quite interested in the new cultivation system of a light magic swordsman.

It was quite fulfilling to innovate a new cultivation system.

People cannot learn to cultivate immediately upon birth, nor can magicians and knights emerge out of nowhere. They’re the result of predecessors adapting to the physics and magic rules of the world, slowly figuring out a cultivation system. What Liszt and Ach were doing was just this.

Perhaps they would fail, or perhaps succeed; nobody could say for sure.

...

There are a myriad of matters concerning the territory, but with more and more talented individuals coming to follow, things are gradually getting on the right track. Not to mention the magicians, who are gathering in greater numbers—though there might be some who dislike the atmosphere here and leave, those who stay are in the majority, as the environment provided by the Magic Guild for experimentation is much better than solitary research.

Those who truly seek the Truth will naturally stay and slowly integrate into the Magic Guild.

Even many magicians believe that is how magicians should conduct research during the time of the Moon Empire—prospering magic cannot be achieved by working in isolation.

As for knights.

In Sapphire, there are a large number of frustrated knights slowly converging towards the Flame Territory. Especially in Iron Hoof City, where a large number of knights have gathered, many of whom were implicated by the Marquis of Bull's betrayal and stripped of their noble titles. Liszt's rise has shown them the glory of knights once again.

Following Liszt's standards, Garcia, Marcus, and others continually screen knights.

Knights of good character and excellent talent are arranged to train and work on Black Horse Island, while a mix of knights stay to work in Iron Hoof City.

Anyway, Liszt doesn't have many construction plans for Iron Hoof City. He even rented the farmlands to the Marquis of Bull Tail to cultivate, and the area is barely maintained, serving as a transportation hub. The trading of sea salt, glass, and white paper all centers around Iron Hoof City for expansion to the outside.

What local officials need to do is select excellent knights and send them to Thorn Castle.



Then they would be accepted by Liszt as followers.

He has already intermittently accepted the allegiance of more than a hundred knights.

The total number of Earth Knights in the territory has broken through six hundred, forming four Knight Orders—the Iron Hoof City Knights, the Black Horse Island Knights, the Fresh Flower Knights, and the Giant Algae Knights.

The leader of the Iron Hoof City Knights is Garcia, a Sky Knight; the leader of the Black Horse Island Knights is Fox, a Sky Knight; the leader of the Fresh Flower Knights Order is Liszt himself, and the members are all elite Earth Knights; the leader of the Giant Algae Knights is Marcus, stationed to guard the territory.

In addition, Paris's patrolling team is gradually transitioning from Apprentice Knights to Earth Knights.

Charles' security team also has selected a number of weakened and older Earth Knights.

Of course, these are all temporary knight orders, hastily assembled for the time being. After the establishment of the nation, the knight orders will gradually become formalized and renamed.

...

In the blink of an eye, February has ended.

Winter has passed, and spring has arrived. The territory has begun the busy work of spring plowing. Just at this time, Crown Prince Anthony Sapphire once again visited Black Horse Island.

Liszt received Crown Prince Anthony and his entourage at Thorn Castle.

"Your Highness, I bring you a proposal from my father. He hopes to join forces with you to launch a major naval campaign, completely destroy the Eagle Kingdom's fleet, and

reclaim the sea back into the arms of the Sapphire People,” Anthony started with his intentions and then divulged more secrets in the study.

“According to the rats of the Sapphire Family’s investigations, after Carlo Violet of the Eagle Kingdom died at the hands of Your Highness, the Light Green Gemstone Dragon did not return to the Eagle Kingdom. It is very likely that it has become an Evil Dragon in the wild. With Steel Ridge Kingdom and Blast Furnace Fortress Kingdom continuously pressuring the border, Eagle Kingdom can no longer afford to focus on the sea.”

This news was clearly not something new.

Because the Light Green Gemstone Dragon was in Liszt’s hands: “The Light Green Gemstone Dragon not returning is indeed very interesting... As for eradicating the Eagle Kingdom’s fleet, that aligns perfectly with my intention; in principle, I agree. I wonder how the Grand Duke plans to cooperate, and how will profits be divided?”

The fleet of Eagle Kingdom looking for the Light Green Gemstone Dragon in the sea had been very annoying to him. Since the Sapphire Duke already had an idea, he naturally agreed promptly.

If he could completely eliminate the Eagle Kingdom’s maritime force, it would also be greatly beneficial to the nation he was about to establish.

#### Chapter 788: Anthony’s Pressure

“Father’s intention is for you to suppress the naval warfare, with the Knight Order of Sapphire serving as the main force in the war, and we will split the resulting taxes equally between our two families.”

Anthony relayed the Sapphire Duke’s proposition for their mutual benefit.

In previous years, it had always been the Sapphire Duke who suppressed the situation, battling any potential Dragon Knights to ensure the battlefield remained at the level of ordinary knights. Consequently, all knight orders had to pay taxes on their earnings, especially on metals and other ores, which had to be distributed personally by the Duke after the war.

This time, the Sapphire Duke planned to have Liszt suppress the conflict, and then split the taxes equally, which was still a rather fair proposal.

After some thought, Liszt agreed, “That’s acceptable, but you need to present a more detailed plan. We need to know the exact number of ports, ships, and the distribution of shipbuilding technicians in the Eagle Kingdom. I hope to neutralize all their maritime forces in one battle, making them fear to tread the ocean for decades to come!”

“Your Highness’s ambition is admirable. As the overseer of this maritime campaign, I will certainly investigate all the details thoroughly,” Anthony replied solemnly.

...

Looking at the still somewhat youthful face of Liszt, but hearing his shrewd tone, he couldn’t help but be deeply moved.

...

Regarding Liszt himself, the core members of the Sapphire Family hadn’t ceased their discussions, particularly after the Dragon Slaying battle, when almost daily conversations about Liszt took place.

An eighteen-year-old Dragon Knight and possibly an even younger Archmage, it was beyond imagination.

The Sapphire Duke knew Earl William Lee of Coral Island very well, a man full of daring and not without talent, regarded as one of the most promising new nobles in the country. But his heir, Levis, was considered more of a conservative successor, and it was thought that it would take the Tulip Family several generations of hard work to ascend to the rank of Marquis.

But then a huge variable emerged.

Initially, Liszt did not attract much attention.

It was during the First Prince’s siege of Juniper Castle that he took a second look at Liszt, finding the young man promising and worth cultivating. Then before long, Liszt, as a part

of the Pioneer Mandate, earned the title of Viscount and advanced to become a Sky Knight, claiming the title of the country's youngest.

Only then did Liszt truly enter the eyes of the Sapphire Duke.

As the ruler of a nation, the Duke certainly had to pay attention to the country's youth—these were the future noble candidates, as well as the recipients of his seeds of loyalty.

However, before the Duke could take any action, Liszt had already become an Inheritor of the Ghost Swordsman, capable of defeating top-tier warriors like Domain Knights. When the news reached him, the Duke called his staff together for two meetings to discuss Liszt, which Anthony also attended.

Ultimately, the Duke decided to personally recruit Liszt as a follower.

But Earl William Lee interrupted, using the reason “My son is planning to help me vie for a Marquisate before our family branches out,” a motivation the Duke couldn't fault—he obviously believed that it was the position of Marquis left vacant after the defection of the Marquis of Bull that had stimulated Earl William Lee to make an agreement with his son to attain the Marquisate.

There was no fault in that, so the issue was temporarily set aside.

“At that time, Liszt was not even an Inheritor of the Ghost Swordsman but was probably already successful in Dragon Riding... A Dragon Knight would naturally not wish to pledge loyalty to my father,” Anthony's thoughts flashed through his mind, “and Earl William Lee's claim that Liszt was planning to pledge allegiance to me in a few years was just a ruse.”

With this thought, he couldn't help feeling irked, played like a monkey.

However, as a worthy successor to a Dragon Rearing Family, Anthony didn't let personal emotions affect him. After Liszt had succeeded in Dragon Riding and, together with an Archmage, killed a Dragon Knight, he had quickly adjusted his mindset, placing Liszt on an equal footing with his own father.

He never underestimated Liszt due to his youth.

He knew deep down that in the future, the seas would no longer fall under the dominion of the Sapphire.

During internal family discussions, his father had struggled to say, “The era of Sapphire’s maritime supremacy has ended, Anthony. When this country falls into your hands, you must learn to be patient, to compromise... Whether it’s aligning with Steel Ridge to suppress Liszt or joining forces with Liszt to counter Steel Ridge, you need to grasp the balance.”

And he himself asked with a furrowed brow, “Father, what if Liszt becomes aggressive after his rise to power?”

“Then distract him. With the Eagle Kingdom sitting there like a slab of meat, why would he bother gnawing on the tough and meatless bone that is Sapphire? Once Liszt establishes his own nation, he’ll realize that seafaring nations need to plunder continental resources to survive, relying solely on the sea is too difficult.”

“Only, Father, if I can’t become a Dragon Knight, I have no confidence in contending with a Dragon Knight and an Archmage,” he said.

The Grand Duke pondered for a long while before responding to his heir, “Adapt as circumstances change.”

...

Coming back to his senses from his thoughts, Anthony masked the sigh in his heart—he found Liszt’s ambitions were greater than he had imagined.

The goal of the Sapphire Duke was to annihilate the Eagle Kingdom’s fleet, but Liszt aimed to destroy even the ports, completely severing the Eagle Kingdom’s maritime force. This undoubtedly meant treating the sea as his personal garden, not allowing anyone else to tamper with it.

Today he wouldn’t let the Eagle Kingdom tamper with it.

So would he prevent the Duchy of Sapphire from tampering tomorrow?

With a melancholy deep in his heart, Anthony maintained an easygoing facade on the surface. After determining the general direction for the maritime battle, he engaged in jovial conversation with Liszt, discussing some fascinating noble gossip.

The luncheon was even more lively, with attendees jovially drinking and chatting.

Anxious to get back and draft the battle plans for the maritime campaign, Anthony took a ship back in the afternoon.

After his departure, Liszt, who personally went to the dock to see him off, watched the Court Fast Sailing Ship sail into the distance and said with much sentimentality to his followers, “Anthony is a fine man, a qualified successor to the Grand Duchy. Aside from being somewhat less gifted, he has no other flaws.”

His followers smiled awkwardly.

In this might-is-right knightly system, apparently being less gifted was the biggest flaw—of course, Anthony’s talents were not that mediocre. A Sword Saint in his thirties, he was sure to become a Completion Level Sky Knight in the future, fitting the stature of a monarch.

As for Dragon Riding, many heirs to the Grand Duchy couldn’t ride dragons, which was not a fault unique to Anthony.

However, looking at the Lord’s upright figure and commanding presence, the followers felt that what their Lord had said was not wrong—by Liszt’s standards, Anthony indeed had mediocre talent, or rather, 99.999% of the people in this world had mediocre talent.

So no one responded.

Following such a Lord was certainly a knight’s glory, but it was also an immense pressure, for fear of displeasing their Lord.

Unaware of the profound distress he had imposed on his followers, Liszt turned and gave a light command, “Captain Marcus, Captain Fox, ready the Knight Order as quickly as possible and form a combat force. It won’t be long before we welcome war once more!”

“As you wish, Your Grace!”

## Chapter 789: Flickering Light

Liszt was already preparing for a new war.

After the news leaked in the Eagle Kingdom about the Light Green Gemstone Dragon, all nations believed that it had escaped the Mind Branding of the First Dragon Knight and become part of the wild Evil Dragon sequence.

Perhaps many countries were secretly searching for the Light Green Gemstone Dragon.

But for the Blast Furnace Fortress Kingdom and Steel Ridge Kingdom, it was the perfect opportunity to attack the Eagle Kingdom—a kingdom that has lost a dragon needs to cough up a large territory.

And many countries coveted this territory; the Duchy of Sapphire and Liszt temporarily had no interest in the land. They sought to monopolize sea power. With the Eagle Kingdom unable to attend to everything, such a good opportunity could not be missed. The entire Duchy of Sapphire’s Knights were sharpening their weapons and preparing for war.

“This time, I can’t just consider my status and let only my followers fight!” Liszt, regretting not capturing more Nobles last time, swore to himself fiercely, “I’ll capture as many as I can; all Nobles from Earls to Marquises will be taken. Once caught, they must exchange Elves, Magic Potions, and Dou Qi Secret Techniques for their freedom!”

...

Marquis Nuta had netted him a Greater Elf. Other Marquises and Earls might not be as wealthy as Marquis Nuta, and while Greater Elves were out of reach, one could never have too many Minor Elves.

There were also Dragon Kui Bugs and Thorn Bugs; he needed as many as he could get—the value of Auxiliary Medicine was several times that of Magic Potion.

Of course, if he could obtain Magic Medicine Seeds for his existing Elf Bugs, that would be good as well. He needed the Elf Bugs of Dragon Hollyhock and Lycoris, for though he now had Magic Potions, he lacked Elves.

“And skilled laborers—the shipbuilders, navigators, as many as can be abducted should be. When attacking ports, I should personally oversee the round-up, not letting a single skilled person escape... Capturing a few Sky Knights wouldn’t be bad either; I have too few under my command.”

Once the Sky Knights were captured, others might find it difficult to win them over, but he would certainly have no such difficulty.

After all, he was a Dragon Knight who aspired to establish a new nation—it’s just that the Sky Knights, accustomed to the continent’s prosperity, might not be willing to endure hardships at sea.

While Liszt was gleefully planning how much he would gain from this maritime campaign,

Ach made big news on Black Horse Island; she had brought the Lightning Dragon Turtle to the island from the Tonghai Canal estuary, crawling it onto the land all the way to an open area near Thorn Castle. She then commenced researching the Lightning Dragon Turtle with Chris, Kenley, and other Grand Magicians.

Kenley was a Grand Magician from Steel Ridge Kingdom, and not long after her arrival, she had won Ach’s approval—because of her good attitude, genuinely focused on pursuing Truth without other ulterior motives, and possessing a solid foundation and vast knowledge, she was well qualified to be Ach’s assistant.

The turtle shell, a hundred meters in diameter, resembled a small hill.

Shocking everyone who saw it.



Even the Marquis of Bull Tail, preparing to attend a meeting on Blue Dragon Island, specially rode his treasured mount, the Black Albatross-Obsidian Stymphalian Bird, to visit Thorn Castle and take a look at the Lightning Dragon Turtle.

“Is this another Sub-dragon?”

“Father, according to the official terminology being compiled in the ‘Magical Beast Encyclopedia,’ it should not be referred to as a Sub-dragon, but a Super Dragon Beast... This is a Thunder Attribute Super Dragon Beast, the Lightning Dragon Turtle,” Liszt explained.

“Have you already tamed it?” Li Weiliam marveled.

“It was Ach who tamed it; she can communicate with the Lightning Dragon Turtle through the vibrations of water currents. It just so happens she needed a suitable seafaring mount. The back of the Lightning Dragon Turtle is broad, and I am planning to build a villa on top of it, so sometimes Ach and I can work while moving on the turtle’s shell.”

Liszt sketched his vision. Now that he had acquired the Lightning Dragon Turtle, apart from studying it, he naturally wanted to make the most of it.

Li Weiliam seemed to swallow, “A moving villa on the sea... sounds pretty nice.”

“It’s not that great, actually. The Lightning Dragon Turtle is a Sea Monster and not that maneuverable, nowhere near as responsive as my Flame Number. If Ach hadn’t insisted on keeping it, I would have slaughtered it by now to study its shell, and such a large turtle must be quite nutritious.”

“Heh,” Li Weiliam laughed, “You always find these incredible Dragon Beasts and Magical Beasts.”

“Bathed in the glory of knighthood, I am, after all, the Son of Glory.”

“I can already imagine the grand scale of the future Flame Family as a dragon-rearing family, with flames rising above the sea; you will become part of the legends on the Legendary Continent.”

“It’s still not enough, I need to ride more dragons.”

...

After dining at Thorn Castle, Marquis of Bull Tail immediately rode off on his Obsidian Stymphalian Bird; ever since he had this super magical beast mount, he rode it everywhere—including to Blue Dragon Island, it is said that he would ride the Obsidian Stymphalian Bird there as well.

As for the Marquis’s show-off behavior, Liszt just shook his head.

Without comment.

The weather in March always came with a pitter-patter of drizzles; spring farming was already completed, and the plantations on Black Horse Island were thriving even more. This not-so-large island was home to many Elf Bugs’ Cordyceps, including three from Greater Elves—Thorn, Phoenix Perch Parasol, and Pea.

“Spring has arrived, and it’s time for the Elf Bugs to breed; I wonder if we can harvest another batch of Elf Bugs in spring and summer... Logically, with Black Horse Island’s scientific farming methods, the breeding of Elf Bugs should not be few. Moreover, the perennial plants should also accumulate enough energy for breeding...”

After inspecting the spring farming results, he promoted a group of officials.

Liszt pulled away from the territorial affairs to look forward to the progress of the Smoke Mission—today, the breakthrough magic array that Ach had built for Paris was ready. This massive magic array had consumed over seven thousand Gold Coins worth of magic materials from the domain.

To facilitate the promotion of a Light Magic Swordsman, the investment was indeed substantial.

The magic array was somewhat akin to Stonehenge in England, with many magic materials embedded onto the stone pillars, and the ground was also carved with special patterns and filled with magic materials.

Paris, clad in brand-new leather armor, stood in the center of the magic array, nervously preparing herself.

As Ach activated the magic array, the entire Stonehenge immediately glowed with Magic Radiance, which finally shrank to a single type—the dazzling white light from Light Attribute Magic Power.

Moments later, following instructions, Paris began to operate her Dou Qi.

She synced with the magic array, adjusting her Dou Qi in rhythm with the array's patterns; this would require gradual fine-tuning.

Liszt and Ach watched from the side.

One used the Eye of Magic, the other the Eye of Magic Power, closely observing the connection between Paris and the magic array. The fine-tuning process was not earth-shaking; in fact, beyond the swell of light, there was not even a sound. However, through the observers' eyes, numerous secrets were in motion.

After an hour of fine-tuning, Paris finally synchronized with the magic array.

At this point, Ach suddenly guided the magic array into the second stage, starting to accelerate the Light Attribute magic particles' motion.

Feeling the change in the magic array, Paris also made the necessary adjustments.

The Intermediate Dou Qi inside her began to boil, attempting a breakthrough. Normally at this stage, the external Light Attribute Magic Power would disrupt the boiling progress; this time, however, it was different. Once the Light Attribute Magic Power entered her body, it was quickly stimulated by the magic array and also began to upgrade, in perfect sync.

Five minutes later.

The light of the magic array suddenly trembled, and the symbols lit up on the stone pillars extinguished one after another, leaving only Paris in the center, radiating blinding light. Gradually, the light around her began to subside, with only her eyes, ears, mouth, and nose still glowing; eventually, all of this light also disappeared.

The moment the light went out, Paris's figure shook abruptly and then vanished into thin air.

When she reappeared, she was already several dozen meters in the air.

## Chapter 790: Nami is Happy

The signature of a Sky Knight—soaring; the advanced magic of a Grand Magician—Invisibility Technique.

At this moment, Paris broke through the shackles of both cultivation systems, becoming a Light Magic Swordsman who possessed the qualities of both a Sky Knight and a Grand Magician.

No longer a mere Light Magic Swordsman, she could be called a Great Light Magic Swordsman.

Maintaining her invisible state, she flew back to her original position and knelt on one knee before Liszt. Suppressing her own excitement, Paris said, "Thank you for your cultivation, Your Highness. Paris wishes to be your spear in hand, ready to be driven and to charge into the fray!" She had completely integrated into the knighthood system.

Liszt's Eye of Magic was still in operation, closely observing the circulation of Dou Qi within Paris's body, and casually replied, "Your successful breakthrough has not made our efforts in vain, Ach and I."

Paris immediately gave a bow to Ach, "Thank you for your help, Lord Acherlroides. Paris will forever remember it."

...

Ach always disliked beating around the bush, “You’ve just advanced to a brand-new cultivation system, and there are many details that need your cooperation for documentation and research.”

Paris said solemnly, “It would be a great honor.”

She was genuinely grateful, as no one does not wish to become stronger, even a woman. Paris felt the same way, especially when she saw Liszt’s youngest follower, Emily, training with the attitude of a madman. Becoming stronger was the only way to behold Lord Landlord’s silhouette.

To follow Lord Landlord and to create a new nation, becoming part of a legendary story.

However, Liszt felt a bit saddened when he saw such a respectful Paris.

The Paris who once dared to kill nobles and even recklessly enter castles, the Paris who would blush upon seeing him, had disappeared. In her place was just another qualified knight under the knighthood system. It wasn’t that the change was bad; it just saddened him to see a vibrant personality erased.

Liszt liked loyal followers, even if they were like puppets, as long as they were loyal to him.

However, for those he was familiar with from the beginning, he wished they could retain their original personalities. Unfortunately, under the tide of the knighthood system, it was difficult for anyone to maintain their former self. This is why he would take Ach to play the piano and sing, not wanting Ach to become another “magician.”

The kind of madmen twisted by their pursuit of magic research and truth.

“Paris, you have just been promoted. Take a few days to familiarize yourself with the changes in your body. There’s no rush to assist Ach with the research. Remember to come to Thorn Castle for the dinner banquet. Join me for the meal,” Liszt said.

“As you wish, Your Highness.”

...

Paris couldn't wait to familiarize herself with her new strength.

Then, Liszt called out to the Smoke Mission, “Mission complete; reward the clue for the Fire Paladin.”

The successful promotion of Paris completed the mission, signifying that there is indeed a viable path for Light Magic Swordsmen. Therefore, it was theoretically possible to cultivate Fire Paladins, and the clue should be easy to find.

He directly asked the Archmage, “Ach, what insights do you have from observing the Light Magic Swordsman, and do you have any complete thoughts on mass-producing Light Magic Swordsmen, or even Fire Paladins?”

“Further analysis and comparison are needed. However, Ach already has a complete idea, and with some time spent, should be able to decipher the cultivation methods for Light Magic Swordsmen, Fire Paladins, and other types of Dragon Magic Swordsmen.”

“That's good, but there's no need to rush. You have too many magic research projects, so take your time.”

“Hmm,” Ach responded.

Despite saying so, Ach immediately entered his laboratory at the first opportunity.

Liszt straightforwardly returned to his study too, and began to ponder the content he had observed during the moment of Paris's promotion, trying to discover the secrets it contained. Perhaps because he had observed too much, his mind felt a bit cluttered, and even after summarizing for a long time, he couldn't quite pinpoint anything concrete.

He felt a bit irritated.

He couldn't help but take a few deep breaths, adjust his mood, and summon the Smoke Mission.

“Mission: With Ach's constant care and the increasingly vigorous Mangrove Forest, as well as the ducks and small flame birds growing batch by batch, Mangrove Minor Elf Nami maintains a good mood every day. Let's keep it that way. Reward: One Mangrove Greater Elf.”

“Nami is going to evolve too, huh.”

Looking at the Smoke Serpent Script, Liszt couldn't help but feel reinvigorated.

Although Nami was not an elf contracted by him personally, he felt no difference in his affection for her, and she was practicing her own value with her diligence and hard work.

This made her status in Liszt's heart far surpass that of the other minor elves.

“Now that the Smoke Mission has been issued, it's perfect to have Ach spend half an hour every day to play with Nami. It will not only keep Nami in a good mood but also allow Ach to break free from the shackles of magic and relax his mind.” Liszt immediately made the decision that offered double benefits.

Then he smiled.

Searching the sea for the Giant Algae Forest to contract with the Giant Algae Greater Elf Pike, trading Marquis Nuta as a prisoner for the Pea Great Elf Ash, exploring the Flame Mountain Forest to discover the Phoenix Perch Parasol Tree Greater Elf Ani, prompting Thorn Minor Elf Jela to evolve into a Thorn Greater Elf, and now focusing on caring for Mangrove Minor Elf Nami to evolve her into a Mangrove Greater Elf.

The fifth Greater Elf was about to be in his grasp.

This was indeed cause for celebration.

Soon, another piece of good news arrived through the Magic Platform from the Adventure Fleet: they had discovered a large island about 400 kilometers south of the First Chain Island.

Preliminary estimates suggested that this large island was no smaller than Coral Island—by comparison, Black Horse Island is roughly the size of a normal county, Coral Island is about the size of a normal city, which is generally around 10,000 square kilometers, a truly large island indeed.

“The island is lush with greenery, and even by the seashore, there are dense mangrove forests, and a large number of seabirds circling. I am leading the Adventure Fleet to find a suitable place to land and prepare for an exploration of the island. We will also rest here for a while, waiting for the Flame Number to provide supplies for the fleet.”

After listening to the message transmitted by the Magic Platform,

Liszt immediately asked Lucy and Rose to reply, “Tell Yevich that I will dispatch the Flame Number as soon as possible. Additionally, tell him not to delve too deep into the island’s interior and to scout around the periphery. The priority is to search the surrounding seas as much as possible, there are surely more islands to be found!”

War was about to come, and Liszt could no longer spare knights to take over exploration missions.

Besides, the distance for exploring islands was becoming increasingly vast, and resupply was growing difficult—he and Ach couldn’t possibly waste their time sailing the seas all day just for resupplying the Adventure Fleet.

Three Islands, Dragon Turtle Island, First Chain Island, all were in an undeveloped state, and now there was another large island to contend with, making it impossible to explore.

Even if he himself went to the new island, it would be difficult to explore it thoroughly in a short time.

The Dragon Eye Trajectory was indeed powerful, but if the forest was too dense, it was hard to spot the plant life underneath and thereby overlook magical beasts, magic potions, and elves, among other resources. The first time in the Flame Mountain, it took five or six



days of effort; if it weren't for seeing the cordyceps of the Phoenix Perch Parasol Tree Greater Elf, he might not have found the Flame Dragon Bird at all.

"I hope this island is just the beginning of a larger archipelago... Black Horse Island is 3300 kilometers from the First Chain Island, and the First Chain Island is 400 kilometers from the new island. That's over 3700 kilometers in distance, a journey that takes nearly a month by regular sailboat."

Even with Ach piloting the Flame Number at high speed, it would take seven or eight hours to get there.

The distance was indeed too great.