

The Mighty 811

Chapter 811: Sky Canal

After precise positioning with the sextant, Ach picked up his pen and easily drew a rough map of the Flame Islands on his notebook.

The Flame Islands were not the kind where the islands were very scattered, covering a large area of the sea. They looked like the kind of fragmented oracle bone script preserved in museums, where a complete turtle shell had broken into many pieces and then pieced together—of course, Liszt would prefer to call it a broken shell.

The prestige of a turtle shell was too low, but calling it a shell immediately elevated its status.

The shell also resembled an elliptical leaf, pointed at both ends and round in the middle, with the whole taking a northeast-southwest orientation. Three large islands at the northeast corner, each nearly the size of Iron Hoof Island according to Ach's depiction; the middle was the vast Flame Island, with Whirlpool Mountain located at the east-central part of Flame Island.

The southwest corner was made up of four large islands, forming the edge of the shell and enclosing an inland sea together with Flame Island.

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Of course, this was just a rough map; many areas were Ach's estimations and had not been precisely located, nor had the island's area and the sea area been calculated. To complete the mapping task of the Smoke Mission and to find the lost Formless Dragon would require a busy and extended period.

In any case.

The islands were called the Flame Islands, and the surrounding sea could not continue to be called the Sea of Azure Waves. Liszt simply gave it the name of the Shell Sea.

Every coastal sea area ruled by the Flame Country in the future would be called the Shell Sea.

“Brother, Whirlpool Mountain is located deep inland on Flame Island, whether heading north, south, or east, there’s a distance of over five hundred kilometers,” Ach said. He was good at math, proficiently mastering the addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, and squaring that Liszt taught him, along with other elementary knowledge.

However, Liszt had long forgotten advanced mathematics; he might not even be able to solve a quadratic equation, let alone functions like cos, sin, and powers.

But he did remember quite a few formulas for calculating area—a rectangle was “length” times “width”, a parallelogram required “drawing a height” before multiplying by the “base”, a triangle was “drawing a height” times the “base” then halved, the area of a trapezoid was “drawing a height” times the “length of the top and bottom sides” then halved, and the area of a circle was π times the square of the “radius”.

Besides.

There were also areas of abstract shapes that required cutting and filling to make them approximate rectangles, triangles, etc.; or by drawing grid lines, calculating the area of the shape within the grid, and then adding them up.

After he passed these formulas to Ach, Ach immediately expanded on them, becoming important tools for researching Magic Arrays and astronomical geography. Thus, Ach could easily calculate the distance from Whirlpool Mountain to the seashore, concluding that each route would be no less than five hundred kilometers.

“Five hundred kilometers is manageable. If Leo flies at full speed, it’ll take about three or four hours to get to the seashore,” Liszt said, doing some quick mental calculations.

But given the rare opportunity to come to the Flame Islands, Liszt did not plan to go back immediately; he wanted to first map out the island areas of the Flame Islands.

Completing the Smoke Mission was more important.

It concerned the whereabouts of an old friend, the Formless Dragon—with the Smoked Grass feast always carried with him, waiting for the Formless Dragon to come for dinner, and by the way, to consume the Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruit.

Leo landed, chewing contentedly on the Magic Potion and Auxiliary Medicine that Liszt had fed it.

Liszt, on the other hand, discussed with Ach his plans for building Flame City: “The city must be built, and the Great Whirlpool Magic Teleportation Matrix must be developed. The current problem is that there is considerable danger entering and exiting the Great Whirlpool, and many fragile items cannot be kept intact.”

“We can set up a water curtain magic array at the Whirlpool Entrance to slow down the ships crossing the Great Whirlpool,”

“But even if the ships slow down, they will still fall to the mountain base.”

Ach paced seriously, “I’ve heard my brother tell the story of a canal being opened between two great seas. With differing sea levels, ships can pass through by adjusting different valves to control the water flow.” The canal story she referred to was actually the Panama Canal, casually mentioned by Liszt in his free time.

However, Liszt was clearly mistaken; the Atlantic and the Pacific Ocean are at the same level.

It’s due to geological constraints that prevent direct excavation. The Panama Canal relies on the height difference of the rivers, elevating before descending ships so that they can pass through. China’s Three Gorges Dam follows a similar lock-based navigation method. In fact, the world’s earliest lock-style canal was China’s ancient Spirit Canal.

Unaware of his own blunder, Liszt nodded and said, “Correct, that canal operates by adjusting the sluice gates to manage water flow, facilitating step-by-step navigation. So you mean to build such a canal on top of Whirlpool Mountain? I’m afraid that’s not possible; a three-thousand-meter height difference makes canal excavation unfeasible.”

“But magic can do it. Ach can design a magic array for water columns that can rise and fall. Starting from the Whirlpool Entrance and relying on the mountain’s terrain, about

thirty magic arrays with a vertical drop of a hundred meters each would make the navigation possible.”

“Even so, the number of resources consumed would probably be astronomical.”

“Once Ach masters the Ice Attribute, I’ll delve into the property changes of the Earth Attribute. By then, using Earth System Magic to completely transform the mountain, we can reduce resource loss!” Ach said ambitiously.

She had read the magic books that Kenley Truth had brought from the Steel Ridge Kingdom, which recorded a few scattered magic masterpieces from the time of the Moon Empire.

It is said that there was a “Sky Canal” stretching from the capital of the Moon Empire all the way to the western frontiers, supported entirely by magic arrays. However, the Sky Canal had long been obliterated in the river of history, and many magicians had attempted to verify the existence of the Sky Canal’s remnants, but none had been found yet.

Therefore, Ach hoped to design a low-grade imitation of the “Sky Canal” for Whirlpool Mountain.

Being an Archmage herself, if ancient Archmages could achieve it, why couldn’t modern Archmages? The magic books she had read about the Ancient Moon Empire depicted whimsical tales that broke free from the mold. It made her realize that for magicians, the only limit was imagination.

Unfortunately, the golden age of magic civilization no longer existed.

Liszt was not as optimistic. With the Magic Web’s decline, it was difficult for magic arrays to draw Magic Power from it, and they required all sorts of precious magic materials to be set up.

This kind of resource expenditure was definitely astronomical. Right now, even maintaining his two dragons was burdensome, let alone wishing he could plunder a few Pioneer Mandates each year.

To spend more resources on constructing a canal seemed quite unrealistic.

However, he didn't want to dampen Ach's spirits, "Then let's wait for you to complete the Elementalization of the Earth Attribute and switch to it soon. Then we can further develop the Great Whirlpool Magic Teleportation Gate... For now, think of a way to use the Great Whirlpool to transport resources and start developing this vast archipelago as soon as possible."

Ach wasn't one to aim too high, "Brother, can we do this: build many ships like the Flame Number, carefully reinforce them, and then fill them with resources and people before sending them into the Great Whirlpool. Ach can go through first and use magic to catch the big ships at the Whirlpool Entrance, then set them aside to unload?"

"So you're suggesting using the Flame Number as a one-time transport vessel?"

"Yep."

"It still seems a bit wasteful, but it indeed saves more trouble compared to shipping resources across the sea. However, it would often trouble you and me."

"Hehe, as long as brother doesn't find it too tiring, Ach is really looking forward to crossing the Great Whirlpool again and studying the Magic Teleportation Array. It might not be long before Ach can set up a new array, laying out a Teleportation Array from Black Horse Island to Flame Island!"

Liszt laughed. All this talk about "Sky Canals" was unreliable; this was the best plan, "I look forward to it."

Chapter 812: Archipelago Map

The construction of the Flame Origin Camp did not involve Liszt, as he and Ach spent the whole day studying the Whirlpool Entrance; when no traversal occurred, everything appeared normal.

Even when Ach unleashed Super Magic to communicate with the Magic Web, while the Magic Web appeared, there was no sight of the wormhole space that would tear through

the Magic Web. Ach gave a relatively reasonable explanation for this: the Magic Web should not be deduced by common sense and there is no such thing as physical distance.

Liszt summarized it.

The world he was in could be described in three dimensions, so the Magic Web was an existence that transcended those dimensions.

Just as two dimensions cannot explain three dimensions, three dimensions naturally cannot explain existence beyond three dimensions. Therefore, the Magic Web that Ach communicated with, and the Magic Web torn by the Magic Teleportation Array, was only a certain dimension within the Magic Web, not the entirety... In short, it was such a mysterious principle.

“We must travel through the Great Whirlpool multiple times to gradually understand every detail of the Magic Teleportation Array,” Ach stated.

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“Then let’s go, let’s first go and map the Flame Islands!”

With that said, they immediately set off. After instructing Cross and others to continue building the Flame Origin Camp, Liszt mounted Little Fire Dragon Leo, holding Ach in his arms, and flew north.

Whirlpool Mountain was located deep inland in the eastern half of Flame Island; due to the irregular shape of the island, the linear distance to the northern coast was over five hundred kilometers. They started flying from the afternoon, maintaining an altitude over a thousand meters en route to survey the topography of Flame Island.

From their flying trajectory and the surroundings, the landscape of Flame Island was undulating with varied terrains.

During this time, they noticed several volcanoes emitting white smoke; however, as Leo excitedly flew towards them, he found that these volcanoes were dormant, with no magma exposed that he could merge with to absorb Volcanic Super Magic.

Moreover,

Liszt also employed the Dragon Eye Trajectory, examining the magical traces below them closely. He noticed several spots where magic feedback glowed, possibly indicating Magical Beasts, Magic Potions, and even Elves. However, he simply noted down the positions of the glowing spots and did not descend to collect them.

After all, Flame Island was his territory, everything there belonged to him, and he could retrieve them whenever he pleased.

Only the neighboring islands were the lands he planned to grant away. These large islands close to Iron Hoof Island could certainly benefit a dozen Marquises. And while Ach merely circled this part of the Flame Archipelago, he hadn't yet explored more distant waters, so it was unknown if there were new islands.

Even if not, it was not an issue.

The Second Archipelago, now named by him as the Whirlpool Archipelago, could grant titles to a couple more Marquises without any issues, thanks to the Great Whirlpool Magic Teleportation Matrix, which ensured close connectivity.

As evening approached,

They reached the coast, with Leo returning to his own body and Ach taking on the role of pilot. Maneuvering shells and water tornadoes created swift, glimmering streaks across the sea surface. This time, he moved along the coastline, periodically using a sextant to measure bearings.

Recording every specific location of the bearings in a notebook, he gradually connected these points to outline the contours and area of Flame Island.

The survey was time-consuming, particularly because the weather on Flame Island seemed highly variable; it was sunny here and raining there, not conducive for direct sextant measurements. They had to rely on other methods, slowly figuring it out, or wait for clear weather to continue measurements.

Thankfully, as they became enmeshed in the tediousness of mapping, the Magic Platform communication facilitated Liszt's management of the production and construction of his territory.

While Cross·Thorn and others continuously built up the Flame Origin Camp on Flame Island, Kenley Truth and her team tirelessly developed the Whirlpool Town Camp on Whirlpool Island.

Yevich, leading the Adventure Fleet, had set out with two other fleets towards the Flame Archipelago, ready to center their exploration around the archipelago and help reduce Ach's mapping workload.

On Mind Island, knights were still laboriously mining.

At Iron Hoof City, through Marquis of Bull Tail's continuous purchasing of serfs, after training, they were being dispatched to Black Horse Island; officials on Black Horse Island, following Liszt's instructions through the Magic Platform, continuously built large ships named Flame Number while also preparing various materials using Thorn Wood and rubber water encasements.

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If it wasn't for preventing materials from being shredded by the Great Whirlpool, using some old ships for transportation would suffice—the Water Tornado at the Whirlpool Entrance would catch these large ships anyway.

In large projects like this, archmages played a much more significant role than Dragon Knights, who were only adept at frontal combat. Perhaps that's why the Moon Empire had developed a brilliant civilization, yet the world under knights' rule had now turned into a savage, backward system of part serfdom and part feudalism.

Unfortunately, relying solely on Ach's power was not enough to sustain such a workload or manage both ends. She could protect the outlet of the Great Whirlpool but was unable to stabilize its entrance.

The powerful killing force of the Great Whirlpool was immense; normal boxes and ships could hardly withstand it and had to be continuously fortified.

After all, the iron-deficient Duchy of Sapphire could only manufacture wooden ships.

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A week passed in the blink of an eye.

Ach had finally completed mapping all the islands surrounding the Flame Islands, much to the delight of Liszt, especially the size of Flame Island itself—it was a massive three million square kilometers, nearly a third the size of China.

The largest island on Earth is Greenland, covering 2.16 million square kilometers; Flame Island is a third larger than it.

Besides, there are eight other large islands over a hundred thousand square kilometers, three located in the northeast of the archipelago, and four in the southwestern seas. Another was discovered by the Adventure Fleet about a thousand kilometers away in the southeastern seas... Countless smaller islands, each less than a hundred thousand square kilometers, densely dotted the area.

During that week, while Ach was busy drawing maps, Liszt was naming the islands.

The major islands under the jurisdiction of the Flame Archipelago are (the map has been uploaded to Old White's public account, searchable directly under "Bai Yihan," subscribe to periodically receive writing materials):

The first large island, Flame Island, located in the center of the archipelago, covering three million square kilometers.

The second large island, Tulip Island, located in the southern part of the archipelago, one of the four large islands to the southwest, covering 450,000 square kilometers. Liszt had decided to grant this island to the Tulip Family—similar to how the original Sapphire Duke granted the 300,000 square kilometers Iron Hoof Island to the Bull Family.

The third large island, Giant Algae Island, located to the northeast of the archipelago, one of the three northeastern large islands, covering 280,000 square kilometers.

The fourth large island, Thorn Island, located to the southwest of the archipelago, one of the four southwestern large islands, covering 270,000 square kilometers.

The fifth large island, Mangrove Island, located to the northeast of the archipelago, one of the three northern large islands, covering 230,000 square kilometers.

The sixth large island, Gemstone Island, located directly west in the archipelago, one of the four southwestern large islands, covering 220,000 square kilometers.

The seventh large island, Phoenix Tree Island, located to the northeast of the archipelago, one of the three northeastern large islands, covering 170,000 square kilometers.

The eighth large island, Pea Island, located to the southwest of the archipelago, one of the four southwestern large islands, covering 150,000 square kilometers.

The ninth large island, Anchor Island, located deep in the southeastern seas of the archipelago, connected by a string of small islands resembling a ship's thrown anchor, hence the name, covering 100,000 square kilometers.

The nine large islands together covered an area of 4.87 million square kilometers, and with other large and small islands, the total exceeded 5.3 million square kilometers. If including other islands such as the Whirlpool Archipelago, Midway Island, First Chain Island, Dragon Turtle Island, Three Islands, it would easily surpass 5.5 million square kilometers.

The total area of all the islands in the Duchy of Sapphire was merely about 2 million square kilometers.

“With such an area, if there are numerous mines on the islands, and a few resource dragons are raised, it would be enough for self-sufficiency, without having to launch a Pioneer Mandate every year like with Sapphire... Actually, just by riding the Formless Dragon, and with the healed Light Green Gemstone Dragon, a few years would suffice for self-sufficiency.”

Thinking this,

He summoned the Smoke Mission.

“Complete the quest, reward the lost Formless Dragon.”

Chapter 813: Pleasure of Solitude

The Formless Dragon was an old friend.

It must have gotten lost, otherwise it wouldn't have waited until the end of June to come to the feast. The smoked grass Liszt had prepared was nearly dried into hay: “But where did the Formless Dragon get lost?”

This was a tricky problem.

After leaving the Flame Islands, Liszt almost daily used the Eye of Magic, hoping to encounter the Formless Dragon on the way back to Black Horse Island.

Unfortunately, he did not come across the Formless Dragon all the way back to Black Horse Island.

He then went to the Dragon's Dining Table near Green Tea Town and lit a pile of smoked grass, the stench sickened the nearby serfs to the point of nausea, but the Formless Dragon was nowhere to be found, indicating it was not lost near Black Horse Island. Therefore, Liszt hurriedly headed to Fresh Flower Town to continue lighting the smoked grass.

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Undoubtedly, besides nauseating people, it was utterly useless.

“Where exactly did the Formless Dragon get lost?” Liszt was completely perplexed and could only temporarily put aside this aimless search and return to his regular duties.

According to the consistent nature of the Smoke Mission, most rewards did not need to be deliberately sought and would naturally be driven by the Power of Destiny, coming to him, ready at hand. Perhaps the Formless Dragon was waiting for him on the road he was about to take, waiting for Liszt to imprint its spirit.

“So, first focus on the construction of Flame Town,” Liszt calmed his anxious mood.

Flame Town was the next phase of the Flame Origin Camp, which was the new mission content.

“Mission: Since the island distribution of the Flame Islands has been surveyed, the next step is to start the relocation of the territory, systematically transferring the industries and population of the Flame Territory, and carry out major development of the Flame Islands, please transform the Flame Origin Camp into Flame Town. Reward: New Longitudinal Sailboat.”

The new longitudinal sailboat seat reward was somewhat perfunctory, as Black Horse Island’s earliest boatyard had been studying the longitudinal sail technology provided by Liszt—he proposed the concept, but the specific production and operation required the shipbuilders to realize it bit by bit. After more than a year of development, they were close to success.

“Your Highness, all the large frame ships have been properly prepared, cargoes have undergone multiple reinforcements and loaded into the holds, and the hemp rope vine woven safety ropes have been mass-produced to ensure that the migrating serfs and craftsmen are securely tied within the cabins, preventing them from being thrown out.”

Isaiah came to report on his work.

“Go over the large frame ships again carefully; I don’t want any oversights. Even a small oversight could lead to a catastrophe of shipwreck and loss of life.”

“As you wish, Your Highness.” Isaiah bowed and retired, going to recheck again.

This time crossing the Great Whirlpool, ten large frame ships had been arranged, the masterpiece of tens of thousands of shipbuilders on Black Horse Island who had labored day and night. Five of these ships were filled with various materials, including living and construction materials, with rubber occupying half a ship alone.

It’s undeniable that since the Rubber Bug triplets evolved into three Rubber Minor Elves, Big White, Two White, and Little White, under Liszt’s guidance, they had learned to use

the Tri-Phase Force themselves to repair the rubber trees. Thus, the rubber production of the territory had soared rapidly, and stocks were plentiful.

This time, all were arranged by Liszt to be taken away, to carry out major construction on the Flame Origin.

Besides materials, there was the population.

Farming serfs were indispensable; one couldn't rely on hunting and fishing for sustenance all day—relying on the Great Whirlpool to transport food was too extravagant.

The construction of Flame Town could not do without craftsmen, so large numbers of carpenters, stonemasons, and architects led by Jomaya Bangtu had to be taken.

Knights were also essential personnel, constantly protecting the security of the Flame Origin area. Currently, the camp only had Cross·Thorn, a Sword Saint without a title stationed there; once he went to explore the surroundings, the camp could only rely on a dozen Elite Earth Knights for protection.

“Philip, go call Earl Durt.”

“Yes, Your Highness.”

Philip Wool immediately rode away from Thorn Castle.

He had followed Liszt for many years but still remained a Retainer Knight because his skills had stagnated at the level of an Apprentice Knight. The first batch of Retainer Knights selected by Liszt were all descendants of serfs from Fresh Flower Town, with modest talents, and advancing to Earth Knight required constant perseverance.

However, there were exceptions.

Among Philip's cohort, Xavier Dung did not necessarily have better talents than Philip, but because he was good at flattering, he had already been promoted to Diplomatic Assistant on Black Horse Island, aiding Zambrotta. With the resources poured in by Liszt, he had been promoted to Earth Knight.

His secret task was to work with the Blood Servants to spy on information, controlling the rats infiltrating various forces—serving as another eye for Liszt.

Soon, Durt Red Apricot arrived, “Your Highness, what do you need from me?”

“I want to develop the Flame Islands, and need to dispatch a Knight Order to ensure the safety of the construction personnel. Since you’re free, I’ve decided to give this task to you,” Liszt said.

Durt’s eyes lit up with excitement, “I am willing to relieve Your Highness of your worries!”

“Very good, but I will not provide you with elite knights. You can go to Iron Hoof City and recruit those lower-ranking knights. However, maintain secrecy, as the affairs of the Flame Islands are not yet to be revealed.” Considering the vastness of the Flame Island, one can only imagine the dangers within the Wild Forest.

Elite knights should not die in the forest, so may as well recruit those substandard knights to sacrifice.

“If they’re lucky enough to live until the founding of the nation, why not reward them with wealth and honor.”

“Understood!”

“You have one month. Captain Garcia of Iron Hoof City and the knights of the Tulip Family will assist you.”

“Yes.”

As Durt hurried off, Liszt again called for Philip, “Summon Emily.”

Emily was still an elite Earth Knight; she had killed many knights in the sea battle but had not been promoted to Sky Knight—compared to the early overpowering Liszt who had

been promoted from Earth Knight to Sky Knight in just half a year, even Emily's superior talent still fell short.

"Your Highness," the young woman entered the castle.

"How is your training?"

"Without war, progress is slow," Emily honestly admitted.

"In that case, I'll arrange for you to go to Flame Island, where the forest is teeming with magical beasts," Liszt said, "Take Douson and the Blizzard Beast Squad with you to help produce rock for Flame Town... Douson doesn't need to produce the rocks, just protect you."

"Your Highness, Emily can protect herself!"

Liszt observed the tall young woman, a meaningful smile playing at the corners of his mouth, "It will protect you, and you must also protect it. Douson is one of my earliest close combat partners; I don't want anything to happen to it. Emily, I entrust Douson to you; you should understand my expectations of you."

A slight blush crossed Emily's face, then she soberly responded, "Please rest assured, Your Highness, Emily will not disappoint you!"

"Very well, go, and make sure the Blizzard Beast Squad adapts to the cabin framework of the large ships, ensuring their discipline during the voyage."

Liszt watched as the young woman walked away, slowly closing his eyes.

He immensely enjoyed this feeling of controlling others' destinies, a lonely thrill of a dictator. In the Flame Territory, on the Flame Islands, he was the sole... King!

Chapter 814: The Rope Experiment

Following the fleet to Flame Island was another Knight Order led by Fox, the Black Horse Island Knights Order. Their mission was not to explore the forest but to guard the Flame Origin and protect the magicians stationed there.

The Magic Guild was preparing to establish a branch at Flame Origin. Henceforth, magicians would transfer to Flame Origin and explore the Broad Bao Forest alongside the Knight Order—Liszt had gradually shifted these magicians toward becoming expert scholars, encouraging them to dedicate their lives to scientific research.

As for the magicians heading to Flame Origin, those selected were magicians with questionable loyalty.

Given the isolation of Flame Island, once these magicians arrived at Flame Origin, they would be cut off from the world. Even if they were part-time rats for other countries, they would have to work obediently for Liszt. After a few years, when the paths between Flame Island and the outside world were opened, they would likely already bear the mark of the Flame Country, unable to change.

June 22.

The weather on Black Horse Island was fair.

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Leading the way was the Flame Number, followed by ten large framed ships, setting out mightily.

Liszt stood at the bow, looking at Ach, who was sitting up straight and no longer burying his head in a book, and asked with concern, “How are you doing, Ach? Can you handle steering eleven large ships?”

Ach nodded, “It’s a bit strenuous, but if we reduce the speed to three hundred kilometers per hour, I can save some effort.”

The sailing distance from Black Horse Island to the Great Whirlpool was 4,200 kilometers. At a speed of three hundred kilometers per hour, it would take 14 hours. Adding rest times en route, they could arrive within one day.

“Then slow down, don’t wear yourself out.”

So the fleet progressed towards the Great Whirlpool at three hundred kilometers an hour.

During the voyage, they made convenient stops at the Yidao Mangrove Town Camp on Three Islands, the Crescent Island Crescent Town Camp on the First Chain Island, and the Greenlight Town Camp on Midway Island. One reason was to allow knights and civilians to go ashore for rest to relieve seasickness; another was to deliver food, jade, and magic potions to Light Green Gem Dragon Ethan.

Light Green Gem Dragon Ethan was living comfortably on Midway Island, where there were plenty of magical beasts for it to hunt at will. Liszt would provide whatever jade and magic potions it lacked.

Its body had already mostly recovered.

At a later time, Liszt planned to ride it himself, flying to the Great Whirlpool, passing through the magic teleportation array to settle on Flame Island. Then, he would find a suitable place to build a dragon nest, allowing Light Green Gemstone Dragon to slowly produce light green gemstones—the gem market was always in demand, never worrying about unsellable goods.

Various magic equipment and divine weapons required gemstones as raw materials, keeping gem values consistently high.

After a friendly exchange with Ethan, Liszt returned to the fleet.

They set sail immediately, arriving at the Whirlpool Archipelago and a half-hour later, docking at Whirlpool Town on Whirlpool Island. Whirlpool Town was still in its infancy, and the magic laboratory was quite rudimentary. Liszt convened a collective meeting there, with the main topic being the plan for receiving supplies the next day.

After Ach crossed the Great Whirlpool, the ten framed large ships needed to be manually steered, slowly making their way into the whirlpool.

Timing was crucial, so that Ach could be ready in time to catch the ships with a water tornado, preventing them from crashing out of the whirlpool entrance.

After everything was arranged.

The following morning, the fleet set off again, docking near the Great Whirlpool. Before crossing, Ach had to conduct a new experiment—a rope experiment.

This experiment aimed to determine if the wormhole space connected by the Great Whirlpool was a reality or a non-reality.

Furthermore, the distance of the wormhole space and how it linked to regions thousands of kilometers apart needed to be understood.

Hemp Rope Vine ropes as thick as wrists, held by Leo,

one end tied to a huge stone, meant to accelerate the downward force of the rope. Liszt and Ach rode a dragon together and slowly flew above the Great Whirlpool, right over the Whirlpool Deep Well, and suddenly threw the massive stone tied to the rope down into it. The stone plunged speedily, the rope jerking loop by loop.

When the stone fell into the misty center of the whirlpool, a burst of light within the vision of Dragon Eye Trajectory quickly engulfed the stone, and immediately after, enormous pulling force came through the rope grasped by Leo.

pulling his body directly into a spinning descent.

And the ropes' end became impossible to hold on to, swiftly unraveling, plunging into the depths of the Whirlpool Deep Well. All of this happened in the blink of an eye, almost too fast for the naked eye to catch.

“Hold steady, Leo!”

Liszt and Leo's minds united, frantically flapping wings, barely managing to stabilize their position at the mouth of the Whirlpool Deep Well, and flew back up.

“Brother,” Ach called out anxiously.

“It’s okay, the force of the rope was beyond what we imagined; Leo’s strength couldn’t hold on to the rope either,” said Liszt with some relief.

The wrist-thick Hemp Rope Vine rope, after all, was a super cable that even Leo couldn’t break. Luckily, it wasn’t directly tied to Leo’s leg, otherwise, it would’ve been dragged into the Great Whirlpool without a doubt.

“Was it the repulsive force encountered in the Wormhole Space that caused this?”

“I don’t know.”

Liszt shook his head; he truly did not know where this force had come from.

Ach, thoughtful, took out the Magic Platform, waited a moment, and contacted the Flame Origin Camp’s Magic Platform. A rapid response came from there, the experimental stone had already fallen, followed by a hundred meters of rope.

Ach analyzed, “There are two possibilities: one is that the Wormhole Space is a reality, and the repulsive force within it is what made the force on the rope too strong for Leo to hold; the other is that the Wormhole Space is not a reality, or that it represents a compressed space, thus causing the rope to move quickly, and Leo couldn’t hold on.”

Liszt looked into the distance, nodding, “Makes sense.”

“Brother, let’s travel through too,” Ach couldn’t wait to verify her own theory, to re-observe the details of the Magic Teleportation Array.

“Okay!”

With a thought, Leo instantly closed his wings, diving like a shooting star into the Whirlpool Deep Well.

Boom!

Already within the Wormhole Space, the Dragon Eye Trajectory vision filled with densely packed spider web-like magic power lines, sketching out twisted space passages.

The Magic Web faintly visible around the passage.

Crossing through what must be the work of an Ancient Magician once more, Liszt was still deeply shocked by the infinite wrapping of the Magic Web, by that piercing drilling through the web, all of it a strong visual impact. However, unlike the first crossing, this time Ach traveled with him.

Her Eye of Magic Power was not as high-level as the Dragon Eye Trajectory, and she needed to inquire about many details from Liszt.

A few minutes of travel, passed in a session of questions and answers, the next moment, the vision suddenly cleared with brightness, having surged out of the rush channel, pushed out by a massive repulsive force from the Whirlpool Entrance. Leo flapped repeatedly to stabilize, the view steadied, and the scenery of Flame Island came into sight.

Chapter 815: Tears Streaming Down the Face

The second transmigration brought about many new understandings.

After a brief organization, Liszt had Ach use the Magic Platform to contact the fleet near the Great Whirlpool to start moving the frame ships towards the Great Whirlpool.

Once they entered the range of the Great Whirlpool, there was no need to row, the frame ships loaded with cargo would rotate on their own within the Great Whirlpool.

The rotation lasted for half an hour before the ships finally fell into the Whirlpool Deep Well. The magicians observing from afar immediately transmitted the information to Ach. At the Whirlpool Entrance, Ach waved her hand to conjure a Water Tornado, and moments later, the frame ships burst forth with a roar, slamming into the Water Tornado.

Boom!

The Water Tornado almost shattered from the impact.

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However, Ach's eyebrows slightly raised, and with a clear shout of "Ha!" the broken Water Tornado reformed and firmly dragged the frame ship until it was stabilized. Then, she gently placed it on the mountain platform she had prepared using Super Magic – Chainsaw-Style Super High-Pressure Water Knife.

The ship landed.

Knights such as Cross, who had been waiting there for some time, began to unload cargo. Meanwhile, a new frame ship once again set off towards the Great Whirlpool, this time carrying knights, serfs, and craftsmen. Half an hour later, the ship burst out of the Whirlpool Entrance again, and Ach caught it steadily.

"It's secure, let the other side send the remaining eight frame ships into the Great Whirlpool in succession to save time." Seeing that Ach caught the ships so steadily, Liszt immediately breathed a sigh of relief, confirming that this method of transporting materials was indeed feasible.

However, what Liszt did not know was this.

Inside the Wormhole Space, as two consecutive frame ships passed through, a gaze suddenly lit up in the mysterious area where space and the Magic Web intersected. It was a dragon, seemingly made of crystal or perhaps transparent flowing water, that appeared elated as if it had discovered a new world.

It flapped its wings, striving to fly into the Wormhole Space, but despite appearing to fly at high speed, it seemingly didn't travel far due to some unknown reason.

Boom!

As the frame ship rushed out of the Wormhole Space, its gaze also became unfocused, as if it had suddenly lost the trace of the Wormhole Space.

"Woaaaah!" it cried out loudly.

There was no response, just darkness all around, nothing more. And within its own field of vision, the world was filled with countless crystalline substances flowing past, these identical crystalline substances left it disoriented, unsure of which direction to fly.

At that moment,

distant crystalline substances suddenly lit up, another frame ship had activated the Magic Teleportation Array's Wormhole Space, and the transparent dragon, exultant as if reunited after a long separation, vibrated its wings like a stream slowly seeping into the layers of crystalline substances.

It flew quickly towards the illuminated location.

Moments later, the illumination extinguished, and it again lost its sense of direction. Yet soon, the location lit up again, and after several intermittent occurrences, the dragon finally arrived at the illuminated spot. Its body silently slipped through the wall made of crystalline substances and entered the Wormhole Space.

Seeing the frame ship flying swiftly ahead, it followed closely behind, flying towards the end of the passage.

...

"The third, steady."

"The fourth, steady..."

"The eighth, steady," Liszt watched as Ach caught each frame ship one by one and set it aside, silently counting.

The knights, serfs, and craftsmen on the large ships had already disembarked and were busily unloading the goods. They then put together many mono-wheeled carts, loaded the goods onto them, and pushed the carts towards Flame Origin. The grand procession added a touch of civilization to the wild forest.

Boom!

The ninth frame ship flew out of the Whirlpool Cave, and Ach, now adept, caught the ship and placed it on the platform. Liszt, mounted on Leo, boredly supervised the order on-site and incidentally used Dragon Eye Trajectory to observe the Magic Power operation at the Whirlpool Cave for what seemed like the umpteenth time.

Just as he was about to disperse the Dragon Eye Trajectory and take a break,

A dragon-shaped magic radiance suddenly flew out from the entrance of the cave. This dragon, comprised of magic power, had a slender body with elegant movements, showing no signs of discomfort from being pushed out by the wormhole space, only the leisure of a carefree stroll. Almost the instant he saw this magic-powered dragon, the name “old friend” popped into Liszt’s head.

“Formless Dragon!”

“It’s the Formless Dragon!”

His mind was momentarily befuddled. Just moments ago, he had been worrying about where the Formless Dragon might have lost its way, thinking that fate would bring it to him, and now, the Formless Dragon had indeed appeared by his side—too suddenly, too unexpectedly, leaving him stunned and at a loss on the spot.

Leo, sharing a mind with him, was equally stunned.

However, the Formless Dragon had also noticed the situation at the entrance of the cave the moment it emerged. It saw Dragon Knight Liszt Flame, riding the Fire Dragon with an air of authority.

It quickly remembered that this was the insignificant human who had enjoyed a big meal and paid with three space gems as a meal fee.

“Wu yi ya!”

The Formless Dragon circled with a twist of its head and let out a cry towards Liszt.

Its dragon might had been vigorously unfurling since it emerged from the cave, and the busy knights, serfs, and craftsmen were suddenly as if choked, struggling to breathe, and they simply collapsed on the ground, gasping for air. Ach, who had just set down the frame boat, felt the forceful dragon might as well and then heard that sharp cry.

She quickly cast Super Magic – Eye of Mana and clearly saw the form of the Formless Dragon, confronting Liszt, who was riding the Fire Dragon.

“Oh ho!”

How could Leo tolerate another dragon showing off in front of him? With a roar, it was ready to charge over, but fortunately, Liszt’s reasoning was the dominant force, suppressing its urge.

Suppressing Leo’s anger as well as the shock of the Formless Dragon’s sudden appearance, Liszt quickly calmed down. He didn’t know why the Formless Dragon had burst out of the Magic Teleportation Array, but that was no longer important. What was important was to seize this opportunity to subdue the Formless Dragon.

So he pondered in an instant.

He directly took out a bundle of Smoked Grass that he had prepared from his Space Ring.

He shook it, then maneuvered Leo, slowly flying towards the back of Whirlpool Mountain—he was looking for a secluded place to slowly tame the Formless Dragon.

Seeing the familiar Smoked Grass.

The bright-eyed Formless Dragon smartly followed Liszt as he flew away.

They reached a clearing halfway up the mountain, where Liszt and Leo landed, and the Formless Dragon also circled twice before landing at the other end of the clearing.

Since he had already witnessed the Formless Dragon’s friendly behavior last time, Liszt mustered his courage, picked up a bundle of Smoked Grass, and slowly walked towards the Formless Dragon.

“Wu yi ya!”

“Oh ho!”

The two dragons each roared.

“Leo, keep your peace,” Liszt waved his hand at the Little Fire Dragon behind him, then turned to the Formless Dragon, “We’re old friends now. This is Smoked Grass, your favorite Smoked Grass.” Despite the unpleasant smell of Smoked Grass, Liszt was committed to his pursuit of dragon riding.

He placed the Smoked Grass twenty meters in front of the Formless Dragon and then slowly stepped back to a distance of twenty meters.

The Formless Dragon glanced at Leo, then at Liszt, and seeming to sense that Leo was just a juvenile Fire Dragon, it disdainfully uttered a soft “Wu yi ya,” stepped forward to the Smoked Grass, grasped it in its mouth, bit it up, and slowly chewed.

It rarely actually ate the Smoked Grass; it was mainly attracted to the scent of the Smoked Grass.

Instantly.

The foul stench enveloped the area.

The reek was so strong that Liszt, standing nearby, almost cried, and internally he was screaming incessantly: “Formless Dragon is beautiful indeed, but such heavy taste, how can I possibly make a move!”

Chapter 816: Labyrinth

However, the dragon was my own choice.

Even with tears, I had to ride it!

But Little Fire Dragon Leo was instantaneously smoked to the point of retching, and then, disregarding Liszt's obstruction, he transformed into a ball of flame and plunged into Liszt's body, leaving Liszt alone to face the Formless Dragon.

"Wuu yiya!"

The Formless Dragon, sniffing the scent released by the crushed Smoked Grass, seemed like a heavy smoker taking a deep drag and blissfully drifting as if ascending to immortality. Witnessing this scene, Liszt could only continue covering his nose, executing the next part of his plan. He began transporting the prepared food out of his Space Ring.

There were fine wines and beef, all prepared for the Formless Dragon.

...

Of course.

The portions were not large, but rather small servings, slowly enticing the Formless Dragon's interest. Once the Formless Dragon was smacking its lips with greasy beef, excited to reveal its true form, and let down its guard, begging Liszt for more meat, Liszt knew the right moment had arrived.

Quietly, he handed over a piece of roast suckling beef stuffed with a Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruit to the Formless Dragon. Completely off guard, the Formless Dragon bit into the roast suckling beef in one go.

"That's settled!"

Liszt rejoiced inwardly at the sight.

However, after a brief resistance, the Formless Dragon opened its mouth and spat out a fruit with a colorful skin—it ate the beef but spat out the hidden Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruit.

"Huh?"

Liszt's eyes widened in disbelief, utterly unexpected that the Formless Dragon could pull off such a sly move.

Turning his head to look at the Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruit lying not far away, and then back at the Formless Dragon, which seemed to have merely spat out a grain of sand and was continuing to relish the roast suckling beef, Liszt didn't know whether he should silently pick up the Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruit, pretending nothing had happened, or force open the Formless Dragon's mouth and stuff the Mind Fruit back in.

The latter method was clearly not feasible.

He could only silently walk over and pick up the Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruit. There were only three of these Mind Fruits, each one worth a fortune, representing a dragon—the assumption is that those dragons weren't as picky as the Formless Dragon, treating eating beef like spitting out sand; when Little Fire Dragon Leo ate beef, he wolfed it down.

“It seems this time I can only harvest a few Space Gems.” Shaking his head, Liszt simply stood aside, watching the Formless Dragon slowly enjoy the Smoked Grass feast.

Then waiting for it to finish its meal, to pay him with Space Gems as compensation.

And begin planning for next year when the Formless Dragon returns to eat, figuring out some way to force it to consume the Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruit.

Not far away.

Atop Whirlpool Summit.

Ach, who had just received the tenth framework of a large ship, stood at the summit, secretly watching how Liszt would tame the Formless Dragon, only to see Liszt with a look of utter despair.

She covered her own nose, chuckling.

Quietly, she took a few steps back to avoid the smell of the Smoked Grass.

...

The Formless Dragon had been lost for a long time, with its stomach nearly flattened with hunger. It was rare to come across a delicious feast it loved, and it ate with gusto.

When it got excited, it started to see Liszt more favorably.

Once it ate the last piece of beef, it slowly walked towards Liszt. Just as Liszt got ready to accept its payment for the meal, it tilted its head and made a gesture of raising its head.

“Wuu yiya!”

“Huh?”

Liszt didn’t understand what it meant.

Formless Dragon nudged Liszt with its head, seemingly inviting him to mount its back. This was incredibly surprising for Liszt, who had intended to use the Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruit to stun the creature before forcibly riding it. Yet after seeing through his ruse, Formless Dragon had offered a ride on its own.

Even though he wasn’t entirely sure that was the intention, Liszt quickly seized the opportunity and leapt onto the Dragon, swiftly taking his seat on the Dragon Tooth Platform at the junction of the Dragon’s neck and body.

It wasn’t until his bottom was firmly pressed against the Dragon Tooth Platform that he was certain—the Formless Dragon was indeed allowing him to ride.

His carefully prepared Smoked Grass feast had conquered the beast, earning its approval, and now a mind battle between man and Dragon could commence.

Boom!

The Formless Dragon flapped its wings and soared into the sky, with Liszt gripping the scales on its neck. In a moment of dizziness, the scenery of the world transformed before him. Every flower, grass, tree, and flowing river turned into crystals, some kind of irregular crystal structures.

“Is this... the world through the eyes of a Formless Dragon?”

The world as seen by a Fire Dragon was incredibly vibrant and colorfully distinct, whereas a Formless Dragon saw a monochrome world of crystal structures—perhaps this is their most direct experience of strength in the material world.

“These crystal structures represent the spatial composition of matter?” he pondered internally.

However, in the next moment, the world changed drastically: the mountains sunk, the earth heaved upwards, and countless crystal structures formed into a massive labyrinth without an end in sight. Apart from the repeated appearances of crystal structures, this world lacked any other color or shape.

“Woo-eee-ya!”

The Formless Dragon stood at the entrance to the labyrinth.

Stepping slowly into the labyrinth, Liszt instantly realized how to defeat the Formless Dragon’s mind—by finding his way out of the maze.

Not every Dragon’s mind battle was purely combative; it was only creatures like the Evil Dragon Leo that declared victory through slaughter. The mind battle with the Light Green Gemstone Dragon was more of a conflict between Liszt and the First Dragon Knight, with the Light Green Gemstone Dragon itself not participating.

“Get out of the labyrinth, huh...” Liszt had an inkling of a headache.

The labyrinth composed of dense crystal structures left him clueless. Arriving at the first fork, he started feeling dizzy, afflicted by decision paralysis.

“Forget it, don’t overthink it. Left first, then right, keep trying over and over, and eventually, I’ll find the exit!”

...

He had no idea how much time had passed in the outside world.

In the heart of the mind battle, it seemed like Liszt had spent the better part of the day, yet aside from being drenched in sweat, he hadn’t found his way out of the labyrinth. He had even forgotten where he was in the maze, which wasn’t simply made up of walls but resembled the form of the Extra-Dimensional Killing Array.

There were forks in every direction—up, down, left, right, front, back—with each fork’s crystal structure appearing slightly different, seemingly holding some meaning, though he didn’t understand.

He couldn’t even remember these repetitive or non-repetitive crystal structures.

He attempted to command the Formless Dragon to smash through the walls but was flatly refused; he drew his phantom version of the Ice Soul Dragon-Slaying Sword, ready to forcefully dismantle the walls, but nearly knocked himself out instead.

The smoke swirling around him offered no assistance.

Even when he tried to use the smoke to mark each fork, it was futile. The labyrinth seemed endless, trapping him in an eternal loop of encountering new forks or returning to previous ones.

Inner anxiety grew.

Even reaching a point of utter frustration, “It’s all a sham, a trick! No one could find their way out of such a maze!”

In the end, he could only watch as the labyrinth slowly collapsed, signaling the impending destruction of his mental world, which meant his mind battle to ride the Formless Dragon was an outright failure.

Boom!

When Liszt opened his eyes again, the world had reverted to the normal sights one perceives with the naked eye—blue skies, white clouds, and green mountains and rivers. Formless Dragon still stood on the same mountain clearing, then arched its neck to make a “woo-eee-ya” sound, urging Liszt to leave its Dragon Tooth Platform—Liszt had failed to ride the Dragon, and it no longer acknowledged him.

“Damnable!”

Without the Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruit, he really couldn’t handle a Dragon!

After he jumped off, Formless Dragon flapped its wings, leaving not even a Space Gem behind before flying off into the sky without a backward glance.

Chapter 817: New Labyrinth

“What’s going on?”

Looking at the Formless Dragon soaring into the sky, Li Si Te was extremely upset.

He had prepared for a long time to ride the Formless Dragon, offering it a carefully made Smoked Grass feast and the heart embroiled with Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruit, thinking this was an infallible tactic.

Yet, the Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruit was spat out by the Formless Dragon.

He had thought the plan failed, but then, unexpectedly, the Formless Dragon sought to be ridden voluntarily. However, the battlefield for the Mind Battle was a maze more complex than the “Extra-Dimensional Killing Array,” impenetrable and unnavigable — the Formless Dragon was just dawdling in the maze.

Riding the dragon became a drastically worsened experience, feeling like the Formless Dragon was deliberately making him give up in this manner!

...

Stop eyeing it.

The dense crystallic structure and the endlessly seeming shifting intersections were not for human breakthrough. Perhaps, the maze was never meant to be navigated by usual means, but traveling through space was not within Li Si Te's abilities.

He had no other options but to accept defeat.

Riding the dragon failed, and he acknowledged it! Maybe the force of fate could only guide and not control the Formless Dragon, considered a Sacred Dragon — perhaps the Formless Dragon had transcended anew, in control of its own destiny, whereas previously whether it was the Fire Dragon or the Jade Dragon, they had perished early.

Letting the force of fate exploit the vulnerability.

The Light Green Gemstone Dragon also was ravaged by fate's force after being critically injured.

That said, after the failed dragon riding, the Formless Dragon turning hostile and not leaving behind even a few Space Gems was a bit too much. Just as Li Si Te thought it was about to fly away, it suddenly flew up to the summit of Whirlpool Mountain, charging towards the Sea Sprite Ake watching the dragon riding event. Li Si Te tensed up, just about to warn Ake to "be careful," yet felt that the Formless Dragon seemed to have no malicious intent.

"Could it really be that it got too excited from eating, became dizzy and, seeing my failed dragon riding, went to find Ake to try letting him ride?"

This thought just briefly whirled around, and Li Si Te immediately dismissed it.

A magician cannot succeed in dragon riding.

Whether records from the era of the Moon Empire or modern records, only knights could ride dragons because Advanced Dou Qi and Dragon Magic Power are highly compatible.

Even the knights' cultivation system, if traced to its origins, was likely established mirroring the operation of dragon magic power. Thus, when Advanced Dou Qi combines with a dragon, it can quickly transform into Dragon Dou Qi. This advantage is absent in other cultivation systems and is a decisive factor in knights ruling the world.

It's unlikely that this principle would be broken just because of Ake.

So, the Formless Dragon probably did not intend for Ake to ride it; it was more likely looking to harm him.

Just as he was preparing to call forth Little Fire Dragon Leo and, together with Ake, suppress the Formless Dragon — since it intended to harm Ake, it was no friend of Li Si Te, and it might as well be killed off letting the Formless Dragon's corpse fall on Whirlpool Mountain and directly nurturing a Space Gem mine right here.

However, the Formless Dragon had already hovered mid-air above the summit, facing the Sea Sprite Ake who stood shielding himself with a Water Wave Shield.

The Formless Dragon didn't launch an attack, and Ake didn't retreat.

Li Si Te's idea to call Leo rapidly extinguished, picking up his previous thought, "Could the Formless Dragon truly want Ake to ride it?"

Such a thought irresistibly arose.

Accompanied by a slight sourness — not reluctance, just a bit of emotional imbalance.

Whether he himself rode it or Ake did, either way, resources stayed within his circle, but the sensory experiences were starkly different. He had long prepared to ride the Formless Dragon, feeding it three Smoked Grass feasts, truly painstaking effort.

Although the meat was enhanced with Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruit, that was just an episode.

Now, the Formless Dragon bowed its head to a Sea Sprite whom it had never met before, provoking in him a fleeting feeling of “the down-to-earth guy puts in all the effort but the girl goes off with a wealthy, handsome man she just met;” such distinct treatment, how to build a harmonious society... His internal drama was perhaps overly rich, probably spurred by the failure in dragon riding.

Always priding himself as superior and in control of everything, Li Si Te ultimately realized his own ordinary nature during the Mind Battle.

Falling from the clouds to the dirt was uncomfortable.

But he successfully suppressed his increasingly inflated ego, taking a deep breath... and immediately tears streamed down his face — the remaining scent of Smoked Grass really stung his eyes.

“Ahem...”

After coughing a few times and looking up at the summit again, he saw Ake had already dispersed the Water Wave Shield.

The Formless Dragon hovering overhead called out to Ake, “Wu yi ya!”

Ake shook his head.

The Formless Dragon called out again, “Wu yi ya!”

Ake shook his head once more.

Then, in a rage, the Formless Dragon blew steam from its nostrils and swiftly turned around to dive down the mountain, heading straight toward Liszt. Its speed was so fast that it almost seemed to teleport, and in the blink of an eye, it had landed in front of Liszt, gazing deeply into his eyes.

“Hmm?” Liszt, who had stopped crying, looked at the beautiful, crystalline Formless Dragon, puzzled once again and unable to understand what the dragon was doing.

“Wu yi ya!”

The Formless Dragon exclaimed, its meaning unclear.

However, the next moment, Liszt had already leaped up and jumped onto the Dragon Tooth Platform of the Formless Dragon—regardless of its many poses, he thought it best to ride it first!

Coming and going, being coy, it surely wanted him to ride it!

As if to confirm Liszt’s thoughts, the Formless Dragon seemed to want to twist its body to resist being ridden for the second time by Liszt, whose earlier attempts it had rejected. However, for some reason, it abruptly gave up the struggle, and its narrow dragon face showed a human-like expression of disdain and helplessness.

In the end, it didn’t dodge.

It allowed its rear end to land on the Dragon Tooth Platform.

With a thunderous sound, Liszt rode the Formless Dragon’s Dragon Tooth Platform for the second time, his spirit instantly connecting with the Formless Dragon, guiding it to flap its wings and fly into the sky.

The world transformed into a crystalline structure.

Soon the high mountain began to sink and the earth began to rise, as a new maze was about to emerge.

Liszt drew his Ice Soul Dragon-Slaying Sword quickly, shouting to the Formless Dragon below him, “My old friend, the maze means nothing to me. Let’s have a battle of the minds in another way!”

“Wu yi ya!”

The Formless Dragon flapped its wings, and the maze continued to rise slowly.

“If you insist on creating a maze, then the sword in my hand will only be able to cut off your head, forcing you to reconsider your approach.” There was no way he was going to navigate a maze, not in this lifetime—Liszt was resolute, determined not to engage in any more maze walking.

“Wu yi ya!” the Formless Dragon cried out in anger.

But Liszt had already aimed at its neck, lifting the smoke-enshrouded and swiftly transforming red, Fire Attribute Ice Soul Dragon-Slaying Sword—rather than fail through a maze, better to destroy the Formless Dragon’s mind and let it gain new life, to see if this forceful method could bring victory in a battle of the minds.

The rising of the maze stopped.

The situation started to stalemated.

Moments later, the Formless Dragon let out a reluctant cry, “Wu yi ya!”

At the same time, Liszt also received the Formless Dragon’s intention from its mind—mazes were a must, but the complexity could be reduced.

The maze that had risen did not extend into more complexity, but formed into the simplest planar maze, made up of numerous parallel walls, unlike the “Extra-Dimensional Killing Array” type of dizzying, position-shifting cubic maze.

“Huh...”

Liszt sheathed his mighty sword, and cracked a slight smile, “If it’s a traditional maze, I’ll reluctantly accept it.” Traditional mazes were easy to solve; one simply needed to choose one wall and keep touching it to find the exit.

“Let’s go, Formless Dragon!”

“You and I are destined today!”

Chapter 818: Three Dragons in Hand

Whoosh!

Under Liszt’s urging, the Formless Dragon flew at breakneck speeds, hugging one of the labyrinth walls and quickly broke through the seemingly complex maze.

Looking back, the crystal structure that made up the labyrinth swiftly collapsed to be replaced by a brand-new maze. This labyrinth encompassed the entire world, with no discernible patterns, just an array of crystal structures. And he, along with the Formless Dragon, stood atop the throne in the center of the maze.

Speaking of the throne, it was actually just an elevated platform.

“Wuu-ee-yah!”

With a sudden flap of its wings, the Formless Dragon took to the sky, and the layers of labyrinth walls receded rapidly behind it as it flew, facing no obstruction whatsoever.

...

Within this maze, the Formless Dragon controlled everything.

Suddenly.

The view cleared, they had flown out of the maze, into the real world—or you could say, returned victorious from the Mind Battle. Their thoughts began to sync, and their minds became one; from this moment on, he was genuinely a Holy Dragon Knight—the Formless Dragon Knight.

The process had been somewhat circuitous, but the outcome was fairly satisfactory.

Liszt’s previous feelings of agitation, loss, indignation, and sourness brightened. He could sense the Formless Dragon’s thoughts through their unity, and the dragon could feel his

joy. They influenced and affected each other—though it was predominantly Liszt taking the lead.

Now, his view was no longer that of crystal structures but his own human eyesight—yet to achieve the method of the Dragon Eye Trajectory with the Formless Dragon. Much time and adaptation were needed before he could learn to steer the Formless Dragon and forge fighting power.

“Let’s go to Ach!” Liszt discovered that he didn’t need to use the Eye of Magic Power to see the Formless Dragon clearly; its true form was still as beautifully fluid as crystal.

It was as if he sat upon crystal itself.

“Wuu-ee-yah!”

The Formless Dragon gently landed on the Whirlpool Summit, retracting its Dragon Might, with its slender body sitting cross-legged on the ground, appearing full of grace.

Among all the dragons Liszt had seen, Leo was undeniably the most fearsome, and the Formless Dragon, the most beautiful.

He also sensed the Formless Dragon’s age; indeed, it was another juvenile dragon, merely eighty years old, not having passed the hundred-year juvenile period. It lived a nomadic life, seemingly on an island north of the Sapphire Kingdom, but it had a wide range of activity.

The previous encounter in Fresh Flower Town was merely a result of its passing curiosity until it remembered the place after smelling Smoked Grass, treating itself to a feast once a year. This year, it developed a new ability—to break through the material layer and travel through another dimension of space, and then it got magnificently lost.

Lost in a dimension beyond the material plane.

Of course.

The “dimension beyond the material,” was a term Liszt devised based on partial memories from the Formless Dragon. Those thoughts were blurred and details hard to discern. He only knew that it was seeing a framed great ship passing through the Great Whirlpool’s Magic Teleportation Gate that allowed it to find an exit.

Thus, the scene they had witnessed earlier unfolded when the Formless Dragon burst out from the Whirlpool Entrance, leading to this series of accidental encounters.

Thump.

Jumping off the back of the Formless Dragon, Liszt walked over to Ach, “Done.”

Ach said with a smile, “Congratulations, brother, another dragon ridden, and such a pretty Formless Dragon at that.”

“It’s an old friend, after all...” Liszt kept a calm tone, though feeling somewhat embarrassed on the inside. The Formless Dragon as an old friend? Not exactly, as their relationship beyond two meals had no friendship to speak of, clear and straightforward in terms of material exchange.

He had arranged the Smoked Grass feast with a mindset for gain, and the Formless Dragon left behind some gemstones after eating.

That was all there was to it.

Dragons pride themselves, not readily forming friendships with humans.

The term “old friend” was just a jest from the book “The Adventure of Ranger Griffé,” for the protagonist who, after meeting once and receiving a Space Gem from the Formless Dragon, called it an old friend. It suggested that the Formless Dragon indeed had a behavior of leaving behind gifts after enjoying Smoked Grass—so much so that Liszt wondered if the Formless Dragon Griffé had met was the same one he tamed.

Unfortunately, “The Adventures of Ranger Griffé” did not record the author, and its origin was untraceable; it was unknown from which era the work was created.

The Formless Dragon likewise didn't remember any Griffe, much less a... Griffe.

At this moment, Li Si Te was not embarrassed because he had co-opted Griffe's "old friend" moniker but because of the Formless Dragon's previous behavior.

"Ach, why did you refuse when the Formless Dragon let you ride it?" he asked.

"Brother, when did the Formless Dragon allow Ach to ride it? Moreover, Ach is a magician, with no Dou Qi to resonate with dragons," said Ach, shaking his head, puzzled.

"Then why did you shake your head when it shouted at you?"

"Because Ach doesn't know what it was shouting ah, its cries all sound the same, Ach doesn't speak the language of the dragons."

"I see." Li Si Te nodded, his embarrassment eased considerably. He had previously thought that Ach refused the Formless Dragon out of consideration for his own reputation.

It turned out that Ach simply didn't understand the Formless Dragon's intentions.

He glanced at the other side of Whirlpool Mountain, where knights and serfs were still busily transporting supplies, many looking up curiously toward the summit. They heard the Formless Dragon's cries and felt its dragon might but could not see the Formless Dragon and were unaware of what was happening.

However, with both Dragon Knights and archmages standing on the mountaintop, it seemed that there was no major issue.

Withdrawal his gaze, Li Si Te pointed at the Formless Dragon sitting on the ground, eyes narrowed as it dozed, "Ach, with your naked eye can you see the Formless Dragon?" It had overindulged in Smoked Grass, and the buzz it got from that had not completely faded, as it was still slowly savoring the wonderful taste of Smoked Grass.

"No, I cannot," Ach responded after deactivating the Super Magic – Eye of Mana, shaking his head.

Yet, at this moment, Li Si Te could see the Formless Dragon with his naked eye.

It seemed this was the wonderful thing about Dragon Riding; he and the Formless Dragon had become one in spirit, and naturally, he could see the dragon's true body at all times.

The underlying principle of which remained unknown for the time being.

“Alright, let's put aside the information about the Formless Dragon for now. After I've harmonized with it, I can study it slowly. I'll have Leo take you to Flame Origin first. There, you can guide the magicians in building the Mage Tower while I take the Formless Dragon out for a flight,” decided Li Si Te after some thought.

He had just mounted the Formless Dragon and wanted to strike while the iron was hot, to fully experience the Formless Dragon's strength.

He called out to Leo.

The lingering scent of Smoked Grass in the air greatly displeased Leo.

What displeased it even more was seeing Li Si Te subdue another dragon, threatening its position. It directed a fierce “oh-oh!” at the half-closed-eyed Formless Dragon.

The Formless Dragon had a good temper and paid no attention to Leo's roaring.

Or perhaps it was still blissfully immersed in the euphoria of the Smoked Grass, unable to extricate itself.

Li Si Te patted Leo's scales, conveying a good deal through Dragon Heart Electrical Signal that it remained his comrade in arms, regardless of the Formless Dragon and the Light Green Gemstone Dragon being more as resources for production.

Having done this,

Leo finally subdued its irritable mood.

Awaiting Ach to climb on its back, it suddenly flapped its wings and flew towards the distant Flame Origin.

“In the future, when constructing the Dragon Nest, I will have to separate these three dragons. It’s best if they don’t see each other.”

Li Si Te breathed a sigh of relief. Managing multiple dragons was indeed a challenging task, but a sense of pride and accomplishment surged through him. He wondered if any Dragon Knight on the Legendary Continent had ever done this—he already had three dragons at his command, not to mention clues about the Smoke Dragon and Jade Dragon.

“I guess I’m a precedent setter, with no forebears or successors, huh?”

His thoughts were fleeting as he mounted the Formless Dragon again, their spirits instantly merging as their thoughts and Dou Qi resonated in sync, entering Dragon Rider Mode.

“Fly, Formless Dragon!”

Chapter 819: Beyond Material

Amidst the blue sky and white clouds, the Formless Dragon flew slowly—its speed wasn’t actually fast; to be more accurate, its physical flying speed was slow.

However, the Formless Dragon always managed to leap over the blurry boundary of illusion when flying in the material world, and then, in the blink of an eye, it would reappear tens of meters away. It was as if it constantly activated the ability to teleport while flying, and even Liszt, employing the Eye of Magic, found it very difficult to detect any trace of this ability in operation.

It was almost as if the ability didn’t involve magic at all, but was simply an innate talent, much like Ach controlling the flow of water, which also belonged to a natural ability.

With such an ability, the peak speed of the Formless Dragon could reach up to four hundred kilometers per hour, far surpassing dragons like Leo in terms of speed. Moreover,

this talent-like ability would continue to strengthen with age, but as for the upper limit of its growth—

...

Liszt felt that it was very likely able to fly through illusion, as it had done previously when it got lost,

entering dimensions beyond the physical material world.

“Wuiyiyah!”

The Formless Dragon roared, transmitting its thoughts to Liszt—it dared not fly to the limit again, because the last time it had done so, it suddenly passed through the barrier of physical space and came to a dimension outside the material world, causing it to get lost in that non-material dimension for a long time.

It nearly starved, exhausted, and went mad.

“Don’t be afraid, I am here; you won’t get lost again next time,” Liszt comforted.

However, he received a disdainful response from the Formless Dragon, which believed that Liszt couldn’t even find his way out of a challenging maze and was utterly incapable of becoming its guide. Then, another thought from the dragon came to Liszt that left him unsure how to feel—it had given Liszt a second chance at a Mind Battle solely because of Ach.

Originally,

it had indeed permitted the Mind Battle because it was attracted by the smell of the Smoked Grass and was too excited by the taste of beef, but it also thought that the Great Whirlpool Magic Teleportation Array was related to Liszt. To be able to construct a Magic Teleportation Array that spans the fabric of physical space undoubtedly demonstrated a tremendous ability to penetrate space.

So it had approved of Liszt, initiating the Mind Battle, only to be disappointed by Liszt’s performance.

But from the brief mind connection with Liszt, it sensed the presence of Ach and mistakenly believed that Archmage Ach was the architect of the Magic Teleportation Array. Therefore, it hoped to establish a cooperative relationship with Ach, offering its resources in exchange for Ach's space penetration ability.

To help it stop getting lost.

Until it truly mastered the ability to fly through dimensions outside the material world.

The intelligence of the dragon was very high, not at all inferior to humans. However, while its calculations were sound, Ach shook his head because he could not understand the Formless Dragon's cries, causing the Formless Dragon to mistake Ach's reaction for a refusal—it knew of Liszt's relationship with Ach and guessed that it was because of its own resistance to Liszt.

Thus,

it gave Liszt a second chance at a Mind Battle in the hopes that, once it formed a Dragon Knight partnership with Liszt, Archmage Ach would naturally guide it.

"How... clever," Liszt remarked.

Yet when he thought about the current situation, both members of the mind-united dragon and human pair were not so happy. Liszt was unhappy because he was merely acting as a tool, a means for the Formless Dragon to attract Ach's attention; the Formless Dragon was unhappy because, deep down, it hadn't truly accepted Liszt.

But life never runs smoothly.

The man and dragon had already spent their days together; from now on, they needed to work in unison.

Liszt was the first to let bygones be bygones, guiding the dragon in thought: "Don't worry, Formless Dragon, as my dragon, you will have many opportunities to communicate with

Ach. I will ensure she teaches you everything about space, helping you avoid getting lost in the future.”

“Wuiyiyah!” The Formless Dragon was relieved and content.

The heart knot was untied, and at this moment, the spiritual unity between the man and dragon became even more harmonious and integrated.

“I’m called Liszt Flame, but you still don’t have a name. How about we call you ‘Bard’?” Bard, the wanderer of the star realm from “League of Legends”, a hero who can open teleportation portals, does have some connection to the abilities of a Formless Dragon and also symbolizes Liszt’s expectations for the Formless Dragon.

He hoped that with the help of the Formless Dragon, from then on Archy could arrange Magic Arrays more easily, and he himself could traverse the Legendary Continent relying on the Formless Dragon.

“Wuu yi ya!”

The Formless Dragon had no particular like or dislike for the name Bard; it simply accepted such a designation. In fact, for the creature itself, Formless Dragon was its name. All dragons were like this, and names like Leo, Ethan, and Bard were just human customs.

“If that’s the case, Bard, let’s try some interesting experiments. Let’s merge your invisibility ability with me!” Liszt led the thought process.

If it weren’t for the invisibility ability of the Formless Dragon, he would definitely feel strange right now—others would find it odd to see a person flying through the sky with their behind stuck out.

That would greatly damage the dignity of a Dragon Knight.

The Formless Dragon Bard quickly attempted to merge its ability with Liszt, which involved the use of Space Magic Power. As the Space Magic Power and Dragon Dou Qi began to resonate at a high frequency, Liszt felt a strange sensation enveloping him, as if he were immersed in water.

But it wasn't water; it was the "boundary" of material space— a special existence.

The Formless Dragon's magic could create a Space Gemstone—a small, newly-wrapped space directly in the material world—allowing it to temporarily construct an independent space, much like tucking into a two-dimensional space. Unlike the fixed space of a Space Gemstone, though, this temporary space was a bubble.

Burst with a single poke, useless for combat.

However, it could perfectly hide the presence of the Formless Dragon and Liszt, unless detected by an Eye of Magic type of reconnaissance skill—otherwise, the presence of the Formless Dragon Knight would be absolutely undetectable.

This ability was nothing short of terrifying, an excellent method of concealment for assassinations.

The only flaw was the change in vision; upon merging with the boundary of material space, Liszt discovered that the real world rapidly faded, all matter turning into different crystalline structures—much like the green code rain that the protagonist in "The Matrix" saw.

The world Liszt saw was a white crystalline world, where everything was made of crystals, forming various types of flora and fauna, mountains, mud, running water, and so on.

He termed this vision Crystal White View.

By the time he got used to this kind of vision, it was almost evening.

Quickly.

Return to Flame Origin.

Within the Crystal White View, the figures of Leo and Archy appeared. However, to Liszt's surprise, Leo's figure was made up of a fiery red flame structure, while Archy's was a blue-white water stream structure. These were the only two colors and non-crystalline structures that appeared in the Crystal White View.

"Is this... because Archy and Leo's magic levels exceed the Low Magic tier?"

Just then, Leo, who was lying on the ground asleep, suddenly raised its neck and stared in Liszt's direction, its keen senses alert to a threat approaching. Even though it couldn't see the Formless Dragon or catch its scent, it could still detect the Formless Dragon through the special communication between dragons.

Using Dragon Heart Electrical Signal communication, Liszt calmed the restless Leo with a few Magic Potions.

At that moment, Archy also looked up into the sky. She didn't sense the presence of the Formless Dragon, but deduced the outcome based on Leo's reaction.

Bang thump!

Liszt gestured to the Formless Dragon to rest nearby, not too far away, and then rose from the sky before plummeting to the ground. As he landed on the ground and maintained a squatting posture, the Space Magic Power within him dissipated, and his figure slowly reemerged.

He stood up and walked towards Archy.

His red cape fluttered behind him, his helmet off, his light golden hair reflecting the glow of the sunset, and his proud figure also coated in a layer of golden light.

"I've returned."

Chapter 820: Whirlpool River

After returning,

Ach very much wanted to communicate with the Formless Dragon immediately to learn about the spatial secrets it possessed, but language barriers and Li Si Te's lack of time made translation impossible.

She could only supervise the construction of the Flame Origin Mage Tower for now and communicate with the Mage Tower in Whirlpool Town, doing some research on the information about the edges of the Great Whirlpool. At the same time, she focused on cultivating Ice Element Magic, striving to master it perfectly and initiate the next phase of Elementalization shift—the Earth Attribute!

With the Elemental Incarnation of the Earth Attribute, shaping terrain would be effortless—she was also constantly thinking about the concept of the Sky Canal.

The Mage Tower was under construction.

The construction of Flame Town was also rapidly unfolding with the arrival of craftsmen and serfs, with dense forests all around that could be cut down for timber to build houses at any time.

...

With the strong adhesive effect of rubber water, the construction progressed swiftly.

There was no lack of stone either.

Li Si Te's young follower Emily was leading the Blizzard Beast Squad into the forest to hunt with the Knight Order, or commanding the Blizzard Beast Squad to produce rocks, contributing bricks and tiles to the town's construction. It must be said that the evolved Blizzard Beasts produced a high quantity of stone blocks, enough for the needs of the town.

Regrettably, Bloodline Fruits were rare, and no new Blizzard Beasts could be bred, unable to change the problem of reproductive isolation.

Since the Rock Spikes produced by the Blizzard Beasts could not maintain shape after being broken down, Jomaya Bangtu, the chief director of Flame Town construction, suggested to Li Si Te to build a brick factory on Flame Origin to produce brick blocks, boards, and culverts—in the new construction on Black Horse Island, they followed a modernized construction plan with stone slabs on the surface and culverts buried underground.

Li Si Te accepted Jomaya's suggestion, planning to establish a new Fire Dragon Brick Factory on Flame Origin, but when he asked Leo for Fire Dragon Overmagic, he was refused.

"Oh-ho!" Leo had a valid reason for refusal—it was originally Li Si Te who forcefully made it trigger the volcanic eruption, wasting half of the Fire Dragon Overmagic.

Since then, no volcano had been found, and the Fire Dragon Overmagic had not recovered, seriously delaying its growth and development.

Now that Li Si Te was riding both the Light Green Gem Dragon Ethan and the Formless Dragon Bard, Leo felt his status was threatened and was not willing to weaken his own power in the slightest.

"Don't be stingy, Leo," Li Si Te comforted his partner. "The Flame Islands are being developed. The island and this archipelago are vast, and there definitely will be new volcanoes for you to cultivate... Once I'm done with the construction in Whirlpool Town, I'll explore the Flame Islands with you, how about that?"

After a lot of thought, for the sake of the future,

Leo ultimately nodded and agreed: "Oh-ho!"

It spat out a bit of Fire Dragon Overmagic for Li Si Te, which was probably enough to build seven or eight high-temperature kilns, enough to sustain a large-scale Fire Dragon Brick Factory.

Seeing Leo look dejected after spitting out the Fire Dragon Overmagic, Li Si Te still felt heartache.

Even though Leo was undoubtedly an Evil Dragon, constantly having malicious thoughts brewing inside, it was after all nurtured by Li Si Te himself, and his feelings for it were utterly different from the Light Green Gemstone Dragon and the Formless Dragon, “Besides, Leo is a combat-oriented dragon, still in its youth; it needs to develop.”

Only a well-developed Fire Dragon could contribute more Fire Dragon Overmagic, laying the foundation for the industrialization of the territory.

“We need to find an active volcano as soon as possible!”

...

Letting Leo return to his body to sleep and reduce further consumption, Li Si Te called over the Formless Dragon Bard. He planned to ride it more to familiarize himself with Bard and try to explore the cultivation methods of the Formless Dragon—aiming to complete the creation of the “Formless Dragon Knight-Dragon Qi Manual” as soon as possible.

Whether it was the Fire Dragon or the Formless Dragon, there were no previous records of riding, requiring him to figure things out on his own.

Fortunately, a Light Green Gem Dragon had passed through the hands of several Dragon Knights, leaving behind many valuable experiences for Li Si Te to refer to. Relying on this experience and constant exploration with Leo, he had already begun to compile two manuals on dragon riding, “Liszt’s Complete Dragon Knight Training Manual” and “Fire Dragon Knight – Dragon Qi’s Manual.”

Among the “Fire Dragon Knight-Dragon Qi Secret Manual” is a pure Dou Qi cultivation and combat manual, which currently stops at five moves—Dragon Slash – Chop, Sky Burning – Sweep, Swallow Sun – Stab, Sea-Boiling – Strangle, and Earth-Shaking – Hammer.

“Liszt’s Complete Dragon Knight Training Manual”, on the other hand, is a miscellany recording all the bits and pieces about dragon riding training. It covers how to prepare before riding a dragon, techniques for the battle of the minds, the development of abilities on a dragon’s body, and many non-combatant skills.

Skills such as Dragon Magic Refining Qi, Dragon Breath Tempering, Dragon Force Focus, Dragon Heart Electrical Signal, Dragon Blood Infection, Dragon Knight Resonance, Dragon Eye Trajectory, and so on are all detailed.

Not limited to the cultivation of fire dragons, he hoped this book would become the standard introductory manual for all dragon knights.

It served as a family heirloom for generations to read, increasing the likelihood of descendants becoming dragon knights and preserving the family's eternal foundation for a thousand generations.

"Bard, let's try running the Dragon Eye Trajectory!"

"Whii-yah!"

The wind was howling. Liszt, along with the Formless Dragon, had entered invisibility and kept flying downstream along the Whirlpool River, which hugged Flame Origin. The small river had a large volume of water, after all, it was formed by the Whirlpool Waterfall rushing down from Whirlpool Mountain, winding its way down, gradually expanding the water's surface.

The small river turned into a large river.

Various tributaries flowed into Whirlpool River, expanding the river's width repeatedly. Where it was only two meters wide at Flame Origin, by three hundred kilometers downstream, it had reached fifty meters in width. Where another river, about thirty-something meters wide, converged, it began to flow from southeast to southwest.

At this point, the water flow of the river increased dramatically, and two hundred kilometers further, the river had widened to over one hundred and thirty meters.

"It can be called the Whirlpool Great River now!" Liszt admired, and at that time, another eighty-meter-wide river merged into it, turning downstream to flow westward.

About fifty kilometers later, the river took a steep turn, bending south again, and the width of the water surface reached an astonishing five hundred meters.

By the time it reached the sea, the width was unknown, as there was a large delta formed by the impact of the Whirlpool Great River, with sparse trees growing, resembling a vast marshland.

“Taking Whirlpool Mountain as the main trunk of Whirlpool Great River, the total length is about one thousand kilometers, roughly the same as the Huai River on Earth. Also, the terrain of the Whirlpool Great River Basin is relatively flat, reminiscent of the fish and rice region between the Jianghuai rivers. I wonder if it’s possible to develop this place as the fish and rice region of Whirlpool River.”

On the Legendary Continent, human development mainly revolves around river basins.

The area of Flame Island is enormous, and it’s impossible to develop it all quickly, so Liszt plans to focus on the Whirlpool Great River Basin as the main development area in the future.

But of course,

It’s not set in stone.

Whirlpool Great River is just one corner in the southeast of Flame Island; perhaps other parts of the island have more extensive and fertile river basins that are more suitable for development.

“Bard, let’s find a place to rest at the mouth of the Whirlpool River and take the opportunity to analyze why the Dragon Eye Trajectory is still not being deployed.”

They landed on a small hill that rose at the river mouth. The Formless Dragon let out a sound: “Whii-yah.”

It was asking Liszt for some Smoked Grass.

“Here.” Liszt pulled out a stalk of Smoked Grass and stuffed it into the Formless Dragon’s mouth. The Formless Dragon immediately began to chew joyfully, savoring the released flavors.

This stuff shouldn't be eaten too much; too much can lead to overexcitement.

Liszt, without sureptitiously, took out a mask and put it on his face.

The Formless Dragon had many advantages; the only sad part was its peculiar taste in Smoked Grass. Fortunately, the digestive power of dragon saliva is strong. After eating the Smoked Grass, the smell would quickly dissipate with the wind, without leaving any residual odor in its mouth.

“In the future, eat grass in places where no one else is, or you'll lose all your image points.”