

The World 51

Chapter 51: Reward System

After the excited Adele left, Richard looked at Karu.

“Where did the search and rescue team get this information?”

After organizing his words, Karu said softly.

“Lord, this information was given by them and a team of Phoenix-Tail Flower Chamber of Commerce merchants who stayed behind to search the area.”

“Apart from the information about Adele’s father, did you find anything else?”

“I also found some residents who were trapped in the oasis. However, the search and rescue team just returned and are still eating. I didn’t have the time to ask for too much information.”

Richard nodded. He is home, so he wasn’t in a hurry.

“How are the casualties of the other teams?”

“Seven injured, four dead...”

“Those who died will be buried in the Land of Glory. Those who are injured will be rewarded with some Desert Crown Honey.”

“Yes, Lord.”

After making the simple arrangements, Richard took out all the prey about to fill up the system space and let the residents deal with them.

He then returned to the Lord’s mansion and enjoyed a sumptuous dinner.

After eating and drinking to his heart’s content, he got someone to summon the search and rescue team over.

When they left on a mission, there were 60 people. Six of them died the day before yesterday. Now, four more were sacrificed. And of the ten mummies that were sent out, only five were able to return.

The vast desert was indeed filled with danger.

However, they had obtained an A-rank hero in exchange. It was not a loss.

Mercy did not control the troop. As a lord, he could not be indecisive.

He would not hesitate to sacrifice those who need to be sacrificed.

This was the background of the world where ten thousand races were fighting for hegemony. Now that it was peaceful, it was not time for a war to break out.

“Good evening, Lord.”

After entering the house, all the residents immediately bowed. No one dared to cross it.

The person in front of them was the only ruler of this land. A single word could decide their fate.

After Richard stood up, he looked around with admiration.

He smiled lightly and said, “There’s no need to be so polite. Every resident who has contributed to Twilight City is worthy of respect.”

“You’ve worked hard these past few days.”

These two simple sentences immediately warmed the hearts of the crowd.

The Lord did not forget them.

“Who among you can tell us what you’ve encountered these past few days?”

Under his encouragement, a young man stepped forward and asked tentatively.

“Lord, can...can I?”

His tone was slightly trembling as his hands clenched into fists.

When the crowd turned their gazes over, he felt his legs had gone soft.

Richard looked at him with admiration.

“Of course, there’s no need to be nervous. You’ve completed the mission and are the heroes of Twilight City. You’ll also receive my commendation.”

Hu~

The young man immediately felt relieved, and his tone increased.

“Lord Richard, we’ve been...”

Then, he explained the encounters of the search and rescue team in the past few days.

Although he felt it was perilous, and they had encountered many powerful soldiers in the wild, Richard felt it was just an ordinary encounter and did not have the information he wanted.

After repeated inquiries, he encouraged the other team and changed to the next search and rescue team.

Next, each team sent a representative to recount the experiences of their team over the past few days.

Richard could not help but feel slightly disappointed when he heard the end. Because the exploring team was not strong enough, even if they found something unusual, they did not dare to approach it.

Not to mention buildings like temples or one-way teleportation portals, they did not even find many resource points.

“Are you sure that you have not encountered any buildings like temples in the past few days?”

“No, Lord.” Everyone shook their heads in unison.

“Have you discovered any territories similar to Twilight City?”

“No, Lord.” Everyone shook their heads again.

This was strange.

Richard thought for a long time. He still could not figure out what was wrong.

Were there so few lord-ranked players in the desert camp? Why were there no player territories around Twilight City?

Or was it because the death desert was too large and spread so widely that these guys feared death? Even if they saw it from afar, they would not dare to approach it.

After thinking for a long time, they still couldn't come up with an answer, so they simply didn't hesitate and changed the question.

"Did you find anyone else who was blown away by the sandstorm?"

"Yes, Lord!"

Finally, there was a response that piqued Richard's interest.

"Where are they? Why didn't you bring them back?"

"This..."

The middle-aged man who spoke was a little embarrassed.

“They’re in an oasis. The people are not willing to return to Twilight City with us... They’re more willing to wait for the people from the Phoenix-Tail Flower Chamber of Commerce to take them away.”

Richard narrowed his eyes slightly.

“How many people are there?”

“More than 300 people...”

“Do you have a map?”

“Please, take a look.”

The middle-aged man stepped forward and carefully spread a rough map on the table, pointing at one of the dots drawn in a circle.

“This is the place. They have enough water and food and are unwilling to leave...”

After saying this, they felt a little awkward. Richard deliberately sent the teams on a mission to search and rescue these casualties. But they did not expect that even if they found those people, they would not be willing to return with them.

However, the casualties' strategy of waiting for the Phoenix-Tail Flower Chamber of Commerce to rescue them was not bad.

After all, they had initially planned to follow the Phoenix-Tail Flower Chamber of Commerce across the death desert.

It went without saying who was more reliable than a territory they had never heard of.

"Aren't those your companions? Why didn't they follow you?"

"Lord, most people who followed the Phoenix-Tail Flower Chamber of Commerce back then, were strangers..."

Richard understood, and then he began to ponder.

"It's not strange that there's water in an oasis, but what kind of oasis can have enough food to feed hundreds of people?"

"Moreover, you've been attacked by the sandstorm for almost two weeks, right? Can you survive for so long just by relying on the remaining food?"

This question stunned the middle-aged man, and he shook his head awkwardly.

"I don't know either. They didn't let us in."

The middle-aged man wanted to say something. But he hesitated but finally said it with reluctance.

“Lord, they also asked us to bring the others back there. They said there’s no lack of food, so there’s no need to stay in Twilight City. It’s safer there...”

“Oh?”

These words greatly piqued Richard’s interest.

‘There must be something fishy going on.’

These hundreds of people were in a small desert oasis. It was okay if they just stayed there and refused to leave.

They even said they had enough food and wanted to poach there.

‘Wasn’t this a little too bizarre?’

“Alright, I understand. I’ll go there myself in a few days. You guys will lead the way for me then.”

“Yes, Lord!”

After saying that, Richard encouraged the residents and let them leave to rest.

He initially wanted to give them rewards but inconveniently discovered that other than food, there was only some wild beasts' fur in the storeroom.

There seem to be nothing to offer them.

After the rescue teams left, Richard looked at Karu, who had followed the crowd and remained silent.

"Karu, what do you usually reward your subordinates with?"

Karu noticed Richard's embarrassment and immediately understood.

He opened his mouth.

"Lord, you can usually reward them with gold coins, wild beasts' fur, or some common herbs and materials."

"Desert Crown Honey is a precious reward item..."

"You can reward great contributions with recognitions, such as the title of nobility in Twilight City, or a certain title of glory, or even a piece of land..."

When Richard heard this, he had a sudden realization.

That's right. Not only could Richard reward these people with physical objects, but he could also give them spiritual and glorious rewards.

When they are at a low level, they might need to be rewarded with materials. When their future subordinates were at a higher level, Richard would reward them with materials that were undoubtedly inferior.

Baron or Count of Glory could be rewarded to those who had performed meritoriously in the future.

They don't need to spend money or give real power, and they will have a lot of gratification if they tell others...

It's like killing two birds with one stone.

Chapter 52: Another Violent Soldier (The Guardian Mummy)

After Richard figured out the key, he was in a good mood.

“Karu, hold an awarding ceremony tomorrow. Let all who participated in the search and rescue mission go on stage to accept the reward...”

“Tonight, ask the tailor to find some red cloth and make big red flowers. If the cloth is not enough, make smaller flowers, and participants will wear them on their chests.

“All the residents who participated in the search and rescue mission will be awarded the collective Bronze Medal of Twilight City...”

“Write everyone’s name on a paper and award them with the bronze medal.

“In addition, get Adele to forge the bronze medal for me. Also, make designs for the silver, gold, and Lord’s medal, the highest honor of Twilight City.

“In the future, meritorious contributions will be awarded medals according to the degree of their contributions.

“The rewards are divided into collective and individual rewards. Missions with many participants will be awarded collective medals, and missions completed by individuals will be awarded individual medals.

“Residents who receive these medals will be given the title of honorary resident on their doorsteps. We can promote them first in the future.”

Richard changed the modern reward system that was hundreds of years old and moved it over.

“Each medal has a corresponding amount of material rewards. You can go down and study the specific amount.

“This system has just been established. There will surely be some deficiencies or areas that need to be supplemented. You should pay attention to it and compensate for it in the future.”

Karu was quite excited after listening to it.

“Lord Richard, your wisdom is enough to make the gods exclaim in admiration!!”

Other things were not so bad, but the group reward setting slightly surprised him.

It was a big event, so many people participated. And all of the participants contributed. You couldn't say that everyone would be receiving an award, right? Wouldn't that appear to be too simple?

The group reward solved this problem perfectly.

Richard didn't overthink this. Twilight City was still very weak, so it was useless to set up a complicated system.

“How much of the prey did I bring home?”

Karu smiled. “There's too much. I need more time.”

The food was complete, which made people feel very safe.

Richard nodded, got up, and walked out of the hall. He came to the occupied well.

At this time, there were two hundred people busy.

Those who boiled the water, peeled the skin, removed the internal organs, and cut the meat had their duties. They handled the piled-up prey at an extremely swift speed.

They piled up the cut and washed meat on the washed ground.

The meat would then be cooked and then dried. This way, they could preserve them for an extremely long time in the dry environment of the desert.

It was how they made the dry food for long trips.

Looking at the pile of meat, Richard thought for a while and opened the [Trading Market].

He had put up a bounty for a few days, but there was still no news.

Fifteen desert horses put up a reward for a 1-star resource treasure: An acre of Russian olive seeds. The reward was two.

Twenty desert horses put up a reward for resources or other treasures that one could use in the desert. The transaction required both parties to agree.

Richard sold another piece of the spring water fragment. He had nine pieces in his hands and was one piece away from synthesizing medium-sized spring water.

These days, he had heard more than once that the well water was tough to obtain and that they had to go to the spring water in the Russian olive forest to get water.

Karu had also reflected on this problem a few times.

However, three-star treasure chests were rare after all. The number of spring water fragments that could be opened and sold was not that many.

Therefore, when he could get the last fragment would depend on his luck.

They could not rush in this matter.

After thinking for a while, he directly changed the reward price of the Russian olive seeds.

Thirty desert horses offered a 1-star resource treasure: Russian olive seeds (1 acre). The reward was one.

Initially, there was a reward of 15 horses. Now, Richard directly increased the price and doubled it.

The price of food has dropped a little recently. Moreover, the chances of players offering resources and treasures were pitifully low. It was even seldom for players to be willing to sell them.

The value of the Russian olive seed was that it matured once a month.

More importantly, the forest could provide sufficient pollen for desert crown bees and increase honey production.

If he planted more Russian olive seeds and planted them at different times, then desert crown bees could collect honey for an entire month.

The desert crown bee was one of his most essential breeding targets.

After making some adjustments, Richard could only hope that the players would give him some effort.

Restart the search — food.

[Sixty units of wheat — priced at 1,200 units of gold coins.]

[Twenty units of wild boar meat — priced at 700 units of wood.]

[Thirty units of bison meat — priced at 900 units of iron ore.]

The ratio of meat to common resources was around 1:30, while the ratio of typical food was around 1:20.

The price of meat was noticeably lower than the previous two days.

Moreover, the number of meat sold had increased, but most were mainly in dozens, and 100 to 200 units were rare.

Obviously, with the development of time, the players gradually began to get on the right track.

Richard looked at his stats panel.

There were 30,000 units of resources.

These were all the gains from today.

“Although I have quite a lot of troops, when I went out, the forces in charge of protecting the territory were too weak.

I have to replenish them!”

The headquarters was the core of everything, and the lack of defense made him uneasy.

He started to calculate in his heart.

'The troops to defend the territory must have a few characteristics. First, they must adapt to the desert climate. Second, they must not need logistical supplies. I don't want to be worn out by logistics... Third, they must have solid defensive abilities and be suitable to guard the territory... Fourth, they must have potential and are worth nurturing...'

But after Richard thought about it, he turned his gaze back to the mummy.

These didn't need logistics. These had strong combat abilities and were suitable for the desert. They weren't afraid of death...

Other than ugly, they had too many advantages.

Richard searched for the desert camp and mummy.

Suddenly, a large number of troops appeared.

Richard began to select.

First, there were elite-level troop lairs, but only a few thousand of them. And they were all trash. No one would be willing to sell the good ones.

The other large camps, such as humans and elves, had tens of thousands of elite-level lairs. Compared to them, the desert camp looked pitiful.

He closed it after looking at it for a short while and opened ordinary-level again.

[Sharp-toothed mummy (Ordinary 1-star) — 600 units of wood.]

[Roar mummy (Ordinary 3-stars) — 1000 units of stone.]

[Spike mummy (Ordinary 3-stars) — 1200 units of iron ore.]

All sorts of strange mummies opened his eyes.

After a full 20 minutes, he finally saw a soldier that made his eyes shine.

[Guardian Mummy]

[Level: 1]

[Potential: Ordinary 3-stars]

[Skills: Body of the Dead (F-rank) — Immune to poison and plague, reduces physical damage by 15%.]

[Guardian (F-rank) — All attributes increase by 30% within the territory, leaving the territory ineffective.]

[Patrol (F-rank) — Patrol in the territory can increase agility by 30% and detect enemies that sneak into the territory.]

[Formation (E-rank) — Can form a formation of 10 people to attack.]

[Race Talent: When fighting in the territory, the recovery speed of injuries increased by 50%.]

[Fetter-Mummy: When the number of mummies is greater than 10, the mummy's strength increases by 10%.]

When the number of mummies is greater than 30, the mummy's strength increases by 20%.]

When the number of mummies is greater than 50, the mummy's strength increases by 30%, the mummy's dexterity increases by 30%, and the mummy's damage increases by 30%.]

[Description: The Guardian Pharaoh Mummy. They are pretty vigilant.]

After looking at the guardian mummy's attributes, Richard did not hesitate and directly chose to buy it.

Four initial skills! It was simply ridiculous.

And it was so suitable to guard the territory.

After he paid 3,000 units of iron ore, Richard obtained the Guardian Pharaoh's Mummy Troop Lair.

But one wasn't enough.

He continued to search. He bought the other two on the market. One was 3,500 units of wood, and the other was 3,800 gold coins.

The price was comparable to elite-level soldiers.

Noticeably, these sellers knew how powerful the mummy guardian was, so they dared to offer such a price.

He didn't feel the slightest bit of heartache. No matter how much he bought it, he would be promoted to an elite-level soldier. He wouldn't lose anything.

To upgrade three troop lairs, he needed about 15,000 resources.

He started directly.

“Do you want to spend 500 gold coins to buy the Desert Bandit Troop Lair?”

“Confirmed.”

“Do you want to spend 500 units of wood to buy the Sawtooth Gerbil Troop Lair?”

“Confirmed.”

After he had obtained the 30 troop lairs, the remaining 30,000 resources on the interface were less than 700,000...

However, since they hunted for the violent soldiers, Richard went directly to the corner of the front yard, where he placed the troop lair after he obtained it.

[Ding~ Do you want to use 400 gold coins, 400 wood, and 400 stones to build the Guardian’s Land?]

After he had three times in a row and consumed 3,600 units of resources, three 3-meter-tall pyramids appeared before his eyes. The wind and sand seemed to have eroded the outer parts of these pyramids for thousands of years. There were potholes everywhere.

[Guardian's Land (Ordinary 3-stars) — You can use ten ordinary troop's lairs to upgrade to Elite 3-stars. Do you want to upgrade?]

"Confirm."

The pyramid in front of him expanded to four meters after the core of 30 troop lairs had been used.

The appearance the wind and sand had eroded had become increasingly rotten. The fist-sized holes made people wonder if a hand had suddenly stretched out from within.

Chapter 53: Soldier Species Respawned

[Guardian Land]

[Level: Elite 3-stars]

[Recruit Type: Guardian Mummy (Elite 3-stars)]

[Recruit Quantity: 20]

[Weekly Output: 10]

[Recruitment Requirements: 40 gold coins, 40 units of wood, 40 units of stone]

[Description: An ordinary mummy troop lair.]

[Ding~ Do you want to use 800 gold coins, 800 units of wood, and 800 units of stone to recruit 20 guardian mummies?]

Three troop lairs could produce 60 guardian mummies.

The resource consumption alone reached 2,400 gold coins, 2,400 units of wood, and 2,400 units of stone, which totaled 7,200 units of resources.

After Richard finished building the troop, there were only about 6,000 left.

A bitter smile appeared on his face.

“The landlord’s family doesn’t have any more food left...”

Richard opened the [Trading Market]. He looked at the three requests and canceled the purchase of 20 desert horses. He sought other resources and treasures.

Swap 20 desert horses to exchange for resources.

A complete desert horse, a 6,000-unit resource, sold for 120,000 units.

These resources could even nurture two rare-level troop lairs.

“But if possible, I’m still willing to exchange for resources and treasures... that’s the treasure. Unfortunately, no one will sell them.”

Richard immediately became confident after he had the resources.

He recruited all of them with the disappearance of 7,200 resources.

A pale yellow light flashed. On the heavily weathered pyramid before Richard’s eyes, countless fine sand suddenly gushed out of the holes.

These grains of sand flowed out and gathered in front of the pyramid to form a troop. They formed a mummy with a round shield and a long knife in the other.

The bandages on their bodies were rotten yellow. It looked as if they had been buried underground for countless years.

Their aura was quite powerful. They were not weaker than the bandaged mummy.

[Guardian Mummy]

[Level: 1]

[Potential: Elite 3-stars]

[Skills: Body of the Dead (E-rank) — Immune to poison and pestilence, reduces physical damage by 30%.]

[Guardian-LRB (E-rank) — All attributes increase by 40% within the territory, with no effect on leaving the territory.]

[Patrol (E-rank) — Patrol in the territory can increase the territory's security by 40 points and detect enemies that sneak into the territory.]

[Formation (D-rank) — Can form a formation of 10 people to attack.]

[Race Talent: When fighting in the territory, stamina, and recovery speed increase by 50%.]

[Fetter-Mummy: When the number of mummies is greater than 10, strength increases by 10%.]

[When the number of mummies is greater than 30, strength increases by 20%.]

[When the number of mummies is greater than 50, strength increases by 30%, dexterity increases by 30%, and damage increases by 30% (activated).]

[Description: The Guardian of Pharaoh Mummy, they are quite alert.]

[When all the six squads are recruited, all the guardian mummies fiercely use their knives to hit the round shield.]

[Clang Clang~]

The sound of metal collision traveled a great distance in the night. It seemed that they used this method to announce their arrival.

Richard nodded in satisfaction.

After he leveled up to Elite 3-star, the guardian mummy's skills were all upgraded by one level.

Their strength had significantly increased.

Moreover, this was the number of six squads!

With this power, he would not have to worry about his lair from burglary when he went out to hunt in the future.

He stretched out his right hand and mobilized the hidden power in his body.

The power that was like yellow sand instantly bloomed.

[Ding~ Under your blessing, 60 guardian mummies have mastered a part of the desert power and obtained a new skill — Desertification-Sand Transformation (D-rank).]

All the troops could undergo Sand Transformation, and it would be the signature feature of Twilight City in the future.

Richard was delighted.

“From now on, you will guard the territory, patrol day and night to defend against foreign invaders.”

“We will listen to your orders, Lord...”

Such a colossal commotion had already attracted the attention of many residents.

Karu also rushed over. When he saw these new troops, his eyes lit up.

“Lord Richard, are these the troops you just recruited?”

Richard nodded.

“That’s right. These guardian mummies are the troops I specially recruited to protect the territory.

“They will receive additional attribute bonuses in the territory. They are powerful and will lose much power when they leave the territory.

“In the future, you have the right to mobilize this troop, but you must use this carefully.”

Richard’s words gave Karu a lot of power.

But judging from Karu’s performance these days, he deserved this trust.

Karu took a deep breath. His turbid eyes were decisive, and his shabby body seemed to have returned to his youth.

“I will guard Twilight City with my life!”

Richard nodded slightly.

Because Karu was no longer a hero, he could not command the troop. And he could not hand over the control of the troop to the opponent. So Richard had to explain.

He had all the guardian mummies listen to Karu’s orders based on the principle of protecting the territory.

Richard waved his hand and let them follow Karu.

With that, there were still three teams of bandaged mummies left.

The number of soldiers to protect Twilight City was already close to a squadron.

The bandaged mummies could be scattered outside the territory as sentries in the future.

The guardian mummies would protect Twilight City.

One would be on the outside and one on the inside. No matter what kind of enemy attacked, there would be time to react.

Richard was satisfied.

Just as he was about to go back and take a hot bath, the system suddenly rang.

[Ding~ This week is a special disaster week — drought. Lord, please take precautions.]

[Ding~ The production of all troop lairs has been refreshed. Lord, please recruit on your own.]

What was going on?

He was slightly stunned. After he opened the first system notification, he subconsciously looked at the system time.

May 8, 7600, at 20:00.

How was this week a special disaster week... drought?

I'm already in the desert, and you're telling me it is drought? Is there anything in this world drier than this torrid place?

After Richard complained in his heart, he saw the second system notification.

[Troop production would be refreshed every Monday at 8:00 pm.]

His breathing suddenly became rapid.

He quickly opened the troop lairs' panel.

The next second.

His heart thumped faster and faster.

[This dense wave of money was going to explode!!]

[Great Pyramid (Elite 3-stars, three seats) — Recruitable Troop: Bandaged Mummy, Recruitable Quantity: 21]

[Scorpion Lair (Elite 3-stars, one seat) — Recruitable Troop: Poisonous Scorpion Warrior, Recruitable Quantity: 7]

[Cursed Pyramid (Elite 3-stars, one seat) — Recruitable Troop: Cursed Pharaoh, Recruitable Quantity: 5]

[Battle Axe Wooden House (Rare 3-stars, one seat) — Recruitable Troop: Axe of the Dead, Recruitable Quantity: 5]

Even worse, he glanced at the guardian mummy he had recruited a few minutes ago.

[Guardian Land (Elite 3-stars, three seats) — Recruitable Troop: Guardian Pharaoh Mummy, Recruitable Quantity: 30]

“Hahahaha! !”

Richard laughed loudly.

“What do you mean by a dense wave of money?!! What the hell do you mean by a dense wave of money?!!”

Chapter 54: Surprise of the Desert Bees

If Richard recruited all the new troops, the number of soldiers in his hands would explosively increase.

Bandaged Mummy could recruit 21; Poisonous Scorpion Warrior could recruit 7; Cursed Pharaoh could recruit 5; Axe of the Dead could recruit 5, and Guardian Pharaoh Mummy could recruit 30.

The total would be 68!!

There were nearly seven teams.

It was a massive amount of money.

Richard took a lot of effort to suppress the excitement in his heart.

However, to recruit all 68 troops, he needed a lot of resources.

The Bandaged Mummy recruitment requirements were 40 gold coins, 40 units of wood, and 40 units of stone.

Twenty-one were gold coins, wood, and stone with 1640 units each, for a total of 4920 units of resources.

The Poisonous Scorpion Warrior recruitment requirements were 40 gold coins, 40 units of wood, and 40 units of iron ore.

That would be 7, for a total of 840 units of resources.

The Cursed Pharaoh would be 5, for a total of 600 units.

The Axe of the Dead would be 5, for 6000 units.

And the Guardian Pharaoh Mummy, 30, for 3600 units.

These would total 15,650.

After some calculations, Richard could not help but sigh. No wonder people said that money builds troops.

Five rare-level undead soldiers consumed 6,000 units of resources, which was two-thirds of the total resources of all the other branches of the troop.

Just a few dozen branches of the troop were already so expensive. In the future, when the ranks of the branches are higher, the prices will be even more exaggerated.

However, he was still a tycoon with 120,000 units of resources, so he was not worried at all.

Richard stood up and left happily. He recruited all the new troops.

After he spent 15,000 units of resources, his strength soared.

Bandaged Mummy — 51.

Poisonous Scorpion Warrior — 20.

Cursed Pharaoh — 15

Axe of the Dead — 15

Guardian Pharaoh Mummy— 90.

The total number of soldiers had reached 191, close to two squadrons.

“In the future, when we go out to hunt, we can leave behind all the bandaged and guardian mummies.

“This power is enough to ensure the safety of Twilight City.”

The pressure in Richard’s heart relaxed quite a bit.

He set aside the troop that stayed behind. The number of soldiers brought out to scan the map had also reached five squadrons.

The strength of the iron mine soared further.

“I can go and try to raid the medium-sized gold mine tomorrow. I wonder if I can still obtain some treasures like treasure maps after killing those half-metal giants with full defense.”

The rapid growth of his strength brought Richard one step closer to raiding those high-level maps.

The one-way portal’s 1-star dungeon with an average strength of rare level;

The 2-star treasure map obtained from attacking the Axe of the Dead;

The Dark Temple, which the terrifying temple guards protected;

And the level 15 desert dragon that he had seen near the one-way portal.

These high-level maps did not have powerful troops, so it would be a waste if he went. However, Twilight City had the right to explore it.

In the desert, countless mysteries were waiting for him to uncover.

With anticipation and excitement, Richard fell asleep peacefully.

He woke up at ten the next day.

After he woke, the plump kitchen maid immediately sent hot water to help him wash up.

Richard slept until he woke up naturally with someone to serve him 24 hours a day. This was his original dream.

His dream came true now that he had come to this world.

“In the future, I’ll have to find a few elves or beast-eared maidens to be maids.”

Black silk high heels, short skirts, and maid attire are all dressed. The life of a Lord should be so simple and unadorned...”

“It seems like I can try out all the ideas I failed to realize in the past. There are no laws in this world...”

After Richard lamented about the decaying life of a Lord and looked forward to an even more decaying life in the future, he had breakfast with two cheerful kitchen maids and was ready to go out to scan the map.

But before that, he first went to the Russian olive forest because Karu said it had bloomed.

The olive forest occupied an essential area in his farming industry, a vital link to ecology.

Richard came to the green olive forest, his eyes full of surprise.

On the endless yellow sand, the fragrant scent of the Russian olive flowers assailed his nose amidst the dark green leaves.

A few days ago, the flower buds were extremely rare, but now, the forest was full of flowers.

What particularly caught his eyes was that the Russian olive flowers sprouted not only single but seven colors.

Rainbow-colored flowers floated at a glance in the green and dripping forest.

Countless black and yellow bees buzzed and danced, picked flowers, and smelled honey.

This scene looked magnificently beautiful.

Even more remarkable was that the olive forest around was filled with yellow sand, which represented death and desolation.

It was in this forbidden land of life that such beautiful flowers bloomed.

The feeling was indescribable. This place seemed to have represented hope and vitality.

A few residents who managed the olive forest immediately bowed when they saw Richard.

“Good day, Lord Richard.”

Richard smiled.

“You’ve done a good job.”

Then, he seemed to remember something and frowned.

“Have those poisonous wasps been here lately?”

The leader was a fat middle-aged woman. Her chubby face looked like two halves of a red apple.

Her voice was fast and sharp.

“Lord Richard, those wasps are so hateful. They come to catch bees every day!

“And sometimes, they can come seven or eight times a day. If you hadn’t told us not to do anything, we would have killed those wasps...”

Richard didn’t know whether to laugh or cry.

“Those highly poisonous wasps can easily poison ten camels. Don’t provoke them.”

“Then, are we just going to let them bully us like this?”

The fat middle-aged woman was furious, and her bulging face became round to a greater degree.

“I’ll think of a way to solve this matter...”

Richard earnestly reminded them. “Remember, if you don’t want to enter the Land of Glory the next day, don’t mess with them.”

“Yes, Lord...”

When they saw Richard's sincerity, the few residents didn't dare to say anything. Only the fat middle-aged woman was indignant. She mumbled that she wanted to find a way to punish those poisonous wasps.

Richard waved his hand and dismissed the few people. He walked into the olive forest alone.

A unique fragrance assailed his nostrils, which made him feel instantly refreshed.

The desert bees were joyous now that flowers were around.

Their legs were covered with pollen when they flew back to the hive.

A few bees would approach and be intimate with him from time to time.

He was in a good mood because of the lively scene.

To be able to create such a bright-colored scene in the desert gave him a sense of accomplishment.

He went to the front of the hive and opened the attribute panel.

[Desert Wasp Hive]

[Level: Special]

[Queen Bee: Elite (After upgrading to the advanced-level queen bee, the hive can produce a better quality of advanced-level honey.)

[Characteristics: Can produce medium-quality desert honey with a unique fragrance. After eating the honey, it can significantly increase the recovery speed of stamina and injuries and slightly increase the recovery speed of magic power.]

[LSB — Number of Bee Colonies: Small]

[Yield: A minimum of 10 units of high-grade honey per week.]

[Description: A rare-level bee in the desert. Extremely rare.]

[Note: Two new queen bees have been born in the desert. They will hive in three days.]

Chapter 55: Surprise After Surprise

Richard laughed when he saw the notification.

Divide the hive?

He didn't expect to divide the hive so soon.

He was very interested in the little ones that could make delicious delicacies on earth.

The future of Twilight City's wealth depended primarily on them.

After the hive is divided and the olive flowers bloom, the reproduction rate must be extremely swift.

Perhaps, it wouldn't be long before the amount of honey produced would be able to keep up with the hive.

Three hives of honeybees could produce 30 units of honey per week.

If it continued to be cultivated, it might be able to develop into a pillar industry of honey in Twilight City in the future.

That wasn't right. Since the system notification said that it was extremely precious, then it definitely wouldn't be so easy to expand.

It was very likely that after the hive split, there would be a period of development...

Richard shook his head. To divide the hive was always good, no matter what happened in the future.

Desert Crown Honey, such delicious honey, sold for 10,000 units per jar...

No... 100,000 units of resources were not too much, correct?

Even if it were 10,000 units of resources per jar. If it could produce 30 jars per week, it would be 300,000 units of resources for nothing.

It was simply superb.

Now, they would have to see if Onyx, a Phoenix-Tail Flower Chamber of Commerce member, could use those two jars of honey to open up the market in Solan City.

How about selling it to other players...? Those sand sculptures were getting increasingly poor. Who would spend 10,000 units of resources to buy a jar of honey?

Wouldn't it be nice to buy a few elite-level soldiers with this money?

'Buzz! Buzz! Buzz!'

Just as his thoughts drifted, the sound of fear came from the bees that had quietly flown.

'Whoosh!'

Richard looked up and saw two 7 to 8 centimeters long poisonous wasps as they flapped their wings and descended.

When Richard saw these wasps kill two bees and fly away, his heart burned with anger.

He had to think of a way to get rid of these rare wasps.

He couldn't fool around for half a day and be bullied by a few wasps.

He was downhearted. He couldn't help the pathetic bees.

When the time came, he would surely deep-fry them. Bee pupae were an excellent dish...

With anger in his heart, his brows were tightly furrowed when he left the olive forest. The few residents didn't dare to speak.

Richard didn't stay long. From the olive forest, he arrived at the fire dragon rabbit base a few hundred meters away.

At this time, the hollow sand was already surrounded by two meters wide purple vines and thorns.

More than ten gnomes at the periphery hammered wooden posts to build another fence to prevent accidents.

Richard heard Green Tooth's voice as soon as he approached.

The thin gnome held his head high, puffed out his chest, and commanded the others.

"Strike harder! The great lord told me to take care of the fire dragon rabbit. This wall is the second safeguard!

"Next, we need to build a third, fourth, and fifth safety measure..."

"Strong Lord Green Tooth, how is my wooden stake?"

"It's not bad. You can eat an extra piece of meat tonight."

"Strong Lord Green Tooth, you honestly are a tolerant and benevolent leader, praise you..."

"Strong Lord Green Tooth, do you see how my nails are hammered?"

"It's typical. It is a bit crooked."

"Strong Lord Green Tooth, your eyes are sharper than a falcon!"

“Strong Lord Green Tooth, what do you think of this purple vine and thorn I planted?”

“Too bad, pull them out and plant them again!”

“Strong Lord Green Tooth, your voice is as strong as thunder, too powerful...”

Richard was wonder-stricken with the following regard.

At first, it was fine, but the corner of his mouth twitched after he heard that.

‘Are these green gnomes f*cking brainless?’

‘Strong Lord Green Tooth, with your toothpick body, a blow of your nose could break your ribs.

‘Can’t the other gnomes have a little more shame when they flatter? How could they say such stupid words...?’

Gnomes were genuinely unique creatures.

Green Tooth, who had enjoyed a rainbow fart, suddenly saw Richard.

His entire body shook, then he straightened his body and roared angrily.

“Everyone, gather! The great and merciful Lord has descended!”

The other desert gnomes immediately put down the tools in their hands and ran in front of Richard. They stood in a long line with their chests out.

Then, Green Tooth shouted.

“Salute to the great Lord!”

After that, they put their hands on their chests and bowed. “Good day, great Lord!”

The other gnomes also immediately bowed together and shouted.

“Good day, great Lord!”

When Richard saw this scene, his expression instantly became stiff.

They were all so familiar.

‘Had they rehearsed before, correct?’

Richard weakly waved his hand.

“Stand up.”

“Thank you, Lord!” After Green Tooth took the lead to shout, the other gnomes also shouted.

When Richard saw that these green goblins still seemed to have a show, he couldn't stand it anymore and directly interrupted.

“Stop talking nonsense. In the future, abolish these rules for me!”

“Green Tooth stays behind. The rest of you, go do your work.”

Green Tooth, who waited to be complimented, immediately felt a bolt from the blue. He was starkly dumbfounded.

The great Lord honestly didn't like the greeting ceremony he had prepared after he consulted humans...
...And Green Tooth still had many things to perform, although he didn't remember.

After the other gnomes left, Richard scolded the lazy fellow a few times before turning to business.

“How are the fire dragon rabbits these few days?”

Green Tooth immediately revived in full blood when he answered this question.

He quickly said, "Lord, after the purple vines and thorns surrounded the perimeter, the fire dragon rabbits have already started to build nests on the dragon leaves. Their injuries have all recovered...

"These few days, those small fire dragon rabbits have also grown very healthy."

Richard nodded.

"Last time, you said that the fire dragon rabbits shed their fur automatically? How often do they shed?"

"One month!" Green Tooth patted his chest and said confidently, "I have carefully observed it!"

"The fire dragon rabbits absorb a large amount of solar energy every day. That energy is stored in their fur, which causes their fur to grow very fast.

"They often shed their fur in less than a month. The fire dragon rabbits grow new rabbit fur to consume the excess energy in their bodies."

Richard's expression changed.

When this gnome was not stupid, it was still quite clever. When its brain was not working, it was still quite typical.

“Is there a big difference between the shed rabbit fur and the rabbit fur plucked from their bodies?”

“My Lord, the shed rabbit hair is equivalent to a ripe fruit on a tree. The rabbit hair plucked from their bodies is equivalent to a green fruit. The quality of the shed rabbit hair is the best!

“It’s just that most people like to peel off the rabbit skin. It looks better this way.”

Richard was a little surprised. He didn’t expect there to be such a secret.

“How do we collect the scattered rabbit fur?”

“There’s no need to collect it. The fire dragon rabbit will take the fallen rabbit fur to build a nest. We only need to go to their monthly nests to take out the rabbit fur.”

‘Good heavens, an automatic hair collector?’

Richard thought for a moment and suddenly realized that these fire dragon rabbits were indeed easy to raise.

It would be fine if they were locked up and not fed.

Moreover, not only did they not need to feed the rabbits, but they would also take the initiative to collect the shed rabbit fur, saving even manual labor.

This was simply the ultimate blessing for lazy people.

“In this world, there is no more worry-free breeding, right?”

The only thing to worry about is not feeding these rabbits... The capitalists will when they see this.”

Chapter 56: I Have a Sister Who Likes to Wear Black Silk

After Richard left the olive forest in a beautiful mood, he led his troop and headed east to scan the map.

Today, he planned to capture a medium-sized gold mine that a half-metal giant guarded.

He was deeply impressed by those big men who had entire defense and were outrageous.

However, a powerful weapon gave him strong confidence after the troop production refreshed and the number of the Axe of the Dead increased.

‘Let’s see if you panic with a 30% chance of dying.’

Moreover, he wasn’t afraid of any problems because of Sand Transformation. A particular skill with a natural defense against physical damage.

At worst, he could just use Sand Transformation to escape.

With a powerful trump card, Richard had nothing to fear.

On the way, he opened the [Forum Chat].

He didn't know how the lord-tier players were doing after troop production refreshed the other day.

[Hahahaha, I bought five troops from the lair yesterday. I just recruited a batch of them, and then they refreshed. I was good, and I recruited those troops again. Now, I'm like a mouse carrying a gun. I can scare cats!]

[What a loss!! F*ck, yesterday, a vagrant offered me his wife to get a job. I was too happy and went to bed too early. I didn't recruit troops and missed the chance to refresh.]

[Then, this morning, a large group of bandits ransacked my territory. I didn't have enough troops, so I had to dry-clean it.]

[Later, I discovered that the homeless man was ultimately a spy sent by the enemy. Moreover, his wife had a disease...! I just want to ask, how can I treat this illness? Is it still too late to keep your body safe?]

[Ha ha ha! I have Lao Tzu's ten troops' lair, which will be violent. I just want to ask if you're afraid??!!]

[But why do these troops eat more than the residents? Ah, damn. I'm so panicked. The troop will eat the territory like this...]

Richard had deep thoughts.

One of the posts made Richard laugh and thoughtful. He deliberately searched it and read it a few more times.

[Last time, it was that idiot who said the undead were good, didn't need logistics, and could be developed.]

[I truly believed in you. I'm a human territory of the Holy Church Empire. I thought that when the residents died in the future, I could still use their bones to recruit skeleton soldiers.]

[But after the undead appeared, the territory immediately fell into great chaos.]

[Those damn peasants said that they were undead and that they were very evil. They asked me to get rid of all the soldiers. Are you kidding me? Is this possible?]

[After I rejected them, the soldiers' morale dropped so quickly that I couldn't hold them back.]

[Some people even led a rebellion today. F*ck, I killed them on the spot and used their corpses to summon the skeletons.]

[Even though I've managed to intimidate them now, I feel their morale has fallen to the bottom. What should I do? The territory is going to be abolished...]

[First Floor: Is the landlord an idiot in the teleportation? Your Holy Church Empire, a human from the light faction, isn't recruiting skeletons suicidal? Have you ever seen a human territory raising skeleton soldiers? They were so scared that they scared people to death.]

[Second Floor: I can't take it anymore. I'm going to laugh myself to death. You're honestly a little genius. Every faction has its characteristics. You're also courting death if you don't bring out your faction's strengths and still want to play with the other factions.]

[Third Floor: Have you ever seen an undead army that recruits elves?]

[Fourth Floor: I have a pretty good idea. Why don't you just slaughter those residents and transfer them to the undead faction...]

[Fifth Floor: ...]

Richard fell into deep contemplation. The recruitment of the undead in the human territory would cause a backlash.

Why didn't the residents react to the few undead troops he recruited?

Was this the hidden setting of the game "Shining Era"?

[Could it be that the lord had recruited the undead soldiers from his camp? But if the recruited soldiers deviated from his camp, would they receive an invisible punishment?]

[Moreover, the more they deviated from the camp, the higher the punishment would be...]

[Like how the human lord recruited the undead soldiers, both sides were enemies so the punishment would be the most severe.]

[The desert camp is law-abiding and neutral.]

[The range of recruitment should be more expansive. And mummies are a unique product of the desert. They won't be affected too much.]

[Although this aspect is relaxed, there's still a considerable restriction — the desert.]

[That's right, there may not be too many restrictions on the camp. We can recruit all types of soldiers, but the environment is limited.]

[If the recruited soldiers are unsuitable for living in the desert, even if the residents accept them, this will significantly reduce their battle power.]

[Just like summoning a human soldier in the desert, it may be thirsty. If they are not suitable for fighting in the desert, this will significantly reduce their battle power.]

[It seems that in the future, we must consider more about soldier recruitment...]

After Richard figured out the critical point, many of the doubts he had before suddenly became clear.

As he was about to close the [ForumChat], his private message suddenly lit up.

He clicked it open.

He saw a familiar account.

[Where's Your F*cking Italian Cannon: Brother Qingqiu!]

[Qingqiu: ???]

[Where's Your F*cking Italian Cannon: Hey, Brother, you're online?]

[Qingqiu: Cut the crap, what's the matter?]

[Where's Your F*cking Italian Cannon: "Brother Qingqiu, you've changed. When you want to buy my resources and treasures, you don't talk to me in this tone.]

[When you need someone, call them Little Sweet. Now, you don't need them. Just call me Madam Niu..."]

[Qingqiu: Release.]

[Where's Your F*cking Italian Cannon? "Brother, you really can't take a joke. I was thinking of introducing my 1.72-meter-tall sister, who likes to wear black silk, to you. Forget it, forget it... Let's get down to business.]

[Brother, I found a one-way portal. There's a 2-star dungeon inside. I'm planning to go and clear it. Since you can sell so much food, you must have cleared the dungeon too, right?]

[Do you have any skills that can guide me? As long as I can clear the dungeon, I'll surely give you a treasure!]

[Qingqiu: You're planning to clear a 2-star dungeon??]

[Where's Your F*cking Italian Cannon: That's right. To tell you the truth, I picked up two 3-star treasure chests and made a small fortune. I bought ten ordinary-level troop lairs and five elite-level troop lairs!!]

[After the number of troops I could recruit yesterday was refreshed, I already have three squadrons of troops. Brother, how is this strength? Not bad, right?]

After this guy sent this message, he smiled smugly.

It made him feel great when he showed off in front of this mysterious and powerful guy, Qingqiu.

However, Richard's message after made his blood freeze.

[Qingqiu: If you want to die, then go. With the 2-star dungeon? Who gave you the courage??]

[Do you know what's in a 1-star dungeon? The average level of the troops — rare.]

[Wait until you've gathered three squadrons of rare troops before you can consider a 2-star dungeon.]

After Richard finished speaking, he closed the [Forum Chat] and couldn't be bothered with that sand sculpture anymore.

Where's Your F*cking Italian Cannon sent over a dozen messages in a row, but he was shocked and scared after no replies from the other party.

'A 1-star dungeon, the average strength of the troop is rare??

'F*ck, I almost entered a 2-star dungeon!!'

'It was so close, so close. Fortunately, I had an extra eye.'

After he regained his senses, he immediately felt intense gratitude and deep respect for Richard.

'Big Brother had saved my life!'

'But how could Big Brother of green hill know the details of a 1-star dungeon? There was no information outside the dungeon. Could it be that Big Brother had been there?'

'Otherwise, it was impossible to be so precise.'

'A dungeon that could clear the average strength of the troops was rare...? ...Just how strong was this mysterious Brother Qingqiu?'

For a moment, Richard's status in his heart soared rapidly.

After he thought for a moment, he opened his private message and sent a message to one of his friends.

[Sis, I just contacted Brother Qingqiu. He said that the strength of the troops in a 1-star dungeon is rare!]

[He didn't say anything about the 2-star troops, but it's even more bizarre if you think about it with your knees. We have to postpone the raid!]

The other party immediately responded.

[Night Rain Flower Falls: Qingqiu? The top player who sold nearly a hundred desert horses? How did he know that all the troops inside were rare?? He cleared the dungeon?!]

[Sis, don't be surprised. That big shot is very arrogant. His information is surely guaranteed... He saved us.]

[Night Rain Flower Falls: The game "Shining Era" has truly undergone significant changes. Most of the information I knew about the company had already been obsolete. We have to be more careful in the future.]

[Sis, how will we get along with Big Brother Qingqiu? I feel like we can cling onto his thigh...]

[Night Rain Flower Falls: That Qingqiu is not easy. You can contact him more in the future.]

[We will repay kindness with kindness and hatred with a vengeance. It is our family motto. Find an opportunity to return his favor. I don't want to owe anyone.]

[I said I had high hopes for him. Sis, aren't you still single? I have a brilliant idea...]

[Night Rain Flower Falls: Get lost.]

[Alright.]

Chapter 57: The Brutal Half-Metal Giant

After he closed the [Forum Chat], Richard continued his journey.

On his way to the gold mine, he went to the gemstone mine he discovered the other day to check.

More than a dozen residents under the protection of the mummies came to mine ore this morning.

Richard could hear the digging sound from far away.

When the residents saw that Richard had arrived, they bowed one after another.

Richard nodded and deliberately stayed there to watch for a few minutes.

Mining was very dull. One would repeatedly wave tools to dig out small gems inside.

Nothing was interesting about it.

After Richard made sure that was nothing wrong with the mine, he did not stay any longer and turned around to leave.

The miniature gemstone mine only produced three units of gems a day, so he had to wait patiently.

The gemstone mine was about 20 minutes away from the gold mine. When Richard saw the huge rocks in front of him again, he immediately became excited.

“Everyone, get ready for battle! The defense of the half-metal giants is extremely shocking, and their strength is also terrifying. Don’t clash head-on with them. The scorpion warriors and the cursed pharaohs are the shields, and the undead soldiers lead the attack! Use the Soul Execution to kill them!”

Richard looked into the distance. The brawny soldiers who patrolled between the enormous rocks appeared before him.

[Brutal Half-Metal Giant]

[Level: 5 — Elite soldier, defense increases by 15%.]

[Potential: Rare 3-stars]

[Skills: Golden Body (D-rank) — Body as rigid as gold, defense increases by 60%, immune to poison.]

[As Heavy as a Mountain (D-rank) — Every time you swing your fist, you will exert 200% of your body weight.]

[Heavy Armor Bone Armor (E-rank — Metal will merge into your skin and form a hard bone armor, defense increases by 30%.]

[Race Talent: Ability to slowly increase strength in a gold mine.]

[Fetter-Half-Metal Giant: When the number is greater than 10, defense increases by 20%.]

[When the number of people is greater than 20, defense increases by 40%.]

[When the number of people is greater than 30, defense increases by 60% (activated).]

[Description: Little brat, I'll stand and hack you for three minutes. If you can break through my defense, count it as my loss.]

Although he had seen it once, this time, Richard still felt that it was truly f*cking hard.

Skills and fetters were all added to the defense.

This thing, even an ordinary weapon, would not be able to leave a white mark.

The goat monsters Richard killed the other day were pronouncedly a few levels worse than the half-metal giants.

It was simply heaven-defying physical damage.

“But after all my calculations, I didn’t expect the Axe of the Dead to have magic damage...”

Richard laughed. In a good mood, he immediately gave the order.

“Attack formation!”

Two teams of Poison Scorpion Warriors stepped forward. One and a half teams of Axe of the Dead stood 20 meters behind the Poison Scorpion Warriors.

A similar number from the Cursed Pharaohs stood 50 meters away from the Poison Scorpion Warriors.

Richard realized the power of this iron mine when he annihilated the Devil Goat Monster the other day.

The movements outside immediately attracted the attention of the brawny soldiers in the gold mine.

‘Clang! Clang! Clang!’

The earth began to shake.

One by one, huge figures walked out of the gold mine.

Those vast, purple gem-like eyes stared at the enemies that suddenly appeared outside with sparkling eyes.

The tip of their noses twitched slightly. Their faces revealed a hint of anger like water poured into steel.

“Damned undead! How dare you step into our territory!”

The voice that sounded like muffled thunder spread far and wide.

The other half-metal giants in the gold mine were also alarmed.

One by one, they walked out.

From the outside, it looked like small hills were moving.

The scorpion warriors guarding the front line were not afraid at all, and they provoked loudly.

“Leave this gold mine! This is Twilight City’s territory!!”

The half-metal giant, whose anger had already risen, was even more furious.

“This is our territory!!!”

The first half-metal giant who spoke rushed out. It would let these lowly beings know what cruelty was!

'Roar!'

A roar, like a clap of thunder, exploded in their ears.

Sand burst everywhere.

A sandy ground appeared after leaving the gold mine for more than 20 meters. Every step the half-metal giant took would raise a sky full of yellow sand.

A monster ran out with the imposing manner of an army.

Its vast and sturdy body was exceedingly mighty.

After the opponent got close, the pressure suddenly increased.

No one would doubt that this behemoth could burst out with terrifying damage!

But the undead soldiers would never be afraid.

After the half-metal giant stepped into the 10-meter range, the undead soldiers simultaneously threw out 15 tomahawks in their hands.

The half-metal giant was proud of its fantastic defense, so it had no intention of dodging.

Instead, it raised its head and stepped forward with its head held high.

It would never believe that these tomahawks of these undead soldiers could break through its body, which had been forged by devouring countless gold.

'Clang! Clang!'

The tomahawks hit the half-metal giants.

Sparks flew everywhere.

The tomahawks were fierce, and large cracks appeared on the opponent's body.

The additional magic damage pronouncedly exceeded the half-metal giant's defensive range.

The confident half-metal giant's eyes revealed an unconcealable shock.

'Do these undead soldiers use magic damage?!'

'How could those thick and heavy tomahawks cause magic damage?!'

Just as it was about to react, it suddenly felt an indescribably intense pain coming from its soul.

Then, its vision went black, and it lost consciousness.

It didn't even have time to struggle for half a second.

'Rumble!'

The colossal body collapsed onto the yellow sand.

The ground shook and crushed the sand. Deep marks were left.

Soul Execution.

The half-metal giants with complete defense enjoyed the unique characteristics of the undead soldiers.

Anticipation filled the half-metal giants at the back as they waited for their companions to counterattack and slaughtered them.

However, they did not expect the situation to be completely different from what they had expected.

The undead soldiers executed them before they got close to the enemy.

This considerable contrast made them feel like the flames had ignited in their chests.

These undead soldiers not only wanted to seize their territory but also dared to kill their comrades!

Unforgivable!

These four-meter-tall, three-ton behemoths clenched their fists and roared furiously.

They were going to crush these bugs!

“Sand Transformation!”

Richard, who commanded from behind, gave the order decisively.

Before the enemies could rush over, the scorpion warriors had already activated their most vital life-saving skill.

The half-metal giants were too powerful. Their size gave them terrifying strength.

Elite 3-star scorpion warriors would surely be unable to withstand the impact if they did not have the Sand Transformation.

They might even be wiped out in one wave.

However, after they activated the Sand Transformation, everything was different.

More than ten half-metal giants rushed to the front of the poison scorpion warrior in the endless yellow sand.

Two small parties also followed behind them.

The defensive power of this gold mine far exceeded that of the gemstone mine they occupied the other day.

'Whoosh!' The tomahawk tore through the air.

It slashed down horizontally.

'Clang! Clang!'

Countless sparks scattered.

Under the full power of the Axe of the Dead between 20 to 30 meters, the half-metal giants who only touched their physical defenses felt the cruelty of reality.

Even if their tyrannical rock bodies were as rigid as a city wall, they were still crushed by the undead soldiers.

Fifteen undead soldiers caused the collapse of seven half-metal giants in the second round.

After the Axe of the Dead obtained battle merits, they pulled the chain fiercely, and the tomahawks were forced to return at a highly swift speed.

They were ready for the second round of throwing.

But at this moment, the half-metal giants who were utterly swallowed up by anger immediately counterattacked.

Several half-metal giants reached out their hands, pulled the chains that returned, and gripped them with force.

Their bodies seemed to emit metallic luster, and their bulging muscles suddenly tensed up.

A continuous burst of power erupted.

'Kacha!'

The chains of the undead soldiers broke, and the tomahawks stabbed into the sand.

A half-metal giant grabbed the tomahawk and pulled it back.

'Kacha! Kacha!' It pulled the chains back.

The mountain-collapsing power pulled forward a 2.2-meter undead soldier who wore full body armor.

Its feet were pushed deep into the desert and then forcefully dragged, which left two pronounced marks on the sand.

Extremely powerful.

Chapter 58: Conquering The Gold Mine

Richard looked at the situation on the field. His expression became more serious.

This was the first time the opponents had defeated the Axe of the Dead.

Just as he was about to order the cursed pharaoh to support him, the situation suddenly changed again.

A few of the undead soldiers that had broken the chains pulled hard and placed the remaining chains back into their hands.

After the half-metal giant broke them, the tomahawks deeply buried in the desert suddenly broke into pieces like glass and disappeared without a trace.

Meanwhile, the broken tomahawks in the hands of the undead soldiers grew out of thin air.

They returned to their original appearance in a few blinks of an eye.

[Racial Talent: After the half-metal giants broke the tomahawks, they can use energy to condense again.]

The Axe of the Dead dealt magic damage because their tomahawks were condensed from energy...

At this moment, the undead soldier held by the half-metal giant at the other end of the chain also made a move.

It pulled the chain fiercely, and the half-metal giant's hand that held the other end of the chain shattered into oblivion.

Countless pieces of debris reassembled in the air. By the time the half-metal giant pulled the chain back into his hand, the broken tomahawk had already returned to normal.

This scene was simply invigorating.

Richard laughed loudly and looked at the cursed pharaoh beside him.

“Cast your spell, restrict the movement of the half-metal giant, and attack with undead soldiers!”

The cursed pharaoh, who waited a long time, suddenly waved the withered scepter in its hand.

Cursed words!

A dark light flashed. In the next second, the half-metal giant’s body that fought with the scorpion warrior froze.

And it was beyond Richard’s expectations.

When Richard controlled the Rare 2-star Devil Goat Monster the other day, it returned to normal in less than two seconds. But the half-metal giant’s time doubled.

A full four seconds.

Even if it was a fight between ordinary people, four seconds was enough to decide the outcome, let alone on a battlefield.

'Clang! Clang!'

The brutal bodies of the half-metal giants, which gave them terrifying power, became the best target at this time.

The tomahawks thrown by the undead soldiers did not miss.

Soul Execution!

One by one, the half-metal giants collapsed.

'The half-metal giants have an insane physical defense. But correspondingly, their magic resistance is low...

'That's true. With such a strong defense and high magic resistance, the lowest is a rare-level troop, right?'

As Richard pondered, the collision between the two sides became more intense.

After the half-metal giant's companion fell, another companion behind it charged up with endless fury again.

The earth trembled as they ran!

The scorpions that had turned into sand charged fearlessly forward.

However, the extremely strong close combat scorpions instantly felt the malice of the entire world when they faced the four-meter-tall half-metal giant.

The clenched hand of the half-metal giant was even more terrifying than the strength of the heavy hammer. The two iron pincers of the scorpion crossed to block, and they were directly smashed into pieces by the fist.

They scattered into yellow sand.

'Phew!' It swung a heavy fist and bombarded the scorpion warrior's body. 'Bang!' It directly exploded, creating a large hole.

Even if the scorpion warrior crazily swallowed the yellow sand to repair itself, it would not be able to withstand it.

Fortunately, the Sand Transformation was immune to 99% physical damage. Otherwise, it would have been a nightmare for all melee soldiers to face these monsters head-on.

Pharaoh's curse!

The cursed pharaoh waved his withered scepter for the second time. The power of the half-metal giant that charged at the front rapidly decreased.

All attributes decreased by 20%.

With magic resistance extremely low, the half-metal giant resisted the curse's power.

The scorpion warrior immediately had a chance to catch its breath and began to obstruct the enemy's advance desperately.

But even so, the violent to the extreme half-metal giant still hammered the scorpion warrior into a sandstorm.

The battlefield stirred up a sandstorm, and yellow sand covered the sky.

But the more chaotic the battle was, the more the undead soldiers could display their skills.

The sound of the tomahawk which pulled the chains was audible incessantly.

There was always a chance to trigger the terrifying Soul Execution skill.

One is full of energy. Two is exhausted. Three is dead beat.

When the half-metal giant could not break through the scorpion warrior's blockade in the first wave, it charged into the back row.

The second wave, the third wave, and the hope of the second wave became slimmer and slimmer.

Twilight City swiftly increased in strength while the number of half-metal giants rapidly decreased.

'Clang! Clang!'

The last half-metal giant entangled with the scorpion warrior fell under the 30% kill characteristic of the undead soldier.

The rolling yellow sand on the battlefield gradually calmed down...

Richard watched from behind and saw it very clearly.

However, throughout the battle, the scorpion warrior's poisonous tail that had the armor-piercing characteristic only left white marks on the half-metal giant.

He could only admire the power of the Axe of the Dead in the end!

It was not that the half-metal giant was not strong, but Twilight City was more strong!

[Ding~ You have commanded the troop to win a mini battle. You have obtained 300 experience points.]

[Ding~ You have defeated the troop stationed at the medium-sized gold mine and obtained the authority to occupy the gold mine. Do you wish to occupy it?]

“Confirm.”

After the system notification sounded, Richard’s mood became even more excited.

This was a Rare 3-star troop. And there were as many as three small teams. The average strength of this troop was a few levels higher than the devil goat monster he killed the other day.

But even so, it was still defeated by Richard without a scratch.

A strong sense of accomplishment rose in his heart.

He had personally forged this troop, and everyone was fighting for him.

[Gold Mine]

[Level: Medium]

[Reserves: 100,000 units]

[Maximum Output: 14,000 units per week]

[Capacity: Minimum of 10 people, maximum of 50 people.]

[Description: Medium-sized resource points. After the occupation, one can mine gold coins.]

The output of medium-sized gold mines greatly improved compared to small-sized resource points.

However, the number requirement had correspondingly increased from 10 to 50 people.

“People went hunting to exchange for more resources in the early stages. However, once there are more ore veins, these resource points with stable output will also become a reliable income for the territory.

“Unfortunately, this is a desert. The number of resource points refreshed is many times less than other areas.”

Richard touched his forehead. The desert was indeed not a place with rich resources.

When the lords of the other camps posted on the [Forum Chats], they all revealed information about the numerous resource points around their territories, intentionally or not. Only the lords of the desert camp wailed.

“But if things go on like this, there won’t be enough residents in the territory...”

Richard thought about the pitiful 300-odd residents of Twilight City. He immediately shook his head.

“Unfortunately, although the army has intelligence, it can’t replace the natives... The official website of the ‘Shining Era’ mentioned there need to be enough people in the later stages of the city’s upgrade.”

The lords who gave up on the residents in the early stages would surely taste the bitter fruit.

“I still have to bring back the 300 people that the search and rescue team found last time and refused to leave the desert oasis.

“Moreover, the harboring lair doesn’t lack food in a small oasis. That’s too suspicious.”

As he thought about it, he led the troop into the gold mine.

Huge rocks filled the place, and it looked more like a quarry from the outside.

However, after He stepped into it, one could see gold glowing under the foot of the massive stone.

A large workshop was there when Richard entered the central area. The resident used this to make gold coins.

They could start work any time as long as there were workers.

Richard found a rotten wooden box in front of the dusty workshop after he observed around carefully.

“Is this a treasure box?”

He was delighted.

But when he got closer, he couldn't check its attributes.

He couldn't help but feel disappointed.

But with the thought that the fisherman would never be an air force, he bent down and opened the wooden box.

Unexpectedly.

A folded blackened blueprint was in the bottom crack of the box.

Richard's eyes lit up.

He immediately took out the blueprint. And then carefully and slowly opened it.

Chapter 59: Was About to Open a Large-Scale Dungeon

[Ding~ You have obtained the Food Workshop Blueprint.]

[Food Workshop Blueprint]

[Level: Ordinary]

[Characteristics: Can build a food workshop for research, development and production, and processing of food.]

[Resources Required for Construction: 5,000 gold coins, 10,000 units of wood, 10,000 units of stone]

[Construction Time: 7 days]

[Standard Number Required: 30 people. When the number of people is less than the standard number, the construction time will increase. When the number of people is greater than the standard, the construction time will decrease.]

[Occupation: 10 spaces]

[Description: Your territory can taste more delicious food.]

Richard touched his chin. This was the first time he had released a blueprint.

He obtained the Hero's Altar blueprint from the Phoenix-Tail Flower Chamber of Commerce.

Moreover, as he looked at its attributes, they seemed to be pretty good.

Food production, processing, research...? Wasn't this a one-stop research, development, and production?

A lot of ideas immediately popped up in Richard's mind.

'Desert Crown Honey and Russian olive forest, couldn't all of these be additionally processed and developed?'

'Wouldn't food made from Desert Crown Honey provide the Royal Family?'

The more he thought about it, the more interesting it would be.

The people valued food above all else. This wasn't just a common saying.

As long as the things he made were outstanding, there would surely be no need to worry about selling them.

He was short of resources.

After the troop lairs reached rarity, every upgrade required an astronomical amount of resources.

The next upgrade of the Axe of the Dead Lair would be Rare 3-stars, which required 1,000 ordinary-level troop lairs.

Five hundred per nest would mean 500,000 units of resources...

If he upgraded again, it would be 5 million units.

This number was getting more and more ridiculous.

Moreover, this was only one branch of the troop. The number of resources needed would be astronomical if one wanted to train more troop units.

Whether he managed the territory or developed the army, the most fundamental thing was still the word "economy".

While Richard thought, he stored the blueprint in the system space.

At this moment, Twilight City had another path to take.

The system notification sounded just as Richard scanned the map.

[Ding~ The battle of the gods shattered the long river of time that caused countless time fragments to remain in the main plane.]

[One of the time fragments that involve a large number of origin rules will appear on May 28.]

[The top 1,000,000 players on the lord ranking list can enter and explore it.]

[After the troop that the lords brought in dies, they can spend the points they earned to resurrect when the time fragment ends. The lord himself can resurrect for free.]

[The time fragment contains all sorts of special treasures. The winner will also receive special rewards. Lord, please be prepared.]

Richard's spirits heaved.

He opened the system and read the notification a few more times.

“Time fragment?”

“Wasn’t this a dungeon?”

Moreover, it was a large-scale dungeon with millions of participants!

More importantly, this dungeon could be resurrected, so there was no need to worry about death.

Millions of lords who were no longer afraid of death fought together. That scene was probably more spectacular than any movie.

At this moment, his heart suddenly became excited.

He was a little displeased there were no players’ territories around Twilight City. At this moment, he could finally fight with those sand sculptures.

He opened the [Forum Chat] and found that everyone was in an uproar.

[Hahaha, a large-scale dungeon! This time, I can finally have enough fun!]

[Brothers, come and join me. We’ll capture Basak at this moment!]

[I'm sorry, I wanted to be a good person in the past, but I didn't have the chance. Now, I can only kill you all in exchange for the final reward.]

[There are still 20 days left, violent troop, violent troop!!]

[F*ck, why didn't you say so earlier? I already sold my territory to the NPCs this morning. If I went, wouldn't I win the final prize?]

[Does anyone know any information about this dungeon?]

[Wind and cloud will recruit players vigorously. As the saying goes, a single tree can make a forest. Working together can break the gold! "Brothers who are no longer willing to be bullied or face danger alone, please send me a private message! After entering the dungeon, there will be a great backup.]

[The first million lords can enter the dungeon? What does this mean? Why only a million? We have 20 billion people!]

[Everyone, look, the rankings have been announced!!]

Suddenly, a post piqued Richard's interest. He closed the [Forum Chat] and looked at the gray section of the forum—the [Leaderboard].

At this moment, the [Leaderboard] could be clicked into.

With a thought, he opened it. There were two sections inside:

[Territory Level Ranking List]

[Overall Territory Strength Ranking List]

The “Shining Era” was a game for lords. Everything was based on the territory and there was no such thing as a ranking list.

Currently, only one list was open—the [Territory Level Ranking List].

The [Overall Territory Strength Ranking List] had a countdown—May 28, 10:00.

[The top one million could enter the time fragment.]

Richard glanced and was surprised.

[Territory Level Ranking List]

[First: Dragon Dive — Territory Level: 3 Small City, Faction: Human (Holy Church)]

[Second: Claude — Territory Level: 3 Small City, Faction: Elf (Natural)]

[Third: Hank — Territory Level: 3 Small City, Faction: Orc (Tribe)]

[Fourth: Beacon Smoke — Territory Level: 3 Small City, Faction: Human (Holy Church)]

[Fifth: Spring Tide — Territory Level: 3 Small City, Faction: Demon (Abyss)]

[Sixth: Toshio Watanabe — Territory Level: 3 Small City, Faction: Orc (Tribe)]

[Seventh: Muhammad — Territory Level: 3 Small City, Faction: Undead (Undead)]

[Eighth: Gross — Territory Level: 3 Small City, Faction: Dwarf (Fortress)]

[Ninth: Babarov — Territory Level: 2 Small City, Faction: Human (Church)]

[Tenth: Gikdel — Territory level: 2 Small City, Faction: Medusa (Dungeon)]

The top eight territories had ultimately been upgraded to level 3 small cities!!

From the eighth place to the 1,000 shown, all of them were level 2 small cities.

“Under the 20 billion base, there will inevitably be strong people.”

Richard glanced at his territory ranking: 10 billion +

His mouth twitched.

The resources he had obtained in the past few days had all been invested into the troop lairs, which made Twilight City still a level 1 village.

Compared to the territories on the ranking list, it was simply too inferior.

However, there were priorities, and he did not think that his choice was a problem.

In an unsafe environment, before he could protect himself, he had invested resources into leveling up his territory.

Once an enemy appeared, he could only lie down and wait for death.

He had always liked to have the initiative in his hands.

“Next, it’s time to raise the territory level. I definitely can’t miss that large-scale dungeon.”

Richard had absolute confidence that he could occupy a place in the overall territory strength ranking list. However, to be on the safe side, he still had to raise the level of the territory as soon as possible.

What if in the overall territory troop strength ranking that had yet to be opened, the territory level is placed at a high rank and the troop strength is at a low rank?

He could not be careless.

At this moment, Richard was in high spirits.

He wondered if Twilight City's current troop strength would be able to suppress the situation if it was placed among the top part of the 20 billion lords.

No, he still needed to improve the troop's strength. He needed to improve the troop strength before this dungeon opened.

He wanted to build troops that the other lords will have to bow to.

Chapter 60: Follow-Up Reaction

[Where's Your F*cking Italian Cannon: Anyone, why isn't Big Brother Qingqiu's territory on the leaderboard?]

After he sent out the message, he unwillingly flipped through the leaderboard again.

However, the leaderboard only revealed the top 1,000 lords. He flipped through the leaderboard a few times but still couldn't find an account named Qingqiu.

[Where's Your F*cking Italian Cannon: Did Big Brother Qingqiu change his account name?]

[Night Rain Flower Falls: Impossible, everyone can only have one account name. The name change function has not been developed yet.]

Where's Your F*cking Italian Cannon was slightly confused.

[Where's Your F*cking Italian Cannon: But why didn't I see his name? Qingqiu can't be weaker than the others!]

Ever since Richard told him the secret of the dungeon, this guy had a strong trust in Richard.

[Night Rain Flower Falls: Territory level can't represent everything.]

[Qingqiu sold nearly a hundred desert horses a few days ago. They won't be short of resources.]

[He probably invested resources into the troops. Otherwise, how could he clear the dungeon?]

Where's Your F*cking Italian Cannon immediately became excited.

[Yes, build troops! Big Brother Qingqiu must have invested all his resources into the troops, that's why he could clear the 1-star dungeon that was full of rare soldiers!]

[Night Rain Flower Falls: Don't say so much. Before the dungeon opens, you must quickly level up and enter the top 1,000,000. This large-scale dungeon will ultimately produce many good things.]

[Where's Your F*cking Italian Cannon: I know, why don't you take a look at who I am?! Just wait, in less than a week, I'll trample everyone under my feet and become the world's number one!]

[Night Rain Flower Falls: Oh.]

Where's Your F*cking Italian Cannon was at a loss for words for a while.

[Where's Your F*cking Italian Cannon: Sis, can that B-rank hero of yours be ranked number one at this stage?]

[Night Rain Flower Falls: I'm not sure.]

[Where's Your F*cking Italian Cannon: Didn't you say that the difficulty of the A-rank hero search is extreme? It would still be difficult to recruit one even if you encounter one in the early stages? In this way, wouldn't your hero be ultimately number one?]

[Night Rain Flower Falls: How do you know that no one else has completed the recruitment of a B-rank hero?]

Where's Your F*cking Italian Cannon was bereft of speech.

[Night Rain Flower Falls: But I'm confident that I can enter the top three. Chris has a chance to become an A-rank hero in the future.]

[Where's Your F*cking Italian Cannon: How much stronger is an A-rank hero than a B-rank Hero?]

[Night Rain Flower FallsFalling Rain: I can't describe it. The two are not on the same level.]

[Where's Your F*cking Italian Cannon: Then, are there many A-rank heroes?]

[Night Rain Flower Falls: If we were to compare it to the entire "Shining Era", there are many, but very few can be recruited by the players.]

[Where's Your F*cking Italian Cannon: Sis, can we cultivate our own A-rank heroes?]

[Night Rain Flower FallsFalling Rain: The difficulty of cultivating our own heroes is much greater than recruiting them. Unless we find a special building that can transform our troops into heroes, and also obtain a treasure that can increase the potential of our heroes, then it's possible to obtain it.]

Where's Your F*cking Italian Cannon got excited.

[Where's Your F*cking Italian Cannon: Sis, you should know where these special buildings are, right?]

[Night Rain Flower Falls: I know two, but they're too far away from us. Moreover, no treasure can increase a hero's potential. Even if I go, I can only recruit D-rank and C-rank heroes.]

[Where's Your F*cking Italian Cannon: Sis, do you have any other ways to recruit high-rank heroes? Give me one.]

[Night Rain Flower Falls: No, the current situation in the "Shining Era" and the information I have in the game have changed drastically. If I didn't know all of Chris' information, the probability of this hero search failure would be very high.]

[Where's Your F*cking Italian Cannon: Alright then, I'll ask Big Brother Qingqiu later. I don't know if he has recruited any B-rank heroes.]

[Night Rain Flower Falls: The chances are not high. The early hero recruitments are all very difficult. Moreover, some of them can not be completed with a powerful army.]

[For example, a hero issues a search to look for items or a recruitment task to look for people. Even if he has a dragon rank troop, if he can't find it, he can't find it. There's no other way.]

[Only E-rank and F-rank heroes are slightly easier to recruit. However, heroes at this level don't have the potential to be cultivated.]

[Where's Your F*cking Italian Cannon: Alright, Big Brother Qingqiu might not be able to do this. He's in the desert, what kind of heroes can he recruit? Having a C-rank hero is already very impressive, right...?]

The discussion on the forum was already in an uproar over the matter of the leaderboard.

Most of the players did not expect that those powerful players were already so corrupted.

In just a few days, their territory had already leveled up to a level 3 small city!

And many of them still worked hard every day to protect the residents from hunger.

People really could not be compared.

[I was still worrying about the food in my territory today. When I opened the ranking list and looked, it was truly a waste!! When can I not be satisfied with food...]

[Did you notice that the Big Boss Qingqiu who sold a huge amount of food a few days ago did not appear on the leaderboard?]

[Hehehehehe, he dares to call himself big boss just because he sold some food? If he has the ability, why won't he take a spot on the leaderboard? Don't brag about others for no reason, it's not like he has any money.]

[That's true, Qingqiu didn't even rank in the top 1,000. I thought he was a big boss, but I didn't expect that when the leaderboard came out, there was nothing..."]

[Bullsh*t, didn't you guys think that Qing Qiu could get so much food a few days ago? Would he not lack the resources to level up his territory? He's truly brainless.]

[But the reality is, no matter how much you brag, you'll still get slapped in the face. Isn't that ridiculous?]

[Clown jumping! There's only one player on the leaderboard, why are you so anxious? Why are you so anxious to get slapped in the face?]

[I think you're the one with cerebral palsy, why are you bragging for no reason...]

The war of words continued.

At first, the players discussed the top lords on the leaderboard. But later, a large group of people somehow brought the topic to Richard, who had previously attracted the attention of countless people because of the large amount of food he sold.

Later on, the argument escalated into a war of words.

One side thought that Qingqiu had just happened to get some food and that it was nothing special. Now, he was not even in the top 1,000 on the leaderboard, so it was nothing.

The other players thought that Qingqiu could get so much food a few days ago. Who could compare? Moreover, with this ability, would he lack resources?

Now that the territory hadn't leveled up, there must be another reason. He was surely a hidden boss.

The war of words was still fine at first. Later on, more and more people were involved. The people in the entire forum paid less attention to the leaderboard. Everyone began to discuss why Qing Qiu wasn't on the ranking list.

Richard, who hadn't appeared from the beginning to the end, inexplicably became the center of discussion after the territory ranking list appeared.

Things had become magical.