Versatile 1041

Versatile Mage

Chapter 1041: They Are Done For!

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"Strange, isn't it supposed to be summer soon? Why is Venice getting colder?" Mo Fan zipped past a bridge with Fleeing Shadow. He was heading toward the training ground where the team had been asked to gather.

As soon as he arrived at the grassy training ground, he stumbled into Zhao Manyan.

"Holy crap, where the heck did you go?!" Zhao Manyan screamed as soon as he saw Mo Fan.

"Didn't I tell you I'd be away for some time? What's with the surprised look? Did something happen?" Mo Fan asked in confusion.

"Of course something happened! Come here, I'll explain it to you slowly," Zhao Manyan pulled Mo Fan aside.

Zhao Manyan had his own sources of information. He definitely had learned about the incident with the Mu Clan. Besides, it was something to do with Mu Ningxue. He told Mo Fan everything he knew.

The training ground had the style of ancient Rome. It was surrounded by stone pillars, with a grassy field at the center, and resembled a luxurious soccer field.

The students were training by having friendly duels against one another. The tournament was just around the corner, so they would use every second to prepare themselves for it.

At the front of the training ground, Mu Tingying and Nanrong Ni were dueling absent-mindedly. Their spells were flying back and forth, yet none actually posed any threat to the other person.

Mu Tingying controlled her ice chains. They were supposed to be attacking Nanrong Ni, yet they landed on the edge of the barrier nearby and disappeared immediately.

Nanrong Ni could tell that Mu Tingying was unfocused. She said, "You're still thinking about it?"

"How can I possibly forget about it? That b**ch dares to challenge our Mu Clan! I'm pretty sure that she's tired of living!" Mu Tingying snapped anxiously.

They initially wanted to humiliate Mu Ningxue, but she was still able to use the Ice Crystal Bow on them and freeze them on the bridge for twelve hours straight. Even their souls were frozen by the powerful frost!

Most terrifyingly, she had taken the remaining pieces from Pan Xi!

Pan Xi had collected all the pieces. He only needed to collect the incomplete bow from Mu Ningxue and hand Nanrong Ni the full set, but he did not expect it to turn out like this. Mu Ningxue would soon have the complete Ice Crystal Bow!

They could only ask the powerful Super Mages for help. Otherwise, they would not be able to touch Mu Ningxue at all!

The problem was, they were currently in Venice! The experts of the Mu Clan were not around. Even if someone was here, it was unlikely they would be willing to lend a hand for a matter like this! Even worse, not everyone in the Mu Clan agreed with the decision to take Mu Ningxue out!

They initially thought they could turn Mu Ningxue into a lowly tramp, yet things suddenly got so much more complicated!

"If she takes our advice and disappears, she can still live a normal life. But now, she can't even live like an ordinary human. Don't worry, she is going to suffer badly since she decided to fight back. I'm pretty sure the Mu Clan won't allow anyone to disrespect its rules?" Nanrong Ni said.

"Even so, we still need some way to gather the attention of the authorities in the clan. I'm just worried that some of the old folks will go easy on her," Mu Tingying said.

"It's very simple. If it's only between you two, those old folks will only think of it as infighting and get over it, but if Mu Ningxue actually hurts me, it meant she was disrespecting the close relationship between your clan and the Nanrong Clan. Wouldn't she be in great trouble if I ask the people of my Nanrong Clan to approach the authorities of your clan?" Nanrong Ni proposed.

"But she didn't hurt you, her arrow only froze everyone..." Mu Tingying saw the strange glitter in Nanrong Ni's eyes as she was speaking. The cunning look in her eyes was completely different than how she appeared normally, so even Mu Tingying was stunned when she saw it.

"You mean..." Mu Tingying looked at Nanrong Ni.

"Use your ice chains to hurt me, and everything will go according to plan!" Nanrong Ni said.

"You are truly the smarter one. The Mu Clan is very concerned about your clan's opinion of us, just so we could maintain a good relationship between the two clans. If you go on and complain about her, the higher-ups of my clan will be infuriated, and they will demand we arrest Mu Ningxue as soon as possible. They might even send disciplinary elders after her!" Mu Tingying smiled. It was such a brilliant idea!

Nanrong Ni had a faint smile, too. She was better at hiding her thoughts than Mu Tingying. No one could possibly think that she had such evil thoughts under her gentle appearance!

As the two were talking, a scorching wave of heat appeared at the other end of the training ground.

The two girls turned around and saw a man engulfed in wild flames walking toward them. His eyes were full of lava on the verge of spurting out!

"It's Mo Fan!" For some reason, Mu Tingying was frightened whenever she saw Mo Fan around. It had been like that since she had witnessed how Mo Fan had killed Lu Yilin without hesitation. Mu Tingying was not afraid of strong Mages, as she had an enormous clan supporting her. She did not need to be scared of people just because they were stronger than her.

However, Mu Tingying was scared of maniacs like Mo Fan, who did not seem to care about the overall situation. It was like he was clueless about how powerful a renowned clan was. He would only rush up and kill the person that had infuriated him, without thinking about the consequences!

"Don't be afraid, he is mostly here to vent his anger. We'll ask those two to lend us a hand," Nanrong Ni seemed a lot calmer.

The flames were growing hotter as the carpet of fire reached Nanrong Ni and Mu Tingying's feet.

BANG! A pillar of lava erupted from the ground, powered by Mo Fan's wrath!

When Mo Fan arrived in front of Nanrong Ni and Mu Tingying, his eyes were glaring at them, and his hair was also standing on its end due to overwhelming anger!

"You two shameful b**ches! If anything happens to Mu Ningxue, I'm going to burn you two into ashes!" snapped Mo Fan.

"Mu Ningxue is a disciple of our clan, meaning that she has to obey the decisions of the clan. We didn't decide her fate!" Nanrong Ni retorted calmly.

"I had enough of your bullshit!" Mo Fan had no intention to waste his time further talking to the two b**ches. "Sky-Flame Funeral!"

He held the flames up and tossed them into the air. They turned into a huge fiery cloud looming over Nanrong Ni and Mu Tingying.

Fierce flames stared pouring down, forming waves. An ocean of fire surrounded Mu Tingying and Nanrong Ni. The Sky-Flame Funeral kept falling continuously, like the imperishable rage in Mo Fan's heart!

What was there to talk about to these two evil women? Weren't they thinking about shining on the stage of the World College Tournament? Mo Fan would not mind crippling them right now!

"Mo Fan, what are you doing? Are you seriously trying to hurt your own teammates!?" Ai Jiangtu immediately yelled to stop Mo Fan.

The spell that Mo Fan cast was unacceptable within the boundaries of a friendly duel. He was simply trying to burn the two to death, as the flames were lunging at them like a fiery demon!

"It's none of your business! If I don't turn them into cripples today, my surname won't be Mo anymore!" Mo Fan swore furiously.

Ai Jiangtu was startled. He did not know what to say for a moment.

He had heard about Mu Ningxue, and he was well aware of who was in the right and wrong, yet Mo Fan was crossing the line if he continued to attack Mu Tingying and Nanrong Ni with his magic!

"Don't provoke him, he's basically a mad man now," Nanyu shook her head at Ai Jiangtu, telling him to stay out of the conflict.

Mo Fan was indeed a maniac, just as Nanyu had mentioned. He would see anyone that tried to stop him as an enemy, as he was extremely stubborn when it came to doing something he had decided!

"You crazy asshole, do you really think you are superior to us?!" Mu Tingying and Nanrong Ni were surrounded by ice glaciers within the flames, protecting them from the scorching heat. The frost seemed to be putting out the flames slowly.

As the frost grew further, Mo Fan's Sky-Flame Funeral slowly weakened. The frost gradually dominated the heat from Mo Fan.

"A country hick like you who only has an advantage because of mere luck, do you really think you're unstoppable on the team, so you can do whatever you want?" Mu Tingying stomped the ground and spread the frost further. She had turned the grassy training ground into an ice mirror within a short time.

"I'm telling you, this is a Soul-grade Ice Seed! Your flames are nothing against me!" Mu Tingying's aura grew stronger as the icy wind turned into a storm surging across the place. The others were forced to back away a great distance.

The crowd stared at Mu Tingying in astonishment.

Even though most people on the team had been concealing their true strength, none of them thought that Mu Tingying had already acquired a Soul-grade Ice Seed. The Mu Clan had seriously invested a lot in her, just so she could stand out during the World College Tournament!

Nanrong Ni stood behind Mu Tingying and was murmuring something under her breath. The chant seemed to possess the power of the Parthenon Temple, the Blessing Element.

She was strengthening Mu Tingying's magic, allowing her frost to grow stronger and suppress Mo Fan's flames!

"Mo Fan, you've overdone it this time. We are going to teach you a lesson!" Zu Jiming stepped forward. It was obvious that he was on Mu Tingying's side.

"Humph, I've been waiting for this moment for a long time!" Li Kaifeng stood beside Nanrong Ni, as if he had sworn to protect the woman if Mo Fan dared to harm her.

Everyone knew how strong Mo Fan was, especially with the powerful Little Flame Belle as his Contracted Beast. Even though Mu Tingying had grown a lot stronger, she was still no match for Mo Fan.

However, with the four teaming up, they were surely able to take down the maniac!

Chapter 1042: Crushed, One Versus Four!

"We've borne your arrogance long enough! We didn't bother intervening because we simply assumed you to be a mad dog. It's unnecessary to be so fussy over a mad dog, but you have seriously infuriated us! We can get rid of you anytime!" Mu Tingying pointed at Mo Fan disdainfully.

She was no longer afraid of Mo Fan's powerful magic. Her Soul-grade Ice Seed was able to perfectly suppress Mo Fan's flames. Even if Mo Fan was to summon his powerful Contracted Beast, it was still

hard to tell who was going to win in the end, not to mention that she had three other people siding with her!

They had long allied, as they were all afraid of being bitten by Mo Fan, the mad dog!

"You piece of shit, I was going to take care of you after the World College Tournament, but I don't mind doing it now, since you're so eager to die!" Zu Jiming laughed coldly.

Mo Fan stood there. Even after knowing that the four had teamed up against him, the wild expression on his face remained the same.

"Mo Fan, we'll lend you a hand," Zhao Manyan, Jiang Yu, and Jiang Shaoxu could not bear to just stand and watch. They immediately stepped forward.

Mo Fan reached out his hand and signaled the three to stop.

"I'll handle it myself," Mo Fan did not let the three take part in the fight.

Mo Fan was here to turn Mu Tingying and Nanrong Ni, the two detestable b**ches, into cripples. It was only going to end up in a mess, and if Jiang Yu, Zhao Manyan, and Jiang Shaoxu were involved too, it would simply bring troubles to their factions.

"Mo Fan..."

Mo Fan did not say anything further. He started walking toward the group of four instead.

As Mo Fan went closer, the flames on him were thoroughly suppressed by Mu Tingying's Soul-grade Ice Seed. Eventually, he was no longer engulfed in the imperious flames. A layer of frost was even forming on him.

"Do you two useless pricks seriously think you can stop me?" Mo Fan spat in an incredibly disdainful tone, glancing at Zu Jiming and Li Kaifeng!

"You're f**king dead!" Zu Jiming was enraged immediately.

"We'll take him on together!" Nanrong Ni reminded the others.

No one could possibly win against Mo Fan in a solo fight. Nanrong Ni would not allow Mo Fan to provoke her team so they would act recklessly.

Cripple them? How bold of him to say that? She had no idea where the maniac had gotten his confidence from!

"I'll take care of his flames and Flame Belle!" Mu Tingying said.

The frost grew stronger as bodies of ice like vines extended toward Mo Fan rapidly. The spikes on the vines were deadly.

"Poison Fangs!" Zu Jiming's eyes glittered. Two enormous, poisonous fangs appeared behind Mo Fan, penetrating into his back like an invisible, deadly python.

Li Kaifeng cast his spell too. His Giant Shadow Spikes vanished in the air, hiding behind the icy vines and poisonous fangs to ambush Mo Fan.

As for Nanrong Ni, she was at the back of the team, murmuring to strengthen their spells with her Blessing Element.

"Space Wall!" Mo Fan finished casting his spell in an instant. A rhomboid space appeared around him with six sides, providing Mo Fan full protection.

The power of the Space Element was heavily dependent on the Mage's spiritual strength, and because Mo Fan currently had six different Elements, his spiritual strength totally outmatched his opponents'. The defense from the Intermediate Spell Space Rhythm was enough to protect him from their attacks!

"I was right to call you guys useless; are you really still trying to probe my strength in a situation like this?" Mo Fan sneered, easily nullifying the approaching attacks.

Mo Fan was not in the mood for this. He would rather be in a duel of life and death against the group of four. He did not have time to waste on having a friendly duel with them!

They had hurt Mu Ningxue badly, forcing her to disappear from Venice. Mo Fan never allowed her to feel any sadness, yet these scum dared to team up and bully Mu Ningxue when he was away!?

Did they seriously think they stood a chance against him by teaming up!?

Did they really think a Soul-grade Ice Seed was enough to suppress his flames and defeat him?

A bunch of idiots with low intelligence and personalities, he would not mind giving them a taste of the anger of the Lightning Tyrant!

"Lightning!" Mo Fan withdrew his fire and let out a furious roar, looking into the clear sky above Venice!

Wild black lightning arcs danced thickly around Mo Fan in a spectacular manner!

The flickers of lightning that left Mo Fan immediately surged across the training ground! Some collided into the barrier in the distance with destructive force!

When Mu Tingying was still feeling proud of her Soul-grade Ice Seed when she noticed a lightning bolt coming straight at her. Its overwhelming power immediately shattered the ice she had formed across the place into pieces!

Most importantly, she could feel that the Ice Element around her fleeing in terror. Her Ice Magic had weakened significantly!

"How is this possible..." Mu Tingying looked at Mo Fan in disbelief and saw a wild, black Domain made of lightning bursting out from Mo Fan.

Suppressed!

Her Soul-grade Seed was being suppressed! It turned out that her opponent had a Soul-grade Lightning Seed, and to her utter surprise, Mo Fan's Soul-grade Seed had a Domain!

One could easily tell if a Soul-grade Seed had a Domain or not. The whole place was covered in the strong presence of the Lightning Magic, to the extent that the Ice Magic could only hide timidly in a little corner. It was extremely difficult to control!

Mu Tingying, Li Kaifeng, Zu Jiming, and Nanrong Ni felt like they were about to suffocate from the extreme pressure from the lightning. Their eyes were filled with astonishment and terror!

A Soul-grade Seed!

Their enemy also had a Soul-grade Seed, and it was the utterly imperious kind, a Soul-grade Lightning Seed!

However, their confidence totally crumbled when they realized that Mo Fan's Soul-grade Lightning Seed also had a Domain!

A Mage with a Domain was basically going to be one of the strongest of their age. How did Mo Fan even get a Soul-grade Seed, when he did not even have a formidable faction supporting him?

"Sky Lightning Claw!"

Mo Fan clenched his hands into claws. A sharp, black claw descended from the clear sky and landed fiercely between the four of them.

The formation of the group, that had looked unbreakable at the start of the fight, immediately crumbled when they fled for their lives after seeing how terrifying the Sky Lightning Claw was. None of them dared to face the powerful lightning attack directly!

The Sky Lightning Claw was absolutely shocking, even stronger than the Silent Deadly Bolt, and more terrifyingly, the damage of Mo Fan's lightning spells had tripled after he obtained the Soul-grade Lightning Seed!

In the past, his Spirit-grade Seed, Qianjun was only twice as strong as an ordinary Seed. It was a standard Spirit-grade Lightning Seed, but the Lightning Tyrant was not merely an ordinary Soul-grade Lightning Seed, it was the strongest kind of all! The three times amplification of his Lightning Spells was enough to grant even his Intermediate Spells awesome destructive power, let alone his Advanced Spells!

Even a Commander-level Wind Flame Lightning Vulture had trouble resisting the Sky Lightning Claw. It was unlikely that the fragile body of a human would be able to endure it without the help of defensive equipment!

Mo Fan had destroyed the formation of the group with his first Sky Lightning Claw. However, Mo Fan aimed his second Sky Lightning Claw at Zu Jiming. If he was targeting Nanrong Ni and Mu Tingying, it was necessary to take out their two annoying subordinates first!

Zu Jiming's primary Element was Poison. He was fairly reliable when using some little tricks on his target while under the protection of the team. However, he was simply no match when going up against a Mage like Mo Fan!

The Sky Lightning Claw easily pierced through Zu Jiming's defense and tore his seemingly sturdy flesh open.

Zu Jiming fled for his life when he sensed that his life was in danger.

He was extremely scared of dying. He had no choice but to run when facing such an overwhelming power.

However, how could Mo Fan possibly let him go so easily when he was on a tantrum?

"Tyrant Call!" Mo Fan uttered before Zu Jiming could run out of his Domain. Hissing, crackling arcs of lightning immediately surged in Zu Jiming's direction like a living carpet.

Mo Fan's Lightning Spells had triple their base strength, and the Thunderbolt was currently in the fourth-tier. As such, the damage of the Lightning Tyrant Scars was not to be underestimated, either. Since Zu Jiming's armor was already torn to pieces by the Sky Lightning Claw, the Tyrant Call immediately knocked him to the ground!

He was entirely scorched black with bleeding, blackened wounds. He looked like a lump of rotten meat from a distance, motionless on the ground. It was difficult to tell if the man was still alive. Regardless, he could no longer rise back up and fight.

"It's your turn next!" Mo Fan's eyes flickered with lightning, and locked onto Li Kaifeng as if he was marking attendance.

"You've left me with no choice!" Li Kaifeng had an icy grin as his veins started to expand suddenly.

"Do you really think I'm going to let you cast that forbidden magic? Idiot!" Mo Fan flung his arm out, and the long lightning claw slapping Li Kaifeng right in the face.

Li Kaifeng was able to react fairly quickly, since he possessed the Wind and Shadow Elements. He evaded slightly better than Guan Yu.

"Space Rhythm: Gravity!" Mo Fan spread his palm and unleashed a gravitational space, entrapping Li Kaifeng. "Death Ray!" Mo Fan followed up coldly. The deadly ray was fired directly at Li Kaifeng, who was still struggling to break free from the gravitational space!

Versatile Mage

Chapter 1043: Earthquake, Lightning Storm

The Silent Deadly Bolt was three times as strong, and it was obvious that the defensive equipment the group of four had was nowhere strong enough to resist it. Li Kaifeng had already left the middle area the Silent Deadly Bolt was focusing on. However, his body subconsciously shuddered when he saw the terrifying lightning arc spring up as the Silent Deadly Bolt landed on the ground!

"Off you go too..." With a thought, Mo Fan used the Illusionary Claw to grab Li Kaifeng after he was was struck by the lightning and slowly lift him into the air.

Li Kaifeng was tossed toward the boundary of the training ground. Lightning still flickering across his body, he slammed hard into the wall.

"Heaven Ice Frost!" Mu Tingying yelled, feeling a dire threat. Once again, she gathered the power of her Soul-grade Ice Seed and formed an enormous Icebound Coffin on top of Mo Fan, trying to seal him within it.

Suppressed by the strong presence of lightning, Mu Tingying was a lot slower when casting the spell. Mo Fan quickly realized what she was up to.

Mo Fan lifted his gaze and looked at the Icebound Coffin falling from the sky. He calmly took a step forward and eerily disappeared into the shadow of the Icebound Coffin.

"I got him!" Mu Tingying exclaimed.

"He was not in there," Nanrong Ni said grimly. Her eyes were scanning the surroundings.

She finally sensed a dark presence less than thirty meters from her. It was Mo Fan's Dark Magic! He was trying to get closer to them with the Fleeing Shadow!

"Demon Tree Hand!" Nanrong Ni's Plant Element was slightly weaker due to the effects of the Lightning Domain, but she still quickly drew the Plant Constellation. A green glow started to blink rapidly around her.

The Demon Tree Hand sprang out from the ground without a sign. Nanrong Ni locked onto the spot Mo Fan was likely to be at and flung a few Demon Tree Hands at it.

A black shadow immediately appeared. The Demon Tree Hands surrounded the shadow simultaneously and combined into an enormous Demon Tree Plant, devouring the black shadow with a single bite.

Before Nanrong Ni could feel any joy from capturing Mo Fan, a thunderclap suddenly exploded in front of them.

Lightning arcs, black and dense, appeared out of nowhere. The dancing voltage vaguely silhouetted a pair of pitch-black eyes first appearing in the air, just a few meters away from Nanrong Ni and Mu Tingying. They could even see the imperishable wrath in his eyes!

Nanrong Ni and Mu Tingying's faces paled. They never thought Mo Fan's Shadow Element was so outstanding that he would be able to get so close without them knowing.

Most Mages were fairly weak when it came to close combat, but Mo Fan was extremely good at it, due to how adept he was with his magic. The two girls knew they were in great trouble when they saw Mo Fan less than two meters away!

They quickly summoned their magic armor, as it was their last hope of stopping his overwhelming power!

Mo Fan was incredibly fast due to the Dark Noble Mantle. He was moving like a phantom encapsulated by lightning as he arrived before the two women in their magic armor. He was only half a meter away!

"Lightning!" Mo Fan lifted his gaze. The Domain of black lightning suddenly had a huge, yellow lightning scar surge across it. These lightning scars immediately descended rapidly once they were summoned by their tyrannical master, Mo Fan!

The densely-packed lightning surged across the area rapidly. It felt like the lightning was a yellow dragon, bringing utter destruction upon the place.

The lightning strikes did not just land on Mu Tingying and Nanrong Ni. They were also landing on Mo Fan, but every time they did, the black lightning dancing over him would glitter, as if it was accumulating energy from the strikes!

Wild lightning danced, and the two women used all they had to barely survive against the lightning strikes. However, Mo Fan was not done so easily. He slowly raised his hand to gather the black lightning and the Lightning Tyrant Scars he had absorbed into his palm, before slamming it hard onto the ground!

The lightning strikes landed on the ground and discharged as a terrifying lightning storm, covering half of the training ground with Mo Fan at the center.

Mu Tingying and Nanrong Ni were only a few meters away from Mo Fan. The lightning storm immediately knocked them into the air, their bodies whipped continuously by the Lightning Tyrant!

Their armor broke into pieces. They tried desperately to cast defensive spells, yet the pain as each lightning strike whipped them was excruciating!

"Fire Phoenix!"

Mo Fan switched between the Lightning and Fire Elements fluidly. He had no intention of showing the two girls any mercy. He continued to cast his powerful Fire Spells, even when he knew they were defenseless.

A fiery phoenix sprang forward. Mu Tingying and Nanrong Ni were trying to stabilize themselves from the aftershock of the lightning storm when the deadly fiery phoenix came down and devoured them!

The four of them had stood no chance against the Lightning Tyrant. Their defenses were too weak against the Soul-grade Lightning Seed that had amplified Mo Fan's Lightning spells threefold. The fiery phoenix continued to bombard them with a series of explosions. There was no chance that Mu Tingying and Nanrong Ni could still fight after going through all that.

As Mo Fan thought, the two girls were burned beyond recognition when they landed on the ground. They no longer had their proud, elegant demeanors. Their magic armor was broken, their clothes were ragged, even their tender skin had festered from all the burns or was scorched black from the lightning... they looked utterly miserable!

Inside the area dominated by the Lightning Tyrant, more Thunderbolts came down from the sky and transformed into lightning arcs after landing on the ground. They continued to surge toward Mo Fan.

Mo Fan clenched his hands into claws. The lightning arcs immediately gathered around him. The long, wild lightning arcs were like the dangerous nails of a demon...

"Mo Fan, you aren't serious about killing them, are you!?" Zhao Manyan screamed.

The others were shocked when they saw Mo Fan still accumulating power. Everyone was astounded by how powerful Mo Fan's Lightning Magic was. He had defeated four members on the team so easily! They could not help but wonder how he normally practiced!

Initially, they thought Mo Fan was done, since both Mu Tingying and Nanrong Ni were already injured, defenseless, and no longer fit for battle. If Mo Fan cast a single spell with the Lightning Tyrant now, it would surely tear the two girls to pieces!

However, the lightning claws were still gathering power, as if he was not going to stop attacking at all.

The others could no longer bear to stand and watch. They did not do anything when Mo Fan killed Lu Yilin, as the man was trying to kill Mo Fan first. It was still acceptable for Mo Fan to toss the man back into the canyon. However, if Mo Fan ended up killing the two girls here, he would surely be punished by the Enforcement Union, and there was even a chance that he would be taken away by the Mu Clan and the Nanrong Clan before the Enforcement Union could act!

The faces of Nanrong Ni and Mu Tingying contorted in fear when they saw the lightning around Mo Fan showed no signs of dissipating.

Nanrong Ni always thought Mo Fan was only going to vent his anger at most, instead of actually harming them. However, when she was injured, and saw how Mo Fan totally disregarded the others' advice, she was finally terrified.

This maniac was serious about killing them for Mu Ningxue's sake!

"Mo Fan, calm the f**k down, you cannot kill them!" Zhao Manyan stepped forward.

Zhao Manyan had to stop Mo Fan. What happened to Lu Yilin was totally different than the current situation. If Mo Fan insisted on killing the two girls, no one could possibly save him. He would even ruin his own future!

"Don't worry, I can control myself!" Mo Fan replied.

"Control my ass, that's enough now, you can't possibly be thinking of crippling them now? The two clans are going to take you down with all they have. Listen to me, just leave it as it is now. We'll make them pay slowly!" Zhao Manyan said.

Mo Fan was clearly not controlling himself. Mu Tingying and Nanrong Ni were like dogs covered in bruises and injuries, lying on the ground. Even if they were treated in time, they would still be in pain for quite some time considering how severe their injuries were. What Mo Fan did was already the limit. Any more, and their lives would be in danger!

"Mo Fan, that's enough; take it back now!" A middle-aged man walked out from the other end of the training ground.

The man was with another person. Mo Fan turned around and realized the other was Mu Ningxue, who had been missing for some days.

Mu Ningxue was wearing a long, icy robe. Her appearance was slightly concealed by the hood, highlighting a perfect, glamorous temperament that was able to steal a person's soul instantly. However, her icy aura was completely emotionless and unapproachable!

The man that had spoken was Advisor Feng Li. Mu Ningxue had followed him when she realized what was happening.

She first glanced at Mo Fan, before looking at Mu Tingying and Nanrong Ni, who were severely injured.

"These two b**ches, I'll cripple them on your behalf!" Mo Fan was relieved when he saw that Mu Ningxue was fine.

Nanrong Ni and Mu Tingying looked at the icy and proud Mu Ningxue. They could only clench their teeth when they thought of their current, miserable appearances!

"Do you think I have forgiven them?" Mu Ningxue lifted her gaze and asked in return.

"Let me handle the rough work."

Mu Ningxue rejected him coldly, "If this is what I wanted, I could have done it easily on the bridge."

Saying that, Mu Ningxue turned around and went back to Advisor Feng Li.

When Mu Ningxue turned around, Mo Fan caught a glimpse of wild ambition in her icy gaze. It made Mu Ningxue look even sterner and more imperious, like an empress!

Chapter 1044: The Heart Never Turns Cold

Advisor Feng Li walked up to Mu Tingying and Nanrong Ni. Surprisingly, he seemed to be ignoring their injuries.

His face was cold as he snapped, "I have no time to waste dealing with your clans, but you better pass my message to them! If something happens to a member of the national team that I, Feng Li, have chosen before the World College Tournament, I won't forgive the people responsible easily, even if they are the number one or two clans of our country!"

Nanrong Ni and Mu Tingying were shivering in anger after hearing this.

It was supposed to be the two of them giving Mu Ningxue a deadly blow, turning her from a talented genius to a cheap, detestable woman, so that she would never be able to stand at the same height as them. However, not only did they fail to do any harm to her, they were suffering from severe injuries inflicted by Mo Fan, and were then warned by Advisor Feng Li! The grudge they were holding was even more unbearable than the pain inflicted by the lightning and the fire!

Even though Mu Ningxue had lost everything, she was still one of the most talented Ice Mages of their country, a formal representative of the national team. It went without saying that the advisors would not care about the rules of their clans. However, if their student was injured, they would seek responsibility!

"You have only yourself to blame for the injuries you're suffering," Advisor Feng Li harrumphed coldly. He then turned to Mo Fan and said, "Mo Fan, you've slightly overdone it. Please control your temper, even if you're delivering punishment on behalf of me."

Mu Ningxue was startled, but he quickly reacted. He nodded and said, "I'll be more careful next time. It's just that I really despise people that try to hurt their own teammates! I was actually very gentle compared to before, considering that I see Mu Ningxue as even more important than myself."

Feng Li glared at Mo Fan. His mustache curled up.

-This asshole, I already gave him an excuse to justify his actions. He just needed to follow suit, yet he is trying to take the lead instead!-

Feng Li was the main advisor of the national team. He was basically fully in charge of the team. No clan dared to touch him due to his overwhelming status. Both Nanrong Ni and Mu Tingying were infuriated when they learned Mo Fan was punishing them on behalf of Advisor Feng Li!

It meant that they could not take revenge on Mo Fan!

Li Kaifeng and Zu Jiming had recovered consciousness. They also wanted to make Mo Fan pay, but they had no way of doing so.

"We'll consider it settled. You can deal with your personal conflicts after the World College Tournament. If I see anyone breaking the rules again, I'll definitely take it to the factions behind you!" Feng Li was so loud that everyone felt their eardrums hurting.

Guan Yu, who did not take part in the battle immediately, helped those that were injured by Mo Fan. Anyone could see that the grudge the four had was on the verge of bursting out from their chests.

Even with the four of them teaming up, they had still suffered an utter defeat!

They had no chance of defeating Mo Fan themselves, yet they were scared to step on Advisor Feng Li's tail if they asked for help. They had no choice but to swallow the grudge into their stomachs, and wait until the World College Tournament finished!

Nanrong Ni and Mu Tingying felt they had totally lost face. Their clothes were ragged, and they were covered in dirt and filth. Every woman in the world cared a lot about their appearance. Mu Ningxue was supposed to be in their shoes instead!

"Mo Fan, are you out of your mind? You've injured four of my students. The tournament is about to begin. Are you trying to disqualify our team straight away?" Feng Li scolded Mo Fan.

"Why didn't you intervene when they were bullying Mu Ningxue?" Mo Fan snapped back in displeasure.

The advisors did not intervene even after something so serious happened. Were they seriously going to just stand and watch the Mu Clan take Mu Ningxue away and steal her cultivation?

No one knew better than Mo Fan how much effort Mu Ningxue had put into her cultivation. Taking away the hard work she had put in for the past ten years was no different than killing her!

Mo Fan had never felt this angry. If Feng Li had not shown up, he would seriously have turned the two vicious women into cripples!

Especially Nanrong Ni! Mo Fan had the urge to tear her face off, to see how ugly she would look under her fake, disgusting mask!

When Nanrong Ni was poisoned in the East Maritime Fortress, it was Mu Ningxue who risked her life to find the antidote for her. She should be grateful for the rest of her life that Mu Ningxue was her friend, yet she had set Mu Ningxue up in return instead! Mo Fan felt extremely angry on Mu Ningxue's behalf after learning how vicious the woman was!

"It was indeed their personal matter, you had no right to be involved in it. I have taken the blame for you this time. Don't stir up any trouble again, understood? You really are the most problematic member on the team, aren't you aware? Don't you know to control your temper a little better as a young man? If everyone simply goes ahead and does whatever they want, wouldn't everything be a total mess?" Feng Li cursed.

"The Mu Clan and Nanrong Clan are still going to trouble Mu Ningxue. Are you and the other good-fornothing advisors going to help her or not?" Mo Fan demanded.

"Who did you just call good-for-nothing, you little asshole! Don't think you can act recklessly just because someone has your back! I will deal with the Mu Clan and Nanrong Clan myself, but you, just stop complicating things!" Feng Li was so angry that there was smoke coming out of his nose.

"Can you also tell them that if they dare to touch Mu Ningxue again, they will have to bring two coffins to keep their corpses? I swear I will kill them, even if I have to surrender myself to the Enforcement Union!" Mo Fan promised angrily.

"It was you that beat the crap out of them, and you're still trying to threaten them?"

After the little quarrel with Feng Li, Mo Fan quickly went over to Mu Ningxue to inquire about her wellbeing.

Mo Fan had totally panicked when he heard that Mu Ningxue had gone missing from Zhao Manyan. He did not expect both Mu Tingying and Nanrong Ni to pick on Mu Ningxue when he was occupied. Luckily, Mu Ningxue had managed to look after herself. Otherwise, it was difficult to say what was going to happen to her.

Taking away a person's cultivation was as horrible as killing someone's parents, yet the Mu Clan was actually cruel enough to do such a thing. Mo Fan really had the urge to raze the Mu Clan to the ground!

Mo Fan moved closer to Mu Ningxue and asked in a gentle voice, "Are you alright?"

Mu Ningxue did not respond. For the past few days, she hd been trying to calm down in a quiet place.

She did consider leaving for good, but she felt it would mean that she had conceded to the two women. As such, she had decided to come back to the team.

She knew the Mu Clan and the Nanrong Clan were most likely going to pick on her. Therefore, she went to look for Advisor Feng Li and Song He instead. The two advisors were infuriated after learning about the two women's detestable actions. They even promised Mu Ningxue that as long as she was still a member of the national team, they would never let that happen to her again.

If she simply turned and left, it would only allow the two women to control the situation. On top of being stigmatized for having a relative that was closely related to the Black Vatican, she would be called a betrayer of the clan, too, and a thief who had stolen the clan's precious belonging. Once the accusations were heaped upon her, she would never be able to overturn the situation.

As such, she could no longer back away after considering the situation she was in. She had to stand higher than them, and find herself a foothold.

The World College Tournament, the sacred place in Venice the whole world was placing its attention on, was the only place she could earn enough status, honor, reputation, and power!

She had left the clan, meaning that she was all alone. In order to stand a chance against the enormous Mu Clan and Nanrong Clan, she needed to establish her own influence!

No clan would dare to plot against a young Mage that had won great glory for their country during the World College Tournament!

"You can tell me everything you're going through. It's fine telling me anything; don't just wear such a cold face, it will only make me worried," Mo Fan said.

"I'm fine," Mu Ningxue responded.

"How could you possibly be fine? You didn't even cast a single glance at me all this time. I know it's my fault for leaving you at such a time... I promise I will never leave you again!" Mo Fan swore.

"If you want me to feel better, just stay away from me," Mu Ningxue said.

"Look at you, and you said you're fine," Mo Fan scoffed.

Mu Ningxue knew how shamelessly relentless Mo Fan was. She immediately rose to her feet and walked away.

Mo Fan watched Mu Ningxue's cold figure and her snow-like, silver hair, and let out a sigh.

Mo Fan was not an idiot. He could easily tell there was a barrier between him and Mu Ningxue, the same feeling when they first reunited.

The truth was, after what they had gone through in the desolated Jinlin City and the training around the world, Mo Fan could feel that Mu Ningxue was starting to open up to him...

However, Mo Fan suddenly felt that their relationship had gone back to the initial phase after what had happened.

As such, Mo Fan actually hated the two women to the guts. They must have said something that urged Mu Ningxue to keep him out of her frozen heart too, leaving all his efforts in vain...

However, Mo Fan would never give up!

Even if the same thing was repeated a hundred times, Mo Fan would not give up. He would surely win the affection of the woman he was interested in, regardless of what happened between them. Even if she was annoyed and cautious around him, he would never give up!

She had changed. The feeling that Mu Ningxue gave Mo Fan was like two different people compared to the last time they met.

Mo Fan could clearly sense from her words and gaze that her heart was heading into an icy abyss, where no one could possibly reach...

That being said, it was more important that his heart toward her would never change or turn cold.

To be fair, it was quite difficult for a woman as obsessed with spiritual cleanliness as her to accept a trashy man like him!

Versatile Mage

Chapter 1045: The First Opponent from the Draw

More people gradually arrived in Venice from different countries. The little place suddenly had three times the number of tourists it had previously. The canals, bridges, squares, public ferries suddenly felt a lot more crowded.

Venice was not a huge place, so it could only hold a limited number of people. The local government eventually limited the number of visitors.

The main reason why a calm city like Venice was suddenly crowded with people was none other than the World College Tournament!

There were not many international tournaments for Mages across the world, and most Magic Associations did not recommend old Mages fight one another in duels with a live broadcast on television. Magic was, after all, a noble and sacred art, and was dangerous and destructive at the same time...

The only people suitable for taking part in a magic tournament were young, energetic students. Their achievements could also reflect how successful the academic system of a country was. Eventually, the World College Tournament had turned into a grand event that was held every four years. Students whose strengths were neither too powerful nor too weak were the most suitable group to take part in magic duels.

The flags of many countries were hanging highly at the governor's palace in Venice. Thirty-two teams representing their countries had made it to the finals in Venice. These teams all had performed well when challenging the defending teams of different countries' Training Hall and carrying out the missions given to them. The ranking also reflected a country's magic standard to a certain degree, and would usually end up as the final ranking with a small margin of difference.

Basically, every country that made it to the finals in Venice was considered a strong magic country!

Thirty-two flags were hanging in the air. As the sun rose in the east, the blasts of magic spells echoed across the beautiful city along the shoreline. The sacred light descended upon the city, onto the young, energetic faces of the representatives of each country. The national anthem of Italy was sung with great spirit, while the young Mages enjoyed the limelight of being watched and admired by the whole world. Many students had long waited for this day to arrive, as from this moment onward, they were no longer a small and nameless Mage. They might even become a reputable Mage after joining the Parthenon Temple, the Sacred Hall of Liberty, the Holy Judgment Court, or the Holy Saint Peter Church! Their names would fire up the crowd wherever they went!

Meanwhile, the attendees of the ceremony mainly consisted of worldly-recognized, powerful Mages!

"Allow me to express my gratitude to America's Sacred Hall of Liberty, Asia's Dubai Magician Tower, Europe's Saint Paul Church, Africa's Cape of Good Hope Magic Castle, and Australia's Sacred Victorious Altar! I sincerely welcome you to Venice! Many thanks to the Hunter Union, the World Renowned Clans Association, the Shoreline Alliance, the Parthenon Temple, the Holy Judgment Court, the Ancient Royal Guards, Tokyo's Shrine of Mages, Tehran Magic Ridge, and Saint Paul Church...thank you for joining us despite the long distance. Last but not least, the main protagonists of this grand magic tournament, the candidates consisting of the most talented young Mages chosen specifically from every school in thirty-two countries..." Venice's governor, Fabio, was giving his opening speech in high spirits.

The opening ceremony was not particularly spectacular, yet the Mages that attended were all world-recognized. The factions and organizations they represented were highly looked up to by every Mage.

China's representative was Pang Lai, the chief of the Royal Guards. The Ancient Royal Guards that the governor mentioned in his speech represented the strongest group of Mages in China, with power surpassing the members of the Enforcement Union, the Pearl Oriental Tower, and the Imperial Magicians...

The names representing each country similarly referred to the famous factions or organizations of their respective country. Among them, the Parthenon Temple and the Holy Judgment Court were particularly well-known.

Even though the Parthenon Temple, the Holy Judgment Court, and the Hunter Union had originated from a specific country, their influences in the world were comparable to the Magic Associations of the Five Continents.

As such, if anyone referred to the world's most powerful magic organizations, there were eight of them in total.

Therefore, in terms of status, Mo Fan's role as a Hunter Master was actually very impressive! The ranks of the Mages in each of the eight organizations were actually comparable to one another. A five-star Hunter Master was equivalent to the mayor or general of a city.

Unfortunately, Mo Fan had not reached five stars yet. He was still quite a distance away.

A seven-star Hunter Master was referred to as a Senior Hunter. The status of a Senior Hunter was very impressive. It was very common for Magic Associations, the military, the local government, or a country's president to ask a Senior Hunter for help.

Mo Fan was highly motivated to become a Senior Hunter. Even though he was now a four-star Hunter Master after resolving the Drowning Curse, he was still far from impressive as a Hunter Muster. He could imagine himself drooling just looking at the job requests worth a few hundred million, or billions, as their rewards!

Zhao Manyan was fairly familiar with the important people of the various factions. He could not help it, since his life mostly revolved around upper magical society. Knowing the people in charge and leaders of various factions was a basic requirement for a disciple in his clan.

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After the opening ceremony ended, it was time for the exhilarating, highly-anticipated ceremony whereby the teams drew their opponents.

There were thirty-two national teams, and no matter how the brackets were going to end up, every match between two national teams was surely going to turn into a bet with a huge pot involved. Otherwise, why would people that never cared about what was going on in their countries or magic tournaments suddenly be so passionate about the World College Tournament?

On top of that, the World College Tournament was held every four years, and had always been a hot topic across the world, as it was closely related to the glory and fame of a country. On the other hand, the money that was involved in the bets during this period was often comparable to the total sum of imports and exports for a country...

"Captain, you'll do the drawing," Advisor Feng Li told Ai Jiangtu.

The captains of each national team stepped forward. Long ago, the advisors were the ones doing the drawing, but for quite some time, the captains had taken over and become the ones to do the drawing instead. It was kind of an honor, since the drawing process was being broadcast live, allowing the world to see the captains of each team.

Ai Jiangtu had an imposing attitude, and did not even bother checking the opponent team that he had drawn. He simply let the judges take a glance at it, and went back to the team.

Thirty-two teams... even the teams from stronger countries were nervous. The first opponent they drew was very crucial, as a strong country would prefer not to fight against another strong country so soon. It would force them to expose their strength very early. The weaker countries were also hoping that they had not drawn a strong country as their opponent, as they would be disqualified right at the start of the tournament. No one would even remember their names and faces as they returned to their country in shame. If they did not perform as expected, they would even be scolded by their people. In a society with freedom of speech, ordinary people were the ones that would scold them in the worst manner. Even if they were utterly clueless about magic, they would still sound so righteous that others would mistake the person as being some smurf account from a respectful Mage.

As such, leaving the excitement aside, the members of the Chinese team were feeling great pressure, too. Apparently, the Chinese team was quite unlucky in the previous World College Tournament, stumbling into the American team in the second round, and were totally wrecked by their opponents.

If they still failed to achieve an impressive result this year, the officials back home would probably be extremely mad. Could they even talk peacefully with other countries? They would simply be the target of mind games from the leaders of other countries when they suddenly said something along the lines of, I heard that your national team lost again. It would immediately urge them to flip the table!

The others placed their attention on Ai Jiangtu, trying to tell if he actually looked relieved or worried after learning who their opponent was. However, Ai Jiangtu kept the same stern face throughout the process. He looked pretty much the same all the time. The rest of the team was wasting their time trying to read his mind.

Before Ai Jiangtu could announce who their opponent was, the Japanese team suddenly yelled out in joy and spoke in English in Japanese accents.

"Lucky! So lucky!"

Actually, they were just trying to say, We are f**king lucky!

Mo Fan and the others had already met the Japanese team when they were taking down the Red Ornaments Guild. The Japanese were simply a bunch of show-offs. Mo Fan still had a vague impression of their names and appearance.

The guy that yelled out in joy was Akira Matsuki, who had also been interested in the Dark Noble Mantle. He was currently looking at them with a hostile, scornful grin.

"So they are our first opponent?" Mo Fan asked aloud

Almost half of the Japanese team had turned their heads toward the Chinese team. Akira Matsuki, Shou Watani, and the gentle girl in the sailor uniform were their 'old friends'.

"It seems like it," Nanyu revealed the team their captain had drawn with a wry smile.

The thirty-two teams that managed to make it to the finals differed in terms of strength, too. The Japanese team was considered above average among the teams. It was quite fateful for the two countries to stumble into one another at the start of the tournament!

"I seriously don't understand why they look so happy, like they are sure to win against us," Jiang Shaoxu scoffed at the Japanese team's reaction.

"It's mainly because they think we are weak because of our ranking in the last World College Tournament. Our team wasn't actually weak, but it was very unfortunate that they had to fight against the American team," Jiang Yu said.

"Let them have their fun for now, they won't even have the chance to cry when the day comes!" Guan Yu snapped coldly.

On the other hand, the Japanese team had restrained themselves from feeling over-confident. They immediately focused as they discussed how they were going to handle their opponent.

Their Advisor Fujikata Tegami was not as optimistic as her students. She glanced at Mo Fan in his blue shirt over on the Chinese team and asked, "Was that guy the one that fought Casso, the leader of the Red Ornaments Guild?"

"Oh, he is! I almost forgot about him!" Shou Watani immediately recalled.

When the two teams cooperated to take down the Red Ornaments Guild, the strength that Mo Fan had displayed was absolutely shocking. He was surely going to be a tough opponent!

"What is there to be scared of? I bet he's the only person we have to look out for on their team. Do you really think he can carry the whole team alone?" Yosuke, who just joined the Japanese team recently, spoke up.

Versatile Mage

Chapter 1046: Team Battle

"Speaking of which, doesn't that mean our team is fighting the first match in the tournament?" Jiang Yu asked seriously, after taking a closer look at the badge Ai Jiangtu had drawn.

Everyone was so occupied by checking out who their opponent was that they had completely forgotten about the order of the matches. When they looked at the schedule on the giant screen closely, they realized they were actually fighting the opening match!

The opening match was extremely important, as the whole world would most likely be watching the first match of the tournament. If they were able to stand out during the opening match, they had basically made a name for themselves!

Even though strength was the most important thing for a Mage, luck was extremely important too!

"Let me handle these Japanese!" Guan Yu was extremely impatient. He was very excited when he learned that they were participating in the opening match.

They had gone around the world and trained hard for a year just to make a name in this tournament, especially given how it would greatly affect the faction supporting them!

"The opening match is a five-on-five team battle. We'll need to pick five representatives, and the Japanese will pick five, too," Advisor Feng Li said.

Since the advisors were present, they were the ones making the calls.

Feng Li scanned the team. He first looked at Mu Tingying, Nanrong Ni, Li Kaifeng, and Zu Jiming, and said calmly, "You four are still recovering from your injuries. You won't be taking part in the opening match."

The four widened their eyes. Did the advisor seriously just bench them before such an important match?

"Advisor, my injuries won't affect me by much, please let me take part in it!" Li Kaifeng immediately protested.

"Silence!" Advisor Feng Li snapped coldly. Li Kaifeng immediately clammed up.

Knowing that they had missed out on such a great opportunity, Mu Tingying, Zu Jiming, and Li Kaifeng glared at Mo Fan. They had the urge to simply burn Mo Fan into ashes with the raging flames in their eyes.

Meanwhile, Mo Fan was obviously gloating. He felt like he should have gone harder on them, so they would not even have had the chance to take part in the entire tournament!

"What are you even proud of? So what if you're strong on your own? It's a team battle, you could not even match a single finger of mine in a team battle!" Zu Jiming blurted out, unable to stand Mo Fan's gloating look.

As a Poison Mage, he was incredibly weak at fighting solo duels. However, the Poison Element was incredibly strong and annoying in a team battle. After all, it was one of the most unpredictable Elements. The poisons that different Poison Mages cast were actually different.

Similarly, Nanrong Ni was quite weak at fighting solo duels. As a pure supporter with the Healing and Blessing Elements, it did not make any sense to not let her participate in the duel. However, she was benched because of her injuries. Mo Fan was so serious at hurting them that the Lightning Tyrant had ended up torturing them for the entire week.

"We'll obey the advisor's arrangements," Nanrong Ni said, seeming extremely obedient to the order given to her.

However, after learning Nanrong Ni's true character, Mo Fan kept feeling how fake and vicious the woman was, in quite a scary way!

Mo Fan initially had a fairly good first impression of her. She was friendly, gentle, calm, and compassionate, yet when he realized that she was faking all of it, he felt extremely disgusted by everything she did!

That being said, the woman had really done a great job, being able to wear her cover so perfectly!

"Mo Fan, you will sit too," Feng Li waved his hand. He did not want to let Mo Fan display his talents in the opening match.

Mo Fan smacked his lips and murmured, "The team is likely going to lose without me."

"Mu Ningxue, Jiang Shaoxu, Guan Yu, Nanyu, Jiang Yu, you five go," Advisor Feng Li picked the five candidates.

"I don't think it's a great idea trying to preserve our strength against the Japanese team?" Song He and the other advisors immediately spoke up when they saw Feng Li's arrangements.

The two strongest members on the team were Ai Jiangtu and Mo Fan. The only time they fought a team together was when they were going up against the team at America's Training Hall. In the end, even the American team was wrecked completely. It clearly showed how outstanding they were.

The overall strength of the Japanese team was on par with the Chinese team. They would have to try their best in order to win the match. Since it was the team's first match, Song He and the other advisors thought Feng Li was trying too hard to preserve their strength, since he did not pick either Mo Fan or Ai Jiangtu.

Feng Li pondered for a while. His eyes scanned the members of the team.

"Old Feng, I think it's better if we win the first match," an aged voice came from behind the resting area.

An old Mage with gray hair and ordinary clothes had shown up. His vivid eyes naturally landed on Jiang Yu, who quickly went up to the old man and greeted him.

"Chief, you're here too!" Song He was fairly surprised when he saw the old man with gray-white short hair.

"He's the Royal Guard's chief, Pang Lai, that I told you before. Jiang Yu is his star student. He's the strongest Summoner in our country," Zhao Manyan told Mo Fan softly, knowing that he struggled to recognize people.

Mo Fan immediately understood the implications. To his surprise, he saw someone else familiar standing behind old Pang Lai. It was the president of the Clock Tower Magic Association, Han Ji!

Han Ji did not seem surprised when he saw Mo Fan. He said with a faint smile, "Not bad, you've made it to Venice."

"Were you seriously worried that I was going to be disqualified?" Mo Fan asked in return.

"Not really, but I heard that you aren't the most well-behaving person, so I was worried that you were going to be expelled or something..." Han Ji answered amiably.

Han Ji talked to Mo Fan for a bit, before everyone went back to deciding on the candidates for the opening match.

Feng Li was most likely trying to preserve their strength, since exposing it too early would place the team in a disadvantageous position. The other teams would surely pick on them, especially when an Element was weak against certain Elements. If they put Mo Fan or Ai Jiangtu in the opening match, the other countries would surely target them. If your Fire was strong, they would send out two Water Mages. If your Lightning was outstanding, they would send out a meat shield with the Earth Element. If your Curse Element was impressive, they would send out a Psychic Mage...

The difference in terms of strength between the Mages was no longer huge since they were chosen as representatives of their national team. Someone like Mo Fan, who could take on a few Mages on his own, would be doomed if he encountered a strong Psychic Mage!

Ai Jiangtu was the pillar of the team, and Mo Fan was the ace. Feng Li did not want to use both his trump cards in the opening match. Even if they lost the first match, it would not affect their team by much.

However, others had different opinions.

"The first match is extremely important. If we lose, what the whole world says will turn into great pressure to the members, preventing them from performing as they are expected to. Let Xiao Ai go, we must win the first match," Royal Guards chief Pang Lai stated.

Feng Li thought about it again, and finally agreed to let Ai Jiangtu join the first match.

Ai Jiangtu replaced Nanyu. The captain would be leading the team in the opening match.

"Advisor, Shou Watani of the Japanese team is fairly strong, too. We met each other at the Caribbean Sea. I think he won't be any weaker than me," Ai Jiangtu stated firmly.

Even though Mo Fan had taken all the limelight when they were fighting against the Red Ornaments Guild, the others did fight the local government army and the remaining Mages of the Red Ornaments Guild. Ai Jiangtu purposely kept an eye on the Japanese team's captain, and he only had one word to describe the captain: strong!

As a matter of fact, if the guy called Shou Watani had been able to take on the Red Ornaments Guild's leader, he would have been able to beat him, too!

"Even you don't have the confidence to take him on?" Pang Lai asked curiously.

Ai Jiangtu was extremely popular with the authorities. After all, he was the rising star from the military. He was so powerful that he could easily crush anyone of the same age. He was like an instructor that had blended in with the students.

"I can't say for sure, it mainly depends on our Domains," Ai Jiangtu said.

"If you aren't feeling confident, let me go, my hands are itching!" Mo Fan was a great fan of fights.

"Piss off!" Feng Li snapped at him.

"I will try my best to secure our first victory," Ai Jiangtu promised.

Not feeling confident did not necessarily mean they would lose the match. Ai Jiangtu was only feeling that Shou Watani's strength was somewhat hard to measure, so he would have to keep an eye out for him. However, since he was chosen to fight the first match, he would not let his country down!

"Mmm, that's the spirit, go for it!" Feng Li nodded.

In the end, the candidates were Mu Ningxue, Jiang Yu, Jiang Shaoxu, Ai Jiangtu, and Guan Yu.

"By the way, aren't we lacking firepower with this combination?" an advisor asked.

Just looking at the Elements the five candidates had, none of them had the Fire Element, which was the best offensive Element. Only Jiang Yu had Lightning as his secondary Element, but his Lightning was like the output of a little battery compared to Mo Fan's. It was unlikely that it could come in handy.

"I guess we'll have to leave the offense to Mu Ningxue," Song He said.

The only person with a destructive primary Element was Mu Ningxue. Her Ice Element was capable of defense and offense. If the whole team was leaning more toward utilities and defense, she would be fully responsible for the team's offense!

After roughly discussing their strategy, the candidates began to prepare themselves for the match.

There were quite a few stages in Venice. They were at the stadium where the opening ceremony was held, yet the stage for the match was bigger than four soccer fields. It was quite shocking, especially given how hard it was to secure such a large space in Venice, where every inch of the ground was as valuable as gold.

The scale of the stage reflected the wealth of the spectators. The seats were densely crowded, but considering how dangerous a magic battle could be, even with the barriers in place, they would not allow too many people to watch the match at the stadium. Besides, with modern magic technology, they could easily transmit the match with options of different views such as skybox, side-view, close-ups, or front-view right into the spectators' eyes.

Versatile Mage

Chapter 1047: The Poison in the Wind

The stage was completely sealed off by a barrier, with defensive Mages stationed around the stage to block the energy from leaking out after it exceeded the threshold of the barrier.

The students in the World College Tournament were all Advanced Mages, and the damage of a single Advanced Spell was enough to destroy an entire street. As such, even though the stage was the size of four soccer fields, they still could not afford to lower their guards.

Normally, the world organizations did not encourage Mages to duel with one another, mainly because of how hard it was to control the power of their spells. As Mages grew stronger, the destruction they could cause was absolutely terrifying. There were quite a few incidents where Mages were seriously injured in duels.

The stage's ground was made of soil, with tiny dust particles scattered across it. Even the simplest Wind Spell could sweep a huge chunk of dust into the air.

However, a few older Mages soon entered the stage. They started to alter the appearance of the stage with their Earth and Plant Elements.

It was like a magic show, as sturdy soil, hard dirt, tall rocks, and sand dunes rapidly formed under the crowd's gazes.

Following that, it was the Plant Mages' turn to perform. Tall, ancient trees emerged from the ground, as a green canopy full of vines and branches shrouded the sky, turning the stage into a primordial forest!

The barren stage from just a while ago had transformed into a wilderness battlefield. If the stage was not surrounded by the barrier and spectator seats like the Colosseum, the participants could almost assume they were currently in a forest out in the wild!

"These people are professionals at setting up dueling grounds!" Jiang Yu exclaimed, unable to locate a single flaw on the stage that had been set up.

The Mages needed outstanding control, comparable to a Super Mage, to be able to create a stage that was exactly the same as the wild in such a short period...

There were many kinds of Mages. Mo Fan was the typical offensive type, and even though the ratio of battle-type Mages was a lot higher, the forgemasters, blacksmiths, herbalists, gardeners, constructors, and stage builders in a city were all Mages too. They were not as impressive in battles, but a few of them could construct an entire city in a short amount of time. These Mages were usually highly respected in society, too!

After the stage builders were done setting up the stage, Mo Fan was left in awe. He initially thought the stage would be boring and dull as it was, but to his surprise, the stage was set up randomly before every match!

Since the terrain of every match was different, the spectators would not feel bored watching the tournament. On the other hand, it was important for the students to use the environment to their advantage.

Since every Mage had different Elements, there was a chance that the terrain of each match would place some Mages in an advantageous position. Therefore, the terrain of every match that took place in Venice was only decided right before the match, and was set up randomly...

"Neither side will have an advantage in a terrain like this. It's quite fair to both sides," Advisor Feng Li observed.

If the environment did not bring one side a great advantage, it simply came down to the strength of the teams

The Japanese team consisted of their captain, Shou Watani; Akira Matsuki, whose primary Element was the Shadow Element; and the newcomer Yosuke. The last two representatives were a short-haired woman and a plump man.

"To your positions!" the judge ordered.

The candidates immediately entered their designated areas. Meanwhile, the spectators sitting a fair distance away burst into uproars while sharing their predictions with one another. The information of the representatives of each team was kept confidential prior to the tournament. As such, every representative of a country had become a hot topic for the public! Many vendors selling information would go as far as digging up everything that happened on the day that a representative Awakened their magic!

"It's my first time fighting in front of such a huge crowd, I'm feeling a little bit nervous," Jiang Yu whispered.

"What is there to be nervous about? Just beat the crap out of them!" Jiang Shaoxu said confidently.

"Guan Yu, keep an eye on Akira Matsuki, he's a Shadow Mage," Ai Jiangtu said to Guan Yu.

"Got it."

After going through their strategy briefly, the countdown in the form of number-displaying fireworks had started in the sky. As the biggest, loudest firework exploded in the air, it officially declared the start of the World College Tournament!

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There was a huge blast in the air, and the vivid fireworks were projected onto Mu Ningxue's pale and icy face. She slowly lifted her gaze and focused her attention on her opponents.

A breeze swept past, blowing the strands of hair beside Mu Ningxue's face.

Mu Ningxue breathed in and sensed an abnormal presence from the wind. It was extremely vague, but rather deadly!

"The wind is poisonous," Mu Ningxue said to her teammates confidently, her gaze sharp.

Mu Ningxue's secondary Element was Wind. She could easily tell if there were any abnormalities in the wind. The Japanese team did not act as if they had started their attack, but it turned out that they had already made their first move.

The poison was hidden in the wind. The poisonous powder was tinier than the smallest dust particle, and was invisible to the naked eye. Only Mages with sharp senses were able to sense it!

"These are assholes trying to set us up! I think the guy with the long face is responsible for the poisonous powder!" Jiang Yu cursed.

Jiang Shaoxu was fairly collected. She cast a side glance at Jiang Yu and said, "You better stop hanging around someone like Mo Fan. You have been cursing a lot lately, you weren't like that when you first joined the team."

"Wind Barrier!" Mu Ningxue uttered softly. She spun elegantly, like a butterfly drifting in the wind with her slightly loose shirt.

A wind started blowing. The team was standing on the sturdy soil. The yellow sand particles were blown into the air, silhouetting the barrier. However, there was no wind inside it. The poisonous powder that was approaching in the gentle wind was all blocked outside of the Wind Barrier.

Since the poisonous powder was using wind as its medium to spread, it was very easy to stop it. Mu Ningxue's Wind Element was quite extraordinary, too!

"They knew. I told you, it's only useful against some immature, stupid Mages," Akira Matsuki said to Yosuke in a mocking tone.

Saying this, Akira Matsuki started making his way up toward the dense canopy. He totally disappeared as soon as he crossed into the canopy layer. The others had no idea where he had gone, as if he were invisible. Only the aged Mages could barely catch a glimpse of a rapidly-moving shadow among the leaves and branches.

The sturdy ground was connected to the tall trees. Akira Matsuki was obviously trying to sneak up on his opponents through the canopy layer. However, as an assassin-type Mage with the Shadow Element, there was no chance he would show himself when the enemy was alert. He would simply hide among the trees and wait until his teammates created a great opportunity for him.

Whenever he made his move, it meant he was confident enough to take down the target!

It was Akira Matsuki's principle. Patience was what he needed the most!

"Someone from their team has gone into the woods," Jiang Shaoxu noticed.

The shrubs were dense, preventing sunlight from penetrating through them. Not only would it give a Plant Mage an advantage, it was also ideal for a Shadow Mage to move freely about. If any of their team went into the woods, they would most likely meet an ambush!

"Guan Yu, go keep an eye on him," Ai Jiangtu ordered.

The canopy basically covered the entire stage. No matter where the team moved, it would still be shrouded by the trees, meaning that a hunter hiding in the canopy layer could strike from anywhere and at anytime.

Everyone was an Advanced Mage. Even though they would first use Basic and Intermediate Spells to probe their opponents and find an opportunity, the Advanced Spells were necessary to seal the deal. However, with someone hiding in the canopy like a shadow, they would have to be extremely careful when drawing a Star Constellation. The guy was like a sharp caltrop on the ground. If they moved around too fast, they would be stabbed by it!

"I can go and bother them too. It's unnecessary for me to go into the woods and chase after him," Guan Yu answered.

Guan Yu was also an assassin-type Mage. If the guy could strike at anytime like a phantom, Guan Yu could do it too, and even better!

Playing defense was not Guan Yu's style. He was not interested in searching for Akira Matsuki in the woods.

"Then you better pose a threat to their team, especially those in charge of attacking!" Ai Jiangtu warned him.

The Mages in charge of offense...

The team members in charge of offense were usually the core of the team. If those Mages were able to cast their destructive Spells freely, their damage output would be unimaginable. As such, it was extremely important to keep them at bay, just so they could not keep blasting their foes endlessly with destructive magic!

Guan Yu knew the basics of a team battle. He stuck close to the ground and moved with the wind that Mu Ningxue had Summoned. He traveled more than a hundred meters in the blink of an eye as he moved closer to the enemy team and the Mage that was in charge of their offense.

Guan Yu circled the enemy's position. He staring at them, trying to figure out who was in charge of offense among them. His instincts were telling him that the fatty was the one, thus he placed most of his attention on him.

"You won't be able to cast a single Advanced Spell on my watch!" Guan Yu looked at the adorably plump man with a confident grin.

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"They don't seem to have a Summoner, we might be able to get the upper hand if we engage them directly!" Jiang Yu quickly cast his Summoning Spell when he did not see any of their opponents trying to cast a Summoning Spell. He Summoned the enormous Rock Demon!

The Rock Demon had grown stronger. It was now covered in glowing, sturdy rocks. When it stood in front of the team, it was like an imperious, rocky mountain!

Chapter 1048: Domain: Icy Wind Nirvana

"Jiang Yu, let your Rock Demon attack with me!" Ai Jiangtu said.

"Got it!"

Ai Jiangtu leapt into the air and landed firmly on the Rock Demon's shoulder.

Ai Jiangtu was wearing a dark blue jacket. Due to his military background, he had the imposing demeanor of an officer. He advanced with the Rock Demon, his eyes staring down at the remaining members of the Japanese team.

Suddenly, Ai Jiangtu raised his hands! "Stop!"

An invisible Space energy spread out. When the team was confused about why he was reacting strangely all of a sudden, they soon discovered six shadow thorns within ten meters of Ai Jiangtu. The thorns were flying rapidly toward him from the woods, yet they immediately came to a stop ten meters away!

The six Thorns of the Shadow Rose failed to move any closer to Ai Jiangtu, despite their extraordinary power. It was like there was a magnetic field at ten meters circling Ai Jiangtu. Any object trying to harm him was unable to move any closer!

"Break!" Ai Jiangtu clenched his fist. The six shadow thorns were immediately crushed by overwhelming force. They immediately turned into black puffs of smoke, dispersing in the air.

Within the woods, a pair of sharp eyes flickered. Ai Jiangtu immediately turned around as his silver eyes emitted a brilliant glow.

The owner of the eyes immediately realized the danger he was in. He quickly withdrew into the shadows and disappeared into the woods like a phantom.

As soon as the figure vanished, a section of the woods was crushed into pieces, splintering in all directions. An area a hundred meters square was razed to the ground!

Standing a safe distance away, Akira Matsuki gasped in relief. He stared at Ai Jiangtu standing there on the Rock Demon's shoulder.

"This guy is extremely dangerous! He almost caught me!" Akira Matsuki was drenched in cold sweat.

He was only trying to ambush Ai Jiangtu, who had clearly exposed himself. To his surprise, not only did the man nullify his attack with ease, his location was almost compromised! It was tricky to defend against the man's outstanding control of the Space Element. If he had been any slower, he would have to leave the match in shame!

"Stop!"

The Rock Demon continued moving forward. Ai Jiangtu opened his hand as he began to emit a brilliant, silver glow.

The fiery sparrows lunging at him from the air, the rupture approaching him along the ground, the fierce tide pouring down from above, and the gradually-approaching storm, all spells meant to land on Ai Jiangtu, had come to a complete stop, as if time had stopped flowing!

The four spells had stopped completely before Ai Jiangtu's power. They could not even move an inch closer to Ai Jiangtu and the Rock Demon. The spectacular move immediately earned a loud cheer from the spectators!

"Such a strong Space Mage!"

"He just stopped all the spells with a single wave. This man must be the captain of the Chinese team! He is so cool!"

"I'm afraid even the Advanced Spells won't be able to harm him. He's like an adult facing the wild swings and kicks from a three-year-old."

Ai Jiangtu's performance immediately stirred an uproar from the crowd. The incomparable strength of the Space Element had made him look unbeatable, as spells of multiple Elements had failed to overcome the field of energy that Ai Jiangtu had set up!

Under the stage, Mo Fan was extremely jealous when he saw how impressive Ai Jiangtu's Space magic was.

He had to admit Ai Jiangtu's Space Element was terrifying. Mo Fan was also a Space Mage, so he knew how difficult it was to stop every spell targeting him. He could not help but be impressed when he recalled that his Space Rhythm: Time Stasis could only reduce the speed of the spells within it!

The path of cultivation was never-ending. His Lightning and Fire Elements were very impressive now, but he still needed to put in more effort to improve his Space, Shadow, and Summoning Elements!

However, it was just how the path of cultivation was. Mo Fan immediately felt great anticipation when he saw Ai Jiangtu able to stop the opponents' attacks with a single wave. How cool would it be when he reached Ai Jiangtu's level?!

"Humph, I would like to see if you dare to stop my spell, too!" Shou Watani immediately showed his pride.

A brilliant brown Star Constellation appeared around Shou Watani, setting him off like a god of stars. As the Star Constellation formed from more than three hundred stars condensed rapidly, his eyes changed, like they had turned to stone!

They did not look lifeless, but were actually reflecting a sharp light!

"Eyes of the Rock Demon: Earth Dragon Spike!"

Shou Watani's eyes had transformed completely as he was granted the power of the Rock Demon.

Anywhere he set his eyes on, spikes would suddenly spring up. Solid rocks like lines of thorns rapidly appeared on the initially flat ground!

Soon, a few pointy rocks burst out from the surface in a line extending away from him.

More rocks burst out of the ground, their height increasing. They went from three meters at the start to fifteen meters high. The rocks continued to spring up with shocking force, like the backbone of a dragon rising from the ground, smashing anything along the surface into pieces!

The Earth Dragon Spikes reached the Rock Demon. A spike twenty meters long sprang up and knocked the Rock Demon to the ground.

Ai Jiangtu was aware of how powerful the spell was. His Space Stasis had no chance of stopping the spikes. Left with no choice, Ai Jiangtu cast a spell and blinked a certain distance away while forcibly bringing the enormous Rock Demon along with him!

The Earth Dragon Spikes were still coming out of the ground, and the spikes that appeared later were absolutely massive. Luckily, Ai Jiangtu had blinked to where the first spike was, meaning that he was safe from the strong Earth Spell!

The Rock Demon had a few cracks on him. Despite its outstanding size, its strength was pretty average, although its sturdy, thick skin was able to take a fair amount of damage. The reason why Ai Jiangtu bothered using the Space Spell to save the creature was because if it was around, even without Time Stasis, it could still take some hits for the team!

As Ai Jiangtu was advancing, Jiang Shaoxu and Mu Ningxue had plenty of time to cast their spells. Jiang Shaoxu completed her Psychic Spell first.

She was busy preparing Psychic Impact in the form of a wave. She believed once she released the spell, the Japanese team would not be able to cast any spell above the Intermediate Level for a short period!

"Psychic Wave!"

Jiang Shaoxu finally completed her spell. The invisible Psychic force immediately penetrated the minds of the Japanese members. Those that were in the middle of connecting Stars were taken by surprise. The Stars immediately scattered in disorder, making it impossible for them to arrange them into the Star Patterns for Star Constellations!

Even Shou Watani was affected by the Psychic Wave. He finally understood why Ai Jiangtu was willing to expend his energy and forcibly push forward with the Rock Demon. He was providing cover for the Psychic Mage on his team!

"Calming Pendant!"

When the Japanese team was in chaos from the Psychic spell, the short-haired Maga on the Japanese team suddenly kissed the Pendant on her neck. It immediately emitted a gentle, faint-blue glow. The gentle glow descended upon her teammates and calmed their minds!

Most importantly, apart from the short-haired woman, all her teammates were recovering quickly.

"Damn it, I didn't expect them to have such a piece of magic equipment!" Jiang Shaoxu was extremely annoyed.

The Psychic Wave could easily secure the victory for them, since not many Mages were able to cast their spells under its effects. If the enemy could not use their magic, even for a short period of time, the situation would be totally in their favor. To their surprise, the Japanese team was extremely cunning. They had brought along a magic item of the Psychic Element even when they did not have a Psychic Mage on their team. Something like that was very expensive and rare!

"Rich, that short-haired Japanese woman is extremely rich!" Zhao Manyan exclaimed.

Mo Fan nodded in agreement.

Mo Fan also had a Focus Necklace on his neck. It was able to block a single Psychic attack or a bewitching spell within a certain period. However, Mo Fan could only use the Necklace to protect himself, he was unable to help his teammates with it. However, the Pendant that the short-haired Japanese woman owned was able to help her whole team recover.

Besides, Mo Fan realized that the faint-blue glow remained on the members of the Japanese team, meaning that their minds were being protected for a limited time. Any Psychic spells would have no effect on them!

The necklace would rarely be useful in normal situations. It was very obvious that the woman had prepared the necklace for the World College Tournament, to specifically protect the team from a Psychic Mage!

"I'm totally useless as long as that aura is still around. You guys will have to think of some way!" There was nothing else Jiang Shaoxu could do.

"It's fine, that thing won't be able to last for too long, you can help Mu Ningxue in setting up her spell," Jiang Yu said.

Jiang Shaoxu's tertiary Element was Ice. She was not particularly adept with it, but it was still useful in battle, since it was possible to stack their Ice Magic!

"Mu Ningxue, your Ice Element..." Jiang Shaoxu was about to ask Mu Ningxue how she was going with her preparations. However, when she turned around, she saw Mu Ningxue flying into the air!

Behind her was a pair of Wind Wings, setting off her elegant demeanor and her glamorous face. She looked like a pure, spotless angel to the crowd.

However, the angel riding the wind did not have a gentle appearance. She was flying in the air because she was planning to spread her ice across the entire stage!

"Domain: Icy Wind Nirvana!"

Chapter 1049: Heaven Spider Ice Locking Formation

Not long before, the strong presence of Fire, Lightning, Water, and Earth Elements was lingering in the air on the stage, but after Mu Ningxue's cry, they were erased completely. One could not tell if it was the strong wind driving the ice, or the ice turning into the bone-chilling wind. Either way, the stage was filled with icy, piercing wind in just a few seconds!

Regardless of how lifelike the stage that the stage builders had designed was, it had now turned into a land of snow and ice. The whole place was covered in frost, and every corner looked exactly the same.

In the tops of the snow-covered trees, Akira Matsuki was sneaking in the shadows and had also entered the land of snow and ice, but it did not hinder his movements. He raised his head and stared at the silver-haired woman who was spreading her formidable Ice Element power across the stage.

"Why have I not seen this woman before?" Akira Matsuki mumbled to himself, looking at Mu Ningxue.

Akira Matsuki had a great memory. He had seen everyone on the Chinese team, yet he did not recall seeing a silver-haired woman at the Caribbean Sea.

"So that means she has only joined the team recently?" Akira Matsuki murmured and grinned, "She is probably the kind of simple-minded woman with strong magic. She's currently in such an exposed place, and is also straying away from the team's formation. Isn't she simply asking me to disqualify her?"

As an assassin-type Mage, a target like Mu Ningxue was something Akira Matsuki had been waiting for. His target was very exposed, and was focusing on expanding the coverage of her Ice Magic. The long channeling process and stupid decision provided Akira Matsuki with the perfect opportunity to strike!

"Flying Shadow!"

Akira Matsuki wove through the snow-covered canopy rapidly. He was silently making his way toward the hovering Mu Ningxue.

The coverage of the frost continued to expand, while the Ice Magic was growing stronger. Akira Matsuki could sense how powerful the Ice Magic was.

"They seem to have a powerful Ice Mage; the person is most likely their source of damage!" Yosuke of the Japanese team said.

Even the ground under their feet was now covered in a layer of ice. It was spreading rapidly, and applying great pressure to them.

"Do you think their Ice Mage really has a chance to attack when Akira Matsuki is on our team?" the short-haired Maga scoffed. She would occasionally glance at the jungle where the silver-haired woman was, as she caught a glimpse of a faint moving shadow.

"Let's just focus on the Space Mage. Akira Matsuki can easily handle the Ice Mage, we just need to take out this crazily strong Space Mage!" said the plump man.

Akira Matsuki was already in position. However, it was still not the time for him to strike.

He was strict on ensuring a hundred percent success rate. Based on his many years of experience, it was not yet the best time to make his move. He would strike the moment the silver-haired woman was just about to complete her magic. It would take her by surprise, and she would have no chance to react!

As he thought, the stupidly flamboyant woman was channeling a destructive spell. A blue Star Constellation had appeared around her, and she had already completed six out of seven of the brilliant Star Patterns!

"Now!" Akira Matsuki found the best time to strike. He sprang out from the white canopy.

His body sank eerily in the air. He was as fast as a flying sword, emitting a dark, evil aura as he pierced through the air silently at a shocking speed!

The dark sword that Akira Matsuki had turned into lunged through the air with a cold flicker, targeting Mu Ningxue's back!

Fifty meters!

Thirty meters!

Ten meters!

Akira Matsuki was grinning. If their team won the opening match, he would surely end up as the player of the match, as he was able to take out an important member on the opponent's team!

At a distance of ten meters, Akira Matsuki could pick up the alluring scent of the woman. However, he was currently in the middle of a match. He had no intention of going easy on her. Compared to the glory of reaching the finals, the woman was of no significance to him!

A dark glow flickered as the dark sword swiped past Mu Ningxue's back. The strong dark energy spread rapidly into Mu Ningxue's body through the cut and reached her heart and mind.

Akira Matsuki was still in the air. He could not help but turn around, to enjoy the disbelieving face of his target. He believed the silver-haired woman would be wearing the expression he enjoyed the most... and his utterly perfect move would soon earn a great cheer from the crowd!

However, all he saw was an icy face, and a pair of emotionless eyes...

Akira Matsuki was at first astounded. The silver-haired woman's beauty was otherworldly. However, the thought only stayed in his mind for a mere second before he quickly realized that the woman did not show any sign of panic or pain!

It was like the glamorous face was just a reflection in a mirror that had started to crack. The silver-haired woman simply disappeared as the pieces started to fall!

"What just happened!?" Akira Matsuki was stunned. He had clearly landed his attack on her, yet it felt like he had attacked a mirror instead. She was perfectly fine, but the mirror had shattered into pieces!

Akira Matsuki turned around quickly, and was shocked to discover that his target was actually standing in the opposite direction. The silver-haired woman slowly lifted her head and stared at him coldly, her eyes as attractive as the galaxy. To his astonishment, he could see a calm, collected glitter in her eyes!

It was Akira Matsuki's turn to be filled with disbelief. He was completely dumbfounded.

- -What kind of magic was that!? An illusion created with a mirror of ice?
- -Could a Mage of our level and age really possess such outstanding control?-

A great cheer arose in the stadium, but it was not directed at Akira Matsuki for successfully ambushing his target, but at the silver-haired woman, who had perfectly tricked her opponent with the illusion. She was clearly floating in the air just beside the jungle, and looked so vivid and alive, yet it was just a reflection in a mirror of ice, so thin that no one could tell the difference. Meanwhile, Mu Ningxue was

standing opposite the mirror as she played the experienced Shadow Mage of the Japanese team like a fiddle!

"Goddess Mu is putting up a show..." Zhao Manyan blurted out.

"I'm guessing that Akira Matsuki has never seen Mu Ningxue before. He might have assumed Mu Ningxue was just a substitute, so he immediately picked her as his target without thinking twice. The problem is, is Mu Ningxue really someone he should be messing with?"

"That Akira Matsuki is going to pay."

Meanwhile, Shou Watani, Yosuke, and the others on the Japanese team realized that Akira Matsuki had failed his ambush. They felt it to was a pity, and were surprised by the impressive strength and wisdom that the silver-haired woman had displayed.

"Is Akira Matsuki going to be fine?"

"Him? He's going to be fine. Even if the woman is great at offense, she couldn't possibly hurt Akira Matsuki given how unpredictable his movements are. That being said, Akira Matsuki must be feeling terrible after failing the attempt!"

The Japanese team was in the middle of a discussion when an icy, dark blue glow suddenly appeared in the sky. Its light expanded in a sphere, like an icy wall, sealing off the entire area!

"Crap, it's a Domain!" Shou Watani's expression sank as he realized something.

"What, that woman has a Domain?"

"This is bad! We have to save him!"

"Who said that the woman isn't strong, how else was she able to unleash her Domain right away? .. Cold, so cold, crap, even this spot is covered by her Domain. All other Elements are driven away by her Ice Magic!"

"But we're so far away from her, that's impossible! Don't be scared just because she has a Domain!" the plump man denied, but he soon realized his magic had weakened too!

The energy particles of each Element lingering in the air were like oxygen for their spells. When the presence of their respective Elements weakened, it meant the effects of their spells were lowered too!

"Damn it!" Shou Watani swore in agitation.

"Didn't they say we just needed to look out for the guy called Mo Fan? That guy wasn't even in this match, and we're still in such a bad spot!" the short-haired woman said.

"Don't panic, we haven't lost yet!"

As soon as the words were spoken, they heard a cry of agony not far away.

The owner of the voice was Akira Matsuki. The team lifted their eyes and discovered an enormous spider web in the sky, constructed by icy chains of frost!

Akira Matsuki was like a little bug trapped right in the middle of Mu Ningxue's Heaven Spider Ice Locking Formation. It was quite a spectacular sight from afar, with the ice chains forming a giant web just to trap a single person. It was like an execution rack of the Kingdom of Ice!

Beep! "Akira Matsuki of the Japanese team is disqualified," the judge announced in an emotionless voice.

Mu Ningxue did not press her attack. Akira Matsuki had totally lost his ability to fight. Once caught in the Heaven Spider Ice Locking Formation, it would only take half a minute for a living person's blood to freeze completely!

Mu Ningxue tossed Akira Matsuki to the boundary of the barrier. Akira Matsuki landed on the ground. His body had turned purple because of the freeze.

His face was blank. Fear began to surface on his face when he lifted his eyes and stared at the silver-haired woman!

-A Domain...-

If it was just an ordinary Domain, he would not be trapped so easily. The fact implied how terrifying this woman's Domain was!

Akira Matsuki could not even cast Nyx Regime, and even the mobility he was extremely proud of was not enough to escape the woman's control!

Chapter 1050: Overpowering their Opponents!

"That Maga is so strong!"

"Who is she? Does anyone know her name?" Some old Mages among the spectators sitting close to the stage had started whispering to one another.

"She must be Mu Ningxue, a very famous Ice Mage from the Imperial College. I heard her name a couple of times from the Mu Clan, but I didn't expect her to be this talented!"

Akira Matsuki was knocked out from the stage, meaning that the Japanese team had lost an important member. They basically had no hope of securing an advantage in the match.

He had been the key person needed to secure the Japanese victory!

The crowd immediately burst into an uproar, and soon, many people had learned Mu Ningxue's name. The fact that she could overpower her opponents easily showed how overwhelming her strength was!

"Goddess Mu's strength is a lot scarier than before!" Zhao Manyan's eyes almost popped out from their sockets.

"This student is impressive," Pang Lai, the Royal Guards' chief, fondled his beard with a gratified look.

"She is finally displaying her true strength. To be honest, even I didn't expect her to take out such a troublesome opponent so easily," Feng Li said with a hint of surprise.

The team knew Mu Ningxue was strong. In terms of strength, she was right behind Ai Jiangtu and Mo Fan on the team. However, it seemed like Mu Ningxue had improved dramatically, enough to easily defeat one of the main representatives of the Japanese team!

"I thought the match was going to last for quite a while. I didn't expect Mu Ningxue to be able to turn the tables so quickly. Victory is within our grasp, as long as we take it slowly and steadily!"

The team continued to compliment Mu Ningxue's performance. Meanwhile, Mu Tingying and Nanrong Ni only had twisted expressions.

They had tried so hard to trample Mu Ningxue, yet even so, she had immediately entered the limelight in the opening match. Most importantly, it would be even more difficult for them to pick on her if her reputation kept growing!

They clenched their teeth furiously when they saw their enemy grabbing all the attention. However, there was nothing they could do, apart from watching how Mu Ningxue was stirring an uproar among the crowd!

Mu Ningxue's attack did not stop after taking out Akira Matsuki. As a matter of fact, her real expertise was asserting control over the stage with her Ice Magic.

The ice was already a meter thick. The Ice Magic drifted across the stage in the wind. The Japanese team was suppressed by the Ice Domain. Not only were their movements slowing down, even their channeling speed and the damage of their spells had been dramatically reduced!

"Icebound Coffin!" Mu Ningxue completed the Star Constellation of the Advanced Spell. She had finally launched her attack as the main attacker on her team!

The enormous amount of ice in the sky left a shadow on the ground. The Japanese team raised their eyes and were shocked to see five Icebound Coffins falling from the sky right on top of where they were standing. Each Icebound Coffin covered the area within several hundred meters in a strong, terrifying chill. Even though the Japanese team managed to dodge the direct impact of the Icebound Coffins, the freezing power of the Icebound Coffins as they landed on the ground also posed a great threat to them!

A white mist surged across the place. The five enormous Icebound Coffins stood as firmly as mountains, a spectacular sight!.

The Japanese team was split up by the enormous impacts. Some had to put on their magic armor just so they could resist the cold from the spell. None of them were at ease.

"Her Domain is way too terrifying! How can we possibly stand a chance against five Icebound Coffins falling at the same time?"

"We have lost thirty percent of our damage because of it, and her Domain is still able to amplify the damage of her own spells! We can't afford to let her cast another spell!" the plump man on the Japanese team shivered.

Someone on their team had already put on their magic armor, meaning that if the attacks kept on coming, someone on their team would soon be disqualified again!

"I'll deal with her; find a chance to take out those that are weaker on their team," Shou Watani said with a dark expression.

He could no longer afford to preserve his strength. Shou Watani stuck closely to the ground as he moved forward rapidly.

He had to find a way to keep the Ice Maga at bay. Otherwise, his team would be wiped out in a few rounds!

Shou Watani arrived in the forest, gradually approaching the hovering, winged Mu Ningxue.

"Rock Serpent!" Shou Watani stomped the ground. The thick layer of ice cracked open as a Rock Serpent burst out from the ground and wove through the forest quickly.

Shou Watani stood on the head of the Rock Serpent as it slowly rose into the air. His eyes slowly turned into the color of a Rock Demon, planning to stop Mu Ningxue with Petrify.

However, before he could make his move, a man in a jacket suddenly appeared on the back of the Rock Serpent in a silver flash.

"Ai Jiangtu!" Shou Watani turned to the man.

Ai Jiangtu was an expert at moving around with Blink. He was able to move instantly onto the Rock Serpent's back. It was obvious that he was planning to confront his opponent directly.

"Mu Ningxue, you, Guan Yu, Jiang Yu, and Jiang Shaoxu will handle the remaining three. Leave this guy to me," Ai Jiangtu ordered.

The Chinese team had secured an advantage with their numbers. They only needed to keep the strongest member on the Japanese team, Shou Watani, busy while the others focused on knocking out the remaining members.

Mu Ningxue nodded. The Wind Wings on her back beat as she sprang forward like an ice fairy. She flew over above the Japanese team, and softly chanted the curse of Wind and Ice!

"Ice Wind Storm!"

Snow the size of goose feathers fell rapidly, gradually turning into a terrifying storm as a strong wind blew, dragging the members of the Japanese team that were scattered across the place toward the center of it.

The snow poured down fiercely. A tall mountain of snow stacked up in the Japanese team's territory without them knowing, and the remaining members of the Japanese team were unwillingly gathered together. They were starting to lose their focus after suffering continuous impacts from the snow.

"Damn it, my Fire isn't working!" Yosuke snapped furiously.

In Mu Ningxue's Domain, even casting a single Fire Spell was extremely difficult, let alone trying to use Fire to set up a safe zone for the team. The Star Orbits kept breaking as Yosuke was trying to connect them. It was driving the man crazy!

When Yosuke was feeling anxious, a shadow in the storm moved past him quickly. A brown claw gauntlet stabbed into his leg...

"AHHH, you son of a b**ch!" Yosuke burst out screaming, feeling the pain from his leg.

Lots of poisonous bugs immediately flew out of his body and chased after the shadow.

"Where do you think you're running to!?" Yosuke yelled out angrily.

The poisonous bugs were called the Vengeful Flies. It was a unique passive ability that an Intermediate Poison Mage had. Whenever the Mage was hurt, the Vengeful Flies would appear and chase after the person that had hurt the Mage relentlessly!

As such, even though Yosuke was injured, he was grinning coldly. The Vengeful Flies carried a deadly poison. He firmly believed that the person that had stabbed him had no chance of escaping.

Lots of Vengeful Flies were flying in the air. They did not have eyes, but they were able to locate the attacker precisely. Despite the snowy storm that was blocking everyone's sight, they were still able to lock on Guan Yu!

Yosuke tried to treat his wound with some medicine when he saw the Vengeful Flies chasing the shadow into the distance.

If their team was still complete, a drop of Healing Liquid was enough to help him recover. However, he was having trouble finding his own teammates in the storm!

"Ah, ahhh, damn it!" Yosuke was about to treat his wound when he saw it get covered in a layer of frost.

Normally, freezing a wound would reduce the pain to a certain degree and stop the blood loss. However, the enemy's frost was able to penetrate his body through the cut to freeze his blood. In just a few minutes, he would lose control of his leg, and there might be a chance that his whole body would stop moving!

He had stayed in the Ice Domain for too long. Even though he did not suffer any direct hits from the spells, he was slowly losing his ability to fight!

"Did...did we really underestimate the Chinese team..." a girl with a cute appearance on the Japanese team asked numbly.

Fujikata Tegami was utterly speechless. Standing next to her was Mochizuki Chihaya. Even though she was not an instructor of the national team, she still had the right to observe the battle with the team.

"I initially thought Mo Fan was the trickiest to deal with. Who knew their team actually had a bunch of similarly tricky opponents," Mochizuki Chihaya sighed.

"Yeah, that Space Mage is able to keep Captain Shou Watani busy while the Ice Maga simply crushes the rest of the team. She's completely unstoppable. Our team would be unlikely to win even if Miss Ranko was in the match..."

"I believe that Ice Maga is not any weaker than our captain, either. Her overpowering Ice Magic is simply too terrifying. Other teams will have a hard time stopping her, too. Since when is the Chinese team so strong?" a Japanese instructor wondered.

"It's only a matter of time until our team loses."

"I thought we were going to win our first match, but we ended up losing so terribly," the members of the Japanese team all had grim expressions.

The seats where the Egyptian team was sitting...

"Sayed, do you still remember her?"

"How could I forget her? Holy crap, since when is she so powerful!?" Sayed cried out in amazement.

In the past, Sayed had dominated the team at Shanghai's Training Hall with the Death Saber Mummy. Even though he was beaten up by Mu Ningxue in the end, he believed a Mage of her standard would surely join the national team in the end. As such, he had been waiting for the chance to earn his dignity back at the World College Tournament.

However, it seemed like he would never win his dignity back after witnessing the woman's strength...

She was too ridiculously strong!