

The Mighty 931

Chapter 931: Earth Barbaric Bear

Dragons are exhausting, as are elves, and Liszt had no choice but to spend an entire day bonding with the elves under his command.

As of now,

he had one Dragon Elf, nine Greater Elves, sixty-seven Little Minor Elves, and nearly four hundred Elf Bugs. The Elves were increasing at an explosive rate; those he personally bred were few, with most acquired externally. Some were from ransomed captives, some from Count Hot Spring Island, and some from the Moon Slayer Tribe.

But with so many elves, they still fell short of the Sapphire Family.

As a Dragon Rearing Family that had raised six dragons (including Bone Dragon Vinnie), his assets were modest. He would have to fully develop the Flame Islands and implement scientific farming before the elves could slowly increase in number, eventually reaching the standard of a royal dragon-rearing family.

Furthermore,

Liszt had also visited the dog kennel to see the Falcon Dogs gifted by the Red and White Rose Family.

These low-level Dragon Beasts had a Wind Attribute, were not large in size, even slightly smaller than the typical Fierce Earth Dogs. But they were slender and good runners, capable of unleashing Wind System Magic — Multiple Wind Blades. Perhaps not suited for charging into battle, they were excellent hunting companions, belonging to the type of luxury enjoyed by nobles.

Many nobles enjoyed hunting with dogs.

Thus, owning a low-level Dragon Beast like the Falcon Dog would undoubtedly elevate a noble's status — Dragon Beasts were incredibly rare and not something that could be easily valued in Gold Coins.

The Red and White Rose Family made a grand gesture by gifting Liszt three pairs of adult dogs and twenty pups. This population could keep breeding indefinitely, meaning that the Falcon Dogs had become an industry for the Flame Family. They were more valuable than the Landwalker Birds and Rainbow Whales that Liszt had obtained himself.

The Landwalker Birds, having consumed Bloodline Fruit, had possibly become Intermediate Dragon Beasts, but unfortunately, he could not find a second one to breed.

The Rainbow Whales were low-level Dragon Beasts and also lacked a mate for breeding.

However, the Banpo Cattle, Estuary Pigs, and Black Blood Treasured Horses were gradually breeding on a larger scale. It wouldn't be many years before they became an important industry for the Flame Family — and now that the methods of how the Formless Dragon released bloodline infections of Magic Power were clear, new varieties of dragon-related creatures could continue to be infected.

It was still unclear how the other dragons released bloodline infections of Magic Power.

In short, as a Dragon Rearing Family, there would be no lack of Dragon Beasts in the future.

...

Having managed his territories' affairs, the date just so happened to be July 10.

Liszt, along with Ach, set off for the Steel Ridge Kingdom. Accompanying them, besides the Formless Dragon Bard, were two dragons — Little Fire Dragon Leo, transformed into a Fire Dragon Pattern at his chest; and Bone Dragon Vinnie, turned into a dragon skull pattern on his left face.

The totem forms of Elemental Dragons were very unique.

They could, in fact, change the location of attachment, but the Fire Dragons preferred the chest area, especially near the heart for a compatible affinity.

Bone Dragons, on the other hand, greatly favored the head, seemingly because being closer to the brain also meant being closer to the soul, which also indicated a compatible affinity.

“Based on the ancient Chinese theory of the Five Elements, the liver corresponds to wood, the heart to fire, the spleen to earth, the lungs to metal, the kidneys to water... Leo is a Fire Dragon, fond of my heart, so he attaches to my chest. If I were to ride a Water Dragon, would it like my kidneys and attach to my waist?”

With that thought, the Earth Dragon, which favored the spleen, would probably have to compete with the Water Dragon for position.

Of course, since the spleen is on the left side of the abdomen, the Earth Dragon could contend for the left waist position, and the Water Dragon the right waist position — one on each side, settled!

There were no Wood Dragons or Gold Dragons among these elemental types. It was unclear how the Wind Dragon would match with human organs, and it was still unclear for Lightning Dragons, Light Dragons, Ice Dragons, and Dark Dragons. However, the Bone Dragon, dealing with the soul, was compatible with the brain.

“If one day I contract all Elemental Dragons, wouldn’t my body be covered in tattoos?” Though not exactly tattoos, more like sticker tattoos that can be peeled off at any time.

“Unfortunately, the Magic Power state can’t hide beneath the skin, and Bone Dragon’s pattern is too bold.”

Although the Bone Dragon’s pattern gave it a sinister aesthetic, the faintly glowing blue skull design on its head was somewhat too eye-catching and posed an obstacle to his normal interactions with other nobles—knightly etiquette did not appreciate such flashy tattoos.

Anyway.

The two riders and three dragons, fully stocked with supplies, set off from Black Horse Island and continuously galloped and flew.

Formless Dragon Bard was the primary mode of transport. When it got tired, Liszt would call upon Little Fire Dragon Leo to continue flying, while Bard would rest on the sea surface, propelled quickly by Ach controlling the seawater. A journey of over a thousand kilometers, which might take several days by boat, only required a few hours by dragon.

By noon, they had already reached an unknown coast of the Steel Ridge Kingdom.

With a wave of her hand, Ach conjured a strange apparatus made of condensed water, peered through its telescope to observe the position of the sun, and then compared it to a rudimentary map in her hand, saying, “Brother, we are now at the Red Tide Coast, and there’s a major city nearby called Red Tide City.”

“Hmm.” Liszt nodded as he looked at the map.

Ach continued, “Pegasus Great Forest is still three thousand kilometers to the northwest, then past Black Bear City. Pegasus Great Forest is just east of Black Bear City.”

“Let’s eat something, and continue on in the afternoon.”

Walking and stopping intermittently, by the next evening, the two finally saw Black Bear City from high above. They found a small village where Liszt asked a serf working in the fields and confirmed that this city was indeed Black Bear City.

They hadn’t flown to the wrong place.

After resting for the night, at dawn, they officially crossed the mountain range east of Black Bear City and entered the Pegasus Great Forest.

Because the Pegasus Great Forest was immensely vast, finding unicorns quickly would definitely require help from the local knights. Therefore, Liszt and Ach first sought to find appropriate magical beasts as mounts, disguised themselves as adventuring knights, and purchased information from the local knights.

Using the Crystal White Trajectory's view to scout continuously, they soon located two magical beasts rich in magic power.

"It's Earth Barbaric Bears; two of them seem to be vying for territory," Liszt said with a smile at the corner of his mouth, already deciding to use these two Earth Barbaric Bears as mounts.

The Earth Barbaric Bear, an advanced magical beast with Earth attributes, stands nearly five meters tall and can weigh up to ten tons. Capable of using various Earth System Magic, they are ferocious in battle and there were precedents for taming them as mounts. They were widely distributed, with traces found in many wild forests.

Even on Coral Island, there once lived a Giant Barbarian Bear, said to be of Earth Barbaric Bear lineage—later, when Count Hot Spring Island failed to tame it as a mount, he turned the Giant Barbarian Bear's skin into a chair, achieving the "seat" part of "mount."

"Bard, go down and put on a show!"

"Woo yii yah!"

Formless Dragon quickly dived toward the ground, and as it neared the two Earth Barbaric Bears, its imposing Dragon Might swept over the area, startling the fiercely battling bears, causing them to panic and start to flee.

But Bard's dragon claws were quicker, pressing one of the Earth Barbaric Bears down to the ground where it struggled wildly but couldn't escape.

Ach also unleashed Ice System Magic to block the other Earth Barbaric Bear.

Bang, thud!

Liszt jumped from the back of the Formless Dragon onto one of the Earth Barbaric Bears, his presence overwhelmingly suppressing the bear. He stomped hard on the bear's head several times before jumping off and landing in front of it. He pulled out a steak and the Ice Soul Dragon-Slaying Sword from his Space Ring.

First, the Ice Soul Dragon-Slaying Sword swiftly slashed, opening a gash in the Earth Barbaric Bear, causing blood to splatter and the bear to howl in pain.

Then, he held the steak up to the bear's mouth.

He wasn't sure if the bear could understand, but he made his intention clear, "Submit to me, and you'll have steak to eat; defy me, and I'll chop you up! Which will you choose?"

Steak in his left hand, sword in his right.

The Earth Barbaric Bear's eyes almost human in their expression, turned towards the steak, and it made noises of "ang ang ang"—a bear that knows food is also a wise bear.

Chapter 932: Is the Price Reasonable?

An Earth Barbaric Bear quickly submitted under the majesty of Liszt, and another Earth Barbaric Bear did not hold out much longer, soon both of them becoming the mounts of Liszt and Ach respectively.

If at the time of their subjugation they had been somewhat reluctant, their attitudes changed significantly when Liszt took out two ordinary Magic Potions and fed them to the Earth Barbaric Bears. These two Advanced Magical Beasts with no low intelligence were much more content upon this treatment. Since resistance was futile, they might as well enjoy the benefits of the Magic Potions.

Riding the Earth Barbaric Bears and becoming acquainted with their abilities along the way, they soon arrived at a mercenary camp.

The Pegasus Great Forest was not only home to the Advanced Dragon Beasts, Pegasus, adored by the Knight Class of Nobles, but also teemed with common Magical Beasts, all of which were favorite hunting targets of mercenaries. Therefore, mercenary camps serving as trading markets and supply stations were abundant, and merchant convoys frequently passed through these camps.

At this moment,

The guards on duty at the mercenary camp quickly spotted the arrival of two massive Advanced Magical Beasts, the Earth Barbaric Bears.

“It’s Earth Barbaric Bears, Advanced Magical Beasts, sound the alarm!” The guards quickly blew their horns and the mooing sound of the cow horns echoed throughout the camp,

rousing the mercenaries and Knights, who had been enjoying a moment of leisure, from their tents and wooden huts.

While donning their armor, they shouted loudly, “What’s happening?”

“It’s an advanced alert, an Advanced Magical Beast is approaching!”

“A damn Advanced Magical Beast, aren’t there supposed to be no Advanced Magical Beasts around here?”

“Maybe it’s one that roamed over here.”

“Captain Flandre just left with his Mercenary Corps; otherwise, we could’ve combined forces to capture the Advanced Magical Beast!”

The mercenary camp was composed of Knights and Rangers (Rats), where Rangers were ordinary in strength and often did reconnaissance work, with Knights being the main force for hunting. But here, the strongest Knight was just an Elite Earth Knight, and there were not many Elite Earth Knights who popped Magic Potions, mostly those who specialized in Combat Skills.

After all, those on the potion popping path often came from Noble families, capable of vying for the title of Sky Knight.

Even if they fell short of becoming Sky Knights, they would stay in their domains to inherit family property, happily embracing lovers while drinking wine. Nobody fancied the idea of delving into undeveloped forests fraught with danger, which did not suit the Knight Order’s charge, so it was quite common for Knights to be killed by stealthy attacks from Magical Beasts.

If not for livelihood, very few Knights were willing to enter the forest for the hunt.

These were mostly older Knights, retired from the Landlord's Knight Order without having earned enough military merits for a title, who then joined the Mercenary Corps to eke out a living.

As the warning of the horn spread, Knights and Rangers swiftly raised various fences, ropes, and wooden spikes, fortifying the camp into something akin to a porcupine. Elite Earth Knights gripped their bows and arrows, taking position on the camp walls, watchfully eyeing the Earth Barbaric Bears slowly approaching from a distance and praying they were merely passing by.

No one dared provoke Earth Barbaric Bears, these Advanced Magical Beasts could release a variety of Earth System Magic, causing massive harm, and their thick hides and flesh meant their defensive strength was astounding.

Suddenly,

A sharp-eyed Elite Earth Knight cried out in alarm, "There's someone!"

"What do you mean, someone?"

"On the backs of the Earth Barbaric Bears, there are people, two people riding them!"

"How is that possible? Who could tame an Advanced Magical Beast as a mount!"

"It's true, I see them too, it seems to be a Knight and a Magician!"

"Could it be a Sky Knight?"

"Phew, we're safe, since it's a Knight they must only be here for supplies."

The people of the mercenary camp all breathed a sigh of relief, realizing that as long as they were not wild beasts, there was nothing to fear—any Knight capable of riding an

Earth Barbaric Bear would certainly not covet the meager resources of their ramshackle camp.

Many knights, rangers, and merchants staying at the camp began to entertain cautious thoughts.

Perhaps they could do business with the two riding on Earth Barbaric Bears, knights and magicians, and even if they couldn't, getting on their good side could bring huge benefits. The combat ability of an Earth Barbaric Bear was comparable to that of a Sword Saint; only Nobles could tame such Magical Beasts as mounts.

Nobles were naturally worth ingratiating oneself with.

Soon.

Under the welcome of the camp manager, the two Earth Barbaric Bears arrived at the entrance of the camp.

At this time, the crowd standing at the edge of the camp finally saw clearly the knight and magician on the bears' backs. The magician was petite, wearing a hood, and only half of her beautiful, flawless face was visible; the knight was tall and straight, clad in gleaming silver armor, clearly not of ordinary quality.

Most peculiar of all was the tattoo resembling a skull on half of the knight's face, which was still faintly flickering with a ghostly blue light. This made the knight's otherwise masculine, handsome air suddenly become eerily extraordinary.

Such an appearance in knights was rare, but in the vast world, all kinds of people existed, and the mercenaries, having seen various oddities, weren't surprised.

"Two noble guests from afar, Rattlesnake Mercenary Camp welcomes you," the camp manager bowed in salute.

Riding on the bear's back, the knight was naturally Liszt. He didn't dismount but spoke from his elevated position in an authentic steel-like tone, "Are you the camp manager? I need a favor from you. Summon the most well-informed mercenaries in the camp for me."

He spoke naturally, yet the pressure of long-term high status, as well as the ferocity emanating from his Advanced Magical Beast mount, caused the manager to tremble, “As you wish, my lord. I’ll find them right away... Do you require rest inside the camp, my lord? I will arrange the best cabin for you immediately.”

“No need, just find those people for me,” Liszt waved away the air in front of his nose, not at all wanting to enter such a filthy, reeking mercenary camp.

The camp manager dared not slack off and immediately turned to his assistant and shouted, “Quickly, summon Old Jack, Three-Legged, Gold-Tooth Rat, Young John, Old Drunkard, and Sister Mendes here!”

The assistant promptly ran into the camp to call them.

The camp manager then pleasingly said to Liszt, “My lord, would you care for some food and water?”

“I don’t need any, but you can bring over some clean water for my Bear One and Bear Two to quench their thirst. If you have honey, bring it all here,” Liszt remembered that Earth Barbaric Bears loved stealing honey, even if it meant getting stung all over by the poisonous Black Ring Bees.

“My lord, I have honey!” A merchant among the onlookers, hearing Liszt’s need for honey, immediately cried out.

Another knight also spoke, “My lord, I also have freshly collected honey here, from the Low-Level Magical Beast – Black Ring Bee!”

“Bring it all over here,” Liszt glanced at the camp manager.

The manager quickly got the message and had the knight and merchant come over, then made them present the honey. Both quantities were small, but they quickly attracted the Earth Barbaric Bears named Bear One and Bear Two, who happily devoured all the honey — just enough to sweeten their teeth.

“Name your price,” Liszt said.

The merchant quoted three Gold Coins, while the knight asked for ten Gold Coins. Liszt was not familiar with the price of wild honey, so he looked at the manager, “Is the price reasonable?”

“Ah, my lord, why don’t we consider this honey as an offering from our mercenary camp? Our camp is established by the Rattlesnake Mercenary Group, and we are very willing to serve a noble person like yourself.”

“I’m asking you if the price is reasonable,” Liszt repeated flatly.

The manager immediately felt a strong pressure and dared not make assumptions on his own, honestly responding, “Basically reasonable.”

So, Liszt took out a bag of Gold Coins, counting out fifteen and threw them to the manager, “You pay these two honey-sellers for me, and the extra two coins are for the water and intermediary services of the camp.” Being an upright knight, he always believed in a fair exchange and did not condone freeloading.

He especially would not use his status as a Noble to exploit the lower classes of knights and commoners — he could enjoy their deference but had no desire to take advantage of them.

Of course.

War times were a different matter.

Chapter 933: Don’t Save Money on My Account

Old Jack, Three-Legged, Gold-Tooth Rat, Young John, Old Drunkard, Sister Mendes—the six most outstanding rangers of Rattlesnake Mercenary Camp.

They had all cultivated Dou Qi, and although it was only Primary Dou Qi, they were veterans when it came to traversing the forest. They might not be able to defeat Low-Level

Magical Beasts, but they could rely on various disguises to move around the forest freely. Their primary income came from scouting information and exchanging intelligence.

“Sir, they hold nearly all the intelligence of the entire camp. Many of the rangers are their subordinates,” said the camp manager.

“Disperse everyone else, don’t let them get in the way.”

“Of course, I will have the mercenaries leave immediately.”

After driving the onlookers away, Liszt cut straight to the chase, “I need you to provide me with some intelligence. As long as the information is valuable enough to gain my approval, Gold Coins won’t be an issue. But if you feed me false information, you will be killed by my Bear One and Bear Two.”

Three-Legged, who had a sly look about him, smiled and said, “May I have the honor of knowing Your Excellency’s name?”

“Me?” Liszt felt that when dealing with these crafty old rangers, it was better to adopt a more intimidating identity, “Mario Red and White Rose.”

“Ah!”

Not just the rangers, but also the camp manager, all showed their respect, “So it is Lord Mario of the Red and White Rose Family!”

“Lord Mario, feel free to ask away, Old Jack will tell you everything he knows!”

“Offering my respects to the Red and White Rose Family, Three-Legged is willing to provide all the information he knows.”

“Sister Mendes is also willing to offer up all of her intelligence.”

The six rangers jostled to express their respect first and even offered to provide the information for free. Judging by their gazes and expressions, they were not doing so reluctantly but were genuinely willing to do so.

This showed that the reputation of the Red and White Rose Family held an esteemed position within the Steel Ridge Kingdom.

Of course, this also had to do with Liszt looking very young and riding an Earth Barbaric Bear. Anyone seeing him would think that he wasn't just a direct heir of the Red and White Rose Family but also a very important young descendant, otherwise, he wouldn't be privileged to have an Earth Barbaric Bear as his mount.

After learning of Liszt's "Mario Red and White Rose" identity, the six rangers indeed spilled everything they knew and provided all the intelligence they had.

It mainly concerned the Pegasus Herd and Unicorns.

Pegasus were Advanced Dragon Beasts, found in groups throughout the Pegasus Great Forest, adept at Wind System Magic. Even though they were not part of the combatively powerful Dragon Beasts, their battle prowess could still be compared with a Sword Saint. The difficulty in taming and capturing them when a group of Sword Saints gathers could only be imagined.

As such, many Nobles sent Knight Orders to the Pegasus Great Forest, but the number of times a lone Pegasus was actually caught was very few.

Even the Royal Family sent Knight Orders, yet they failed to locate the Pegasus Herd.

There were indeed rumors that eyewitnesses had seen Unicorns within the Pegasus Herd, but their authenticity could not be verified.

"Lord Mario, indeed there have been knights who have seen Unicorns. But Unicorns are extremely agile. When a knight glimpses one from afar, the Unicorn takes notice and flees forthwith, with the Pegasus Herd following suit. Hence, no one has been able to closely observe a Unicorn, much less be certain that what they saw was indeed a Unicorn."

There were too many obstructions in the forest, and the distance was great.

Even a Sky Knight wouldn't dare to assert that what they saw was the so-called Unicorn. Thus, without solid evidence, Unicorns remain a mythical creature that exists only in anecdotes.

However, Liszt believed in the existence of Unicorns—in the “Magical Beast Encyclopedia” compiled under the supervision of Ach, the official name for Unicorns was tentatively set as “Storm Dragon Horse.”

Just as there was the Lightning Dragon Turtle among the Dragon Turtles, the Super Dragon Beast within the Pegasus Herd should be called a Storm Dragon Horse.

Moreover, Liszt thought of the time when Kenley Truth had provided him with the unicorn clue. She had mentioned an official record concerning the Steel Ridge Royal Family of the Platinum Family and the rulers of the Rose Duchy of the Red and White Rose Family—a true event related to unicorns.

The Red and White Rose Family often formed marital alliances with the Platinum Family. Once, a Duke of Rose planned to marry his daughter to the dim-witted youngest son of the King two generations prior.

As a result, the Duke's daughter was rescued halfway by a unicorn and eloped into the forest.

This incident was recognized by both the King and the Duke.

Of course.

Liszt believed it was likely a scandal between two dragon-rearing families. Perhaps the Duke's daughter had eloped with someone, and they used the tale of the unicorn to embellish the story.

Otherwise, how could a unicorn, a creature of the same caliber as the Flame Dragon Bird and the Lightning Dragon Turtle—so called Storm Dragon Horse—possess such human-like intelligence? Furthermore, how could it perform such an extraordinary feat, ignoring the formidable protection of the Court and rescuing a young girl from amongst the Knight Order?

His thoughts returned to the thick parchment paper handed to him by the Ranger.

Liszt looked at the somewhat abstract map and asked, “So, the locations where unicorns have been spotted are marked here in red ink?”

“Yes, Sir Mario.”

“And these places marked with green ink are where Pegasus herds have been seen, and the ones with purple ink are where a Pegasus has been caught?”

“Yes.”

Liszt flipped to the backside of the thick parchment, “The food that Pegasus like to eat, their resting habits, and some herd behaviors are all recorded here?”

“Yes.”

Nodding, Liszt put away the thick parchment and took out sixty gold coins, handing them to the camp leader: “You take your cut, and let the six of them divide the rest... I’ll be taking this information and the map.”

“Sir Mario, we all voluntarily offer our intelligence to you.”

“Do as I say.” Liszt didn’t care about these gold coins. On the contrary, he took out another hundred gold coins, “If I can’t find the Pegasus herd, I will come back. Use these gold coins to gather new intelligence for me. As long as it’s helpful, I will reward you even more.”

He jumped onto the back of Earth Barbaric Bear, shook the cloak outside his armor, and proclaimed loudly, “Remember, the Red and White Rose Family has plenty of money!”

Ach chuckled secretly.

As Bear One and Bear Two began to turn, Liszt added very empathetically, “Don’t skimp on me!” His voice was resounding, echoing long after the two Earth Barbaric Bears had departed, lingering in the ears of the camp leader and the Ranger.

Watching the proud figure disappearing into the distance.

A Ranger couldn’t help but exclaim, “Worthy of the Red and White Rose Family indeed!”

“Yes, Sir Mario’s demeanor is as brilliant as the morning sun.”

“If one could follow behind Sir Mario, one would surely bathe in knightly glory and have an endless supply of gold coins!”

...

The Rangers’ flattery was beyond Liszt’s hearing.

However, his mood was quite good: “Indeed, the feeling of smashing people with money is utterly refreshing. Why didn’t I transmigrate to the Red and White Rose Family in the first place? With the wealth of the Red and White Rose Family and my personal talent, I should have unified the three great kingdoms by now.”

But soon he sighed, “Such a pity for my one hundred and sixty gold coins!”

Chapter 934: Not One Less

Hoeing the fields at high noon, sweat drips down to the soil beneath.

Who knows, for every meal we take, each grain is hard-won toil.

One hundred and sixty Gold Coins would suffice for a lifetime for a Freeman’s family, and even by Li Si Te’s standards, it was enough for three to five breakfasts.

So he quietly admonished himself that when it was time to be frugal, he must be frugal and not waste precious Gold Coins on pointless boasting. After all, since he hadn't revealed his real name, all the showing off would be fruitless as no one would know his true strength.

"Let me personally elevate the honor of the Red and White Rose Family as repayment for Mathew's gift," he said.

With a wave of his hand, he dismissed these trivial thoughts. Once Bear One and Bear Two entered deep into the forest, he signaled to Ach, "Mark them with a couple of Space Magic Power beacons, then we'll switch to riding Bard. It'll be faster... We don't have much time to waste here."

"Mhm." With a casual wave of his hand, Ach imprinted two Magic Beacons onto the fur of the Earth Barbaric Bears.

Li Si Te patted the head of Bear One and tossed a steak into its mouth, saying, "You two live freely in the forest for now, I'll come back to find you when I need you."

The Earth Barbaric Bears were too slow and noisy; they weren't suitable for finding the Pegasus Herd.

By the time Li Si Te and Ach left on the Formless Dragon, the two Earth Barbaric Bears were still dazed, unaware of what had happened. However, once the presence of the Formless Dragon was gone, the two bears glared at each other menacingly as if ready to fight, no longer suppressed by Li Si Te's presence.

But soon, they gave up the glaring contest, each chose a direction, and bolted.

Life is precious, love even more so.

If it's for freedom's cause, both can be forgo.

Now that the dawn of freedom had appeared, there was no better time to run; they did not wish to continue being ridden like tiny ants by humans.

...

Riding the Formless Dragon, the search speed greatly increased.

The two riders and three dragons, moving along the material boundary, searched every ten minutes for a green dot where the Pegasus Herd frequented, every half hour for a purple dot where a Pegasus was caught, and every three hours for a red dot where a Unicorn was sighted.

The Crystal White Trajectory's analysis of Magic Power was akin to radar-level effectiveness.

Finally, in the afternoon of the following day, they found a cluster of blue-gray Magic Radiance at one of the green dots, outlining winged steeds one by one. The Magic Power feedback from the Wind Attribute glowed in varying shades of blue, and with the wings on their backs, there was no doubt that the creatures gathered around the river were a Pegasus Herd.

Li Si Te didn't have Bard appear immediately; instead, he closely identified the Magic Power feedback of each Pegasus in the herd. The blue-gray radiance varied in strength, but there was no discernible higher level of Magic Power.

They were all Low Magic.

This meant there were no Super Dragon Beasts, such as Storm Dragon Horses, among this Pegasus Herd.

"None, eh? It seems I haven't found the true Pegasus Herd. There are only one, two, three, four... twenty-six pegasi here, possibly a small herd or just a fraction of a larger one," Li Si Te quickly exited the Crystal White Trajectory and observed with the naked eye.

Through the gaps hidden by the trees, he could barely make out the true form of the Pegasi.

They looked slightly different from the pictures and descriptions provided by the Rangers, with a resemblance to normal horses. However, their shoulders, where the front legs met, were slightly stronger, and a pair of wings grew from that point. Since they were not flying, the wings were folded neatly by their sides.

Their color was not the silver-white described but primarily silver-white with some light gray patterns. The wings had faint blue patterns on them.

Their manes and tails appeared elegant and smooth, as if washed with a quality shampoo.

Comparing with his eyesight, these Pegasi were not much larger than normal horses. Even the largest among them was not as big as Li Si Te's mount, the King of Black Blood Treasure Horses – Lightning. Lightning was four meters tall, these Pegasi were at most three to five meters, yet they were considered Advanced Dragon Beasts.

Emitting a faint dragon might.

That rich bluish-gray wind attribute magic power, I'm afraid just a casual swipe of a Wind Blade could shred Lightning into pieces.

"Big brother, we can follow this small Pegasus Herd, Ach found that there are no mares or foals among them. This probably isn't an independent herd, following them should lead us to a larger Pegasus Herd." Ach reminded.

"I understand."

Li Si Te had the same thought.

So he quietly hid at the edge of the material boundary, waiting for the small Pegasus Herd to move while simultaneously summoning the Smoke Mission to check on its progress.

However, to his surprise, the mission had actually been completed.

"Mission complete, reward Pegasus Herd."

"That was easy, but how am I supposed to take this herd of Pegasus with me?" A thought flashed through Li Si Te's mind, which was quickly drawn away by a new mission.

“Mission: The Pegasus Herd before you is captivating, yet the Unicorn’s trace has never been revealed. However, for you who possess the Eye of Magic, it is quite simple to spy on creatures hiding in the dark. Please find a Pegasus with a horn. Reward: A Pegasus with a horn.”

“Hmm, still wants me to continue looking for the Unicorn, just as per the original plan, track this herd to find the larger colony.”

The plan was good, but the process was not as pleasant. After tracking the small Pegasus Herd for an entire day and night, the Pegasus showed no intention of joining a larger herd.

“Could it be that these male Pegasus are all single dogs that have lost their spirit, and only return to the larger herd to compete for mates during the mating season?”

With this thought, he quickly made a decision and said to Ach, “These Pegasus probably won’t return to the larger herd any time soon, Ach. Let’s mark them with a Space Magic Beacon first, and then continue to search for other Pegasus Herds.”

“Okay.”

Ach took action, stealthily approached the Pegasus Herd from the edge of material boundary, and placed several Space Magic Beacons before leaving.

They continued to search for other Pegasus Herds based on the spots marked on the map.

After searching for most of the day, they found another small Pegasus Herd of seventeen adult males. Just as Li Si Te was preparing to have Ach mark them with a Space Magic Beacon and continue the search for a new herd, one of the Pegasus suddenly raised its head and neighed.

Immediately after, the whole small herd of Pegasus raised their heads and neighed, quickly gathering together and staring at the dense forest ahead.

A yellowish creature was stealthily approaching the small Pegasus Herd.

“That’s...” Li Si Te was temporarily captivated by the image of the intruder.

It was a large cat with a unique body structure, as big as an elephant. Its face and mane were similar to a lion's, but its claws were like an eagle's, its body covered in hedgehog-like spikey fur, with bat-wing-like flaps on its ribs, and a scorpion-like stinger at the end of its tail.

Ach quickly guessed the identity of the invading creature, "It's a Scorpio-tailed Lion, big brother. A dark attribute Super Magical Beast with deadly venom in its tail, deadly on contact."

"A Scorpio-tailed Lion," Li Si Te nodded without intervening in the Scorpio-tailed Lion's hunting of the Pegasus.

According to the classification of enthusiasts, Advanced Dragon Beasts are more precious than Super Magical Beasts, but from the nervousness and agitation of the Pegasus Herd in the face of the Scorpio-tailed Lion, it can be discerned that the Scorpio-tailed Lion seems to prey on Pegasus. It's clear that the ranking of Magical Beasts does not necessarily reflect actual combat strength.

"Big brother, shall we help the Pegasus? They are all big brother's private property," Ach inquired.

The little Sea Monster's growth had been deeply influenced by Li Si Te, and it was firmly convinced of one principle—anything that big brother took a fancy to was big brother's private property.

Now that Li Si Te had set his sights on the Pegasus Herd, the Pegasus naturally belonged exclusively to Li Si Te.

"Ha, ha..." Li Si Te laughed dryly and then said seriously, "Don't worry, I've just thought of a plan. Maybe the Scorpio-tailed Lion's intrusion can help us drive these Pegasus back to the larger Pegasus Herd for protection... In any case, we can't lose a single Pegasus or Scorpio-tailed Lion. Let's wait and see."

Chapter 935: Stay Further Away

Facing the relentless approach of the Scorpio-tailed Lion, the seventeen Pegasi raised their heads and neighed, their Magic Power swelling as if they wanted to strike first. However, the Scorpio-tailed Lion was not eager to attack. Through its slow approach, it exerted a strong sense of oppression on the Pegasi, forcing them into chaos of their own making.

The Scorpio-tailed Lion aimed to triumph within the turmoil, to capture the prey it desired.

But the Pegasi were not fools; they did not scatter and always stayed closely together to face the Scorpio-tailed Lion.

Such standoff lasted for a full two hours. Finally, in a test of will and patience, the Scorpio-tailed Lion came out on top. A small group of Pegasi could no longer endure; they changed direction and took off running.

Once one Pegasus fled, all the others began to escape in an instant.

With a whoosh, the entire Pegasus Herd flapped their wings, flying up above the forest.

The eyes of the Scorpio-tailed Lion flashed with malevolent light, revealing a streak of electricity as it too spread its giant bat wings, swiftly giving chase, relentlessly pursuing one Pegasus in particular.

“Let’s go, Bard. We’ll follow!” Liszt said.

“Woo yi ya!” the Formless Dragon Bard responded softly, its form shifting like a teleport, easily following behind the Pegasus and the Scorpio-tailed Lion. Liszt then said to Ach, “When the Scorpio-tailed Lion pounces on the Pegasus, step in and interrupt it, don’t let it catch the Pegasus too easily; otherwise, the Pegasus might not flee toward the larger herd.”

Pegasi, being Advanced Dragon Beasts with high intelligence, were likely to seek help from their kind in danger.

However, if the Pegasi could not hold out until reaching the larger herd, Liszt’s plan would naturally fall through. So, maintaining a balance was key—allowing the Pegasus a chance to escape for help and giving the Scorpio-tailed Lion the hope of catching its prey, merely interrupting the rhythm slightly at crucial moments.

The posture of the Pegasi in flight was graceful, streams of air rising beneath their beautiful wings like noble swans, finding a direction and swiftly escaping.

The flight posture of the Scorpio-tailed Lion was not so graceful. Its bat wings fluttered repeatedly, like a sparrow hopping on and off, but its speed was subtly faster than that of the Pegasi—a confidence in itself to hunt the Pegasi.

But whenever it was about to catch up with the Pegasus ahead,

It always found that the Pegasus suddenly burst with speed, leaving it trailing at a distance.

This enraged the Scorpio-tailed Lion; it had captured Pegasi several times during its growth and longed for the taste. It was well aware that these Pegasi were no match for itself when fleeing. Yet it did not anticipate that this particular Pegasus could always burst with speed, causing its attacks to miss.

But,

the Pegasus ultimately lacked explosive power. Having only slightly widened the gap, its speed soon slowed down again.

Seeing this, the Scorpio-tailed Lion could not hold back any longer. It vigorously flapped its wings and rushed toward the Pegasus, not planning to give up the delicious prey within its reach!

This chase continued for dozens of miles.

Although the Pegasus Herd was escaping in panic, their formation did not scatter and they still flew urgently in one direction. The Scorpio-tailed Lion was panting heavily. Its large body was not well suited for long-distance flying, but with prey hovering just within reach, it couldn't bear to give up and kept sprinting.

“Just one more time, just one more and I'll definitely kill it!” this was probably the true portrayal of its inner thoughts.

Regrettably, fate's hands, in this case, were held by Ach at the edge of the material boundary, or one might say by Liszt. They could always rely on the power of Magic at crucial moments to give the Pegasus a nudge. Not too much, just enough so the Pegasus could narrowly evade the Scorpio-tailed Lion's bite.

But fate is fickle.

Just when Liszt thought this strategy was brilliant and victory was within reach, the Scorpio-tailed Lion, having failed another pounce, chose to give up.

With resentful eyes, it glared several times at the Pegasus Herd that was flying further and further away, then with heavy breaths began to descend toward the ground below.

Finally accepting the harsh reality, it declared its hunting failure.

"You actually gave up, the fat prey right before your eyes and you chose to give up, you waste!" Liszt raged. First, he had Ach tag the small Pegasus Herd with a Space Magic Beacon, then he directly maneuvered the Formless Dragon to make a turnabout attack, finding the Scorpio-tailed Lion resting in the forest.

He pulled out the Dragon Lance Fury of Thunder and directly executed a move from the Dragon Dou Qi Manual, "Poison Dragon Drill." The Dragon Lance, like a drill bit, extended from the material boundary, and with a speed faster than lightning, it pierced the weary Scorpio-tailed Lion, which saw stars before its eyes.

The powerful force of the Dragon Knight infused.

The Scorpio-tailed Lion had no time to react and was skewered dead.

Looking at the Scorpio-tailed Lion killed by a single blow, Liszt quickly reorganized his Space Rings, freeing one of them to cram the large body of the Scorpio-tailed Lion into the Gemstone Space—the five-meter-diameter spherical space of the Space Ring barely fit the lion.

Having done all this, without any hesitation,

He rapidly pursued the Pegasus Herd, following the signal of the Space Magic Beacon.

He wanted to see if, after being startled, the Pegasus Herd would continue to join the larger herd, and it was with this thought that he reaped a rich reward.

The group of Pegasus kept flying, with good stamina they crossed a distance of several hundred kilometers, only then did they gracefully land in a valley surrounded by mountains. In the Crystal White Trajectory's view, there was a spot in the valley with sparse trees but lush wild grass, and it was scattered with more than a hundred peacefully grazing Pegasus.

Greyish-green Magic reflections flickered on and off, among them, three special green lights stood out as if solid, a vibrant emerald hue.

And atop the heads of the Pegasus, they formed a point, slightly longer than the head, like a sharp horn.

“Storm Dragon Horse!” Liszt's heart settled, effort pays off, his scheme of having the Scorpio-tailed Lion chase the Pegasus although momentarily thwarted, still achieved the desired result—he found the Pegasus with horns on their heads, the legendary Unicorns known as Storm Dragon Horses.

And not just one, but three Storm Dragon Horses appeared at once!

Suppressing his excitement, he did not go down to capture them but remained at the boundary of the material realm, observing this Pegasus Herd and the three Storm Dragon Horses among them.

A vague suspicion arose in his heart, “Storm Dragon Horses are indeed Unicorns, extraordinary in themselves, and the Magic power in their horns definitely reaches High Magic levels... but, is this the mission just to help Ach find a mount, with Ach being an Archmage, would he just ride such Storm Dragon Horses?”

It wasn't that he looked down upon the Storm Dragon Horses, but they simply didn't befit Ach, knowing that once the Formless Dragon Bard had earnestly hoped Ach would ride it.

But Ach had refused.

What virtues did the Storm Dragon Horses have to qualify as Ach's mount?

While he was deep in thought, a puff of smoke appeared out of nowhere and quickly condensed into ephemeral Serpent Script: "Mission completed, reward Storm Dragon Horse."

The smoke swiftly dispersed and then reconvened into another segment of Serpent Script.

"Mission: Even Pegasus with horns are merely ordinary Pegasus and cannot match the status of Ach as an Archmage. However, while you're feeling disheartened, have you noticed that the true Unicorn is secretly observing you and Ach? Perhaps what you need to do is to distance yourself from Ach. Reward: One Unicorn."

Seeing the first part of the mission, Liszt was quite thrilled, indeed, the power of destiny is the projection of one's own will; Storm Dragon Horses are simply not suited for Ach's stature.

But then.

Upon reading the latter part of the mission, his expression quickly darkened: "What does this mean!"

Chapter 936: Sanctity

No matter how angry or wronged he felt, he couldn't change the content of the Smoke Mission; he was still to leave Ach a bit further away and not hinder the unicorn's approach.

"How preposterous!"

After taking three deep breaths, he calmed his restlessness and regained composure. He reviewed the content of the Smoke Mission with a tranquil mindset again, but upon revisiting it, a nameless fury swiftly stirred within him—it was simply intolerable, a blatant smear against him!

"Deep breaths!"

“Deep breaths!”

He confronted his impatience in silence.

Eventually, reason prevailed over impulse, and he carefully considered the mission: “A Pegasus with a unicorn horn is just an ordinary Pegasus... The real unicorn is observing in the dark... Does this mean the unicorn I’ve seen is not a true unicorn, or perhaps there is a more powerful unicorn out there?”

The reward for the Smoke Mission was “a unicorn.”

However, there were three unicorns present at the scene. As long as Liszt was willing to capture them, these three unicorns couldn’t escape, so this didn’t match the reward mentioned in the Smoke Mission.

Moreover, the previous mission had already awarded a “Storm Dragon Horse.”

“So it means, among the Pegasus Herd, the common unhorned mounts are advanced Dragon Beasts, the Pegasus with the horn is a Super Dragon Beast, a Storm Dragon Horse, and hiding in the shadows there is an even more magical, true unicorn?”

Liszt could not guess what the true unicorn was, but it didn’t hinder him from setting aside his pride and saying to Ach, “I have a strong hunch that the unicorns we’ve discovered are not the true unicorns. The real unicorn is probably as wondrous as legends describe, very fond of maidens.”

Ach voiced his doubt, “Brother, are you saying that these three Storm Dragon Horses aren’t unicorns, even though they clearly have horns?”

“The ones with horns are just Storm Dragon Horses, a level above Pegasus. However, the unicorn is recorded as a creature more magical than Sub-dragons, similar to a dragon in enchantment... I didn’t believe it at first either, but I feel a magical gaze watching over us.”

“The real unicorn is nearby?” Ach didn’t quite grasp the concept but was impressed.

Liszt nodded, “I guess that’s the case. So, I plan to sneak away with Bard to one side while you stay here to attract the unicorn. According to legend, unicorns are kind and like pure maidens very much—you fit the description perfectly, Ach... If it dares to harm you, you defend yourself first, and Bard and I will rush up and kill it!”

Ach nodded and clenched her fists with confidence, saying, “Don’t worry, brother, Ach has mastered the Water Element, Ice Element, and Space Elemental Incarnation. Earth Elemental Incarnation is also in development. My strength is not less than that of a Dragon Knight!”

“Alright.”

After stroking Ach’s azure hair, he set her down on the ground and swiftly steered Bard high into the distance.

He retreated nearly a kilometer away, took out his telescope, activated Crystal White View, and quietly observed the spot where Ach stood. He also scanned the surroundings occasionally, trying to spot the unicorn.

In view.

Ach first hid within the boundary of matter, and, as an Archmage who mastered the Space Elemental Incarnation, she moved in and out of the material boundary effortlessly.

However, after a brief stillness, she found a rock to sit, pulled out a book of Magic Books to read, and her figure emerged from the material boundary.

The nearby Pegasus and Storm Dragon Horses eating grass finally noticed Ach and got a little restless, the entire Pegasus Herd moving a short distance away. But as Ach quietly read her book, these Pegasus quickly relaxed and unconsciously returned to her side.

Occasionally, a Pegasus would raise its head to look at Ach, then lower it again to continue grazing.

Completely regarding Ach as a harmless being—of course, Ach indeed had no intent to harm the Pegasus. The one who was really intent was Liszt, not the Sea Serpent Magician engrossed in the world of magic.

...

An hour flashed by.

The unicorn had not appeared, and the Smoke Mission was unresolved.

Liszt frowned, “Could it be that I’m too close, perhaps I really need to move further away.” The thought aggravated him, but he still suppressed his emotions and steered Bard back again, retreating beyond five kilometers, setting up his telescope to carefully watch Ach and her surroundings.

Another half hour passed, and still no sign of the unicorn.

Liszt growled with boredom as he chatted through a mental link with the Formless Dragon, “Bard, do you think I’m a good person?”

“Whether you’re a good person or not... The taste of the recent batch of Smoked Grass has declined a bit. Liszt, do you think it’s because my taste has become too sophisticated, or is the Smoked Grass Elf Bug not working hard enough?”

“You eat it every day without fear of cavities. Eat less usually, so that it’ll taste better when you do have it.”

“I understand the reasoning, but I still think Smoked Grass needs improvement. Have the magicians of the Magic Guild evolve the Smoked Grass Bugs into Little Minor Elves; that will definitely improve the taste.”

“You think Elf Bugs can just evolve into Little Minor Elves willy-nilly? Why don’t you just as casually throw me a few Space Gems, especially after I allocated Red Dragon Water to you?”

“Heh, the Red Dragon Water is shared by all, not my exclusive enjoyment.”

“How about this? I’ll give one bottle of Red Dragon Water for one of your Space Gems.”

“One hundred bottles for one gem.”

“Don’t let your tongue flap too much in the breeze, three bottles for one gem.”

“Why don’t you just rob me? Three bottles of Red Dragon Water can’t even conjure the outer shell of a Space Gem, and it’s my Superior Magic that’s needed for the conjuration. Fifty bottles, I’ll take the loss and make the exchange!”

“Ten bottles for one!”

“Impossible, forty bottles!”

“Fifteen bottles, and not a bottle more.”

“Forty bottles, and that’s my final offer.”

“Twenty bottles, I’m bleeding for this!”

“Forty bottles, that’s the bottom line.”

“Twenty-five bottles, will you agree or not? If not, I’m not trading.”

“Forty bottles.” Bard conveyed a resolute “take it or leave it” intent, no longer wanting to haggle endlessly with Liszt.

Liszt fell silent then.

The market price for Red Dragon Water in the Steel Ridge Kingdom was such that one could easily sell one bottle for twenty thousand Gold Coins, and if other countries were buying, one might not find a seller even for thirty thousand.

So, forty bottles of Red Dragon Water amounted to nearly one million two hundred thousand Gold Coins, trading it for a Space Gem wasn't a loss for the Dragon Rearing Family. But Liszt, who kept a Formless Dragon himself, found it hard to part with so much Red Dragon Water.

Right now, he and Ach together had six Space Rings, which were barely sufficient. Therefore, the topic ended there. He wasn't willing to buy, and the Formless Dragon wasn't willing to sell.

It was at this time.

Through the telescope, he saw Ach suddenly put down his Magic Books, turn his head toward a certain place in the forest; it wasn't a casual glance, but he was sizing something up.

But when Liszt turned the telescope there, he couldn't see what Ach was actually looking at. In the Crystal White View, there was no new magical feedback Light: "Strange, Ach obviously has spotted a Unicorn. Why can't I see the magic feedback Light of the Unicorn... Could it be that Unicorns, like Formless Dragons, can turn invisible?"

The thought had barely arisen before he dismissed it.

In legend, Unicorns could not become invisible, and moreover, many people could see a Unicorn when it appeared. It was just that only a pure virgin could approach a Unicorn, and its special ability was thought to be discerning the good and evil in a person's heart.

The next moment.

A light bulb went off in his head: "I'd searched the Pegasus Herd carefully before and couldn't find a Unicorn, but the Smoke Mission hinted that a Unicorn was lurking nearby. Could it be that a Unicorn can hide its magical feedback light? If so, wouldn't I be able to see it with the naked eye?"

With that thought in mind, he immediately dispelled the Crystal White Trajectory and opted for the naked eye view.

Sure enough, in the lens of the telescope, there appeared a pristine white, nearly translucent special Pegasus, bathed in a faint rainbow glow, standing on air, gently approaching Ach.

Its size was no larger than that of a Pegasus or a Storm Dragon Horse.

The only difference was the spiral horn on top of its head, which was not the silver horn of a Storm Dragon Horse, but a shiny golden horn like pure gold.

Even though the distance was great and he was looking through a telescope, Liszt still immediately thought of the word “sacred” the first time he saw it.

“This is a true Unicorn!”

Chapter 937: Creating a Rainbow

The holy Unicorn, like a sculpture of white jade in the form of a majestic Pegasus, exuded a faintly discernible rainbow light around its body.

Its golden spiraling horn undisputedly displayed its nobility.

The soft mane and tail seemed to be woven from the clouds on the horizon, and its streamlined body combined strength with aesthetic appeal. A pair of broad and flawless wings didn't appear out of place but instead further highlighted the Unicorn's transcendent and refined nature. Its hooves trod on empty space, creating ripples like rings of mist.

Aside from its golden horn, the only part not white on its body were those large black and bright eyes.

Due to the distance, the details were unclear, but the eyes, resembling black gemstones, suddenly elevated the creature's aloof and pure stance, giving it a lively and interesting character.

It slowly walked up to Ach, snorted like a horse, and then watched him intently.

Showing affection.

Ach was very short, and the Unicorn was about four meters tall, similar in stature to Liszt's King of Black Blood Treasure Horses, Lightning. She wished to reach out and touch the Unicorn's head, but couldn't, and yet the Unicorn quickly bowed its head, allowing Ach to laugh and stroke its spiral golden horn.

"Indeed, the legends are true," Liszt murmured with a sense of wonder as he observed the harmonious interaction between man and nature through his telescope.

He wasn't angry at all about the directive to "keep his distance" for the Smoke Mission.

He was actually very pleased that Ach had gained the favor of the Unicorn, as the purpose of the trip had been to find a suitable mount for Ach.

The more noble and holy the Unicorn was, the more fitting it was for Ach's status.

"Now I'm even more curious to know how many legendary creatures and treasures really exist. If Unicorns, which are even more majestic than Storm Dragon Horses, truly exist, then might there also be real Phoenixes beyond the Flame Dragon Birds? And what lies beyond the Lightning Dragon Turtles?"

And there are many other creatures of legend that are just as magical as the Unicorn.

The Hellhound Cerberus that reigned over the Exiled Lands, the colossal Leviathan that roamed the Devil's Sea, the chimera with the heads of a goat, lion, and serpent combined, the giant wolf Fenrir that raced across the icy lands, the world-encircling serpent Ouroboros, and the invincible giant lion Nemean.

Not to mention the guardian of the Golden Apples, the Ladon Dragon that could not fly and only ran on the ground.

Additionally, the legends also spoke of Sub-dragons as powerful as Dragons, ocean giants like Leviathan, land behemoths like Behemoth, and sky giants like Ziz.

"Do these creatures all exist, and are they as magical as the legends say?" Liszt wasn't willing to believe there were creatures stronger than Dragons, but he had seen the cuts on

the hind legs of a Jade Dragon, obviously left by a creature more terrifying than a Sacred Dragon.

He had also obtained the wood of the Tree of Golden Apples, and the handle of the Time Scepter was made from this wood—where there were Trees of Golden Apples, naturally, there were Golden Apples.

And why wouldn't the Ladon Dragon guarding the Golden Apples really exist?

What's more, Liszt had once glimpsed an even greater existence—the Dragon of the Magic Web—whose magic power supported the entire civilization of magic.

If such incredible creatures could exist, what was impossible?

“This magical world—anything is possible,” he continued, observing the distant Unicorn through his telescope.

Using the naked eye, the Unicorn's appearance was clearly visible, but as soon as he executed the Crystal White Trajectory, the Unicorn vanished from sight. Neither the glow of magic feedback nor the crystalline structure of the Unicorn was visible, as if such a creature had never existed.

Quite miraculous, it made Liszt very eager to investigate.

But he refrained from approaching, giving Ach time to tame the Unicorn.

...

Unlike Liszt's taming of a Dragon, the Unicorn approached Ach on its own and quickly knelt down its forelegs, lowering its body to let Ach step onto its wings and climb aboard.

Although it had gained an extra pair of wings, this did not impede riding.

Ach's horsemanship had become skilled, so he was soon able to ride the Unicorn and leisurely stroll on the ground. The surrounding Storm Dragon Horses and Pegasus seeing

the Unicorn approach, all lowered their heads in submission as vassals would to their Landlord.

It wasn't clear what relationship the Unicorn had with the Pegasus, but within the Pegasus Herd, the Unicorn was king, the Storm Dragon Horse a level below, with Pegasus being the lowest tier.

After running slowly for a moment, the Unicorn quickly flapped its wings and took to the air.

Its wings seemed more for show, barely flapping at all. Yet its flying speed was not slow at all, like a shooting star that suddenly soared into the sky, then just as suddenly descended atop the treetops. Faster and more agile than the teleport-like flight of the Formless Dragon, the most unique feature was the rainbow it trailed behind when flying at high speed.

Red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, violet; the colors were not very distinct, and they quickly dissipated, but the effect they produced was absolutely dreamlike.

It wasn't surprising that Ach quickly took a liking to this Unicorn.

Even Liszt, watching from a distance, felt his girlish heart stir, yearning for a Unicorn that could create rainbows.

After about half an hour of flying in the sky, the Unicorn began to fly towards Liszt's location with Ach on its back. As it neared the material boundary where the Formless Dragon was hiding, the Unicorn hesitated for a while, seeming to know that the Formless Dragon was concealed within the material boundary and feeling wary.

It wasn't clear what Ach said to it, but the Unicorn relaxed again, slowly approaching the Formless Dragon.

"Big brother, let Bard out, Ach has already spoken with the Unicorn."

Upon hearing Ach's shout, Liszt appeared from the material boundary, quietly floating in the sky. Bard stared at the Unicorn with curiosity, and both it and Liszt took a liking to this Unicorn that could create rainbows.

“Wowarr!”

Bard attempted a greeting.

“Hmph.” The Unicorn snorted from the other side, and it was unclear if it was responding to Bard.

“Ach, can the Unicorn understand what you’re saying?” Liszt’s eyes twinkled, really wanting to ride the Unicorn to prove he was also pure of heart.

“The Unicorn is very impressive, big brother, it can not only understand what Ach is saying but also directly communicate with Ach telepathically. It also has many magical qualities, it’s just that since it has never encountered humans before, many of its habits and abilities are waiting to be slowly explored by Ach.”

“It has never encountered humans before?” Liszt steered Bard down slightly to take a closer look under the Unicorn and saw it was bare, “So is it male or female?”

“Big brother, Unicorns have no gender.”

“No gender?”

“Yes, like Dragons and Elves, they have no gender. But Ach does not know where it came from; even the Unicorn itself does not know. It has lived among the Pegasus Herd from the time it could remember, raised by a mother Pegasus. And now, all of the Pegasus in the Pegasus Great Forest listen to it.”

“So does it letting you ride mean that it recognizes you as its master?”

“I don’t know, it just really likes Ach, and Ach really likes the Unicorn, and then it’s willing to follow Ach’s commands.” Ach smiled proudly, like a child who had received a beloved toy, even though she had become a knowledgeable Archmage, she still retained the purity of a Sea Serpent.

Perhaps it was this innocence that attracted the sacred Unicorn.

“There’s no contract triggered, or a mind meld of sorts?”

“Nope, it’s just telepathic communication.”

Hearing that there was no contract between Ach and the Unicorn or a mind meld like Dragon Riding, Liszt was somewhat disappointed.

He actually had more faith in the binding of contracts, but since there was no contract, the best thing might be to lure the Unicorn and the entire Pegasus Herd to Flame Island.

So he said, “Ach, ask the Unicorn if it is willing to lead the Pegasus Herd to live on Flame Island. I can allocate the best grasslands for them to live freely... no, better not ask yet. Let’s get to know the Unicorn better after spending a couple of days with it.”

Chapter 938: Unicorn Superior Magic

Over the next two days, Liszt and Ach stayed in the valley, bonding with the unicorn.

Bone Dragon Vinnie, Fire Dragon Leo, and Formless Dragon Bard aimlessly dispersed around the outer rim of the valley, each occupying a territory to settle in, so to avoid disturbing the Pegasus herd, Liszt did not let them approach the interior of the valley.

Ach got along harmoniously with the unicorn, having familiarized himself with all its magical characteristics.

However, when it was Liszt’s turn, he could not even touch the unicorn, let alone ride it to see how it felt, even with Ach’s help in speaking for Liszt. The unicorn still refused to let Liszt touch it.

Liszt could only give a dry laugh and mask his awkwardness, saying, “It has character, I like that.”

Usually, he was the one riding dragons while others looked on enviously. Now it was Ach riding the unicorn and he was the envious one—how fortunes change over the years.

Fortunately,

while unicorns were not rideable, Pegasus and Storm Dragon Horses were available for anyone to ride—Ach could make the unicorns command these Pegasus not to resist. Over these two days, Liszt rode each of the three Storm Dragon Horses and even personally collected some of the Pegasus's favorite grass to feed them.

With the unicorn's authority and the grass as an incentive, the three Storm Dragon Horses no longer resisted Liszt and could be ridden at will.

Though the Storm Dragon Horses lacked the ethereal beauty of the unicorns, they were still supreme Dragon Beasts, capable of flying at speeds over 150 kilometers per hour, and they could fly for a day and a night without tiring. Even ordinary Pegasus could easily cover over 100 kilometers per hour and sustain flight for three to five hours.

When running on land, both Pegasus and Storm Dragon Horses could reach speeds up to 100 kilometers per hour, but they possessed astonishing stamina, capable of running the whole day.

After all, they were high-tier and super-tier Dragon Beasts, infinitely stronger than ordinary Dragon Breed Horses.

If the Knight Order could be heavily equipped with Pegasus, their combat capabilities would be incredibly fearsome, as even an ordinary Pegasus possessed the strength of a Sword Saint.

At that point, unless Dragon Knights intervened, Domain Knights and Ancient Warrior Inheritors would be no match.

At that moment,

a chorus of whinnies resounded from the sky, heralding the arrival of a small group of Pegasus, who settled in the valley, calling out to the three leading Storm Dragon Horses.

After receiving a few responses, the new Pegasus joined the others in grazing peacefully all around the valley.

This was the fourth group of Pegasus to arrive in these two days, though they did not come on their own accord—it was Liszt's idea.

He had Ach communicate with the unicorn to issue commands to the Pegasus herd, calling back all the scattered Pegasus.

When they left, they intended to take every Pegasus from Pegasus Great Forest with them, leaving none for the Steel Ridge Kingdom.

On the third day,

as the last two groups of Pegasus arrived, the unicorn informed Ach that except for those already captured by human knights, all Pegasus in Pegasus Great Forest had returned.

Liszt personally counted—there were two hundred and eighty-three Pegasus and four Storm Dragon Horses, including one that had always been roaming outside whose horn had broken off.

According to the unicorn, this Storm Dragon Horse had its horn broken by a human Knight in battle. At that time, a Noble Landlord led a Knight Order to capture it, but it killed them all, although its spiraled silver horn was broken and its soul was damaged, changing its temperament drastically.

It had a strong hostility towards humans and seemed somewhat inferior in the presence of its own kind.

If it weren't for the unicorn's forceful authority, it would have fought Liszt on sight—both Pegasus and Storm Dragon Horses were extremely fearful of the unicorn's authority and dared not question its commands.

In terms of physique, unicorns did indeed resemble Pegasus.

However, in terms of their essence of life, unicorns were entirely different from Pegasus and Storm Dragon Horses, especially since they lacked reproductive organs. Moreover, as Ach continued to explore, the unicorn's abilities became increasingly mysterious; each newly discovered ability widened the gap between it and the Pegasus.

To the extent that without looking at the appearance, Pegasus and unicorns were entirely unrelated.

“Brother, Ach has discovered a new ability in Charlie, it is based on the essence of elements and has the ability to enhance the caster's level of magic power!” Ach happily said, descending from the sky on the unicorn, Charlie—this name was given by Liszt.

No matter how proud the unicorn was, it couldn't escape the shadow cast by Liszt. As long as Ach was persuaded, the name Charlie was destined to accompany the unicorn for life.

As for the name “Charlie” itself.

It was Liszt's intentionally wicked humor, derived from an American animated film “Unicorn Charlie,” in which a unicorn named Charlie was tricked by red and blue unicorns, and even had his kidney stolen when entering Candy Mountain... In fact, seeing the unicorn reminded Liszt of this animated film.

Then in his mind suddenly echoed the coaxing tone of the red and blue unicorns: “Charlie... Charlie...”

“Enhance the caster's level of magic power?” Liszt raised an eyebrow, “Ach, are you saying that if you cast magic, Charlie can elevate your high magic level to a superior magic level?”

“Brother, look.”

Ach casually released an Ice System Magic spell, forming a huge shield of solid ice. The magic power attached to it was easily identified by Liszt as having reached the level of Ice System Superior Magic.

He picked up the Ice Soul Dragon-Slaying Sword, unleashed Dragon Dou Qi, and fiercely struck at the solid ice shield.

Boom!

A crack appeared in the solid ice shield, but it did not shatter, evidently able to withstand many more attacks from him. After discovering this fact, Liszt couldn't help but marvel at the unicorn's tremendous power, which elevated Ach's magic drawn from the Magic Web from high magic all the way to superior magic.

You see, there is a fundamental difference between superior magic and high magic.

Superior magic exists scarce in nature; most superior magic is carried by dragons—the Dragon's Superior Magic can transform into metals, gemstones, can be perpetual flames, can create everlasting storms, can condense Gemstone Space, can bear Magic Form, and so on.

“Ach, you can rely on Charlie to master superior magic, so does your superior magic level also have eternal properties?”

Whether it turns into perpetual flames, non-stop storms, or transforms into metals and gemstones, the essence is still the eternal property of magic power—ordinary metal is less obvious, but the magic power in gemstones can exist for a long time, and magic metals also have good magic power communication abilities.

Unlike low magic or high magic, which dissipate quickly after release, even if they turn into stone or ice blocks, do not retain any magical properties.

Ach, however, shook his head at this, “Brother, look at this solid ice shield; it melts very slowly. If there is no outside interference, it may take three or five days to melt completely. But it will eventually melt, and once it leaves Charlie's enhancement, the superior magic will quickly fall back to high magic.”

That is to say, this superior magic is essentially a manifestation of the unicorn's abilities, rather than it inherently being superior magic.

“Well, although it does not possess eternal properties, making your magic not reach its expected value, your combat capabilities will definitely not be inferior to any Dragon

Knight when paired with Charlie...even if I, your brother, only ride an ordinary war dragon, I'm probably no match for you."

Liszt felt somewhat melancholic.

A Dragon Knight without a dragon definitely couldn't beat an Archmage.

Previously, Liszt could still boast as the strongest in the Flame Kingdom by riding dragons; now, he might have to be more cautious, only riding Light Green Gem Dragon Ethan, which isn't particularly strong in combat, he really might not be able to beat Ach.

Ach cheerfully consoled him, "Now, Ach can protect brother."

Chapter 939: Crossing the Sea

Ach hoped to protect Li Si Te (Liszt), a thought that had been engraved in the little sea monster's mind since the moment Liszt had protected him.

Liszt did not refuse Ach's kindness, nor did he harbor any thoughts of being "protected" by a "woman" or "living off a woman."

The relationship between him and Ach had reached a level where it didn't matter who protected whom; they were both already standing at the pinnacle of this world's power.

He smiled.

Liszt returned to the main topic, "So, enhancing the levels of magic power is Charlie's new ability. With this, Charlie's abilities have become even more powerful. Perhaps its own combat power is not as strong as a dragon's, but the increase in strength it brings to its riders, especially magicians, is indeed something even dragons cannot match."

From the moment Ach mounted the unicorn Charlie, the Smoke Mission had already been completed.

"Mission completed, reward: one unicorn."

This meant that the unicorn had become Ach's exclusive mount and also represented a strong supporting force owned by Liszt—helping Ach was equivalent to helping him; there was no difference.

In the following three days, he collaborated with Ach to study Charlie's abilities.

Charlie, who favored Ach very much, cooperated completely, continuously displaying its abilities. After summarizing, they identified approximately five incredible abilities.

The first one, Void Sprint—Charlie did not have the traditional ability to fly; its wings were just for show, and it did not release any Wind System Magic. Its so-called flight was more like running through the void; space and matter did not constrain it, and it could run just as well underwater.

Moreover, its speed during the Void Sprint was extremely fast; when it sprinted, its figure was hard to discern with the naked eye. According to Ach's estimates, Charlie's top sprinting speed had surpassed the speed of sound, reaching one thousand four hundred kilometers per hour, which was faster than Ach swimming at the speed of sound in water.

However, the extreme sprint was not sustainable; Charlie could maintain its peak sprinting speed for a maximum of two hours, with a normal running speed of about five hundred kilometers per hour.

The second ability, Discerning Good and Evil—Charlie could distinguish the attitudes of humans and any other creatures towards it, whether they were benevolent or malicious. It could also communicate mentally with many creatures, understanding most of the messages they wanted to convey; it was definitely a qualified interpreter.

The third ability, Eye of Truth—no hidden methods could be used in front of Charlie, it could see through Formless Dragons hiding at the edge of substances. Whether it was this type of spatial method of hiding, or any other disguise or transformation, none could escape its eyes.

The fourth ability, Pure Element—Charlie's body seemed to have no flow of magic power, yet, it could cooperate with Ach to exhibit various properties similar to Elemental Incarnations. Especially the Space Elemental Incarnation, allowing it to follow Ach into

the boundary of matter and, with the help of Formless Dragon Bard, to shuttle through space.

The fifth ability, Magic Power Enhancement—this was the ability Ach had just discovered, which could elevate the caster's magic power by one level, turning High Magic into Superior Magic.

Five abilities, each one profoundly extraordinary, brought the value of the unicorn to a level of parity with dragons.

Even to a certain extent, the value of the unicorn was greater than that of a dragon.

Indeed, it could not produce resources or suppress a whole country with battle power. But if combined with an Archmage, it could allow the Archmage to exhibit combat power comparable to a Dragon Knight; the ability to Discern Good and Evil could let it act as a translator in front of various creatures, which would be extremely beneficial for the development of husbandry and breeding industries.

For instance, it could control a herd of Pegasus, which presented great value, providing a boost for Liszt's new Smoke Mission.

“Mission: Unicorn Charlie has now become Ach's profitable mount and assistant. Although the relationship between the Pegasus herd and the unicorn is unknown, this does not hinder you from migrating them to Flame Island, making them the exclusive herd of the Flame Family. Please complete this Pegasus migration. Reward: Sun Child Blood Code.”

With unicorn Charlie, driving the Pegasus to Flame Island posed no difficulty.

As for the mission's reward.

Liszt was somewhat surprised yet felt it was not unexpected that the Magic Guild had a group of Grand Magicians who were engaged in the mysterious era of Druid Magic all day long.

They studied Druid transformation, the cultivation of Magic Beans, and the growth of Transforming Trees.

And the foundation of all Druid Magic research was the Sun Child bloodline.

Descendants of Old Tanner Phil were being born in succession—the group of magicians arranged for a group of volunteer serfs to conceive with Old Phil and bribed Old Phil’s legitimate widow to make the process unimpeded. They submitted the plan for review to the committee and handed it over to Liszt for decision-making.

The Grand Magicians solemnly swore they would never mistreat the newborn Sun Child infants and would raise them as Magic Apprentices.

After much hesitation, Liszt reluctantly approved the request—he also hoped that Druid Magic could truly flourish and contribute value to the Flame Kingdom.

“Finally, we are about to crack the Sun Child Blood Code. Does this mean that in the future the magicians of the Flame Kingdom... no, it should be the arcanists, will also be able to perform Druid Transformation Magic?” The identity of a magician was gradually being diluted in Liszt’s view.

From now on, all researchers related to magic power and casters would be uniformly called Arcanists.

Regardless, he would not allow magicians to reenter the combat lineup; as a beneficiary and manipulator of the knight system, he needed to ensure the dominance of the knights, unshaken for a thousand years.

...

“Ach, you and Charlie have almost finished tuning. It’s time to depart from Pegasus Great Forest,” Liszt decided to return on July 22nd.

They set off on July 10th and had spent twelve days in their journey through Pegasus Great Forest.

The journey back would likely take another two days, perfectly making a two-week trip, aligning with the expectations before departure. Any further delay, and a myriad of

accumulated matters back in his domain would fray his nerves—even though he could delegate most of the work to his followers and his father, Marquis Bull Tail.

The nascent stage of the kingdom could not be without his decision-making.

A large part of the reason was due to his own actions, blindly pursuing quick and large-scale achievements while simultaneously starting countless projects, leaving his subordinate officials completely unable to coordinate and maintain such a mess.

“Brother, Ach has already spoken to Charlie. It will have the Pegasus Herd follow it as it leaves.”

“Alright, let’s plan a route first, avoiding human settlements, and then approach the coastline. Though these Pegasus might not have the ability to fly across the sea, they will need your help, Ach.”

“Don’t worry, Brother. Ach can already release Superior Magic. Carrying the Pegasus Herd across the sea will not be a problem.”

Indeed, that was the case.

When the Pegasus reached the seaside, Ach directly conjured several huge Ice Shields that floated on the sea. As all the Pegasus mounted the ice blocks, she rode Unicorn Charlie, controlling the water flow to rapidly move the ice blocks across the sea. After a brief acceleration, they swiftly reached near sonic speeds.

“Ach, are you tired?” Liszt and Bard also stood on a huge Ice Shield.

“It’s quite easy. With Charlie’s help, the magic consumption is minimal, but the effect achieved is very strong,” responded Ach as she petted Charlie’s satin-like mane, smiling. Having such a beautiful and powerful mount made her unusually happy these past few days.

An hour and a half later, the Pegasus Herd successfully arrived at Mind Island.

Having already received a notification from the Magic Platform, the stationed Knight Order temporarily drove out the merchants and serfs on the island, isolating a safe space, allowing the Pegasus to cross through the Magic Gate one by one without disturbance, stepping onto the lands of Flame Island.

Chapter 940: See You Again If It's Destined

Pegasus stepped out of the Reed Marsh Magic Gate, attracting the attention of many onlookers. Horses—beautiful, majestic, and even winged—were a sight many had never seen before.

The Flame People and Moon Slayers all looked up in amazement, eager to fully appreciate these creatures as elegant as swans during the daytime.

Suddenly.

A knight pointed to the sky and exclaimed, “There are horns. These Pegasi have horns, long silver horns. Bathed in knightly glory, am I seeing Unicorns?”

“Unicorns?”

Hearing the call, another knight quickly spotted the Storm Dragon Horses with silver-white spiral horns above him and swiftly joined the chorus of astonishment, “They really are Unicorns!”

“Incredible, I’m actually seeing Unicorns—the purest creatures of legend!”

“One, two, three... four, there are four Unicorns, and one of them even has a broken horn! Knightly glory shines upon us, His Highness has brought back so many Pegasi and Unicorns, unimaginable!”

“What’s so unimaginable about that? Remember that His Highness once kept Phoenixes at Thorn Castle!” A knight, after the initial excitement, quickly calmed down and retorted with a tone of someone who had seen much of the world.

“That’s right, His Highness has ridden so many Dragons, so what’s a few Unicorns or Phoenixes.”

Just then, as the herd of Pegasi had just flown out of the Reed Marsh Magic Gate, two figures suddenly appeared in the air. One figure was familiar to the knights—the sacred and unimaginable Formless Dragon Bard, whom the great Dragon Knight Lord often rode to inspect his lands.

However, the next figure rendered the knights speechless.

It was a creature resembling a Pegasus, magnificent and unblemished, with a golden horn atop its head and covered in rainbow—it had a noble demeanor that was in no way inferior to Dragons, as beautiful as a creature from dreams.

“This...”

“It is Prince Acherloides!”

“The one Prince Archmage is riding must be the real Unicorn, right?”

“Yes, that is a Unicorn. Legends say Unicorn can only be approached by the purest of maidens, only Highness Acherloides is worthy to ride a Unicorn!”

“The Pegasi and horned Pegasi that flew by earlier are no match for Highness Acherloides’s steed!”

Unicorn Charlie’s appearance, as Liszt had anticipated, captured everyone’s attention. Even Formless Dragon Bard seemed dull in comparison at that moment. Not because the knights felt the Unicorn was more noble, but because they had often seen the Formless Dragon and it no longer held any novelty for them. It was their first time seeing a Unicorn.

“Brother, Acher will need time to find a habitat that the Pegasus Herd likes. It may take time to settle them, but Charlie is fast. It shouldn’t take more than a few days,” said Ach.

“Alright, you go ahead with that, and I’ve got my official duties to tend to. Once you’ve chosen a good habitat, let me know. I’ll personally oversee the Territory Officers to build the ‘Pegasus Ranch’. I hope the Pegasus Herd can be put to use for me soon,” Liszt responded, thinking of his Burning Legion.

The plan for the Burning Legion was already quite elaborate.

The Royal Knight Squad mounted on Flame Dragon Birds, the Mammoth Knight Brigade mounted on Shovel-Tusked Giant Elephants, the Blizzard Knights mounted on Blizzard Beasts, the Common Burning Knight Regiment mounted on Black Blood Treasured Horses.

And now, he would add the Pegasus Knights mounted on Pegasi.

Of course, assembling all these knight orders remained fraught with difficulties—the Flame Dragon Birds could hardly be mass-produced, and the training of Fire Paladins had not even started; finding a suitable breeding plan for the Blizzard Beasts always proved elusive, and Bloodline Fruits were too scarce to manufacture Blizzard Beasts in bulk.

But as the saying goes, “a journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step.” Gradually accumulating resources would eventually allow the expansion of the Burning Legion into a formidable protective force for the Flame Family.

Southward invasions and northern battles, a unified continent.

As Liszt gazed upon the swan-like Pegasus and envisioned his own Burning Legion, he was suddenly reminded of Bear One and Bear Two he had left behind in the Pegasus Great Forest.

The value of the two Advanced Magical Beasts was not low, but as it wasn't easy to bring them back, he had not sought to find them again.

“Maybe we'll meet again if it's meant to be.” Shaking his head, he then remembered the one hundred Gold Coins he had because he had found the Pegasus Herd directly and had not sought out a Ranger to buy information.

Now that he thought about it, although the money wasn't a significant amount, there was still a sense of regret at it being wasted.

Suddenly, a puff of smoke appeared before his eyes, forming new content in Serpent Script: “Task completed, reward: the blood code of the Child of the Sun.”

And the new task soon covered the reward details: “Task: To be rich, build roads first; however, in a world with magic, perhaps a Magic Teleportation Array is the best path. As the Flame King, why not seek more natural nodes to establish a transportation network. Reward: New paper.”

“Hmm, only my will could project such a saying as ‘to be rich, build roads first.’”

Liszt felt a fleeting sense of superiority regarding the Smoke Mission’s phrasing and then started to ponder: “Rewarding me with new paper, could it be the White Paper Workshop is launching a new product? The current quality of white paper seems quite good; can the new product be the tissues that I had instructed them to produce?”

With the invention of white paper, the thick, foul-smelling, costly, and lesser-content paper had been completely phased out from the Duchy of Sapphire.

White paper not only dominated the Duchy of Sapphire but also saw large-scale sales to the Steel Ridge Kingdom and Eagle Kingdom.

Becoming a sought-after product among the Nobles.

Whenever he received gifts from other Royal Families, Liszt would choose some seemingly inexpensive items like white paper, glass, porcelain, and perfume—items he deemed valuable—to return the favor. White paper was of high importance, especially the high-quality ones.

Because of varying processes and pulp, the quality of white paper produced could differ significantly.

Currently, the workshop mainly produced and sold three types of white paper—cardboard, rough paper, and fine paper.

Cardboard was quite thick and made using a straightforward process, suitable for folding into boxes; rough paper was akin to the lower-quality type used in bathrooms; fine paper,

on the other hand, was the standard white paper that facilitated smooth writing, selling at a considerably high price and only affordable to the Nobles.

The White Paper Workshop also manufactured a tribute paper exclusive for Liszt's use, its quality comparable to that of fine calligraphy paper.

This was also one of the main gifts he would share with various Royal Families.

Yet he still wasn't satisfied, thinking that the White Paper Workshop should also develop tissues, to replace the use of handkerchiefs and napkins.

"In a while, the person in charge of the White Paper Workshop should report the progress to me, and perhaps he will come forward to take credit with the tissues?" Liszt thought that this might be the reward referred to by the Smoke Mission.

Although he could have created tissues without the interference of the Smoke Mission, he decided to set aside time to search for new natural nodes.

"Magic Teleportation Arrays are indeed much more convenient than building roads. Currently, there are only five natural nodes on the island that can be used—Whirlpool Cave, Jade Mountain, Reed Marsh, Ruins Entrance, and Volcano Crater—which obviously are not enough to lay out a transportation network. Bard has recently seen significant improvements in his abilities; it's time to search carefully for new natural nodes."