Thief 321

Eternal Thief

Chapter 321: The End of Iron Demon City! (2)

A grand carriage, pulled by two lions like demonic beasts, was making its way toward Gold-Iron Demon Territory at this moment of turmoil.

Many demons saw the grand carriage and their faces instantly turned pale because of the dark blue spearhead-like emblem printed on the carriage. The coachman was also clad in luxurious robes. It was a purple skin demon.

Everyone knows in ocean demon dukedom that this dark blue spearhead was the emblem representing the Ocean Demon Tribe, and only the leading clan can use it, not just any common ocean demon clan.

That's why every iron demon knew something big was about to happen when they saw the carriage and an ocean demon handling it.

They knew if this was just a random order or notice, there wasn't any need to send an ocean demon envoy here or the ocean duke could've summoned the city lord directly.

Yet, the ocean duke didn't do so and instated sent an envoy, and almost everyone knows about this morning's huge incident, so it wasn't a big deal to figure out the reason for this endeavor.

The Iron Demon Tribe's demons knew the Ocean Duke was going to make his move after they failed to maintain peace and order in his territory.

Currently, the territory of the Golden Iron Demon clan was crowded with many kinds of carriages and every owner of these carriages was demanding to see the city lord Elian.

Every one of these demons was the owner of shops that were looted by Sky Stealer last night, and since they can't find the thief himself, they naturally come running to Elian for compensation and an explanation.

Even though Elian was strongest in this city but these enrage merchants weren't afraid in the least bit because first, they simply didn't care about it after going bankrupt, and second, Elian would never dare to silence them unless he wasn't afraid of capital punishment and annihilation of his entire tribe.

However, Elian didn't show his face at all, and they were all encamping there in the morning, refusing to leave. They even started to curse and berated the Iron Demon Tribe, yet no one come to confront them.

The chief residents' doors were sealed closed while an invisible protective formation was active, which was the only thing that was keeping those enraged demons at bay, or they would've started attacking long ago.

This wasn't the condition for just the Golden Iron Demon Clan, though, because two more groups were encamping outside: Silver Iron Tribe and Bronze Iron Tribe territories!

These three arrogant clans were now cowering behind their turtle shells, refusing to face the common public.

The entire city was in a state of panic right now and if not for city guards keeping things in check, the entire city might've turned into a chaotic battlefield. Yet, those guards still can't stop all those bottom-feeders at once from plundering, and it was happening on a small scale already.

It was the actual face of the demon race which worship power, nothing else!

So, what if you're a Duke, Marquis, or even a King? As long as you lose the favor of your backer or didn't have enough strength to keep this statue, you're done for!

This was exactly what was happening to the Iron Demon City. A Marquis Rank Tribe was on the verge of losing its title just because their backer a Duke lose hope in them and their strength was just subpar to hold this title alone!

At this moment, the ocean demon envoy's carriage finally entered the territory of the Golden Iron Demon Clan.

Those enraged merchant demons also notice those two three-meter-tall vicious crimson lions coming in their way.

"Th-they're mature Crimson Fire Lions of Early Fourth Grade!" someone exclaimed with a hint of dread and fervor.

In Mighty Demon Continent, the demonic beasts were graded between the First rank to Eight Ranks and each rank was further divided into Early, intermediate, and late.

These ranks represent eight cultivation realms of golden sky worlds. Simply put, these two Crimson Fire Lions were in Early Fourth Grade, meaning they were between Iron Stage or Bronze Stage of River Core Realm.

However, there were two types of demonic beasts. The first type was the vicious type, which can't be tamed by just anyone and had any intelligence. They only know how to kill and attacked anyone or anything that came into their view.

The second type was the intelligent type demonic beast. These demonic beasts were intelligent and knew when to advance or retreat, and Beast Tamers also subdue and prefer this type of demonic beast.

These two Crimson Fire Lions were also intelligent type demonic beasts; however, their intelligence wasn't as high as humanoid beings like humans, demons, or vice versa.

They were just intelligent enough to discriminate between danger and opportunity, or choice between submission or death.

"You idiot, don't you see that emblem? They're from Ocean Duke Manor! Make way, let's see if those shameless Iron Demons still dare to hide in their turtle shell!" someone sneered in a murderous tone.

Everyone quickly made the way to the incoming carriage. They were even afraid those two Crimson Fire Lions would eat them or their mounts, so it was more like they were escaping. Yet, they didn't leave, as everyone wanted to see what was about to happen.

The ocean demon coachman didn't even glance at those merchants and impassively looked at the large resident two hundred meters away from the carriage and stopped the two lions. He could tell there was an active formation ahead with his martial sense.

However, it didn't vex him, nor did it drop the disdain in his blue eyeballs. On the contrary, his eyes turned cold as he speaks using his Qi to amplify his voice at this moment,

"The Left Ocean Spear of Ocean Demon Manor, Lord Henrik Ocean, is here with Ocean Demon Duke Decree! Elian, the chief of Iron Demon Tribe, roll out right now and received the decree!"

His words weren't polite at all, but no one dared to voice out their thoughts as everyone held their breath when they hear the title 'Left Ocean Spear', and a chill run down their spine.

Because Duke Livy had two personal bodyguards and also his closest aids, titled, Left Ocean Spear and Right Ocean Spear, and both of them were in Qi soul realm!

This wasn't the main reason for these demons to be afraid. They were afraid because they knew whenever an Ocean Spear appeared, there will always be a bloodbath!

Some locals of Iron Demon City nearly fainted from fright when they thought it was over!

Even those enrage merchants find it hard to breathe right now and didn't dare even look at the carriage with a straight face anymore!

They even wanted to leave, but alas, it was too late now, since the Left Ocean Spear might take it in the wrong way or just kill them because he feels like it.

"Hah... so we're finally here, and you didn't even wake me up, little purple?"

At this moment, a lethargic yet powerful voice rang from inside the carriage.

The coachman or little purple broke into a cold sweat and quickly replied, "Milord, we didn't reach yet because those impudent Iron Demons had activated a defensive formation, which is why I stopped the carriage."

"Oh? Are they rebelling by blocking us?" The lazy voice asked with a hint of astonishment and also excitement.

Little blue thought for a moment and spoke, "Well, milord, this formation was active before I made contact, so it didn't seem they're rebelling... however since they block an ocean envoy way it's equal to rebelling!"

Everyone broke out in a cold sweat when they heard his words and started to thank demon god since they timely moved from their way!

"Misunderstanding!"

A loud yet timorous voice rang in the area at this moment, and the other could tell the owner this was terror-stricken.

Everyone turned and see, Elian running toward the carriage, with other elders of the golden iron closely following behind with terrified faces.

The formation instantly stopped!

With a plop, Elian quickly kneeled in front of the carriage and said, "My Lord, this is all a misunderstanding! The formation was not active to hinder milord bu..."

Before Elian could explain the lazy voice sounded again with a hint of playfulness, "I don't care about reason at all, since you block ocean demon envoy this is equal to directly blocking my lord Ocean Duke's path so... hmm how should I eradicate your clan..."

Everyone from the golden iron clan broke into a cold sweat hearing this playful voice while those demons camping here from morning gloated about their misfortune!

Elian's face turned aghast and the next moment he banged his head on the solid road and plead, "My Lord, please show mercy, please show mercy!"

The other elders also kowtowed like Elian and plead for mercy!

"Hmph!" A cold harrumph rang at this moment and mountain-like pressure ascend around the area that make everyone suffocate!

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Chapter 322: The End of Iron Demon City! (3)

Elian's face turned aghast and the next moment he banged his head on the solid road and plead, "My Lord, please show mercy, please show mercy!"

The other elders also kowtowed like Elian and plead for mercy!

"Hmph!" A cold harrumph rang at this moment and mountain-like pressure ascend around the area that make everyone suffocate!

The imposing voice of Left Ocean Spear was full of ferocious intent and momentum that everyone within a radius of Five-hundred-meter felt their minds tremble!

This was the momentum of a soul realm expert!

But the little purple on the helm clearly knew his lord hadn't even revealed ten percent of his true might just yet, and his eyes glowed with zeal. He was the retainer of Left Ocean Spear for many years. He was probably the only one who wasn't affected by this invisible pressure or voice since Left Ocean Spear deliberately controlled his prowess!

But everyone else fell on their knees since they can't take this suffocating pressure. Even those vicious beasts fell into a submissive stance with terror-stricken eyes.

Elian and the other golden iron clan elders naturally face the ghastly pressure from up close and far more influential than anyone else, since it was clearly focused on them, to begin with.

'This is the end...' Elian lost all hope of survival at this moment and just wait for death.

However, at this moment, the pressure suddenly vanished, making everyone bewildered and relieved.

Those golden iron clan's elders also find themselves alive and become elated and confused, and looked toward the carriage with grateful yet doubtful eyes.

The Left Ocean Spear's impish voice sounded again, "I forgive you."

Elian and others had a massive sigh of relief as if they were given a new lease on life, literally. But everyone was confused in their heart because two Ocean Spears were rumored to be ruthless and uncharitable.

The impish yet imposing voice rang again, snapping everyone out of their stupor.

"If I eradicate your clan, then how can I enjoy myself? Won't I journey all the way here for nothing? Little Purple, read the decree of my lord!"

Elian and other golden iron clans' elders' faces contrasted as they held their breath. They could sense something was amiss just by those words full of hidden meaning. Now all they can do was pray for the best, nothing else.

Little Purple become extremely solemn, and a beautiful scroll appeared in his hand as he carefully opened it. He read in a solemn tone,

"The Marquis rank tribe of Ocean Demon Dukedom, Iron Demon Tribe, has been challenged by rankless, Dark Gibbon Demon Tribe for a 'Noble Tribe Title War'.

"According to the rules of Almighty Demon Empire, anyone or any tribe can freely challenge as long as they complete the conditions set by Almighty Demon Empire.

"As per se, Dark Gibbon Demon Tribe has met all the conditions according to the Noble Tribe Title War Challenge rules. According to rules, The Ocean Demon Tribe, the overseer of this territory, has sent an envoy to judge this Noble Tribe Title War challenge impartially and without prejudice.

"Iron Demon Tribe has no right to refuse this Noble Tribe Title War challenge or surrender because this is a 'Death Challenge' and according to rules until one of the tribe complete annihilation, this War Challenge won't stop.

"The Iron Demon Tribe has Seven Days for preparation, and anyone other than the Iron Demon Tribe's members can leave the battle zone, which is the Iron Demon City, within the preparation period or suffer the consequences of capital punishment."

Little purple finally stopped at this point with a wintry smile on his demonic face. He was just like an excited spectator, who was waiting for a good show eagerly, a show of killing!

Elian was quivering right now with indignation and despair. He knew Duke Livy was using this excuse of a challenge to get rid of his tribe, or how could a rankless tribe dare to challenge a Marquis rank tribe in a Death War Challenge without even fearing offending the higher-ups?

They didn't even utter a word about the incident of theft, and simply issued a death warrant for them under the pretext of rules and regulations!

All those merchants who were here for compensation also have content expressions on their faces. They knew the Iron Demon Tribe was finished now and there wasn't any need for them to voice out their grievances anymore.

They were all angry and grimaced at their bankruptcy, even though deep down they knew Iron Demon Tribe was also a victim in this case.

But so, what if they're also victims?

Since they can't find the thief the real culprit, they're more than happy to get satisfaction with Iron Demon Tribe's destruction since they didn't provide enough security even after escaping the events of the mad thief last time.

This simply meant they didn't learn enough and won't get another chance either. The time of forgiveness was over now, once and for all.

"Little purple, give him the decree and let's go. I'm still sleepy. Wake me up before the battle day." Left Ocean Spear's lazy voice rang in the silent square.

"Yes, milord!" Little purple quickly sent the decree toward listless Elian before saying, "You can check the rules on the other side of the scroll, humph, you better entertain my lord!"

Without another word, he commands two Crimson Fire Lions to move fast and left the Golden Iron Demon's estate toward the exit of the city.

Everyone in the area also quickly left afterward, so they could quickly flee from the Iron Demon City, which was going to become a battle zone in seven days!

Elian was left kneeling for a long time with the decree in his hand as a chilly breeze brushed past him.

In the end, he sighed, "Vanquished by a mere thief, huh..."

He had nothing else to say, or he didn't know what to say or feel because he was probably the first demon in the history of mighty demon content who was about to lose his life because of a mere thief and an unreasonable superior who just don't want to listen to their side of the story.

"C-clan leader, let's escape with young ones!" an elder said in a trembling voice filled with sadness and bitterness.

"Escape, heh?" Elian retorted wryly. "Do you think we can escape a soul realm expert martial sense? I bet the moment one of our tribesmen step foot outside the city gates, he'll be turned into meat fragments!"

"So, we should just wait to be annihilated and perish?!" another elder said with unwillingness.

"No, we still have a chance," Elian said, but he knew deep down it was an almost none existence chance!

"How? To win? But do you think the Left Ocean Spear will let us win? I bet Duke Livy had already instructed him to help our opponents!" A wizened face golden iron elder rebutted wryly.

"Sigh... announce this news to the entire city, unite the entire tribe, and call for a meeting!"

Elian stated and finally stood up on his feet as his forehead was bleeding from all those kowtows, but he seemed to didn't notice it as he made his way toward the estate while walking in a defeated manner.

While the fate of Iron Demon Tribe was sealed, the cause of it was leisurely skimming through the gains of his last night's endeavor.

Ace didn't know his 'thief's night' would push the iron demon tribe from the cliff and even if he knew, he would still do the same repeatedly because he knew the Iron Demon Tribe wasn't the tribe of saints.

Just the memories of Pablo and Buck were enough to make Ace nauseous from the deed this tribe has done in the dark.

Nonetheless, Ace didn't know right now about it, as he was ordering the system to make the list of his gain last night with an excited expression on his face. Because the haul was much richer than he thought.

"... add those two Nāga storage rings into the list as well. It doesn't matter if I didn't pickpocket the first one's storage ring." Ace commanded.

After giving his instruction, he waited for the system to sort out his loot and finally looked toward the curvaceous figure wearing a dark mask, not too far away from him, and sighed softly.

'She's very close to breakthrough into Soul Foundation Building Realm and probably archive in five or six days. I wonder how strong her nine soul gates foundation would be.' Ace thought, with a hint of expectancy in his eyes.

'Well, in the meantime I should steal the treasures of three founding clans as well and left them bristling!' Ace mused with an evil smile on his masculine, handsome face.

Suddenly, an excited glint flashed past his eyes, and a white rectangular wooden box appeared in his hand. In ecstasy, he has nearly forgotten about this treasure, that even a demon king was interested in.

With no further delay, he quickly opened the white box...

Eternal Thief

Chapter 323: Myriad Live Compass Map!

With no further delay, Ace quickly opened the white box...

'Hmm?' Ace frowned a little. 'It's locked?'

Ace promptly used soul-shattering eyes and could finally see a tiny lock array on the top edge of the white rectangular wooden box. In a hurry, he didn't notice this lock array.

This was his second time seeing an array this small. The first naturally being the alarming array which gave him away and, as a result, confrontation with Nāgas!

'The rune crafters here are much advanced, and they had much richer history and knowledge than the entire human race combined. Well, I should pay a 'visit' to the 'Life Demon Association' branch in Ocean Demon City in the future,' Ace mused with a thievish grin on his face.

Life Demon Association was a recognized organization by the Almighty Demon Empire. This association was only for the life professional cultivator, like alchemy, rune crafting, and smithery.

If any demon wanted to be acknowledged or hired by any power, they had to pass Life Demon Association Tests and then gain the association badge of a respected profession.

Life Demon Association branches can be found in any duke rank or above rank cities all over the mighty demon continent while their main headquarters were in the royal zone.

That's why Ace wanted to 'visit' these branches and 'acquired' the demon race's knowledge about runes. However, he knew he can't just target them as he did with Pill Flame Organization because this association was in a completely different realm than theirs.

He could just tell after seeing the delicate yet powerful arrays created by those rune crafters of the Life Demon Association and even fell prey to one of their traps for the first time in his life. So, he won't underestimate their branches' security. After all, this was probably the biggest, richest, and most respected organization of the Mighty Demon Continent!

Who knows just how many connections those alchemists or rune crafters had and if he offended them too soon, he knew many powerhouses will come after him in mass just to hunt him down and curry favor with Life Demon Association.

Ace quickly put this thought to the side for the time being and used the treasure-opening hands technique to unlock this nine-star array lock, which was quite luxurious for a mere wooden box.

But he knew this white wood was precious and, with this lock array, this was equal to a high-quality container. He definitely wanted to keep it.

Ace finally opened the box with glowing eyes and saw what was inside...

'A scroll?' Ace's eyes narrowed as he felt some disappointment when he thought he fought for a mere scroll!

Nonetheless, he took the golden scroll in his hand which was twenty inches long, and he felt it was quite soft and smooth, just like jade, and cold to the touch.

He carefully opened it with anticipation.

'What the ...?'

Ace was dumbfounded when the scroll was finally opened because it was completely... empty!

It was just like an empty 20 X 30 inches white golden layer from inside and there wasn't any blemish on it, as if this scroll was just newly made with a beast hide. The other side of this scroll was a pure golden color and as 'clear' as the inside.

Ace's expression turned ugly. 'Did that guy put a dummy instead of the real thing?' He couldn't help but think this way.

But whiffled his head because no one would be gusty enough to court something a demon king wants. Even if that demon wanted to take this treasure for himself, he simply didn't need to report this to his superiors in the first place.

Even if this was a dummy, then he could've just directly handed over the original to those Nāgas instead of making them chase him and causing their deaths.

Furthermore, Ace himself felt the shop owner's fearful emotion at that time, and when he accidentally triggered the alarm, that guy nearly went senseless with fear and desperation.

Ace knows these kinds of emotions can't be fake and that demon didn't even know about someone was observing him in the first place, so he simply didn't need to fake anything while being alone.

That's why Ace was sure he stole the real thing, or this could only mean that guy was probably the biggest con artist in this world, and he naturally earned his 'pier' respect. But it was highly unlikely as well.

Ace even used his eye skill, but his scroll remained just as empty as before. He looked at the open white box again and his eyes dilated when he saw there was an outline of a small little compartment on the box surface.

It wasn't locked though and Ace easily open, and he found a folded yellowish old letter!

Ace quickly pick it up and find this letter was also made of special material, but time clearly left its mark on it, and it was rather old.

He opened it carefully and saw strange tiny writing, which was clearly not in the demon race language, nor it was from the human language which he knows. But it wasn't any problem for him since he can easily understand his new language because of his ancient god language,

He read,

"Dear Fated One, whoever is reading this letter, please read this carefully!

"This Golden Scroll is called Myriad Live Compass Map. I obtained it from the... sky! Yes, Sky damn it, I know it sounds ludicrous, but it's absolutely true!

"One day I was strolling on my beloved donkey's back and this shit scroll fell on my face... you do not know how much it hurt, and I cursed the sky for hours and even try to destroy this scroll in anger.

"But then I found out it can't be destroyed no matter how much power or what method I use. This naturally arouses my interest and after some experiments, I finally activate it!

"Then she told me her name was Myriad Live Compass Map! Yes, this fucking piece of paper talk, motherfucker! I nearly peed a little in palpitation... but ahem, it isn't important though..."

Dark lines started to appear on Ace's forehead when he read to his point and the author of this letter was probably a retard, nevertheless, he continued to read,

"... What is important is she or this Myriad Compass Live Map told me, as long as I sacrifice my lifespan, this Myriad Compass Map will spontaneously turn into a treasure map..."

Ace's brows creased, reading this point.

"... After I spend one hundred years of my lifespan, a map emerged magically on this blank piece of cloth. It was the map of the fifty miles radius area around me while me being the center spot.

"This thing was truly magical. Not only did it create an accurate map of the surroundings, but it was like a living map! Yes, a living fucking map! It can show you every change or movement happening around the created area while also showing where are you heading or moving around. As for how... you'll know if you used it.

"The actual function of this map is; this will show a single and most important treasure around the created area with the lifespan. After you acquire the treasure indicated in Myriad Live Compass Map, it will spontaneously reset, and you have to feed it with more lifespan to create another treasure map, or it will reset on its own after 100 Days.

"However, don't sway by these heavenly benefits and functions because once you become its owner it'll constantly feed on your lifespan without your knowledge!

"First you won't notice it but as you use it constantly, you'll start to notice just like me and the most hateful thing is you can't stop it nor can replenish your eaten vitality by this life-sucker with any pill or any heavenly treasures!

"Sigh... nevertheless, despite this deadly shortcoming, it still helped me many times while providing me with many heavenly opportunities which changed my entire life.

"In spite that it is still a sweet addicting poison which will eventually take your life and I found it in the hard way when I want to live peacefully, but there wasn't any lifespan left for me to live...

"Sigh... I didn't want this thing to be left to my son because I don't want him to feel what I feel. That's why this is in your hand right now. I left this letter as a warning for whoever found this Myriad Live Compass Map.

"Now it's your choice to become its host or throw it away or hide it, but it can't be destroyed no matter what, nor can it be unbound once bond...

"Just a last fair warning, in my final years of life I sense... this thing is evil through and through!"

Ace inhale sharply when he read the last line, his heart turn cold as he looked at the golden scroll in his lap with uncertainty and with a hint of trepidation!

Eternal Thief

Chapter 324: Side Mission: 2

Ace deeply looked at the seemingly innocuous and ordinary scroll, and then looked at the old letter. Although the writer didn't leave its name, he left his feeling in this old letter.

It was another case if these words were true or false, though, since Ace can't sense anything from words. Furthermore, this person wasn't from the demon race because of this foreign language, and it was quite possible this letter was hundreds or probably thousands of years old!

'A treasure that feeds on lifespan and makes a treasure map in return, huh? Besides, this letter was too vague about its functions, and it also didn't clearly describe its drawbacks as well.

'Whoever stumbled upon this scroll has also probably discovered this old letter with it, but I'm sure the finder didn't understand the language, or they probably take this treasure for themselves! With its heaven-defying factors, even with the loss of lifespan, I don't think anyone could resist this temptation.

'Furthermore, I still didn't understand how can this blank scroll arouse a demon king's attention, or why did the finder even bother to report this discovery to a demon king since this was just a blank scroll with nothing special about it?

'But it also didn't seem to be held much importance to the demon king since it only send two Nāgas of below Qi Soul Realm, which implies the demon king didn't know about what this blank scroll really is as well.

'Maybe the only thing that can gain the attention of a demon king is this thing's indestructible nature since those finders probably try to destroy it as well and failed. But is it really indestructible, as the writer said it is?'

Ace was clearly unconvinced as he looked at the blank scroll, which was supposed to be the Myriad Live Compass Map according to the letter, and this thing was probably in the hand of the demon king right now without his interference last night.

Suddenly, a dark current poured out from Ace's hands and the dark despair lightning started to engulf the empty scroll. He wanted to see if his heavenly Qi can scratch this map or not.

Besides, the writer didn't write the method to bond this scroll, which clearly hinted it was either he didn't want to tell or forget, and chances of the latter being true were extremely low.

Even if the method was written, Ace wouldn't bond it with him after reading the letter. He wasn't desperate or required this scroll, and he was only curious.

As the dark despair lightning flowed around the golden sheet, it didn't leave any scratch on it, and this made Ace more assure that the writer was telling the truth about its indestructibility.

Ace stop using his heavenly Qi and the golden sheet remains the same, 'It's just like the black page I gained from that boulder, but the former seemed more mysterious because of the ancient god language words 'Page 09'.'

"System, can you discriminate what this scroll is? TP didn't matter." Ace finally asked the system.

He tried the same thing for Page 09, but he got no reply, so he gave up, and this time. He also had little hope, but it still didn't hurt trying.

"[100,000 Thief Points]"

Ace was astounded when he heard an unexpected answer and when he heard the number of thief points for this appraisal, he knew this was something extraordinary. He had long come to terms with how the system would demand TP for information.

The higher the level of the information system revealed, the more TP it asked in return and this was the first payment it asked for a piece of information after its upgrade and by the amount, it asked, Ace knew this thing was definitely worth it.

Ace quickly said, "Deal!"

"[Heavenly Fate Live Compass Fragment!]"

Ace's heart jolted as his eyes glow like the sun the moment he heard the name and mumbled, "Heavenly Fate Live Compass Fragment?"

Ace's heart galloped suddenly and asked, "System, what do you mean fragment? This thing is not complete and broken?"

"[Yes, it's just the Compass Needle of Heavenly Fate Live Compass. Not complete treasure.]"

"What do you mean Compass Needle? This material is clearly made with some powerful beast hide!" Ace retorted with uncertainty and looked at the golden sheet again.

"[The 'Treasure Spirit' has made this hoax structure to hide its actual body for survival.]"

"Now what the hell is Treasure Spirit?" Ace became more confused.

"[When a treasure broke the limit of ninth grade, it'll form a consciousness which is called the treasure spirit.]"

Ace's heart was flattered hearing this new piece of information, which was really out of his scope.

Yet he remains rational and continues to question, "Since a treasure only formed a consciousness after ninth grade, this meant the treasure spirit would not be this intelligent or powerful to create another body for itself to survive, right? This means this Treasure Spirit is likely far superior to those newly formed treasure spirits. I'm right?"

"[Yes!]"

Ace inhales sharply before calming down. This was too big of a surprise for him. Because if his guess was right, this Heavenly Fate Live Compass was something too high a level for him to even think of. But this caused another question in his mind.

'Just what kind of existence was capable enough to destroy this treasure? Wait a minute, didn't the writer of this letter writer, this scroll falling from the sky? Could it be this fell from another... heaven?!'

Ace's mind was blown. Just the thought of it gave him the chills. His imagination was running wild now. He clearly knew the name of the first heaven, and this also clarified that there was probably second heaven as well. This make him reach this conclusion, and he felt it was more likely the case.

But he knew this was not important right now, and he asked with a solemn expression, "System, since you know the name of this treasure, you should also know about its origin, right?"

"[Yes!]"

"Can you tell me?"

"[No, host current authority-level is not enough!]"

Ace smiled wryly with an 'as expected' expression on his face, "Forget it, then just tell me this thing is useful for me or not?"

He was more interested in this point. Now, that system has decided to answer his questions. He knew it would answer anything as long as it was inside his current authority boundary.

"[Yes, with system help, the host can become this Heavenly Fate Compass Fragment's owner!]"

Ace's heartbeat spiked at hearing this, and his eyes shimmered in excitement!

"Did I have to spend Lifespan to use it?" this was the most important question he wanted to know.

"[No, with system help, the host will be its true owner!]"

Ace was elated, but suddenly something came to his mind to pull an amusing expression suddenly and said, "Your help, huh? This is the first! Why do I feel you're encouraging me to become this treasure owner?"

Ace just felt like this for some reason and couldn't help but ask. It was not like he was doubting the system or anything, since he knew it would not harm him. But he still wanted to question it.

"[Yes, with this Heavenly Fate Live Compass Needle host can easily find many hidden and desirable treasures, for example... elemental orbs...]"

"What?!" Ace nearly yells out loud hearing 'elemental orbs' and why shouldn't he?

Elemental Orbs were probably the only thing that can move him and arouse his deep desire in his world because this was the essence of his martial cultivation!

Ace took a deep breath to calm his wildly pounding heart. Although he didn't know the proper functions of this Heavenly Fate Live Compass, he knew the system would never lie to him.

So, the only thing left for him to do was, "System, what do I have to d...?"

Before he could complete his sentence, the system's voice rang again,

[A side mission has been issued]

[Side Mission]

[Mission: Subdue the Heavenly Fate Live Compass Spirit!]

-Requirement (1): One Million Soul Point

-Requirement (2): Ten Million Thief Point

[Time: Infinite]

[Reward: Heavenly Fate Compass Needle]

[Punishment: None]

The scroll in Ace's hands instantly vanished the next moment!

"The fuck...?! Are you kidding me?! I can understand Thief Points, but why Soul Points!? And why the hell is the reward is something I gained myself, and you have the audacity to take it away from my hand?!" Ace instantly became furious and start to curse. He felt like he had swallowed a fly, and he can't even cough it out.

"[System just isolated the Heavenly Fate Live Compass Needle or if the host store it living thief's space, it would've started to wreak havoc there right after it awake. The host didn't know, but the treasure spirit was already started to awake after the host try to probe its hoax shell with heavenly Qi and heavenly Qi is something it loathed the most!]"

"What?!"

Eternal Thief

Chapter 325: Loot!

Ace was shocked after hearing this and sweated because if the system was telling the truth, then he could've endangered Eva in the thief's space because of his own ignorance!

He suddenly felt relief that he asked the system that question, or he didn't know what would've happened.

Since there was more danger, he become relaxed again and asked sternly, "What do you mean by this thing loath the heavenly Qi? And if this thing had a conscious, then it can't be stored in normal Storage Space...?

"Wait a minute, didn't I find this thing in a treasury? Could it be what draw the demon king's attention was its indestructibility as well as it can't be stored in a normal storage ring? Since I store it inside my thief's space, I didn't notice it before!"

Ace suddenly felt this conjuncture was probably very close to the truth, in comparison with his previous one. The system made it even clearer when it replied to his question,

"[The Heavenly Fate Live Compass was destroyed by Heavenly's Will, which also used the Heavenly Qi. That's why it loathed the Heavenly Will.]

"[As for the host's second question, yes, it can't be stored in an ordinary storage space treasure. This treasure is one of a kind soul type treasure which will enter its owner's True Soul after recognizing its master.]"

"Destroyed by heaven's will, huh? Now, I understand why it would've attacked me and why you wanted me to subdue it. Aren't I'm also the enemy of a heaven's will in a sense and the enemy of an enemy is my friend, especially when the enemy is high heaven itself?

"But you also didn't want it to negotiate with me on equivalent terms if it were to find out about my true origin, and it's probably beneath you to share your host with some mere treasure spirit. Am I right, my dear system?"

Ace's voice was filled with derision and an amused smile. He thought he had got the system there for the first time, but he didn't know how wrong he was!

The system didn't reply in affirmation, nor did it try to correct him as if it didn't care.

Ace also shrug his shoulder and didn't pursue this matter any further, since the system had just saved him in a sense from an enraged entity.

'A soul-type treasure that can enter true soul after recognizing its master just like my system, but it's probably far cry from my system, which is like an omniscient entity. Well, not that's its matter anymore, since this treasure will be mine as long as I complete this side mission.' Ace's smile was filled with confidence and anticipation for this heaven-defying treasure.

'A million soul points and ten million thief points. Well, I collect them eventually. I just have to look for soul points now,' Ace mused.

Since this matter was now dealt with, he focused on another matter. "System, if the list of treasures is done, show me! Let's see my first thievery spree result in mighty demon continent!"

A panel flash opened in front of Ace's eager eyes at this moment.

[Stolen Treasure(s) List]

[Host steal]

[Space Treasure(s)]

-Intermediate-Grade-1 Storage Space Treasures: 2

-Low-Grade-1 Storage Space Treasures: 22

-Nine-Star Storage Space Treasure: 912

-Eight-Star Storage Space Treasure: 1,554

-Seven-Star Storage Space Treasure: 3.2 Million

-Six-Star Storage Space Treasure: 23 Million

-Five-Star Storage Space Treasure: 32 Million

[Alchemy Treasure(s)]

-Five-Star Martial Pills: 5.1 Million

-Six-Star Martial Pills: 5.3 Million

-Seven-Star Martial Pills: 4.5 Million

-Eight-Star Martial Pills: 2.9 Million

-Nine-Star Marital Pills: 1.2 Million

-Low-Grade-1 Pills: 20,230

- Intermediate-Grade-1 Pills: 1,292

-Medicinal Alcohol: 50,000 Barrels (From 5-Star to 9-Star)

-Medicinal Alcohol: 10,000 Barrels Low-Grade-1

-Raw Materials: 29.5 Million (From 5-Star to 9-Star)

-Raw Materials: 16.2 Million (From Low-Grade-1 to High-Grade-1)

[Smith Crafting Treasures]

-Five-Star Weapons: 272,290

-Six-Star Weapons: 190,211

-Seven-Star Weapons: 121,978

-Eight-Star Weapons: 72,943

-Nine-Star Weapons: 20,92

-Low-Grade-1 Weapons: 2,590

-Intermediate-Grade-1 Weapons: 328

-High-Grade-1 Weapons: 1

-Middle-Grade-2 Weapons: 1

-Raw Materials: 19.5 Million (From 5-Star to 9-Star)

-Raw Materials: 7.2 Million (From Low-Grade-1 to High-Grade-1)

[Rune Crafting Treasure(s)]

-Seven-Star Arrays: 2,122

-Eight-Star Arrays: 290

-Nine-Star Arrays: 97

-Five-Star Formations: 172

-Six-Star Formations: 32

-Seven-Star Formations: 52

-Eight-Star Formations: 8

-Five-Star Slave Contract: 43 Million

-Six-Star Slave Contract: 42 Million

-Seven-Star Slave Contract: 37 Million

-Eight-Star Slave Contract: 19 Million

-Nine-Star Slave Contract: 7 Million

-Low-Grade-1 Slave Contract: 2.3 Million

-Intermediate-Grade-1 Slave Contract: 980,033

-High-Grade-1 Slave Contract: 78,331

-Raw Materials: 5.1 Million (From 5-Star to 9-Star)

[Qi Stones]

High-Level: 478 Billion

Peak-Level: 89 Billion

Low-Grade-1: 50 Million

Middle-Grade-1: 3 Million

High-Grade-1: 50,000

Peak Grade-1: 1,000

[Thieveries Rank(s)]

-Low-level Thievery(s): 2,810 (62 New)

-Middle-Level Thievery(s): 35 (34 New)

[Reward(s)]

-Total Rewards: 4 Million Thief Points

[Thief Point(s): 5,361,850]

Ace drew a sharp cold breath seeing all those numbers and over five million thief points in the end. This was his haul of just one night, and he currently has the wealth of an entire market could offer in a marquis-level city like Iron Demon City.

'System still didn't count all those treasures below five stars yet, or these numbers would've skyrocketed. Well, it doesn't matter since I got four million thief points and ample resources to practice dismantler principles!' Ace mused with an elated expression.

However, he frowned ever so slightly the next moment, 'But all those millions of slave contracts, I don't know just why these demons needed them and there wasn't any slave market here nor did I see many slaves here, then why did these things in so much demand?'

Ace couldn't help but think of this point. 'Forget it, I'll find out soon enough, and these slave contracts are excellent resources to increase my rune dismantler principles without wasting those precious arrays and formations!'

Ace was quite happy with his haul, especially all those barrels of alcohol, which was his prime focus last night. He didn't target specific shops which only sell weapons though since he was left with little time, and he was quite satisfied after stealing from all those big shops.

All those weapons he stole were from the hidden treasures he found in those big shops, and those two high-Grade-1 and middle-grade-2 weapons belong to those two Nāga brothers.

Furthermore, he was somewhat exhausted after doing all that 'labor' the entire night and because of the commotion he caused after his fight with the Nāga, he mused it'll be good to return sooner.

'Now that I have five million points, all I need is five million more thief points and find soul-type materials to collect soul points. It's just too damn hard to find soul-type treasures even here. Even after looting over a hundred shops, I didn't even get one soul-type material! I should probably find more in Ocean Demon City since that Duke Livy dares to hang a name board made of soul material, then there's a chance I'll get more.'

Ace smiled coldly when he thought about the ocean demon city and Duke Livy. He was also looking forward to when he goes back to that city, his starting point. He also despised Duke Livy after seeing Noa's appearance and hearing about her past.

He vowed he would get justice for his thief house member!

'Hmm?' Ace suddenly felt a large movement right above him with his soul sense.

He felt hundreds of silver-iron demons dubiously moving toward the main estate of the silver-iron demon clan. What truly draw his attention were their turbulent emotions, filled with despair and hopelessness for their life.

'What happened?' Ace thought doubtfully. He could guess it was probably because of last night's events and his over a hundred thieveries.

But their emotions were completely different and much more rampant.

'I should make another trip outside.' Ace decided to go out again at night to see what kind of storm he just caused.

Whatever it was, he felt this was an opportunity for someone like him!

Far away from Iron Demon City, which was on the verge of an inevitable war.

Inside a bright, spacious hall, an ice-like beauty, just like a divine sculpture, was looking at the starry sky deeply in a trance as she looked at the bright full moon.

At this moment, the door of the hall got knocked, pulling the divine beauty from her trance-like state. She gracefully wore a veil on her deadly gorgeous face and expressed in her mellifluous voice,

"Enter!"

Another enthralled beauty entered the hall with a respectful expression on her face. She bowed before saying, "Your Highness, our men report that we just received a commission to investigate a person's identity from two different high-level clients!"

"Aliya, is this why you disturb me at this hour?" The vile beauty coldly uttered in her enthralling voice.

Aliya's bowed head instantly quivered before she blurted, "N-no, but out of those two clients, one is a Golden VIP, a Demon Duke, while the other is a Diamond VVIP a... Demon King!"

Eternal Thief

Chapter 326: All-Knowing Parrot

"A Demon King?" the veil beauty's ocean blue eyes flash with momentarily shocked before shimmering with an intriguing glint.

"Yes, Your Highness, that's why I had no choice but to disturb you. Please forgive me!" Aliya nodded her head in relief.

"First, tell me about this person which caused a Demon King to force using our secret network?" the veiled beauty question with great interest.

Aliya knew her mistress take an interest in his matter from her tone, or she knew her mistress would've not asked a second question.

She quickly replied, "Your Highness, not only the Demon King, or A Demon requested to find this person's identity but many others of our silver, bronze and even common members made this same request. I just report the most important ones!"

"Is that so? It's been quite a long since we got this kind of unanimous request, and even a Demon King is involved. Tell me about it." Her ocean-blue eyes flash with great scrutiny.

"Your Highness, from our sources we found out that this person is a... thief who called itself Sky Stealer. Yesterday, this thief theft over a hundred high-level shops in Iron Demon City's market without triggering the alarms or any traps in succession.

"Furthermore, he even found and looted all the Hidden Treasuries in those shops and somehow completely uproot their grade locks. The unique thing about this thief is every shop that was theft the thief left an imprint of a vivid Dark Owl.

"In some shops, he left his name engraved in that Dark Owl imprint. The most astonishing thing about this owl imprint is... it can't be destroyed or scratched no matter who attacks it or how powerful the attack became. Some infuriated owners even destroyed their entire shops in fury, and only then did that Dark Owl imprint vanish!"

Aliya quickly reported whatever they collect to this veiled beauty, leaving nothing behind.

The veiled beauty's ocean blue eyes narrowed into two tiny slits when she heard this unbelievable report. Even she found it absurd, but she also knew Aliya won't dare to lie to her face.

She asked with uncertainty, "You say, Iron Demon City?"

"Yes, Your Highness, Iron Demon City of Ocean Demon Dukedom!" Aliya nodded in affirmation.

"If I remembered correctly, then I ordered to stop our transitions in Iron Demon City over a year ago, right?" She questioned.

"Yes, Your Highness ordered us to retreat from that area because our exchange spot was compromised." Aliya nodded.

This veiled demoness was non-other the founder and leader of 'Spica Syndicate', All-Knowing Parrot!

All-Knowing Parrot's beautiful eyes shimmer with scrutiny, "Tell me everything that happened to the Iron Demon City after we stop our deals there!"

Aliya didn't delay and quickly told All-Knowing Parrot about Iron Demon City's events like Mad Thief and so on.

Spica Syndicate was too deeply rooted in Almighty Demon Empire because of its backers and even someone like demon kings was on the list of these syndicate backers, which made this syndicate the biggest dark organization of Mighty Demon Continent, at least outside the Royal Zone.

As for its founder, the All-Knowing Parrot, no one knows its real identity, heck, they didn't even know its gender, and it was the biggest mystery. For the common populous All-Knowing Parrot was a criminal who do heinous crimes.

But for bigwigs, the All-Knowing Parrot was a symbol of information. As long as they paid the right price, they can buy any kind of information or even hire the Spica Syndicate to find the information.

As for other dark deals that this syndicate does, many other dark organizations can do the same, but no one can collect or find information like Spica Syndicate all because of one single person, the All-Knowing Parrot!

The All-Knowing Parrot had a reputation of never failing to find information about the target, and that's what made it scary. No one dare to offend this mysterious entity, afraid that it would release all their secrets to the public, and they'll have to suffer the unimaginable consequences.

All-Knowing Parrot's eyes shone with understanding after hearing Aliya's report. She couldn't help but marvel about Iron Demon City's fate. First, the Mad Thief made the Iron Demon City tremble in fear, and now Sky Stealer completely abolished it. It was like a den of thieves!

"You say the same night thieveries happened, there was a big fight between a Nāga and a mysterious expert who killed it?" All-Knowing Parrot questioned.

"Yes, according to our sources there were two Nāgas, one of them died causing tremendous commotion while the other one mingled dead body was found in a random alley."

All-Knowing Parrot's eyes suddenly show a fierce glint before it was completely melted away in calmness, "Which Demon King gave the commission for this Sky Stealer?"

Aliya became confused about why her mistress wanted to know such details, but still answered truthfully, "It's the Mist Demon King!"

All-Knowing Parrot's eyes lit with a wise glint that was completely hidden under her aloof expression, "Since a War Challenge is about to start in Iron Demon City, that Sky Stealer will soon make its escape tell our men to monitor the Iron Demon City surrounding and sent a hundred Silver Parrots to monitor the Iron Demon City from now on. If anything new came out about this Sky Stealer, inform me post-hastily. You're dismissed now!"

Aliya bowed in affirmation before leaving the hall and All-Knowing Parrot alone.

After Aliya leave and the door was closed, the All-Knowing Parrot take off her veil and reviled her enthralling face. She looked at the bright moon from the window and murmured with a hint of excitement,

"Nāga Race is subordinary race under the Dark Mist Demon Tribe. Two Nāgas were killed in the Dark Blade Demon Tribe's Territory, far away from their judicial, and on the same night of the theft.

"The chances of them being rough were almost zero since very servitude race had to brand with a slave seal on their birth, so they can't betray their masters or demon race. Those demons Kings presume I don't know this, heh, laughable!

"So, those two Nāgas were probably there for something, but killed instead by some mysterious expert, and the very next day, a new godly thief emerged. Now the Mist Demon King also wanted to know the identity of a mere thief.

"Either this thief offended the Mist Demon King, which I highly doubt since Mist Demon King just act now, so the only possibility is this thief has something of Mist Demon King or something he wanted!

"Those Nāgas probably encountered this thief and then robbed by him! If this is true, then this Sky Stealer is one of a kind character. Even I wanted to meet him now."

All-Knowing Parrot's icy blue lips rose in a mesmerizing smile that can bewitch any man or demon alike, but alas no one was there to witness it.

"Let's see how long can you remain hidden from me. Don't disappoint me, Sky Stealer, make this quest interesting!"

At night, Iron Demon City,

The once peaceful iron demon city was now thrown into chaos after the news of the Noble Tribe Title War was made public.

All those demons unrelated to Iron Demon Tribe collected their belongings and abandon their properties and started to flee from the Iron Demon City without glancing back.

Nobody stopped them or more accurately no one can stop them since it was a rule written in Noble Tribe Title War Challenge Rule, 'every challenged tribe had to face the challenger tribe alone with no external help!' and that's why Iron Demon Tribe was helpless despite being fuming in anger.

No one can help them and no one will!

Some Iron Demon Tribe's demons also try to flee the city in the shade of night, but alas, they were instantly killed by a mysterious marital sense the moment they stepped outside the city or even try to leap the city wall.

This was truly a hopeless situation for Iron Demon Tribe. Not even children were spared from this cruel fate, and no one seemed to empathize with them.

Every demon knows all these large tribes had gone through the baptism of blood to win their prominent positions. They weren't innocent!

At this moment, a demon was desperately moving toward the city gate, clearly wanting to flee as soon as possible. But he was suddenly intercepted by another tall demon.

"YOU... get out of the way!" He barked with a hint of urgency.

"Hehe, brother calm down please, don't get me wrong, I just wanted to know why everyone is fleeing the city? Does something happen? I'll make it you're worthwhile!" the other demon asked as he threw a peak-level Qi stone toward the other demon.

The demon with great urgency was startled and caught the peak Qi stone and asked with uncertainty, "You don't know about this kind of commotion?"

"Why would I ask you if I know? I was sleeping all day long." The other demon rolled his eyes.

"Y-you were s-sleeping?" the other demon's voice was filled with disbelief. 'How could someone sleep through this kind of uproar?!'

Eternal Thief

Chapter 327: Looming Noble Tribe Title War

The green skin demon was naturally baffled and couldn't help but closely looked at the demon in front of him with scrutiny. Before because of his tense nerves, he didn't seem to notice it, but now.

'Wait... silver skin like lustrous iron, white silver eyes and silver horns and hair!' He quickly blurted out, "Y-you're from the silver-iron demon clan?"

The silver-iron demon showed his beastly white teeth and nodded. "Yes, indeed, I'm. My name is Pablo. Is there a problem?"

"You fool! Get out of my way. This is all happening because you morons can't keep your place safe!" The green skin demon fumed and couldn't help but cursed because he had to abandon his house and a small shop because of this war challenge.

Pablo was naturally none other than Ace in disguise.

He came out of the underground chamber just a few moments ago and was flabbergasted when he saw almost every house in the Iron Demon City was empty and when he sensed such a large moment toward the exit of the city at this hour, he was even more shocked.

Ace thought some kind of disaster was coming, so he found this alone demon to question, but now, after seeing this guy dare to berate a silver-iron clan's demon with such words, he sensed something was amiss.

"Then forgive me!" Ace's eyes turned cold as his hand flash like dark lightning right behind the green skin demon's head and instantly knocked him out.

Ace drag the guy into a deserted house and started to soul probe him.

After five minutes, his eyes shimmer with a strange light. 'Noble Tribe Title War? The Left Ocean Spear, a Qi soul realm cultivator, and incoming Dark Gibbon Demon Tribe, huh?

'It seemed I'm the reason behind all this, and I have to admit that Livy didn't leave any liability behind. In his view, Iron Demon Tribe was no longer stable, so he instantly decided to get rid of it without even investigating me.

'He might've thought that Left Ocean Spear could probably fish me out with his strong martial sense if I try to leave the Iron Demon City in panic, and there was likely a gigantic trap surrounding the Iron Demon City right now. According to this guy's memory, the ocean demon tribe's carriage didn't stay in the city and left after announcing the decree.'

Ace couldn't help but think this way. He didn't want to underestimate these demons anymore, and he knew they have many mysterious ways to entrap him if he wasn't careful enough.

But a smirk appeared on his face for some reason as he thought, 'What if I stole every person's storage rings and resources from both Iron Demon Tribe and Dark Gabon Demon Tribe during this Noble Tribe Title War right under this Qi soul realm expert?

'Wouldn't this will ruin Ocean Demon Tribe's reputation and face? Hehe, as far as I know, these demons cherish their faces more than anything else. I wonder what kind of consequences they'll suffer when they cannot capture a mere thief?!'

Although Ace's thoughts were like this, he won't take any actions this easily, not before making absolutely sure about if he can escape the monitoring of a Qi soul realm demon.

Furthermore, he needed a solid plan to enter and leave the battlefield before anyone could realize what had happened, and that hideout was the best place he could ask for.

Moreover, he had to ask Noa for her opinion after she woke up from her cultivation state since she knows far more than him about Ocean Demon Tribe's strength.

Thinking to this point, Ace left the unconscious green skin demon as it is and went back to his hideout. He could've robbed the three founding clans of their wealth and resources right now and been done with it, but he didn't.

Because this wasn't the right time if he wanted to profit big time, and this will also alert the enemy too soon and revealed his true thievish abilities.

'Six more days before Noble Tribe Title War!' a thievish glint flashed past Ace's dark blue eyes!

In a large meeting hall right inside the Golden Iron Demon Clan's main estate,

Almost every demon above the river stage was present, as well as the three founding clan leaders.

The atmosphere was as grim as it could be, and it was almost suffocating.

Uriah, the leader of the silver-iron demon clan, was almost spitting flame with his silver-white eyes as he looked at Elian.

He spoke with an icy voice, "Elian if it wasn't for your Golden Iron Demon Clan negligence this would've never happened!"

Trey also chimed in with an equally cold tone, "You bunch of golden shits always arrogantly do disgraceful things in the dark and don't even let our two clans patrol some parts of the city and now see what has happened! We're on the brink of extinction!"

The faces of the Golden Iron Demon Clan's members turned extremely ugly when they heard those two clan leaders berating them, but they didn't have words to retort them because they were telling the truth!

Furthermore, their own leader, Elian, was just silently listening without even saying anything, so it wasn't their place to speak as well.

'Sigh...' A heavy sigh escaped Elian's mouth, his expression was no longer haughty like in the past, and he looked just like an old defeated demon.

He slightly nodded his head toward Tray and Uriah in acknowledgment and said, "I know our mistake... my mistakes as the matter of fact." He lowered his head toward everyone in the meeting hall.

Everyone, including Uriah and Tray, become extremely shocked because they never remembered seeing Elian lowering his head to anyone like this in defeat, nor did he ever speak polite words.

"Clan Leader! Please don't do this. It wasn't your fault!" A golden iron demon elder quickly spoke with a hint of sadness in his husky voice.

"Yes, clan leader, it was the fault of those hateful thieves who targeted our city and the imprudence of our superior who just don't want to hear our plead!" another golden iron demon elder nodded.

Everyone inside the meeting hall silently agreed with those statements. They all hate the word 'thief' to the core now, and they will probably kill any thief they find.

However, no one from the other two founding clans spoke as they all wait for their leaders, who were silently looking at Elian with complicated expressions on their faces.

Elian still didn't straighten his head while completely ignoring his clan's members' soothing voices. He was clearly waiting for Uriah and Tray.

Elian know too well that if they all wanted to have a fighting chance, they had to become united, or they'll die on the very first day of the Noble Tribe Title War Challenge.

Moreover, Elian knew these two clans have many hidden trump cards they were accumulating all these years just to deal with his Golden Iron Demon Clan and if he could make them willingly agree to take those trump cards out, then he was sure they had fifty percent chances of winning this war.

"Hmph... fine, let's hear what you had in your mind." Uriah coldly snorted.

He wasn't a fool and knew they will all going to die if they didn't stand united. It was just that he never thought Elian would lower his head to them so easily, and this left an unpleasant taste in his mouth when he thought about all those cusses becoming useless that he had thought he would throw at him.

"HUMPH!" Tray was also dissatisfied, but he also didn't pursue this matter, or he wasn't the one who fends off fighting.

Elian finally straighten his back with a solemn expression on his face and commanded, "Lay down the map!"

An elder of the golden iron demon clan standing right behind him whiffled his hand and a detailed large map of Iron Demon City appeared on the table.

Everyone's focus turned to the map.

Elian spoke at this moment, "Everyone in his room may not know about this, not even the other two founding clans, but as you can on this map, there are ten red points all over the Iron Demon City making a circle. These ten points are a city-wide Killing Formation!"

"What?!"

Both Uriah and Tray, and everyone other than the Golden Iron Demon Clan expressions, changed after hearing 'City-Wide Killing Formation'.

Everyone knew this level of Killing Formation was only presented in duke-level cities, and they also knew anyone who steps inside this kind of killing formation will meet their end as long as it was powerful enough and someone knows how to operate it!

Elian continued with his explanation, "Yes, a Low-Grade-1 Killing formation, which is enough to kill a peak stage Qi golden river core cultivator. This formation was built on an old, unrecognizable ancient formation by our ancestors. This was the last defensive line in case we experience an extinction-level crisis!"

Eternal Thief

Chapter 328: Noble Tribe Title War Preparation!

"Why didn't we know about this?!"

Uriah's expression was filled with shock and fear, and Tray was also looking in bewilderment at Elian.

They both know what this killing formation represented. It meant as long as Golden Iron Demon Clan or Elian know how to operate it, they were the kings inside the Iron Demon.

The Silver Iron Demon Clan and Bronze Iron Demon Clan can do nothing to shake their position as overlord, not before they found a way to overcome this low-grade-1 killing formation or invite a soul realm cultivator, which was also impossible.

They finally understand just why the Golden Iron Demon's position remains unshakable all these years, and why Elian didn't put them in his eyes before.

Elian simply answer without even blinking, "Only the Chief of each generation had the information about this Killing Formation called Ten Golden Pillar Swords, and only if some calamity struck the chief was allowed to disclose its information.

"Furthermore, this Ten Golden Pillar Sword killing formation can't be used steadily, and it required a constant supply of Peak-Grade-1 Qi stones and a Qi soul realm cultivator to fully bring out its potential.

"However, we don't have one such cultivator in our ranks, nor did we have many peak-grade-1 Qi stones. If I operate it, I can only pressure a peak Qi golden core realm or wound him gravely. I can't kill them."

The room was deadly silent at this moment. Their shocked expression turned grave again because they knew Elian's words were absolutely true. But their heart still trembled when they thought about their tribe having such a trump card hidden all these years.

Uriah took a deep breath and said, "Our Silver Iron Clan will support Golden Iron Demon Clan and follow Tribe Chief Elian's lead!"

"Bronze Iron Demon Clan also fully supports Tribe Chef Elian!" Tray nodded solemnly.

No one retorted, and everyone silently agreed with both clan leaders.

They all knew, with this killing formation and its operating method, that Elian was the true King of Iron Demon City.

When Uriah and Tray thought about their past plans of orchestrating a coup, they thought like they were the biggest jokes, nothing else. They finally understand why Elian didn't take them seriously in the past.

Elian's lip rose in a faint smile after seeing everyone was finally on the same track, with no hidden resentments or schemes.

He said, "Good, this killing formation is our last resort, but just in case, I need ten Qi silver river core stage demons on each point of this killing formation and one million peak-grade-1 Qi stones to activate the formation for ten minutes. Golden Iron Demon Clan had over five hundred thousand in reserve, and I'm counting on Brother Uriah and Brother Tray for the other Five hundred thousand."

"No problem!"

Uriah and Tray agreed with no hesitation since they knew if they didn't show their support, they'll die with all their clans, so it wasn't the time to hide their asset.

"Good!" Elian nodded and continued, "Now that this is out of the way, let's discuss how we're going to annihilate this Dark Gabon Demon Tribe!"

Everyone emits killing intent on hearing the name of their foe!

"I just buy information from another city's 'Parrot' about this Dark Gabon Demon Tribe, and I have to say our enemy is quite ruthless and powerful. They had One peak golden river core stage demon as their tribe chief, just like me.

"Thirty Silver River Core Stage Demons, but this number can be much more since it was the figure the public knows. Nonetheless, we have 42 silver river core stage demons, so it's a plus.

"Lastly, they had over three hundred bronze river core stage and over eight hundred Iron river core stage demons in their ranks. I think they're equally matched with us when it comes to Qi river core realm experts. What do you guys think?"

Everyone nodded in agreement.

Uriah asked in a grave tone, "What element they're efficient in?"

This was the most important question because every demon tribe had an innate special element that they were born with, and it was not random like humans. Although there were cultivation techniques that can help cultivate a specific element, those were too rare.

The Iron Demon Tribe's innate element was Iron Element, a variation of Metallic Elements. Iron Element can further vary or mutate into Golden Iron Qi, Silver Iron Qi, Bronze-Iron Qi, Iron Qi, and so forth with special metal type cultivation techniques of Iron Demon Tribe.

Elian's expression turned grave as he replied, "Dark Gabon Tribe's innate element is Dark Earth, and they had five variations like Dark Earthly Stone, Dark Earthly Mud, Dark Earthly Swamp, Dark Earthly Sand, and the most powerful one, Dark Earthquake!"

Everyone's expression turn to worse when the Earth element was mentioned, which was probably the bane of Metallic Element. Everyone knows earth element users were all masters of defense!

Furthermore, they were talking about mutated earth elements of the demon race, not just simply earth elements, especially the 'Earthquake', which was a rare variation of earth elements.

Rumor has it the person of this element can cause instant earthquakes, make the earth tremble, split it and then close it at will!

"Don't worry, they only had one Earthquake element user, which is the son of Dark Gabon Tribe's Chief, and he is a genius of silver river core realm. We just have to deal with him quickly by ambush." Elian's eyes turned cold.

"Tribe Chief, please allow us dark iron element demons to assassinate him!" One of a demon with dark iron skin spoke at this moment with a confident expression on his black face.

Elian deeply looked at this Dark Iron Demon and solemnly nodded. "I leave it to guys then, but remember, failure isn't the option!"

"Yes, I won't let my tribe down!" He quickly bent his back toward Elian.

Elian nodded in a dignified manner and said, "Also, have someone to bring those trash vagabonds of our tribe back. They'll be the perfect meat shields. It's time for them to repay their tribe back.

"After that, I want our rune crafters to arrange deadly traps all around the city walls and inside the city, and after they were done, start making portable arrays which can protect against a deadly strike for one or two times..."

The preparation meeting of Iron Demon Tribe was continued for over eight hours and when it was done, all Qi river core demons of Iron Demon Tribe moved toward their allocated posts and some of them made preparation.

Everyone was busy and gave everything they had for a chance for survival.

On the periphery of Iron Demon City, one could spot a magnificent purple camp with a spearhead emblem on it and two crimson fire lions lazily sitting outside, like guard dogs.

Inside the camp was only a large size bed which a small table and two chairs.

An ocean demon wearing white robes, he had burly stature, long dark blue hair, and a vicious face filled with small scars. He was looking in a mirror with an amusing expression on his scarred face.

Another ocean demon with a skinny constitution was respectfully standing behind this scarred demon with a respectful expression on his skinny face.

"Lord Henrik, what are your thoughts on these animals' futile struggle?" This skinny demon was none other than the little purple, the retainer of Left Ocean Spear Henrik.

This scar-face burly demon who was amusingly looking in a mirror was obviously Left Ocean Spear, Henrik!

Henrik smile coldly and said as he looked in a mirror, which wasn't showing his reflection, but it was showing the whole Iron Demon City from an aerial view.

"They're making traps on city walls and houses, not on the ground, which evinces they knew about Dark Gabon Tribe's innate element, Dark Earth."

"Heh, I can see my lord is looking forward to this fight?" Little Purple chuckled. He was very familiar with Henrik, and he can be this bold while they were being alone, or he knew in public; only death awaits him!

Henrik merely smirked and said, "I'm more interested in that thief, what he called himself?"

"My lord, that clown called himself 'Sky Stealer', as if he can steal the sky!" Little purple scoffed with disdain.

"Heh, I think he's quite interested and capable. That's why My Lord gave his command to recruit that thief." Henrik chuckled.

"What? His highness wanted to recruit a thief?" Little Purple suddenly lost his calm.

Henrik merely nodded, didn't mind little purple's reaction, and said, "Yes, His Highness specifically commanded me to capture him and then recruit him in the name of Ocean Demon Duke. That thief is quite talented if the reports about him are true. That's why His Highness gave me this low-grade-2 Demon Eye Formation that can see through any disguise and concealment and monitor the entire city. The moment that thief makes his move, he's mine!"

Henrik's eyes were as sharp as a predator who was waiting for his prey in the shadows!

Eternal Thief

Chapter 329: Thief Assassin: No Kill

Five more days pass in a breeze, and only one day was left at the start of the Noble Tribe Title War.

The Iron Demon City was completely turned into a fortress as every Iron Demon Tribe member was prepared to fight for their life and the life of their loved ones. Even young demon children were given weapons!

Many high-level demons donned in armors were standing tall on the city walls, while the city gate was tightly shut and protected by a powerful array.

Although there was still a day remaining before the war challenge, for them the war of life and death was already started!

Inside the underground secret chamber,

Ace was solemnly looking at cross-legged Noa. She was emitting very powerful soul undulations, which was a sign of her being on the verge of a soul cultivation breakthrough.

In the last five days, Ace was practicing heaven's stealer dismantler principles all morning while he scouted the iron demon city at night to monitor the current status of the Iron Demon City.

Ace had to admit the Iron Demon Tribe was far more powerful than he had thought, and they were quite rich as well. He thought of raiding their treasures many times but held himself back when he thought about the bigger picture.

Today was just like another day when he returned after scouting the city and observing some fresh developments, but he soon found out about Noa's peculiar condition and calmly observe her.

'She's causing too many soul undulations, but this chamber is really marveled since there wasn't any sliver of it leaking,' Ace mused while looking at Noa's mask face.

Suddenly, Noa's pressure started to increase. It was a sign of her successful cultivation breakthrough and an increase in power!

'Her True Soul is forming and then comes the turn of her soul foundation, slates. It's completely different from my soul cultivation technique since I only needed to create soul cores and my soul cultivation will increase just like normal but more powerful than the others.'

Ace couldn't help but compare his own soul cultivation system with the traditional soul cultivation system of Sky Mortal Heaven. But he smiled bitterly when he thought about how difficult it was for him to raise his cultivation, and there were many restrictions and conditions as well.

Nonetheless, Ace knew he will become the most powerful being of Mortal Sky Heaven eventually just because of his cultivation technique!

Even the members of the thief house didn't have the privilege to cultivate in both body and soul type cultivation manual like Heaven Stealer Technique, which was one of its kind.

Noa's close eyelids finally snap open, revealing pitch-black eyeballs shimmering with a dark luster like an endless dark night.

When her sight landed on smiling Ace not far away, her eyes lit up in ecstasy, and quickly greeted him, "Leader, I broke through to Soul Foundation Realm while creating a Nine-Slate, Peerless Foundation!"

Five Slates mean Cracked Foundation, Six Slates mean Flawed Foundation, seven means Complete, and Eight mean Perfect foundation, while a Nine-Slate foundation called Peerless Foundation!

There weren't many presents with a Peerless Foundation in Golden Sky World because only truly talented individuals were qualified to create a Peerless Foundation, especially in the soul path.

A cultivation manual that contains the secret of the peerless foundation was few in this world, while the soul path manual was almost none exist!

Noa could be called a peerless genius of the soul path right now and if the news of her creating a peerless foundation were made public, even the Royal Zone would do anything to possess her or her cultivation method!

Ace nodded in approval and said with a faint smile, "Congratulation, you're one step closer to your revenge."

Noa's dark eyes shimmered with coldness at hearing this. She knew what Ace mean, and she was looking forward to the day she'll take revenge for herself and her tribe.

"Leader, I think after I broke through in Soul Foundation Building Realm, I got an innate soul ability from my Thief Assassin Principles Cultivation Technique!" Noa quickly told Ace about her new discovery. She didn't want to hide it from him, since he'll find out, eventually.

"Oh? An innate ability from your cultivation technique, not a skill?" Ace was astonished because he never thought Noa will get an innate soul ability as he will get from his soul cultivation technique.

Ace knew about the cultivation techniques that grant skills on each realm breakthrough, but he never heard of cultivation techniques that grant innate abilities like his cultivation technique, yet.

The difference between innate ability and skill was like heaven and earth because the innate ability will keep becoming powerful with the possessor, while skill will lose its effects eventually if you didn't find a way to strengthen it. Simply put, skills were replaceable, while innate abilities were not!

This also made the Thief Assassin Principles at the same level as his 'Heavenly Black Wind Soul Cultivation Technique, but it was still inferior since he had Heavenly Soul Qi!

'As expected from a cultivation technique that came from the system, it is heaven-defying!' Ace thought with elation since it will only make his thief house members more powerful than the masses!

Noa nodded her head and said, "Yes, it's an innate soul ability, not a skill, since I can use it any time I want!" Her melodious voice was filled with ecstasy.

Even she didn't believe that she'll get such a top-notch soul cultivation technique, which was probably the most powerful soul cultivation technique in this world!

"Tell me what kind of ability is it, if you don't mind, that is!"

Ace was very interested in this ability since it was related to a thief, but didn't want to force Noa in revealing it. Everyone had their own secrets. Even he didn't tell her about his innate soul abilities and she only about soul probing, which was also just at a superficial level.

"No, I don't mind, since it was all because of Leader that I got this chance. Even if you want my life, I'll give with no hesitation!" Noa promised, with no hesitancy in her solemn voice.

She was eternally grateful to Ace, and she wasn't an ingrate who'll forget her benefactor after she became powerful. Her pride won't allow her to do this!

Ace felt hearted and said, "Don't mention dying again. We're fellow members and as a leader, it is my responsibility to keep you safe, not the other way around."

Noa only nodded with glittering eyes, no one know what she was thinking.

"The innate soul ability I got is called 'No-Kill'. It can completely hide my killing intent and aura. A godly ability for an assassin!" Noa excitedly told Ace about her ability, No-Kill.

Ace was astonished when he heard about this No-Kill ability with a simple description. Although it sounded superficial, he knew just how deadly this ability was for a trained assassin. It was like giving wings to a tiger!

Ace knew just how hard it was to hide your killing intent if you hate someone, furthermore, it was almost impossible to suppress the killing intent when you were about to strike a killing blow.

Only those emotionless beings can probably kill without batting an eye, but even they were filled with killing intent from inside.

No Kill didn't require something to become emotionless nor separate their emotion. That's why it was so scary!

Besides, as Noa became powerful, her ability will increase with her. This was truly a godly ability of a Thief Assassin!

"Good, since you're now an early stage foundation building cultivator, you should purchase skills from the shop and practice them." Ace suggested. He didn't want her to just cultivate all day long. It wasn't good for her foundation.

She wasn't like him, who didn't need to worry about his foundation at all.

"I was also thinking the same. I still have 1,800 House Points left after my previous purchases. I was just waiting to enter the soul foundation building realm before purchasing Thief Assassin's Soul Steps and Thief Assassin's Soul View, for one thousand house points."

Noa also explained her thoughts truthfully. She knew as an assassin the movement skill was the essential and with an eye skill on top of that she'll be like a perfect assassin. As for stealth, she still had that because of her bloodline as a night demon. It was the only thing she inherited from her Night Demon Bloodline.

Ace nodded and said, "I also think these two skills are far more important than any other skills in the shop. Furthermore, tomorrow is a big event and I think we can profit from it." He pulled a thievish smile.

Noa was bewildered, hearing Ace's mysterious words, and asked with uncertainty, "What kind of big events?"

"It's like this when I was gone out on a stroll..."

Ace told Noa about how he encountered Nāgas and then told her about his huge thieveries string and how Iron Demon City was about to face a war challenge tomorrow.

"... so, tell me, what do you think?"

Eternal Thief

Chapter 330: Ace's Plan

Noa's eyes were filled with disbelief when she heard how her leader had caused such a storm when he was just out for a 'stroll' and couldn't help but feel small when she thought she couldn't even score fifty thieveries in months.

She finally understood just how powerful Ace's theft abilities were, and she couldn't even compare to him. She even got many insights on the path of a thief from Ace's experience.

Just for this specific reason, Ace told Noa about his method of thievery and his experience. He wanted her to understand that cutting hands wasn't the only way to steal, and it can be done in a far low-key manner.

Noa's eyes shimmered with adoration, and admiration as she looked at Ace. She didn't doubt his words even for a moment because of her complete trust in him.

"Leader, I understand that because of you, that bastard Livy got the chance to get rid of Iron Demon Tribe, but I can't understand why you left your name behind?" She didn't understand this point, since in her view thievery was all about being stealthy.

So, when Ace told everything, even his Thief Title, Sky Stealer, she didn't understand just why would he reveal himself and admit he was the thief. As far as she could tell, she didn't think Ace was the person who crave fame and reputation.

Ace somewhat understood her thought and could only reply bitterly, "Heh, you think I wanted to reveal myself and my abilities in public? Trust me, I don't have a choice in this matter because the 'Goddess' wanted me to spread my name far and wide.

"Didn't I tell you the Dark Owl is like my own thief symbol, granted by the goddess herself? As long as I stole a specific amount of treasures, that thief symbol with appeared on victim or treasuries and I can't be removed, not until that victim dies or the entire place that is connected to the treasury was destroyed!"

Ace patiently explain about this thief symbol, he didn't want Noa to lose her focus when she first experienced it herself in the future, it could be deadly if they were in a dangerous situation.

Noa was simply flabbergasted hearing about this magical thief symbol that was granted by the goddess herself and after finding out her leader had such a task to spread his 'fame' out there for the Goddess, she couldn't help but revere him even more.

"U-Um... leader, c-can I..."

Before Noa could ask further, Ace cut her short and shook his head, "I don't know if you will get a thief symbol or not, but the chances of it's extremely low."

Ace quickly rain down on Noa's parade but didn't tell her the entire truth about Thief Panel, since she didn't have to know.

"Oh." Noa felt it was a pity since she also wanted to help the 'goddess' to spread her fame as well in the future.

'It seemed the leader had far more responsibilities than I thought. I should quickly become strong and help him!' Noa thought resolutely.

"Now, tell me about this Left Ocean Spear and his abilities. Truth be told, I wanted to steal both tribes' every high-level demon's storage rings and their resources of wars right under this Left Ocean Spear

"It will be a tremendous blow to Ocean Demon Dukedom's reputation, and Livy will also feel the pinch. We'll also collect some debts. But I'm not sure if I can pull this off because when I was close to the city wall last night, I felt a very strong formation surrounding the boundary of the entire Iron Demon City.

"From my point of view this formation was likely something laid by this Left Ocean Spear to entrap the Iron Demon Tribe's members from escaping, or he might want to entrap me of all people, who knows, but we can't throw this possibility out as well!

"Although I'm confident in crossing that formation while remaining in stealth, I don't think you can escape from its detection for obvious reason. That's why if I can just find the source of this formation, I can get rid of it, and then we'll be like fish in water!"

Ace truthfully told her about his plan to cause an upheaval, but he needed more information, and he had to do it carefully or there would be a soul realm cultivator on his tail!

Noa seriously mulled over all this information provided by Ace. She couldn't help but admire him for his information scouting abilities. Even she couldn't do it better than him, even when she was in her prime.

"Left Ocean Spear, Henrik, had a strange character. He's like a snake who hides in the dark and hunts his targets. He's also very shrewd and ruthless. Livy only sent him out when he wanted to capture someone or when he needed to get rid of a threat silently.

"Since that bastard, Livy, sent Henrik this time, I think he wanted to capture you, leader, and recruit you under him or even wanted your secrets. As for this formation, I think I know what kind of formation it is!" Noa quickly voiced her opinion.

Ace attentively listen and felt it was right for him to wait on Noa before making any move.

"What kind of formation?" asked Ace intently.

"Demon Eye Formation, a low-grade-2 formation, one of three legacy formations of Ocean Demon Tribe. It can monitor a city like Iron Demon City completely while also scanning through the city for hidden traps and see-through disguises of peak Qi golden river core cultivators!" Noa's voice was grave.

If her assessment was true, then Ace was right. She can't go out, or she'll instantly be detected by Demon Eye Formation and her cover will also blow.

Ace felt relief, hearing this formation could only see through a disguise of a golden river core stage cultivator.

"Don't worry, it's completely useless against me, so tell me about its source and I will get rid of it tonight." Ace confidently declared.

"I don't know about runes much and only read this formation in Warden Cane's diary. He writes Demon Eye Formation has eighteen source points, and they can be set up under the ground or hidden in trees or anything, as long as it won't affect their functions.

"If the leader can get rid of five source points of this formation, I think it'll stop working. But it's too dangerous since Henrik will instantly know that someone is fiddling with demon eye formation the moment the leader touched the formation source."

Noa's voice was depressed. Although she also wanted to take advantage of this war challenge like Ace and collect house points while honing her thief skills, she also didn't want to put Ace in danger.

She knew Henrik wasn't someone easily trick, and this was the demon eye formation, a legacy formation of Ocean Demon Tribe, so, he naturally was more careful with it.

"Heh, who said I'm going to touch those formation sources?" Ace smiled mysteriously before saying, "I'm going to blow them up!"

Last night before Noble Tribe Title War,

The Iron Demon Tribe was almost done with their preparations and all those Qi river core cultivators were making their last check.

At this moment,

A person in a dark hood with an owl imprint on its back just stepped onto the ground after descending from the city wall!

This was Ace, who had come here to render this Demon Eye formation useless!

With his stealthy soul sense, he quickly found a formation source two hundred meters away from the city wall!

Ace carefully goes toward it while using his soul-shattering eyes just to remain careful of any hidden traps.

He quickly reached a lush tree and sneered when he saw many hidden traps around it. There were even nine-star array traps, but for him, it doesn't matter since he wasn't here to steal anything.

A dark pentagon coin appeared in his hand, which was clearly a talisman from the system.

"System set a timer of ten hours for this Fire Explosion Talisman and seventeen others which I made you create!"

Ace smiled coldly when he thought about the magnificent display of all these tier-3 fire explosion talismans simultaneously triggering at once and blowing all formation sources!

Ace was quite glad that the talismans made by the system had this last 'Timer' feature, which can help him trigger these talismans at a specific time, even when he was far away from it.

But he can only set this timer between twelve hours, which was still enough for him to escape far away! Furthermore, once the timer function was activated, it can't be stopped like heavenly talismans.

Nonetheless, he was confident in destroying all those eighteen formation sources with no danger whatsoever!

Ace carefully place this already active talisman coin as close as the formation soured, which was just a low-grade-2 formation plate deeply hidden in his tree bark.

If he tried to touch this tree bark, he'll instantly trigger a trap, that's why he didn't place the talisman coin on the tree as well. But the formation plate was delicate, and so does the tree.

This tire-3 fire explosion talisman was more than enough to blow both of them into smithereens!