

## Thief 431

### [Eternal Thief](#)

#### Chapter 431: New Scouting Ability of System

... Don't tell me you want me?!"

Ace wasn't swayed by Aliya's captivating act at all. On the contrary, he felt something was not right about her behavior. But he can't put his finger on it, so he decided to focus on his aim.

He coolly said, "I'm not here to joke around. I want fifty grade-3 storage space treasures, or if you can provide me with a hundred grade-5 space treasures instead, it will be even better."

Aliya's eyes shone with ambiguity as she finally dropped the seductive act and asked, "We can arrange fifty low-grade-3 storage space treasures as for any higher, those storage space treasures are quite precious and limited here, so I can't help you with that."

Ace had already expected this, so he wasn't too startled by this, and he was satisfied with the 50 grade-3 storage space treasures.

"No problem. I can go on with that. Here, take a look at the contents of these storage rings and tell me if they're sufficient for our trade." Ace nodded and placed twenty storage rings on the table.

Aliya smiled charmingly before she branded the rings with her soul mark, and her eyelids trembled slightly when she was all those materials and treasures within the rings.

Ace has taken out just the portion of his wealth and these things were completely useless for him, but they were extremely alluring for any power to nurture their younger generation.

Especially, the star rank arrays and formations which no one wanted to sell even if they were useless, but Ace was different he had many of such arrays and formations, and he even had the ocean demon tribe's legacy formations, so he didn't need the lower one.

But this didn't mean he had taken out everything. This could be said only 5% of his accumulated wealth from his thieveries.

"Hehe, these are more than enough for our trade. Do you need anything else or do you want to use our channel to sell some things? We only charge a 20% dealing fee." Aliya said as she took those storage rings.

'What a rip-off,' Ace scoffed inwardly.

He impassively said, "No, thanks, this is it for now. When will I get my goods?"

Aliya pulled a regretful face hearing this and said dejectedly as if Ace's answer hurt her feelings, "It'll take two hours to prepare all the things. In the meantime, ...."

Before she could spout anything, non-ethical Ace stood up and said, "I'll be back in two hours then. I still have things to do. Please send my regards to boss All-Knowing Parrot and tell him I'm eager to meet him."

Without waiting for Aliya's reply, he left.

Aliya mumbled, "Hmph... you're no fun!" before her demeanor completely changed as a bewitched look appeared on her face before she blushed heavily as she remembered her unethical conduct.

She couldn't help but murmur with a resentful expression on her beautiful blushed face, "She used that technique to do shameful things through me... again!"

On the top floor,

All-Knowing Parrot's eyes opened and filled with a dark mist before it faded away. She coldly snorted. "Hmph, that guy was purposely infuriating Aliya after sensing her hostility. If I haven't taken over, she might've given something up.

"But, I have to admit, that guy is too astute. The moment he sensed things going awry, he only talked about business and left quickly, without showing anything. He even remained calm in front of my honey act and Aliya's beauty.

"However, the more special you are, the more I want to control you... Hehe, I'm also looking forward to meeting you. But that day will be the last day of your freedom!" Her eyes turned icy in the end and nefarious.

Ace left the lionheart shop and his next destination was Life Demon Treasure Pagoda.

First, he wanted to buy soul materials and pills according to his quota as a demon earl, and secondly; it was obvious to scout the place to plan for his chain mission.

Before he wanted to buy information from the lionheart shop about life demon association, but after getting the wind that All-Knowing Parrot might be there in person, he decided otherwise.

Because that person knows about his real identity as Sky Stealer, he might suspect something if bought up this information topic. He didn't want someone like the All-Knowing Parrot to know about his plans, or just like the fate point indicated he might screw him over for his own benefits.

After walking for fifteen minutes, he finally reached his destination, which was a towering brown Pagoda with twenty floors, and 'Life Demon' was engraved on the front.

He also noticed another towering building beside it because they were the only architect in this area. Nothing was around 500 meters from them. This second building was the Life Demon Guild, where any life professional can register with the association and get unimaginable benefits.

However, Ace wasn't interested in getting such an identity right now because he didn't want to reveal his unique heavenly rune crafting to the world, or things might get troublesome if he caught someone's attention with vile intentions.

The identity of a fighter was still better for his missions.

Ace moved toward the imposing pagoda. He was already in Feng's disguise because he can't reveal this ability, and Feng's appearance suited his needs right now.

There were two guards at the front gate, and they were astonishingly fourth intermediate stage soul realm demons!

One of them coldly looked at Ace and said, "Please show any proof of identity!"

Ace had already seen the others entering after showing a special identity token, so he didn't flatter and showed his demon earl token, which was also proof of his identity.

Those guards were startled for a moment before they respectfully bowed. "Esteemed Rising Sword Earl, welcome to Life Demon Treasure Pagoda!"

Ace merely nodded before entering the building with a nonchalant expression on his face. He had to maintain his image as Feng, after all.

However, the moment he saw the interior of the first floor he was astonished because it was too damn exaggerating. After all, there were many beautiful displays, and all of them were filled with pills, herbs, weapons, arrays, formations, and even soul pills and herbs weren't an exception.

He had to admit, that this association was deserving the title of the richest organization of eight provinces, and he felt even more motivated to theft this place. It was just the first floor and there were already enough treasures to make him drool. He didn't dare to imagine their upper floors and reserves!

'If I pull this off, I might get tens of millions of thief points!' Ace thought with a burning passion.

However, the system's voice snapped him out of his stupor at this moment,

**[Target related to the chain mission is in scouting range!]**

**[Did the host want to scan the target and create a Treasure Blueprint?]**

**-Requirements:**

- 1. Live Fate Map**
- 2. Thief Point: 100,000**
- 3. Time: 10 Minutes**

**[Proceed/ Cancel]**

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Ace's mind was jolted the moment he saw this familiar yet unfamiliar scouting request.

He asked with uncertainty, "What is this Treasure Blueprint, and why do you need Live Fate Mapping in a scouting scan this time?"

System's answer came as a surprise to him.

**"[A treasure blueprint is like the entire drawn structure of the thievery target. It includes trap details at 100% detail level, as well as the treasury structure and all the locks and restrictions in the target area. It's helped plan the thievery far more precisely and with the minimum risk of failure.]"**

**"[As for the host's second question, after the system was upgraded, the scouting feature was naturally upgraded. But it still wasn't enough to create a Treasure Blueprint.]"**

**"[However, with Eternal Thief Fate Compass ability of Live Mapping, it becomes possible to create a degraded version of Treasure Blueprint.]"**

Ace was naturally elated to hear the first part, but he became doubtful at the ending and asked, "What's the difference between the degraded version and the real?"

**"[In this version of Treasure Blueprint, the host will only get Building Structure, Traps Locations, and Treasure Locations. The information such as trap levels, array levels, formation levels, and lock levels will depend on the Live Fate Mapping.]"**

**"[As the host already knew, the Eternal Thief Fate Compass can only map the area according to its grade, which is directly related to the host's cultivation. Like right now, the host will only get information about grade-3 or lower level restrictions, not higher in the treasure blueprint.]"**

**"[Those details will be included in verbal scouting report like before. Unless the host could upgrade the system and unlock the real Treasure Blueprint function, the host has to do with this version right now.]"**

Ace was startled hearing this but, in the end, he also accepted it since this ability wasn't supposed to be unlocked right now and this happened only because he got the eternal fate live compass.

Besides, the system was kind enough to give this option to him as well, so he had nothing to complain about.

He commanded without even considering it anymore, "Start it!"

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**Chapter 432: Life Demon Treasure Pagoda**

"Start it!"

=====

**[Treasure Blueprint Scanning has been started!]**

**[Time: 09:59]**

**[Warning: Please don't leave the target range before the scanning was done!]**

**[Thief Point(s): 13,685,400]**

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At this moment, a demoness in alchemist robes of the association with three silver stars on her shoulder approached him with a smile on her face. But when she saw Feng dazing off, her smile became more like contempt than a courteous smile.

She thought with a sly glint, 'Another one of those rich bumpkins. Let's see if I can use him to accomplish my sales quota!'

"Dear customer, how may I help you?" She asked with a cheerful expression.

Ace finally took notice of this above-average yellowish demoness, and he clearly felt her hidden, contemptuous emotions.

However, he also saw the association alchemist's robes, so he didn't want to cause any trouble for himself. He knew the life demon association was infamous for their poor attitude and antics.

Only someone with a superior status can get their attention.

Feng smiled ambiguously and said, "I heard the demon with noble titles can purchase soul pills annually? I'm here for that purpose."

The alchemist was startled when she heard 'soul pills' and her smile suddenly became stiff. 'Could he be a titled demon?'

She said with uncertainty, "Yes, it's true. But you have to show proof of your title identity to the floor manager."

Ace nodded and asked, "Then where can I find the floor manager?"

She replied with slightly hesitant, "Can I know your demon title first and some proof? I can't just disturb the floor manager with empty words. I hope the esteemed guest would understand."

'She lies?' Ace's eyes narrowed. 'Could it be she still wanted to pull some tricks despite knowing my identity, or she simply didn't believe it? Well, I have time to waste...'

Feng suddenly smile amiably and nodded, "Oh, I'm a titled Rising Sword Earl, here's my proof of identification."

'Rising Sword Earl... where did I hear this title before...' She suddenly felt something amiss with this special title, and she also looked at the golden triangular token with Earl on it in Feng's hand.

However, before she could remember where she heard this title, a startling cry sounded from behind.

"Rising Sword Earl? Can sir be Feng Demon Sword?"

Ace looked toward the owner of this voice and saw another demoness in alchemy robes, but she had 7 silver stars on her shoulder and she was quite beautiful to boot.

Ace merely smiled and nodded, "I'm indeed Feng Demon Sword. I never thought young miss to know of me."

The seven-star alchemist couldn't help but look at the other three-star alchemist in bewilderment, and when she saw her confused expression, she couldn't help but reprimanded her sternly.

"Are you a retard? Do you think someone would dare to impersonate himself as a noble demon? And who told you to check their identification? Go now, I'll be reporting this to the floor manager!"

The three-star alchemist's face turned ashen. She knew she had messed up this time and picked up the wrong target.

Although, this seven-star alchemist's voice was very low because she didn't want to cause a scene and tarnish the association's reputation. Since she had also done these things, though, her anger was genuine.

Even she knew who to take advantage of or who to befriend, and any demon with a noble title was worth befriending, especially a genius like Feng!

She quickly looked at Feng and said apologetically, "Please forgive her. She's new here, so she must've forgotten the rules. Please follow me. I'll take you to Floor Manager."

'Well, that's ended quicker than I thought,' Ace thought.

But he naturally didn't show anything and only smiled, "Of course, don't worry, I'm as well not familiar with any rules here, so please forget it."

"Why aren't you thanking sir, Earl?" she shot a vicious glare at the ashen face demoness.

"T-thank you..." She lowered her head in mortification.

"Please follow me."

She smiled and led Feng toward the west corner of the first floor, where a beautiful pattern door was located.

Ace thought they would move to the upper floors, but he was wrong. He couldn't help but asked curiously, "What about the upper floors?"

The alchemist replied with a smile, "Sir Earl, the life treasure demon pagoda is divided into twenty treasure floors, first five floors are for alchemy, the sixth to tenth floors are for weapons, and the eleventh to the fifteenth floor are for runic weapons, while the last five are for the rune arrays, rune formations, talismans, ... and other stuff related to rune crafting.

"Each floor is managed by a floor manager. As for the first floor, we sell all the medicinal herbs and pills from rank to 1-star to 9-star here, soul pills included.

"But we're only allowed to sell them to noble title demons like you or the chief of a noble tribe. Other demons without a title or just the member of a title clan can only buy marital pills and materials."

Ace asked, "Oh, do you mean without any title, soul materials and pills can't be bought?"

She merely smiled ambiguously and said, "Well, alchemists also have personal clients. But soul alchemists are extremely rare, and so does the materials. That's why the resources are thoroughly controlled. But I was all done, so others with power won't waste them on useless chad, and only worthy demons can buy them."

"Hah, I got the point. Then how about the runic weapons, arrays, formations, and talismans? Can I purchase them?" Feng smiled meaningfully.

However, the alchemist merely smiled and politely answered, "You have to ask the floor master about this. I already spoke out of my boundaries."

Ace didn't make things hard on her, since he already got the vague idea about what was the purpose of controlling the soul-type treasures so tightly.

He could only think that there were just too rare, or that the life demon association didn't want any soul cultivator appearing or growing out of their control.

Because, if consider it, this organization probably had the greatest number of soul cultivation techniques and skills that can nurture soul alchemists and rune crafters.

However, Ace still didn't understand why this association hold such power in its hand and why it was allowed to develop by the royal zone. All those questions have only one answer, and it was the royal zone!

The seven-star alchemist led Ace to a spacious room and left to find the floor master.

He didn't have to wait long before a tall, scholarly demon in alchemist robes entered the room, and he was a low-grade-1 alchemist at that.

Ace got a crafty vibe from this refine pale orange demon who seemed to be in his early thirties.

The floor master's eyes shone as he looked at Feng's plain demeanor and said, while performing an ethical salute, "I'm honored to have the number one genius of our sword domain, Rising Sword Earl, here. Please accept this old fellow's apologies for one of my floor attendant's behavior. I'm extremely ashamed to hear it from Tily!"

Ace felt this demon was somewhat overdramatic, but he still politely said while performing the royal salute, "I have already forgotten about it. Please don't embarrass me, senior."

"Bring Rose Ale for your esteemed guest!" He ordered Tily, and she quickly left.

"There really wasn't any need for this." Said Feng.

"I insist." The floor manager stubbornly refused. "I also heard you wanted to use your annual quota of soul pills?"

Feng nodded. "Yes, when I received the title, I heard I can buy soul pills from here."

The floor manager smiled and said, "Of course, it's our solemn duty to promote young demons like young earl here. That's why we gave a special quota."

"Then can I ask what is the extent of my purchase limit? As I heard, I can only purchase 6-star to 9-star soul pills and herbs, but in limited quantity? Can this limit apply to martial pills and runic materials as well?" Ace asked without holding back.

The floor manager replied ambiguously, "The purchase limit is only for soul materials. As for other pills and materials, as long as you can pay for them, you buy as many as you like, but only 1-star to 9-star materials.

"The grade materials are very precious, and we can only sell pills, not herbs, and they also have purchase limits for everyone.

"Lastly, the runic materials are the most precious, especially the arrays, formations, and talismans that are made purely with soul materials, so we only sell grade runic treasures to duke tribes or demon dukes, and of course demon king tribes.

"The demons with individual demon titles or tribes lower than duke title can only get 1-star to 9-star runic treasures, with no exception!"

Ace couldn't help but felt this distribution scheme was also set deliberately, so the demons with lower status didn't have many means to defeat duke title tribes and with this, the demon dukes can also remain supreme!

### Eternal Thief

#### **Chapter 433: Floor Manager's Request**

Tily was already back with a square glass bottle filled with translucent red liquid and two wine glasses on a tray, and she poured the Rose Ale for both the Floor Manager and Ace.

The Floor Manager picked up the wineglass and said, "Please, this is one of the finest ale in my collection. Have a taste."

Ace naturally didn't reject such a request and accepted it. He sipped the blood color ale and his pupils dilated. He felt like he just tasted boiling honey before the sensation turned icy and all kinds of flavors spread in his mouth.

He couldn't help but praise, "Very good!"

Ace was also an alcohol maniac, and he had an extensive collection of stolen alcohol, but he had to admit this rose ale was probably the best alcohol he tasted so far.

The Floor Manager smiled with a hint of satisfaction. "Why, of course, this rose ale is very precious, and only 1000 bottles were made each year, and we have to fight tooth and nail for just one."

"Can I bid for one next time?" Ace couldn't help but wonder out loud.

The Floor Manager chuckled, "Heh, if you join our association, then why not?"

Feng smile bitterly and said, "I'm afraid my mind is only good for the sword, not for such a complicated profession like alchemy."

"It's a pity, then, and I also admire your resolution to walk on your path without being swayed by momentarily benefits." Floor Manager praise.

"This junior is flatter." Feng politely raised his wineglass.

However, Ace didn't let his guard down because he could sense this Floor Manager wanted something from the moment he heard his identity and that was why he offered him such precious alcohol and left a good impression on Feng.

And just as he thought, a sly glint flashed past the Floor Manager's eyes when he saw Feng was optimistic about his treatment.



He inquired plainly, "So, I heard sir Earl has earned the first rank in the first phase of the blade domain training program?"

Feng puckered his lips. "Yes, I was merely lucky."

The Floor Manager smiled. "How could such an achievement be just by luck? You're currently the most dazzling star of our domain. Please accept my toast."

Ace naturally didn't reject and play along, and wait for it to come.

The Floor Manager suddenly said, "Sir Feng, I wonder if you're interested in taking a personal request from me?"

Feng was startled before he said regretfully, "I'm afraid I can't afford to waste time, and I have to focus on the training program. Please forgive me."

The Floor Manager quickly replied as if he had already expected this kind of response, "Please hear me out first. I'm sure this request won't hinder your training in any way."

"Oh, if that's the case, then please do tell."

"It's very simple. I heard that the number one contestant will have the access to the most precious reward list and there's something I want from that list, and only you can get it. As for the reward points you'll spend, I'll compensate you with grade-3 Qi stones and double the amount at that. What do you think?" The Floor Manager finally revealed his intentions.

'How did he know this kind of information? And what is the thing he wanted that can only appear in first rank participants' reward list?' Ace suddenly felt this Floor Manager wasn't as simple as he seemed and might have many high-level connections.

Furthermore, he wasn't taking advantage of Feng at all and even giving away double the value of the item he wanted. So, it was a fair deal that won't take any effort on his part.

"If this just involved the purchase of an item, then I don't mind." Feng quickly agreed.

The Floor Manager merely smiled, but the ecstasy in his eyes was clear, which made Ace even more curious about what this guy wanted.

He said, "It would be great, you just have to purchase this item." He handed Ace a portrait.

Ace curiously looked at the portrait and saw a white stone with black dots.

Although it looked somewhat precious, no matter from which angle he looked, it was just a stone, and it wasn't even qualified to enter the first participant's reward list. Moreover, if this thing was so precious, then the blade domain won't put it on the reward list at all.

'Nonetheless, I just have to see myself,' Ace thought as he stored away the portrait.

"It's a deal, then." Feng smiled in acknowledgment.

Floor Manager grinned with a hint of elation, "Now to the official business, you're supposed to get A Hundred Soul Recovery pills and A Hundred Soul Calming Pills from rank 6-star to 9-star and ten units of

soul herbs from each pill. But using my authority as the floor manager, I'll make them 150 pills and 15 units of peak rank. What do you think?"

Feng's eyes lit up and quickly utter with gratitude, "Please accept my thanks!"

"There's no need. Since we're close now, this is the last thing I can do for you." The Floor Manager chuckled in a good mood.

"So, how much do I need to pay?" Feng asked.

"It's on the house. Consider it my deposit for my request. Tily retrieved the pills and materials." The Floor Manager ordered.

"This..." Feng seemed hesitant.

"Just take it as my token of sincerity." The Floor Manager waved his hand coolly.

"Then you have my thanks." Feng bowed slightly.

Afterward, they chat for a while before Tily came with the soul pills and soul materials and handed them over to Feng.

The Floor Manager asked if he wanted other things, but Feng politely rejected and left after thanking him and promising to complete his task.

Now only Floor Manager and Tily were in the room.

Tily said with a hint of elation, "Master, I never thought it would be this easy to achieve our aim."

The Floor Manager chuckled coldly, "Well, who would've thought the guy I was going to pay a personal visit will come on his own at my doorsteps? Furthermore, he's nothing like rumor described him to be, and easy to persuade."

Tily nodded with a cold smirk, "Yes, he was so obedient, like a dog. In the end, he was just like the others who lick our feet for benefits."

"That's only natural. Now we just have to wait before this idiot can get that thing out of the blade tribe's treasury. Who would've thought those morons didn't know the value of that item and kept it locked away all these years and now even putting it on a mere reward list?"

"If not for master's connection and getting the hands on the reward lists, I could never know such a thing was in the blade domain treasury all these years..." The Floor Manager lamented.

Tily asked curiously, "Master, just what is that stone? Furthermore, those reward lists are also obtained by others. What if someone else tries to snatch that item?"

The Floor Manager smiled mysteriously, "My dear disciple, you'll see once he brings it here. You just need to know with 'it' I can probably enter the rank of 4th-grade alchemist! Besides, no one knows what that item is except me!"

Ace exit the life demon treasure pagoda while still thinking about his strange encounter with this mysterious Floor Manager.

'What if I hadn't come to this place at all? Could it be that the guy was planning to approach me from the start and I just walk right into his hands? Heh, but it's not easy to take advantage of me.' Ace smiled thievishly.

System voice also rang at this moment.

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**[Treasure Blueprint Scanning has been completed!]**

**[Treasure Blueprint has been delivered into the thief's space]**

**[Warning: Treasure Blueprint will disappear after the mission completion or when the time of the mission ended.]**

**[Target's Scan Report] (Only contain informant about restrictions above 3rd Grade)**

**-Restriction(s):**

**1. Ghost Monitor Formation (Grade-4)**

**Range: Entire Target**

**2. Alarm Array (Grade-4)**

**Range: Entire Target**

**3. Sense Locks (Grade-5)**

**Number: 20**

**4. Attack Array (Grade-4)**

**Range: Entire Target**

**5. Sense & Entrapment Lock (Grade5)**

**Number: 1**

**6. ...**

**...**

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Ace was shocked to see the number of high-level traps, and each one of them was enough to give him a massive headache. Furthermore, those fifth-grade locks weren't something he could dispel with his current level!

Ace couldn't help but complain, "Just why did you always put me in a quandary?"

He sighed helplessly when no answer came, and he put his focus on this treasure blueprint inside his thief's space.

He saw it was a blue color scroll, but he didn't take it out since he was still outside and decided to examine it when he went back, and who knows he might find a way to complete his mission which seemed nothing but impossible right now.

At this moment, Ace suddenly became alert. 'So, they do come, huh? But how did they know I was here so quickly? Well, I still have some time to waste. Let's collect some memories in the meantime...'

Ace coldly smirked as he walked like he noticed nothing. But his soul probe was already activated!

## [Eternal Thief](#)

### **Chapter 434: Updating Living Thief's Space**

It was already dark when Ace came back to his room with a satisfied smirk on his face.

After he left the life demon treasure pagoda, he led the group by the nose that was following him and when the time came to pick up his things from the lionheart shop, he easily got rid of them.

When he appeared to get his goods, Aliya didn't show up this time and someone else delivered him the storage ring. But Ace could 'see' in the live mapping that All-Knowing Parrot was still there, and Aliya was probably beside him as well.

As for why it took him this much time to get back; it was because he stopped by the royal demon council in the inner blade domain to subsume their library. Although he didn't get the chance to enter the restricted library, he still got interesting knowledge.

Ace also remained vigilant because in live mapping he saw a black fate point in the royal demon council area, and the black color indicated someone or something that was absolutely deadly for him.

Although the elders there treat him warmly, he dared not to try anything and quickly left after scanning through the books in the non-restricted library.

Furthermore, that library also had mortal and some lower earth level skills and techniques, which were a boon for him. He naturally didn't let those free skills and techniques go.

After spending six hours there, he left and came back, but when he was heading back, he again felt being followed. This time, he did nothing and let them follow him.

Flora and Dolly were naturally waiting for him when he got back.

One of the reasons for Ace going into the royal demon council library was also these two sisters. He wanted to break the oaths they took, and he knew they can't just override an oath since it won't work like slave contracts and oaths can be taken multiple times while slave marks were not.

Ace looked at them and coolly said, "If you two aren't bound by your oaths, I would've already sent you out secretly already, and you don't have to suffer any attacks or schemes because of me. Well, whatever, I already found the way to free you two. All I have to do is to find an Oath Breaker Talisman."

Flora and Dolly looked down with wistful expressions on their faces. Although they wanted to follow Ace, they knew after the previous incident that they will only drag him down or even harm him if they stayed by him. He had already saved them two times.

So, they already accepted the fact that they have to part ways eventually and their time was limited with him. They could only hate themselves for being too weak and impuissant.

Dolly said while she clinched the hem of her blue dress, "S-sorry to trouble you."

Ace could feel their emotions, but he couldn't do anything, nor he was willing to accept them into the Thief House because of the limited spots, and he had already other plans for those reaming spots.

He didn't know when he'll get more spots in the Thief House after it was filled, but he can't take risks just because he pitied them. All he can do was to give them his blessing and let them live a safe and happy life.

Ace sighed and said, "I'm going to cultivate." And he left those two sullen sisters.

Flora couldn't help but mumble, "Is there really no other way?!"

Dolly sighed helplessly as she hugged her sister. "We're just born ignoble, and all we can do is accept our fates. At least, he didn't want to get rid of us by killing us..."

Streams of tears flow from their eyes as they remain standing there, hugging each other for a long time.

Ace sighed again when he entered the cultivation chamber. He heard their sobbing sounds and couldn't help but mutter, "If I had more spots, maybe..."

He asked with no high hope, "Hey system, if the thief house gets full, when did I get more open spots?"

Surprisingly, the system answered this time.

**"[After a Houseful, the host can upgrade it when all the existing members reached 'Veteran Member Rank' and complete the Thief House Upgrade Mission.]"**

Ace frowned, 'Even Noa is only an old member right now and to upgrade their house ranks she needed to theft, which will only spell trouble right now. Even if I give Dolly and Flora the last two positions, and somehow they all reached the veteran member ranks, the mission will not be simple...'

In the end, Ace shook his head bitterly and gave up, since he can't decide recklessly and destroy his entire scheme based on Thief House.

'Don't blame me, I just don't have any other choice...!' Ace quickly kept his calm.

Ace suddenly commanded, "System, open the thief's space upgrade scheme."

The system instantly obliged,

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**[Living Thief's Space Update Scheme]**

**1. 300 Cubic-Meter Space + 1 Humanoid Storage Capacity**

**Condition(s): 100 Grade-3 Storage Space treasures + 10 Million Thief Points**

**2. 500 Cubic-Meter Space + 2 Humanoid Storage Capacity**

**Condition(s): 100 Grade-5 Storage Space treasures + 20 Million Thief Points**

**3. 1,000 Cubic-Meter Space + 5 Humanoid Storage Capacity**

**Condition(s): 100 Grade-8 Storage Space treasures + 50 Million Thief Points**

**4. 3X-Time Acceleration Function**

**Condition(s): 1 Grade-9 Storage Space Treasure + 1 Grade-9 Time Treasure + 100 Million Thief Points**

**[The conditions for the 300 Cubic-Meter Space + 1 Humanoid Storage Capacity update scheme have been met!]**

**[Do you want to update the Living Thief's Space?]**

**[Proceed/Not Now]**

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Ace's lips curved upward. He was collecting the grade-3 storage rings for this exact reason. Although he didn't need to upgrade this storage space since he had millions of storage rings to go around, he wanted the extra humanoid space that will unlock with it.

This will give him a huge advantage to carry a person around with him like Noa won't have to hide far away from him next time, and his living thief space was also advantageous for the creature of darkness, so Noa might also get some unexpected advantage while staying there. But it remained to be seen since she wasn't here.

Another main purpose he wanted to upgrade the living thief's space was the black cocoon with red runic lines in the center of his thief's space.

The space had already been cramped and Eva was now surrounded by all kinds of treasures, so he just wanted to increase the space before she was buried under treasures.

"Proceed!" Ace commanded without hesitation, with a gentle smile on his face when he looked at the cocoon with blinking, red, runic lines as if they were breathing.

The hundred storage rings from his space vanished, and ten million thief points from his status bar.

Suddenly the living thief space trembled slightly before the entire space started to expand at a fast rate.

Furthermore, Ace noticed the ceiling of the thief's space started to fill with a dark mist like inky clouds, but nothing happened afterward, and that dark mist remain static there without moving or fading away.

System's voice rang at this moment.

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**[Living Thief's Space has been updated!]**

**[Thief Point(s): 3,685,400]**

**[Living Thief's Space States]**

**-Storage Space Capacity: 300 Cubic-Meter Living Space**

**-Living Space Capacity:**

**1. 2 Humanoids (Humans, Demons, Hunters, etc.)**

**2. 20,000 None-Humanoid (Beasts, Herbs, Plants, Natural Treasures, etc.)**

=====

Besides that mysterious dark mist on the ceiling and an extra two hundred cubic meters of space, nothing changed and Ace quickly moved all the treasures to the edges, clearing the area around Eva.

However, he suddenly noticed something strange, he had some beast eggs in his thief's space for some time, and he never tried to hatch them since they were the eggs of low-level beasts anyway, nor he was interested in hatching them after coming to this continent.

Nonetheless, he noticed even after moving those eggs to the space edges they would mysteriously appear in the center where Eva's cocoon was and the mysterious page 09 was also the same.

"System, could it be all the living things will remain in the center?" Ace questioned.

**"[Yes, anything with life Qi will appear around the center from now on, and they keep stacking up from the center to outward, while the host can put none living things anywhere.]"**

"If that's the case, then move everything into storage rings and then separate those storage rings according to the ranks of things. Move storage rings with pills and herbs to the east edge. Weapons and runic weapons to the south edge. Runic treasures to the west and Qi Stones to the north corner. As for the empty storage rings, pile them up around Eva's cocoon like a wall. I want nothing near her..."

Ace quickly cleaned up the storage space with the system's help and rearranged all the thief's space.

After he was done, almost all the space looked empty, and only neatly arranged storage rings could be seen on four corners.

In the center, Eva's cocoon was also separated from the other living things with a thick empty storage rings wall!

## **Eternal Thief**

### **Chapter 435: Banquet at Blade Demon Castle**

"Are you sure the slave contract mediums were destroyed?" A wrinkled face, burly demon with blackish skin questioned while knitting his brows tightly.

Another blackish demon who somewhat resembled the old demon answered grimly, "Yes father, when those two maids met with the target, it happened around that time. It seemed someone has intervened, and I'm afraid they're from the king clan."

The old demon's eyes narrowed with a hint of trepidation. He said, "It doesn't matter. Your face was hidden, so those girls didn't know who it was who enslave them. But we have already instructed them to bring that rascal into our territory.

"So, we still have to remain cautious and if someone from the king clan appeared, tell them we have nothing to do with this and have your men withdraw from that brat surveillance.

"With this, it would appear we have already acknowledged the king's decree and give up on that brat. Let other clans take the blame if another happened. Also, kill everyone who knows about this plan as well, leave none alive."

The other demon seemed hesitant before he said with killing intent, "But father, then what about Bren sacrifice? We still didn't know who killed him! If we miss this..."

"Stop!" The old demon sternly looked at his son and said, "I'm also heartbroken because of my grandson's death as well. Do you think I want to give up on this once-in-a-lifetime chance to become a king clan? But if our clan gets destroyed before we achieve anything, what's the point of all this, then?"

The other demon lowered his head while clenching his teeth in frustration and helplessness.

The old demon sighed as his old brown eyes turned melancholic, "Sigh... don't worry if this door gets shut, this didn't mean others were close as well. Have Miya approach the boy at the upcoming banquet. Since the hard approach didn't work, let's use the soft approach.

"I'm pretty sure the second phase will be unique for the top ten thousand, and the King will make his move to make sure his clan passed the demon gate trial. No matter what, we have to kill the boy before the third phase and get his heart and blood!"

The other demon's eyes suddenly brighten with understanding as he quickly nodded. "I'll quickly arrange this. I don't believe that Feng brat can resist our clan's number one beauty charm!"

Today, the area vicinity of Blade Demon Castle was bustling with activities.

Many luxurious carriages with different emblems were entering the blade demon castle's huge opened gates, which weren't closed today.

The demons donned in silver armors with a blade emblem on their chest were inspecting the invitations and scanning the guests with a powerful formation on the gates before letting the carriages enter.

These silver armor demons were the blade knights of the blade domain.

After the checkpoint, these carriages head straight toward a beautiful white pavilion, that was a few kilometers away from the blade castle.

All those carriages stopped at the main entrance before the guests entered the white pavilion.

Furthermore, all these guests were young demons with extraordinary bearing.

They were naturally the ten thousand top contestants of the first phase, and they were all here to attend this banquet where Blade Demon King will appear soon.

As for the others who didn't make it to the top ten thousand, they were all currently receiving the assessment for the second phase in another place.

At this moment, a carriage with a bronze sword emblem stopped at the entrance, and everyone looked at the newcomer with a curious gaze.



The door opened, and a bronze skin demon disembark the carriage. He wore full black attire with a silver lining. Although he looked extremely plain, his demeanor was extraordinary, as his golden eyes were like the sun.

Many exclaimed when they saw the unique features of this demon.

"That Feng Demon Sword, the number genius of blade domain!"

"Rising Sword Earl!"

"He's the biggest dark horse in this competition!"

This kind of whispering was sounded from all directions.

Feng ignored those busybodies and walk arrogantly inside the venue. His eyes were icy, and he ignored anyone who approached him, nor did he greet anyone or return the greeting.

Many demons' expressions became unkind seeing Feng's haughty attitude, but they knew this guy wasn't someone they could offend.

Right now, there was hardly anyone who didn't know who Feng was or didn't see his portrait.

Not only did he receive the full protection of Blade Demon King after the first phase, but he was also a noble demon of the royal demon council and for days rumors were flying around that someone from the council with a very high status also wanted to take him as his disciple.

Although no one knows where these rumors were coming from, many become even more afraid of offending Feng because of this.

Ace naturally liked this kind of treatment, although he deliberately took the first position. He didn't like those flies buzzing around him. That was why he kept Feng's arrogant face all the time, so no one approach him.

When he entered the white pavilion, he was startled for a moment, when he saw how grand this place was, there were many chairs neatly arranged in rows.

Right behind these chairs were numbers written, starting from 10,000.

'It seemed they already disclosed the numbers to them in the invitation like me and according to my number...' Ace's eyes wander around the very front where he could see large golden chairs completely different from the rest and smile wryly.

Helpless, he approached the throne-like golden chair, which had '1' engraved on the back of it. This chair was far more imposing than the others and right in the center and ahead of the others.

Just a few meters away from his position was a towering platform, and he could guess who was going to appear on it shortly.

Right at this moment, a warm, optimistic voice sounded from the number '2' chair, "Haha, look who has decided to grace us with his presence."

Ace couldn't help but smirked, "I'm also surprised of all the people you took the number two."

He reached the front of his seat and saw Thomas beaming at him from his chair a few feet away from his.

"Heh, if someone hasn't found some kind of beast den, I would've taken the first phase." Thomas snorted jokingly before he bear-hug Feng.

"My friend, luck is also part of one's strength." Feng smiled and returned Thomas's warm greeting.

They sat down and started to chat happily with each other, since there were still many participants missing, especially from the top 10.

Besides Feng and Thomas, there were only two others here and Ace knew both of them while they were only sneakily looking at him.

One of them was rank nine Anton, who he helped kill Bren, while the other was his 'golden star' Alora, rank 10.

She was still shining in golden color, and he could tell she had grown much stronger than the last time he saw her, but she didn't approach him since she did not know it was Ace who save her that day and even left the beast core for her to achieve the final breakthrough in her secret skill.

Thereupon, Peter also appeared in golden attire suitable for a prince accompany by gorgeous finance Brenna who snorted seeing Feng sitting on the first seat while Peter has to sit beside him on the Third Seat.

Peter smiled wryly, seeing Brenna's attitude, and could only apologize on her behalf, which Feng didn't take seriously at all.

The atmosphere became somewhat heavy when Jaxx appeared. He has been shunned to the fourth place because of Thomas's rampage last time, and each of them stared at each other with murderous intent.

Jaxx even threw some vicious gaze at Feng, but he could only gnash his teeth when he saw Feng completely take him like a wind.

Ace also notice one thing: that the demons from wild tribes didn't get along with the mainland tribes and some even argued with each other about who was better and worse and fights nearly break out.

But one thing was evident, the wild tribes have the most numbers of participants in the top ten thousand and those mainland demons can't retort about this fact, which made them sulk to no end.

When all the participants were present in the white pavilion, shortly after, they saw blade knights marching inside, followed by nine knight commanders donned in golden armors and a demon donned in black armor.

He was the first blade envoy White Flame who was leading this small knight parade toward the main stage.

Those blade knights surrounded the stage while the knight commanders, including White Fire, took the stage, but they only stay static in a line as if they were waiting for someone.

Everyone held their breath because they knew only one person can make White Fire stand like this.

Which also means... the Demon King was coming!

### Eternal Thief

#### **Chapter 436: Phase Two**

White Fire wore a solemn expression on his face as he announced, "The ruler of Mighty Blade Province, and the strongest blade cultivator under the golden sky, His Majesty, the Mighty Blade Demon King, has arrived. Kneel before your King!"

All the knights, including White Fire, fell on their right knees with a thunderous sound.

The youths were also greatly alarmed, and they stood up from their seats and do as the knights did. This was the courtesy any Demon King deserved, especially the Blade Demon King, who was the third most powerful demon king of eight provinces!

At the very front row, Feng included the other top ten does the same.

Thereupon, powerful footsteps sounded from the door and an imposing sensation creep up everyone's heart.

The Blade Demon wore golden king robes while a golden crown, which looked like it was made of small swords, was resting on his head. He had a mild smile on his face as he was slowly toward the platform.

Jerome and Maddux were following right behind the Blade Demon King with their head lower, in awe.

The Blade Demon King took the stage as his sharp eyes flashed past the entire ten thousand youths kneeling before him.

Ace's heart palpitated all of a sudden when he felt an imposing martial sense fall on him for a moment, and he also noticed one more startling thing, 'This soul signature, it from that day!'

Ace quickly remembered the strange encounter he had before he entered the shadow mountain range that day. He simply thought he imagined that the soul signature vanished suddenly.

But now that Blade Demon King released his martial sense for a few moments, he again felt that powerful soul signature, and it seemed it was the Blade Demon King himself that day.

'So, this is the power of a manifestation realm expert? Too terrifying!' Ace mused with a slightly grim expression because he could tell the soul realm experts were like ants in front of these manifestation realm experts.

Blade Demon King's eyes stayed on Feng for a fleeting moment as a peculiar glint flashed past his eyes before he spoke in his thunderous voice, "Rise!"

Everyone quickly stood up as they looked at the towering Demon King with reverence and awe in their eyes.

Blade Demon King solemnly spoke, "First, I want to say, congratulation on making up to this point after confronting the unprecedented situation in the first phase!"

No one can make a sound, but most of their eyes were filled with pride and ecstasy to get the Demon King's praise.

Blade Demon King continued, "But don't celebrate too soon. It was only the first phase, but millions of lives were lost, and I don't know how much more will sacrifice.

"However, we demons live for battle and died in battle. We never cower in front of a challenge like our ancestors and never showed our back to our enemies. I want to forge you all into true battle demons who know how to fight and crush their enemies in any kind of situation.

"That's why in the second phase, you all follow one of the blade knight commanders here and complete a life and death mission within five months. These blade knight commanders will only instruct you, but not save you if you were to face death!"

The pavilion's atmosphere turned gloomy after hearing about the second phase.

Blade Demon King remained nonchalant and continued, "You all have access to the reward lists, so use them wisely to increase your battle sense. Don't waste those reward points wantonly, or you might regret it.

"After this banquet, you'll all receive envelopes with the name of your instructor knight commander, and you'll be directly reporting to them."

Then his eyes fell on the very front, where the top hundred participants were calmly listening.

Blade Demon King said, "You all took the top hundred spots and must be very proud of yourselves, and you should be because you are the most talented hundred demons of my domain.

"That's why rank 100 to 11 will get extra 5,000 Reward Points and access to the special reward list. While rank 4 to 10 will get 10,000 Reward Points and a special reward list for them."

Then his eyes landed on three youths at the very front: Feng, Thomas, and Peter. He smiled coldly, which made the three shrug, especially Peter, who knows his father the best. This smile spells a certain disaster!

He said, "The ranks 2 and 3 will be given 15,000 Reward Points and a reward list for only two of you. As for Rank 1, who is the most promising youth of the domain's current generation, he'll get 20,000 Reward Points and the reward list with most precious items."

Everyone exclaimed and looked at the top hundred participants, especially Feng, who had a special reward list for his own and no one can get anything from it.

However, Blade Demon King's next words sent the top hundred from the sky to the pit, "I know you lot are happy because you get many benefits and consider yourself special, but this also means you have to perform a special task as well.

"You'll all get ten times stronger missions from others here and the top ten will have to complete two missions, while the top three will also have to complete a special and most difficult assignment from the others.

"As their ranking, it's not permanent. They're all yours to take. Since they're getting arduous tasks, it doesn't mean they have the right to keep their prominent positions. They had already got the corresponding rewards and benefits for their aforementioned performance.

"As long as anyone can perform better than any of them, even the number 1 position is open for any to snatch, and so does your top ten thousand!"

The top hundred participants' expressions were somewhat ugly now because this will massively pressure them to keep their position, while those lower than the top hundred looked at everyone in the front with burning gazes as if they were their prey. Especially the bronze skin demon at the very front!

But this didn't mean their positions were safe as well, since those who aren't present here have gotten easier tasks than them, just like the top hundred.

That's made this competition even fiercer.

Blade Demon King ended his speech while saying, "I'm hoping that the next time we meet, there won't be many unfamiliar faces here. Good luck and enjoy the banquet!"

Thomas sighed and lamented, "Brother Feng, it seemed we're screwed!"

Feng chuckled, "Talk about yourself. But it seemed we're going to team up for this task."

Peter grimly chimed in, "I agreed. My royal father can do something like this, but I'm afraid it won't be pretty for any of us."

At this moment, Jerome approached them with an elderly smile on his face.

He said while scanning through the top ten, "Everyone from the top ten, please follow me."

Ace's eyes narrowed when he sensed this audience might not be over yet.

They all didn't dare to neglect Jerome because he came with the Demon King, so they quickly followed behind him and left the white pavilion in everyone's envious gazes, and enter another spacious hall a few meters away from the white pavilions.

They were all startled when they saw Demon King was present and sat at a large table filled with different kinds of luscious dishes and drinks.

Knight commanders were also present on the right side of this long table.

Blade Demon King coolly said, "Take a seat everyone, no need to stand on ceremony. This is special meat prepared for the top ten."

Everyone snapped out of their stupor and bowed before they took their seats.

The meal was extremely scrumptious. Even Ace felt he should kidnap the castle's chef and have him as a personal chef, while the wine was also very appealing.

After the meal was over, they thought they would be excused, but to their surprise, Blade Demon King had another surprise in store for them.

He said with a smile, "I'm sure you all like your meal. Now I would allocate you your task for phase two."

Everyone stiffed hearing this, and they couldn't help but look at Blade Demon King with appalling expressions. It was just like letting the lamb eat before slaughtering it.

He completely ignored their expression and coolly stated, "Jerome, give it to them."

Jerome bowed slightly before he distributed gold envelopes from rank tenth to rank fourth.

Blade Demon King said, "I advise you all to open it alone, now you may leave."

Now only the top three, Maddux, Jerome, and knights, remained in this hall.

Blade Demon King looked at Feng and said with a smile, "Brat, we finally met."

Ace felt like he was stared at by a tiger, and he didn't dare to show any kind of mistake in his behavior, he respectfully stood up and performed a royal salute, "It's my honor to meet with, his majesty, the Might Blade Demon King!"

### [Eternal Thief](#)

#### **Chapter 437: Demon King's Intentions**

Blade Demon King looked at Feng and said with a smile, "Brat, we finally met."

Ace felt like a tiger staring at him, and he didn't dare to show any kind of mistake in his behavior, he respectfully stood up and performed a royal salute, "It's my honor to meet with His Royal Majesty, the Might Blade Demon King!"

Blade Demon King chuckled, "Just relax, there's no one around, you can talk willingly."

Feng respectfully said, "Thank you for this favor, Your Majesty."

Blade Demon King coolly asked, but there was a subtle glint in his eyes. "So, Feng, from your battle record, it seemed you only hunt demonic beasts in the fourth grade and most of them were at the intermediate stage. You didn't kill any contestants, but you killed many mist domain participants. Can you tell us why?"

Thomas and Peter's eyes widen slightly when they heard this, although they know about Feng's abnormal rise in the ranking, and it was absurd, they never thought his battle record was this awestruck.

They both know how difficult it was to hunt an intermediate fourth-grade demonic beast with their current cultivation level.

'What did he want?' Ace felt untoward, but he knew there wasn't any point in hiding Feng's strength, and the Demon King didn't show any ill intentions toward him.

He respectfully replied, "I have indeed done this, and the reason for it was simple: only intermediate demonic beasts can force me to use my strength. As for why I didn't kill anyone for their kill points because there wasn't any need for it all."

Blade Demon King narrowed his eyes when he heard Feng's respectful yet cocky reply. But he didn't find any flaws in his words.

White Fire and other knight commanders' eyes narrowed, hearing Feng's talking in such a tone in front of Demon King.

Thomas smiled wryly at Feng's guts, and Peter glared at Feng pointedly.

Blade Demon King said with a hint of coldness in his voice, "So, in other words, there's no one worthy in the blade domain to challenge you?"

Feng respectfully bowed and said, "I never said that, Your Majesty. I'm only saying I didn't like killing meaninglessly when there's no need for it, and this way I won't offend anyone as well. But if this concern my close one's life, I won't hesitate to offend anyone, even a... Demon King!"

"Presumptuous!" White Fire roared from his seat and stood up, wanting to apprehend Feng for what just he said.

Even old man Jerome's expression was dark.

"Settle down!" Blade Demo King coldly glared at White Fire.

White Fire could only obey and unkindly glare at Feng, and other knight commanders were also the same.

Blade Demo King finally looked at Feng, who was still bowing respectfully without any worry or even showing any hint of pleading for forgiveness.

"Boy, do you know what you just said is equal to a capital crime, and you even said it in front of a Demon King, nevertheless? I can easily execute you and the royal council will also agree to it!"

Thomas has an ashen face, and he wanted to plead for Feng, but Maddux grasped his hand and sternly signaled him with his cold eyes not to do anything reckless.

However, Feng fearlessly replied, "I only said the truth that your majesty wanted and if I had spoken lies, I'm afraid it would be even more disrespect toward his majesty. But I still offend His Majesty with my presumptuous words. I'm ready to receive any punishment."

"Hahahaha... good, very good!" Blade Demo King suddenly burst into jolly laughter, which surprised everyone.

Blade Demo King, he said in a good mood, "I like your character, boy. Not only didn't you cower in front of me, but you take the risk of offending me by showing your resolve. Although I like downrightness, I like clever downrightness more."

"I'm not worthy of such praise." Feng remained humbled.

'He tested Feng by using his marital sense all the time and if he suspected anything in Feng's facial expression, I'm afraid I would be in trouble, so telling the truth mix with lies was also the right option, and he suspected nothing.' Ace felt relief that he escaped Blade Demon King's detection, or he didn't know what might've happened otherwise.

Although he could perfectly control Feng's facial expression, he has never done while being monitored by someone far stronger than him, so he didn't take any chance, and he succeeded in fooling the Demon King.

Blade Demon King said, "I'm sending you three into an expedition of a ruin for your second phase, and Feng, you're going to be the leader."

Peter and Thomas were shocked by this sudden announcement, and others in the room were also startled.

They all finally understood this was a test for Feng by the Demon King, and he passed as well.

'Ruin Expedition?' Ace was also startled and felt this would not be anything good for his plan, but he was helpless right now.

He could only nod with a fake resolute expression, "I will do my best to not let down his majesty."

Blade Demon King nodded in contentment and continued, "Furthermore, you can choose anyone from participants in your team, but the limit is five. But you only have three days to choose your teammates before those participants will depart for their tasks."

Peter couldn't help but asked with uncertainty, "Royal Father, what kind of ruin we're exploring?"

The Blade Demon King answered with a meaningful look in his eyes, "It's a ruin of an already extinct King Demon Tribe thousands of years ago, and this ruin is on the southern border of the blade province.

"It's the newly discovered underground ruin by the earthen troll race, and it's completely unexplored. So, there are many opportunities there, but danger also lurks within. That's why you have to be extremely careful.

"You can discuss the detail with White Fire. He'll be your guide in this expedition, but he won't make a move unless you encounter a soul realm level danger, so you have to work together!"

Ace quickly understood Blade Demon King's true intentions. 'He wanted us to work on our teamwork and trust, so we won't have any difficulty in the demon gate trial. But what kind of danger lurking in an extinct king demon tribe?'

He found this extremely suspicious, and he had no experience in any kind of expedition since he always focused on going after rich targets, and he had no interest in tomb raiding. He believed he could get far more from the living than the dead.

"I'll be taking my leave now. You three can discuss the other details with White Fire here. You have three days to prepare and Feng, you can stay in the castle from now on. I'll have someone to bring your maids as well. I'll be more convenient."

Ace had no choice but to agree right now, he could tell it was a command, not a request.

Afterward, the Demon King left, followed by the other knight commanders, Maddux and Jerome.

Only White Fire, Feng, Thomas, and Peter remain in the grand hall.



White Fire looked at Feng coldly, still unhappy about what happened before, and snorted, "Boy, you have guts to talk with my king like that."

Feng apologized, "I know, and sorry about it. But the Demon King also wanted that, so I can't go against his majesty's wishes."

"Hmph!" White Fire only snorted and not said anything further, since Feng was telling the truth.

Thomas couldn't help but grumbled, "Brother Feng, you nearly gave me a heart attack."

Feng rolled his eyes, "Aren't I still fine, and you won't die so easily!"

Peter sighed and said, "Forget about it. Can we now focus on this mission? I want to add Brenna to the team and also wanted to recommend one more reliable teammate."

Thomas merely nodded. "As long as they won't drag us down, I'm happy with anyone. But I'll also recommend Alora Yisrael and Carlee Violent. They're both friends with each other, and they had excellent characters as well. We can work with them."

Ace's eyes shone with a strange light upon hearing Alora's name mentioned by Thomas and thought about her golden fate point. He couldn't help but thought this might be the opportunity she'll lead him to, but he wasn't certain.

Peter thought and said, "I have no objection, as long as they don't stab us in the back. I only want these two people and can vouch for their characters."

"Brother Feng, what do you think? Do you want to recommend someone?" Thomas looked at Feng, who was silent this whole time.

Feng shook his head. "I don't know anyone other than you two. You can choose anyone as long as they're good enough. In my opinion, we three are enough for this expedition."

White Fire retorted, "Don't be too arrogant just because you took the first place. You've never been on an expedition to an old demon tribe's ruin. Do you think a ruin is made from just destruction?"

"Let me tell you...!"

### [Eternal Thief](#)

#### **Chapter 438: Reward List**

White Fire retorted, "Don't be too arrogant just because you took the first place. You've never been on an expedition to an old demon tribe's ruin. Do you think a ruin can form by just destruction?"

"In our world, ruins are essentially legacy grounds which were left behind by mighty figures for the next generations. Ruins can appear in three forms: intact ruins, damaged ruins, and fragment ruins.

"The intact ruins are the complete legacies of ancient demon tribes or some other mighty figures who had succumbed in history, and these kinds of ruins are extremely precious and seldom appeared.

"But whenever they appeared, even Demon Kings will fight for the opportunity to explore them. There are many dangers in these kinds of ruins as well, and sometimes the dangers outmatched the rewards as well.

"Especially if these ruins happened to be left behind by unorthodox cultivators or races. These beings found pleasure in others' miseries, and they wanted to see the world fall into chaos even after their death.

"As for the damaged ruins, they aren't like intact ruins and only had limited opportunities, but they can still be heaven-defying if you stumble upon a damaged ruin of an extremely powerful force of ancient times.

"Lastly, the fragment ruins, they are the ruins of lowest quality, the opportunities are like none-existent. Or they can also be already plundered, intact, or damaged ruins. But these ruins are all over the eight provinces and searched countless times."

Ace couldn't help but be astonished by this new information because even the royal council library didn't have information about these ruins.

'It seemed only fragment ruins are opened to public and others were plundered by big tribes before turned into fragment ruins, so there's no need to release such information at all as well...' Ace mused.

Peter and Thomas reacted little because they had such knowledge because of their backgrounds.

Feng asked with a shocked expression, "Then this underground ruin is a damaged ruin?"

White Fire liked Feng's expression and said with a smile, "We discovered it two years ago, and it's a damaged ruin. After we successfully break past the restriction. It was a ruin of a king tribe from ancient times, and there are many traps and opportunities as well.

"That's why his majesty decided to let the strongest talent of our domain explore it and find fortuitous opportunities for themselves. Now you understand what kind of favor you're getting from his majesty?"

Feng showed an ashamed expression and quickly apologized to White Fire, "I was indeed ignorant before, please accept my humble apology, senior."

White Fire finally showed a content smile, "Don't fret over it, just don't be disrespectful to a demon king, or not everyone is as magnanimous as his majesty."

"I understand." Feng bowed deeply.

'But what if the other guy wanted to get offend himself?' Ace sneered inwardly.

Thomas smiled, seeing those two getting along, and said at this moment, "Since this is out of the way, can we discuss the teammate's problem? This is an opportunity, and it's in our hands who to give it, so you guys better decide carefully."

Feng said, "I already said I don't know anyone except you two. You can choose our teammates, but they had to be reliable." His eyes suddenly turned cold at this moment. "Or I'll kill them the moment they show the slightest bit of malicious intent! I have this authority as a team leader, right, senior?"

Peter frowned but didn't retort at this last statement, nor did Thomas oppose and merely smile in amusement.

"You're the leader. I won't interfere with you no matter what, as long as you didn't go overboard with your authority." White Fire remained nonchalant.

Afterward, Peter and Thomas discussed the teammate's issue while Feng probed information about ruins from the White Fire.

Ace knew it was his chance to learn about these ruins, in case he stumbled upon one in the future, so he won't remain ignorant at that time.

But in the end, Ace found these ruins as somewhat lacking because the chances of getting anything from them were almost zero and only intact ruins stimulated his interest.

However, he also learned in the history of eight provinces only three intact ruins were discovered and nearly cause wars between demon kings. But the strange thing was royal zone or royal demon council never interfered in the fight for these intact ruins.

In the end, White Fire's information was also limited, and he suggested Feng; visit the royal library after finding him so interested in history.

Ace was also elated after finding out that he could get access to the royal library with his reward points, and he decided to visit it as soon as he got the chance.

Their discussion lasted for two hours before the three left, after giving White Fire the names of demons they included in their team.

"Brother Peter, where can I spend my reward points?" Feng suddenly asked Peter.

Their relationship has improved quite a bit after talking with each other, so they're calling each other brothers, but he was still closer to Thomas.

"Brother Feng, since your reward list is the most precious of all, you can only claim your reward from the castle treasury hall. Let's go together. It's in our way." Peter replied.

"Let's go. I also wanted to see what I can buy." Thomas also wanted to spend his reward points.

"Lead the way, then." Feng quickly agreed.

They all embarked on Peter's carriage, which was quite spacious, like a small house. Brenna was also present in the carriage, and she was quite sulky, seeing Feng.

However, Feng merely greeted her and didn't pay any attention to her at all. Peter, on the other hand, pacified her because he didn't want her to offend Feng.

After all, he was their leader and if he wanted, he could easily object to her presence on the team, and he won't be able to do anything. Although he knew Feng won't do it, but it was still not good for their association if she offended him.

Thereupon, the carriage stopped in front of a lavishing building, guarded by two silver knights.

They quickly let them pass when they saw Peter was with them.

Ace couldn't help but scan the entire building with his thievish eyes because he thought it was the location of the castle treasury. But he was soon disappointed when he found there wasn't anything hidden with the live fate map.

He could only guess that this was an ordinary building to distribute the salary of servants and knights, not the real royal treasury.

A middle-aged silver blade demon was sitting behind a desk inside the building, and when he saw Peter, he was startled and hastened to greet him.

"Your Highness, you really surprised me this time." He exclaimed with a warm smile.

Peter nodded with a smile and said, "Uncle Greysen, I'm here to accompany my friends. They wanted to use their reward points."

Greysen finally notice Thomas and Feng and asked, "They are?"

He was also from the king clan, and he knew Peter didn't have many friends, and these can't be ordinary if they're here for the reward list and accompanied by Peter.

Peter introduced, "This is the second-place participant, Sir Thomas, and this is the first place, Sir Feng."

They both politely greet Greysen, since he seemed to have a wonderful correspondence with Peter.

**"Greeting, sir Greysen."**

Greysen smiled warmly, "Oh, please don't, since you're his highness friends call me Uncle like him. It's also my owner to meet two prodigies of our domain, especially the rising sword earl."

"Please, just call me Feng." Feng politely smiled.

"Good, very good." Greysen was thrilled and led them inside." Come, come. I already got the reward lists for all of you. As long as you have reward points, you can buy anything from the reward lists."

Peter seemed uninterested in reward points since he can get anything as long as he wanted.

But Thomas and Feng browsed through the white booklets given to them by Greysen.

Ace's eyes glowed when he looked at the booklet in his hand and see the rewards.

[Phase-1 Reward List: First Rank]

[Qi Stones Section]

-Peak-Grade-3 Qi Stones: 1 Qi Stone = 100 Reward Points

(10,000 Available)

-High-Grade-3 Qi Stones: 1 Qi Stones = 50 Reward Points

(100,000 Available)

-Middle-Grade-3 Qi Stones: 1 Qi Stone = 10 Reward Points

(1,000,000 Available)

-Low-Grade-3 Qi Stones: 1 Qi Stone = 1 Reward Points

(10,000,000 Available)

[Medicine Section]

-Qi Condensing Pills (Martial, High-Grade-1): 1 Pill = 200 Reward Points

(1,000 Available)

-Qi Recovery Pills (Martial, High-Grade-1): 1 Pill = 350 Reward Points

(500 Available)

-Flesh Healing Pills (Martial, High-Grade-1): 1 Pill = 500 Reward Points

(500 Available)

-Berserker Rage Pills (Martial, Low-Grade-2): 1 Pill = 1,500 Reward Points

(10 Available)

[Use: Drawing ten times the original power of the consumer and exempt from any pain as long as the pill effect last.]

[Time Limit: 10 Minutes]

[Warning: The Berserker Rage Pill has a terrible backlash, and the consumer can't move for five hours after the effect ended. Taking two pills or more at once can cause Qi Deviation. Use with caution!]

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### [Eternal Thief](#)

#### **Chapter 439: The Mysterious Stone**

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[Talisman Section]

-Fire Sword Talisman (Martial, High-Grade-1): 5,000 Reward Points

(1 Available)

-Thunder Escape Talisman (Martial, High-Grade-1): 7,000 Reward Points

(1 Available)

-Light Flash Talisman (Soul, 9-Star): 10,000 Reward Points

(1 Available)

[Treasure Section]

-Lightning Sword (High-Grade-2 Weapon): 5,000 Reward Points

-Platinum Moon Sword (Low-Grade-3 Runic Weapon): 10,000 Reward Point

- Golden Defense (High-Grade-2 Torso Light Armor): 7,000 Reward Point
- Platinum Defense (Low-Grade-3 Full Body Light Armor): 10,000 Reward Point
- Armament Guard Ring (Low-Grade-2 Defensive Runic Accessory): 10,000 Reward Point

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- Autonomous Qi Storage (Intermediate-Grade-3 Treasure): 15,000 Reward Point

[Description: Ability to store Martial Qi and draw it for one's use.]

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- Dark Fire Shield Stone (High-Grade-3 Defensive Treasure): 20,000 Reward Point

[Description: This Stone can absorb and store a large amount of Qi from Qi stones (only Grade-2 or higher) and then release that Qi into a dark fiery barrier, forming a shield that can block a peak river core realm attack.]

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Ace couldn't help but smile, seeing the contents of the reward list.

Although the rewards were of inferior quality in both pill sections and talismans, they were quite appealing to any river realm expert.

However, they can't break into the next realm before the trial as well so, many of them were useless to them, especially the condensing pills and Qi stones.

Furthermore, Ace also spotted the item that the Floor Manager has interested him to buy, and strangely, its name was the Dark Fire Shield Stone, and it was worth 20,000 Reward Points.

It was some unknown item, and it was quite a useful defensive treasure, but it wasn't enough to arouse someone from the life demon association's interest and made them pay double the amount.

'Could it be that guy is taking it for something else, or the blade tribe has taken it for something else, and it has some other use?' Ace's eyes shimmered with uncertainty, 'Should I buy it? There isn't anything that I'm interested in except those talismans, but I have my own, so...'

Feng looked at Greysen and asked politely, "Uncle Greysen, I want to know how many Reward Points I need to enter the royal library?"

Greysen answered smilingly, "Oh, you want to acquire skills and techniques from the royal library? You don't have to bother. There's a special skill and technique list you can choose from."

However, Feng shook his head and said, "No, I didn't want any skills or techniques but knowledge about old ruins. Sir White Fire told me I can enter the royal library as long as I have reward points."

Greysen was astonished when he heard Feng's uninterested response, and he didn't seem to joke at all. But he still answered, "Is that so? Then if you want to learn common knowledge which isn't related to skills or techniques, 500 to 1000 Reward Points would be sufficient. However, the royal librarian has the last say in this, though."

"Thank you, I understand." Feng nodded with a smile, and then he pointed at the item pictured in the reward booklet and said, "I want this Dark Fire Shield Stone."

Greysen, as well as Peter and Thomas, looked at the white stone with black dots and its price.

Peter couldn't help but frown, "Uncle Greysen, why have I never heard of this stone before? It has quite a useful function."

Greysen said, "This stone was found in the treasury when we're setting the reward list and, after examining it, we found this function. His Majesty decided to put it in the first rank list because of its strong defensive ability, and it's quite sturdy as well."

Greysen then looked at Feng and advised, "I never thought Young Friend Feng would want to claim it first, of all the items. Although it's a unique treasure of unknown origin, it's not so important as the other items. If you want a defensive treasure, you should buy the Armament Guard Ring or armor. They were specially chosen for you. Are you sure you want to spend 20,000 reward points on this?"

'Unknown origin, huh?' Ace became even more interested in this item.

Feng tactfully answered, "Thank you for your kind intentions Uncle Greysen, but I'm only lacking with a defensive treasure and armors aren't my cup of tea, and Armament Guard Ring is already worth 10,000 Reward Points, but its grade is lower than this Dark Fire Shield Stone. So, I'm sure I want this."

Feng's word made quite a sense to Greysen, so he thought little and agreed, "As long as you're satisfied with it. If it wasn't his majesty's strict order, I would've given you more reward points to spend." He seemed to lament about it.

"I know. Thank you for your consideration." Feng seemed grateful.

Afterward, Thomas also chose some soul pills, a talisman, and a defensive treasure. His medicine section was filled with soul pills, but they were quite expensive, so he could only choose a limited amount.

Greysen quietly noted down their purchases and then pulled the items from his storage ring.

Ace finally understood where those items were, and he wanted to pickpocket Greysen's storage ring, but he knew he won't be able to keep it for long, so he suppressed his thievish urge.

After collecting their items, they bid Greysen farewell and left the building.

Brenna was waiting in the carriage. She was the same as Peter, completely uninterested in the treasure list, so she didn't go with them before.

The blade demon castle was also a short distance away from the treasury hall, and it was made of white marble with beautiful silver patterns.

Peter and Brenna parted way with Thomas and Feng at the castle, while Thomas led Feng toward his courtyard, where Milly was waiting.

She wasn't participating in this competition because Thomas say she was cultivating a secret skill, and it needed her a year or so to master it.

In the evening, a servant appeared to Feng with a message that his maids have arrived in his courtyard, so he bid Thomas and Milly farewell and left with that servant.

The blade demon castle was quite large, and they were all in the eastern castle, which was reserved for guests like them.

From Thomas, he found out that all the blade envoys lived in the western blade castle and the southern and northern castles were reserved for the silver blade demon clan, while the Central Blade Castle was where the King's family lived.

Dolly and Flora were waiting for Feng with agitated expressions because they thought something was wrong when they heard they were summoned to the blade castle.

But after hearing he was ordered to live in the castle, they felt relieved, and it was also a good thing for them since no one would dare to cause trouble anymore.

'Sigh finally alone...'

Ace sighed with somewhat exhaustion as he entered his room because today was tiring, especially the meeting with Blade Demon King.

'I come a long way from being an ordinary mortal to the point of becoming a thief and lying in the face of a soul manifestation realm demon king... who would've thought, heh!'

Ace looked outside the window at the slowly darkening golden sky and couldn't help but reminisce with a faint smile, but there was deep loneliness in his eyes.

Ace averted his eyes after a while and then checked the room for any surveillance arrays or formations, and it was clean. He then took out a palm size oval shape stone which was white but had small black dots all over its smooth jade-like surface.

He poured some earth Qi into it, and the very next moment, a dark fiery barrier encircled him. Furthermore, he even felt the intense heat while standing in the middle of it.

'Is that why the alchemist wanted it? This black fire might have some use in alchemy?' Ace guessed as he stopped pouring Qi into it.

Thereafter, a grade-2 Qi stone appeared in his hand and the moment he pulled it close to the oval stone it suddenly trembled before the Qi in the Qi stone started to madly suck into the oval stone, and only when the Qi stone turned to dust did the suction force vanished.

Ace's eyes turned sharp, and the green Qi turned into dark Qi filled with lightning sparks.

At this moment, the moment he used his heavenly darkness, Qi the stone suddenly trembled, eye narrowed, Ace stopped using his HD-Qi and the stone turn back to normal.



'There's definitely something wrong with this stone!'

Ace asked, "System, can you appraise this stone?"

**"[50,000 TP is required. Do you want to continue?]"**

Ace cocked an eyebrow at hearing this price. "So there's something extraordinary about this stone, huh? Do it!"

The very next moment thereafter, the TP was deducted,

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### **[Egg of a Nether Paradise Bird]**

**-Description: From '???' family, born in, ???, It controlled the [Nether Fire] law after reaching adulthood.**

**-Rank: Above Ninth Grade**

**-Bloodline: Above Ninth Grade**

**-State: Pseudo-Dead**

**-Incubate Condition (1): A nether paradise bird can only hatch after being nourished with Nether Spirit Magma**

**-Incubate Condition (2): Host's Heavenly-Darkness Qi can also replace the Nether Spirit Magma**

**[Thief Point(s): 3,635,400]**

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### **Eternal Thief**

#### **Chapter 440: Eliminate the Danger**

Ace's eyes contracted the moment he saw the description. "What did this '???' mean?"

**"[Anything that is not from the Mortal Sky Heaven, the host can't see their details.]"**

Ace's heart raced to hear this and looked at the static egg with incredulity. 'A beast egg that is not from the first heaven? How did it come here, and how did the blade demon tribe get their hands on it?'

'Furthermore, this bird's bloodline and rank is above ninth grade, and it can control law like [Nether Fire] in its adulthood which sounds ghastly, just what kind of existence can control a law? I can even hatch it with my HD-Qi!'

Ace was still somewhat baffled by this tremendous discovery and asked, "System, is this also a creature of darkness? And why can it be stored in a storage ring despite being a living being?"

Ace witnessed Greysen taking this egg out of his storage ring and anything alive won't store in a storage ring, and this will also draw the demon king's attention, and it won't be laying in his hand right now if that would've happened.

**"[Yes, this is a creature of darkness. As for why it can be stored in a storage ring, despite being a living thing, it's because of the Pseudo-Dead state.]**

**"[Because of this state, it's almost impossible to identify a nether paradise bird egg from a Nether Flame Alloy, which is also ranked above ninth grade and this egg can also imitate the same ability of a nether shield of nether flame alloy.]**

**"[Not only that, but this state can also make it fool the natural order, and it can be stored in a typical storage ring. As long as the egg didn't encounter something higher rank than itself, it won't break no matter how much force it encountered.]**

**"[That's how nether paradise bird survived from its natural predators as well.]"**

"It's that awesome?" Ace exclaimed as he looked at the jade-like egg in his hand with ecstasy. He picked up a treasure this time!

'It seemed the blade demon tribe has come in contact with it unknowingly, and they merely thought of it as a defensive treasure and stashed it away. I wonder if the demon king found out about its true value, he might have died from regret.' Ace grinned passionately.

Suddenly his eyes shimmer with understanding, 'Could it be that alchemist somehow got his hands on an ancient record that describes the nether flame alloy, and he also thought they were the same?

'It's very possible, and he might want to use it to forge a strong treasure. Heh, you wanted to cheat me? Dream on!' Ace snorted with ridicule.

However, his complacent expression fell suddenly, 'No, if I didn't hand it over he might start to spread the information about the nether flame alloy, won't everyone look for me at that time?

'Even the royal zone might get interested if they know about the nether flame alloy's rank. Although it's not true, will they believe me? I have to hand it over at that time. Or if that alchemist told someone with selfish thoughts, they might even want to kill me to keep my mouth shut. Fuck!'

Ace suddenly felt this egg was a hot potato right now, and if he didn't play it well, he might have to discard Feng's identity ahead of time.

Furthermore, he had to discard it in the right way. He can't let anyone know that Feng was the wanted thief all along. Not only people around Feng will suffer a tragic fate, but this will also cause a tremendous storm because this would mean the Sky Stealer can fool the loyalty contracts of the royal demon council!

At that time, there won't just one person from the royal zone after him, and he might alert the Demon Emperor. His heart fluttered just thinking about it because he can't hide from the Demon Emperor and only run!

'I have to kill him and anyone who knows of this!' Ace's emit killing intent like never before.

Because he didn't want to give away such a precious beast that can control law, it was by far the most precious treasure he got besides the Eternal Thief Fate Compass.

"System, how much Qi did this egg need before it hatched?" Ace asked.

**"[Host can store it in the Living Thief's Space. It'll solve the environmental problem and pour the Heavenly Darkness Qi once every three days. It will take 1000 Days like this to hatch it.]"**

"Just like that, huh?" Ace couldn't help but smile ear to ear. He never thought he would get a pet with such a background.

However, if he knew the nether spirit magma was one of the rarest treasures even in higher heaven that it can cause a huge war, no one knows what he thought.

It was just that his thief's space and heavenly darkness Qi were omnipotent to nurture creatures of darkness without any external help.

So, in anyone else's hand, this egg was just a beautiful stone, nothing else, and they can't harm it either, even if they want to melt it into a treasure.

Ace quickly did as the system suggested and poured his heavenly darkness Qi into the egg. First, it trembled for a while before Ace felt a suction force that started to devour his Qi like a bottomless pit.

However, this only made Ace more elated, and he poured the HD-Qi at the full capacity he could muster. But he was soon shocked when he found out that no matter how much he poured, this little egg just won't seem to get full.

After four hours, Ace stopped his Qi, which was almost sucked dry by this little egg, but he looked delighted, then exhausted.

Thereafter, he put the egg close to Eva's cocoon and recovered his depleted Qi.

'How should I deal with that floor manager and that woman? Oh, with her here, why I'm even agonizing over it?' Ace's eyes suddenly lit up, and he opened the Thief House Panel.

Inside a beautiful field filled with all kinds of medicinal herbs, the air was filled with high-quality Qi and the aroma of herbs. Just by breathing here, one could feel their cultivation growing.

At this moment, a breathtakingly beautiful demoness was carefully tending to the herbs when her body quivered slightly.

"What happened, little girl?" An old benevolent voice sounded at this moment.

The demoness turned around and looked at the fossil-like old demon sitting cross-legged on a platform in the center of this herb field and smiling mildly at her.

She said attentively, "Master, I want to go outside to look around the blade domain, can I?"

The old man seemed surprised by this abrupt request. "Oh, when that brat invites you for a tour, you seemed completely uninterested and always focused on alchemy. What made my austere disciple want to go outside?"

The demoness pouted. "That fellow is so annoying. I don't want to go with him, and master, I'm not austere!"

"Hahaha, go enjoy yourself. We alchemists shouldn't just obsess with alchemy and enjoy it once in a while. It's good for our mentality. Besides, you've already improved so much. I'm afraid you might scare

those old codgers in the upcoming alchemy meeting in a year." The old demon said with a gratified expression.

"All thanks to master's teaching." The demoness smiled full of gratefulness toward this old man.

"Haha, don't flatter me. I won't go easy on you!" The old man smirked, but he was thrilled. "Go, if you need any spending money, ask Samuel or if anyone bullies you, just tell me I'll seek justice for you."

"Thank you, master." The demoness quickly bowed respectfully and left the herb field.

The old man sent her off with his elated eyes before he took out a green cube, and it flushed. A cold sounded from the cube. "Your order, master?"

"Lana has gone out, protect her from shadows, don't take action if she's not in danger." The old man impassively said.

"As your bidding, master."

With that, the cube went dormant again.

"Hmph, those bastards wanted to court my precious disciple? No one is worthy!" The old man snorted with disdain.

The demoness was sauntering toward the exit while deep in thought as she looked into the air.

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### **[Thief House Leader Mission]**

**-Optional Mission: Eliminate the Danger!**

**-Option (1): Assassinate the first-floor manager of Life Demon Treasure Pagoda and his female disciple and stole their storage rings!**

**-Option (2): If you can't cancel the mission!**

**-Option One Reward: 10,000 House Points**

**-Time: 3 Days**

**-Punishment: None**

**-Option Two Reward: None**

**-Time: 10 Minutes**

**Punishment: None**

**[Note: Please choose an option within 5 minutes, or the mission will automatically be canceled!]**

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The demoness's eyes shone with ambiguity. 'How did those two provoke the leader, or did they discover something they shouldn't have? Well, since you offend him, you two can forget about living.'

Her cherry lips curled into a charming smile, which was more like the smile of a ruthless assassin!