

Versatile 1731

Chapter 1731: Silver Skyruler

A Contracted Beast?

It meant the Flamebird belonged to a Summoner; why did it show up at the ceremony of the winged beasts?

"A Contracted Beast... but it must have repeated the same action for many years, judging from its feathers!" Zhang Xiaohou was confused when he heard Mo Fan's exclamation.

It was difficult to imagine that the creature was actually a Contracted Beast. Where was its master, then?

A loud cry suddenly came from not far away as the others were puzzled about this.

The group followed the sound and saw a silver-white light piercing through the blue sky and sweeping past the pitch-black Flamebird at crazy speed.

The silver-white light was extremely sharp. It seemed to be streaking past the Flamebird unintentionally, but it ended up slicing the Flamebird's back open. Fresh blood jetted out from the cut and scattered in the strong wind, shocking them!

"Damn it!" Zhang Xiaohou yelled, glaring at the silver light.

The silver light eventually stopped not far away from Little Moon Moth Phoenix. Mo Fan glanced at it and recognized it as a Great Ruler-level creature he had seen before!

Its body was covered in silver feathers like jagged metal. They could be as sturdy as needles or as flexible as silk. Its massive body was an embodiment of outstanding strength. The feathers on its tail spread like fangs, and wisps of lightning were flowing throughout its body occasionally.

It was the Silver Skyruler!

The tyrant of the West Ridge, the highest leader of the horde of White Magic Falcons!

The Silver Skyruler had arrived a little later than the rest of the winged beasts. It was constantly overtaking the winged beasts like Little Moon Moth Phoenix, but every time it overtook a target, it would brutally slice their back open with its sharp feathers.

The Flamebird was no exception. Its back was sliced open, fresh blood pouring out into the air, yet it was still beating its wings relentlessly with no intention of giving up!

Even though they had no idea why the creature was being so stubborn, they could not help but feel a strong grievance surging in their throats after seeing how much it was struggling!

The Silver Skyruler had obviously done it on purpose. Its eyes were glancing down at the Warrior-level Flamebird on purpose after reaching a greater height, as if it was mocking the Flamebird for not knowing its place!

So what if the Flamebird had managed to reach its current height? A Great Ruler-level creature could still kill it with ease!

Little Moon Moth Phoenix was intelligent. She immediately unleashed a purifying light when she saw the Flamebird was seriously injured.

The light descended upon the Flamebird, now staggering in the Wind of Sorrow, protecting it.

The Light of Moth Feathers supported the damaged and worn-out body of the Flamebird as it began to fall towards the deep canyons below. It vanished from their sight in the blink of an eye.

It was the best the Little Moon Moth Phoenix could do. Mo Fan and the others were powerless to help, as the Wind of Sorrow was too strong, and they were quite a distance away from the Flamebird. They had no chance of providing it with any assistance.

The Flamebird had been wounded already. It was unlikely that the creature would survive after receiving the deadly blow from the Silver Skyruler!

“What a disgusting prick!” Jiang Shaoxu grunted, staring at the Silver Skyruler.

“I didn’t expect the tyrant of the West Ridge to be here, too. It’s the creature that forced the betrayal of the Heavenly Eagles in Hangzhou, giving the White Magic Falcons the opening to invade us, which almost ended up as a huge tragedy!” Mo Fan pointed at the Silver Skyruler.

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If the Black Totem Snake had not fended off the demon creatures by himself, the White Magic Falcons’ plan might have succeeded. Mo Fan had been extremely pleased while watching the Black Totem Snake beating the crap out of the Silver Skyruler.

Since then, the tyrant of the West Ridge had no longer dared to invade Hangzhou again.

“The horde of White Magic Falcons has always been a huge threat to us. They are merely one species of the winged beasts in the Qinling Mountains, but the White Magic Falcons have always been ambitious. They keep invading other creatures’ territory every now and then, and are responsible for many killings,” Zhang Xiaohou said.

“I can feel how unstoppable it is!” Bai Hongfei spoke up.

“That creature is stronger than the Mountain Crusher Ruler. It might be aiming to claim the throne of the Emperor of Feathers,” Zhang Xiaohou said.

“Does that mean the winged beasts of the Qinling Mountains would have to follow its orders once it became the Emperor of Feathers?” Li Dexin said.

“The Qinling Mountains have been peaceful for a long time, mainly because the Emperor of Feathers has always been a gentle species like the Moon Moth Phoenix. If the Silver Skyruler ended up taking control

over the winged beasts, it would start a never-ending war. The Silver Skyruler would use the winged beasts as its tools to expand its territory!” Zhang Xiaohou said.

Zhang Xiaohou had been watching over the Qinling Mountains for a long time. He was well aware of the stakes involved. The White Magic Falcons were invasive, and extremely hostile toward humans. If the Silver Skyruler claimed the throne of the Emperor of Feathers, it would pose a huge threat to many of the cities of their country!

The situation along the coastline was already very grim. Many cities had very weak air defenses, especially when the military generally used the Heavenly Eagles as their mounts.

The Heavenly Eagles would betray the military due to the rank of the Silver Skyruler, hence the White Magic Falcons were considered the greatest threat to the country’s skies!

If the Silver Skyruler claimed the throne of the Emperor of Feathers, it was difficult to imagine the consequences!

“Oh my, that thing is so quick, it’s like a jet among the winged beasts. It will soon overtake the Mountain Crusher Ruler!” Zhao Manyan exclaimed, lifting his head.

The Mountain Crusher Ruler was already one of the best among the winged beasts. Not many creatures were ahead of it, but the Silver Skyruler continued to overtake the winged beasts after it showed up!

The Silver Skyruler was an extremely cunning creature. If the winged beast it overtook was not a Ruler-level creature, it would launch a sneak attack on them, but if the creatures were Ruler-level creatures like it, it would not attack them. It was a typical example of bullying the weak and fearing the strong!

The Silver Skyruler did not want to provoke the other Ruler-level creatures, since they might join hands against it. However, the Silver Skyruler had no intention of sparing the Commander-level creatures!

“I was wondering why it didn’t attack us. It must have noticed that Little Moon Moth Phoenix is a Ruler-level creature, right?” Bai Hongfei said.

“The Silver Skyruler has always been a b**ch,” Mo Fan cursed it.

The Silver Skyruler only dared to invade Hangzhou when the Black Totem Snake was at its weakest during the ecdysis. However, when the Black Totem Snake stepped forward and slapped the Silver Skyruler a few times in the face after it was done with the ecdysis, the Silver Skyruler immediately fled for its life after realizing it was no match for the Black Totem Snake...wasn’t it a b**ch?

COMMENT

“There are fewer winged beasts at this height, apart from those that are brought along as cheerleaders,” Zhao Manyan said after looking around.

“It might come down to whoever has the best support squad,” Zhang Xiaohou said.

The sky was high and the Wind of Sorrow was strong. Those that had reached the current height were most likely Ruler-level creatures whose strength did not differ by much. Therefore, by taking out a rival, they would be able to claim a higher spot in the competition!

Judging from their current circumstances, the Emperor of Feathers was not necessarily the one that had reached the highest altitude, but the one that had remained aloft in the end!

Chapter 1732: The Epic Battle in the Sky

“It’s the Mountain Crusher Ruler. It seems to be struggling in the Wind of Sorrow!” Jiang Shaoxu exclaimed, pointing above them.

“How did that thing fly so fast while bringing so many Winged Patrol Beasts along? Aren’t they a burden to it?” Bai Hongfei said with a confused look.

“Not only aren’t the Winged Patrol Beasts a burden, they are actually easing its path!” Lingling pointed at the Winged Patrol Beasts sticking close to the Mountain Crusher Ruler. She added, “Look, they aren’t just circling the Mountain Crusher Ruler randomly. They are doing it in a specific pattern, including the timing and frequency of beating their wings, and the way they are altering their positions in the formation.”

“But the Wind of Sorrow is so strong! Shouldn’t those low-level Winged Patrol Beasts be struggling against it?” Bai Hongfei asked.

“Are you familiar with migratory birds, like geese flying in a V-shaped formation? When they are flying in position, it will produce a special flow of air that reduces air resistance. Any goose will struggle to fly a great distance on their own, but if a bunch of geese are flying together, they will easily cover the distance when migrating. The same concept applies to the Winged Patrol Beasts circling the Mountain Crusher Ruler. They are producing a special flow of air to weaken the Wind of Sorrow and conserve their energy,” Lingling said.

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“I see! No wonder it feels like we are having difficulty catching up!”

“The Wind of Sorrow must be stronger up there, so it has broken the formation that the Winged Patrol Beasts are flying in. The Mountain Crusher Ruler is now being affected by it!” Lingling said.

“We should use this opportunity to catch up to them!”

Little Moon Moth Phoenix took hold of the opportunity to reduce the distance between her and the winged beasts ahead. She used her wings perfectly, using the strong Wind of Sorrow as a force propelling her upwards.

The Mountain Crusher Ruler was spinning in circles at the same height, while Little Moon Moth Phoenix continued to soar into the sky. The Mountain Crusher Ruler was only inches away in no time. The proud and aloof creature let out an angry cry when it saw Little Moon Moth Phoenix about to overtake it.

An annoying shriek echoed in the clouds. The Winged Patrol Beasts that had been knocked out of their formation suddenly gave up on flying any higher. They began to dive at Little Moon Moth Phoenix like a bunch of vampiric bats!

The number of the Winged Patrol Beasts was more overwhelming than the humans had first imagined. They were like a huge gray cloud throwing out sonic waves. Their heads were on the verge of exploding from the noises.

“Help me with the defense, I’ll kill them all!” Li Dexin grunted.

The Winged Patrol Beasts had driven Li Dexin mad. He Summoned his Wing Magical Equipment and took off before the others could say a word.

A defensive Maga immediately backed Li Dexin up. She cast a Water Spell to encapsulate both herself and Li Dexin, but the Wind of Sorrow was stronger than she had expected. The thin protection of the Water Spell collapsed in no time!

The female Maga was given a great fright. She told Li Dexin, “General Li, hurry up, I can’t hold on for any longer!”

Li Dexin ignored her warning. He cast an Earth Spell and tossed a bunch of huge rocks at the annoying Winged Patrol Beasts.

The Winged Patrol Beasts following the Mountain Crusher Ruler in the competition were not necessarily low-level creatures, either. Some of them were in the Commander-level, and their bodies were covered in some glittering gray substance. These Commander-level creatures immediately spread their wings to defend their leader when Li Dexin started attacking!

Li Dexin’s spell was not effective. He proceeded to cast a Super Spell angrily.

One Water Star Constellation after another appeared. Li Dexin was not very quick at channeling the Star Palace. He finally completed it with the protection from the Maga.

“Catastrophe Wave!”

As Li Dexin shouted, the mist among the clouds turned into a curtain of water, which poured down like waves that eventually grew into a tsunami!

The Commander-level Winged Patrol Beasts had no chance of protecting the rest of their comrades this time, no matter how wide they were spreading their wings. The Catastrophe Wave delivered a deadly blow to them. Their wings were soaked as they were drowned by the water. They fell from the sky together with the tsunami!

The Catastrophe Wave was up in the sky, so it was unable to cover a great distance. However, Li Dexin was extremely pleased after eliminating a huge bunch of Winged Patrol Beasts with his spell.

The rest of the Commander-level creatures beat their wings and stared at the Catastrophe Wave as it fell with lingering fears. Meanwhile, the Mountain Crusher Ruler was glaring at Li Dexin from above the Catastrophe Wave.

The Mountain Crusher Ruler did not make its move. It still had many lackeys with it. Even if it was struggling to go any higher, it would not let Little Moon Moth Phoenix overtake it, either!

The Mountain Crusher Ruler extended its wings. A huge cloud of Winged Patrol Beasts spread throughout the sky. Their numbers were absolutely shocking as they soon filled the sky.

“How was it hiding so many of them under its wings? Holy crap, it’s only half its initial size!” Zhao Manyan exclaimed.

The Mountain Crusher Ruler was extremely large, with lots of feathers. It had seemed like its wings had several layers of feathers, but to their surprise, they were not really the Mountain Crusher Ruler’s feathers, but the winged beasts that had attached themselves to it!

The Patrol Winged Beasts had formed a thick, huge coat around the Mountain Crusher Ruler. However, since they were no longer able to help it reach a greater height, it decided to take them off and attack the Little Moon Moth Phoenix that was about to overtake it instead!

The Winged Patrol Beasts were everywhere. They used their wings to produce a strong airflow, resisting the Wind of Sorrow.

Those without wings were unable to manipulate the flow of air. Therefore, the humans on Little Moon Moth Phoenix would have to stay on Little Moon Moth Phoenix or expose themselves to the Wind of Sorrow to attack them!

The turbulence was stopping Little Moon Moth Phoenix from going any higher. Most importantly, the Mountain Crusher Ruler was expending the Winged Patrol Beasts like cannon fodder; they were diving at the Little Moon Moth Phoenix recklessly. They would be satisfied even if they only managed to break the Little Moon Moth Phoenix’s balance, even if it meant falling from the sky!

It was manageable if only a few dozen Winged Patrol Beasts were taking the kamikaze approach, but hundreds of the Winged Patrol Beasts were doing the same thing. No matter how strong Little Moon Moth Phoenix was, she would still be affected by the suicide attacks!

“How detestable! The Mountain Crusher Ruler decided to abuse the numbers of its lackeys to intercept its opponents!” Jiang Shaoxu exclaimed.

“These little pricks, I can’t stand them any longer! Mo Fan, what are you waiting for? Beat the crap out of them!” Zhao Manyan yelled at Mo Fan. He had enough of the annoying Winged Patrol Beasts.

Mo Fan cracked his neck and his fingers.

It was finally his turn!

Winged Patrol Beasts? Overwhelming numbers? My Ardent Sunset has been thirsty for a long time!

“You, stop using your Water Magic, I’m about to use Fire!” Mo Fan warned Li Dexin.

The proud Li Dexin did not take Mo Fan’s words seriously. He responded, “Do you think your Fire is stronger than my Super Water Spell? Stand aside, leave these annoying pricks to me. I’ll take care of them!”

Mo Fan shook his head helplessly. He could not be bothered to convince someone like Li Dexin. He turned to another direction and cast his Fire Spells at the Winged Patrol Beasts!

“Little Flame Belle, you take care of the left, I’ll handle the right!” Mo Fan ordered.

“Ling~” Little Flame Belle cried excitedly. *Grilling birds is my favorite!*

Flames engulfed Little Flame Belle as the flames of the Ardent Sunset spread wildly and filled the area. The Winged Patrol Beasts being treated as cannon fodder truly lived up to their roles amid the flames, as the Ardent Sunset simply burned them into nothing!

The Ardent Sunset was not necessarily effective against the winged beasts, but it was perfect when attacking large numbers of enemies. When a target was set on fire, the flames would easily spread to another target at the same strength; the tighter the creatures were packed together, the greater the damage dealt to them, since the Ardent Sunset was able to spread faster and more fiercely!

Mo Fan did not use a Fire Spell. His control of Fire Magic was a lot weaker when Little Flame Belle was not Possessing him. The Ardent Sunset was Little Flame Belle’s Soul-grade Flame, and did not belong to Mo Fan.

Mo Fan’s Soul-grade Flame was the Meteor Scarlet, but it was not suitable under the circumstances.

However, he did have other Elements available. He began to compress space, and forced the Winged Patrol Beasts into tight clusters so the Ardent Sunset could spread even quicker!

Little Flame Belle was responsible for output, while Mo Fan was adding to the fuel. The Ardent Sunset soon covered a huge area, preventing the Winged Patrol Beasts from coming any closer.

“Such an impressive flame!” Bai Hongfei was a Fire Mage, too. His eyes glittered when he saw the Ardent Sunset.

“Humph, his flame just happened to be these winged beasts’ weakness!” Li Dexin harrumphed coldly when he noticed Mo Fan had finished taking care of the winged beasts faster than he could.

The clouds in the surroundings were dyed red by the flames. The Ardent Sunset had spread a few kilometers away with the help of the Wind of Sorrow. The flames were almost in reach of the Mountain Crusher Ruler!

The Mountain Crusher Ruler did not expect the humans with the Little Moon Moth Phoenix to be so tricky to deal with. Its followers were like petty mosquitoes in their eyes.

The Mountain Crusher Ruler let out a cry. It was about to make a move again!

Chapter 1733: The Tough Brawler, the Lesser Dragon!

The Mountain Crusher Ruler began to beat its wings rapidly. The creature had enormous wings, and they produced a strong turbulence when it beat them with all its might.

The strong wind rapidly spread for kilometers, and even swept apart the clouds. The Mountain Crusher Ruler spread its sharp feathers, splitting the strong gusts of wind into countless piercing projectiles of air!

It roamed in the sky while the air projectiles poured down fiercely. The Little Moon Moth Phoenix decisively backed away.

Little Moon Moth Phoenix did not have sturdy flesh, so the piercing air projectiles could leave her full of holes. She deftly banked sideways to escape the air projectiles' area of effect.

Dodging the air projectiles greatly affected Little Moon Moth Phoenix's ascending speed, which was the Mountain Crusher Ruler's goal. But the Little Moon Moth Phoenix was not something to be messed with, either. After all, she had the temper of a Totem Beast!

Little Moon Moth Phoenix emitted several layers of blue rays, which suddenly turned into glowing, slashing crescent upon reaching the peak of their brilliance. The crescents spun out at the Mountain Crusher Ruler after Little Moon Moth Phoenix swung her wings!

The Moonlight Slashes were extremely quick, while the Mountain Crusher Ruler was still spinning in the Wind of Sorrow. Its size had also made it an easy target. The Moonlight Slashes left several deep cuts on it.

There was an advantage to being huge, in that certain deadly blows would only manage to inflict minor injuries on something!

The cuts were nowhere enough to inflict serious damage on the Mountain Crusher Ruler. It gave up the thought of flying higher when it saw Little Moon Moth Phoenix appearing to its left. It blatantly charged at Little Moon Moth Phoenix instead!

The massive creature immediately blocked off the sunlight and the group's view. The group suddenly found themselves under suffocating pressure.

"That thing is going all out, knock it away!" Mo Fan shouted.

"How?"

Mo Fan, Bai Hongfei, Ling Fei, Zhang Xiaohou, and the others immediately cast their spells, but their Advanced Spells were too weak to pose a threat to the Ruler-level winged beast. Only Mo Fan's Electro Cannon managed to inflict a gaping wound on the Mountain Crusher Ruler, but it was only a little bruise to the huge thing.

"It dares to come to us? Perfect timing!" Li Dexin yelled out arrogantly.

Li Dexin was most likely the strongest person in the group. He opened up his Contract Space when the Mountain Crusher Ruler was just about to slam onto them!

The gate to Li Dexin's Contract Space was extremely huge. The creature coming out of it was none other than the Great Lesser Earth Dragon!

The Great Lesser Earth Dragon was massive, too. It pounced instantly after stepping out of the rift, and slammed into the Mountain Crusher Ruler!

The Great Lesser Earth Dragon did not let the group down. Its flesh was as sturdy as stone, and its scales were like a metallic shell. A flying creature like the Mountain Crusher Ruler stood no chance against the Great Lesser Earth Dragon in terms of strength and weight. The Mountain Crusher Ruler that was planning to squash the humans ended up breaking its bones after the Great Lesser Earth Dragon slammed onto it, and was knocked a great distance away.

To everyone's surprise, the Great Lesser Earth Dragon clutched tightly onto the Mountain Crusher Ruler's wings, since it was unable to fly. It resembled the perfect bear-hug pose of a sumo wrestler!

"Keep screaming, why aren't you screaming now!?" Li Dexin howled out in relief when the Great Lesser Earth Dragon successfully executed its attack.

Ever since he had come to the Qinling Mountains, his lungs had been on the verge of exploding due to the cries of the Winged Patrol Beasts. He finally got his hands on their leader; he was obviously going to teach it a lesson!

The dragon species were as tough as nails. The Lesser Dragon had secured the upper hand in the battle, even though it was up against a creature like the Mountain Crusher Ruler!

The Mountain Crusher Ruler spun rapidly in the air. Its feathers were upright, trying to punch the Great Lesser Earth Dragon full of holes, but the dragon's defense was just too outstanding. The sharp feathers ended up breaking into pieces after colliding with its scales. The Mountain Crusher Ruler was crying out in pain instead!

"Strong, so strong! Li Dexin, your Great Lesser Earth Dragon might be a little stupid, but it's unstoppable if it's a brawl at close distance!" Mo Fan admitted after some time. He was completely astounded by this outcome.

"Humph, my Great Lesser Earth Dragon can't do anything to it if it keeps roaming in the sky, but it's simply asking for its death if it dares to approach us!" Li Dexin proclaimed.

"However, the Great Lesser Earth Dragon can't fly. Wouldn't even a Ruler-level creature suffer serious injuries if they fell from such a great height?" Ling Fei asked worriedly.

The Great Lesser Earth Dragon had broken a few of the Mountain Crusher Ruler's bones after the brawl in the sky. The Great Lesser Earth Dragon was even biting the Mountain Crusher Ruler's chest and wings, causing blood to splatter across the sky.

The Mountain Crusher Ruler was not one to be messed with, either. It finally used the flexibility of its feathers to shake the Great Lesser Earth Dragon off its back.

The Great Lesser Earth Dragon was not as brainless as Mo Fan thought. It knew it would struggle to hang onto the Mountain Crusher Ruler for too long, so it kicked the Mountain Crusher Ruler's back with great force and launched itself into the sky!

The Great Lesser Earth Dragon's jump was ridiculously powerful. It managed to fall slowly while gliding towards a rising mountain nearby.

The Great Lesser Earth Dragon was some distance away from the group. They saw the Great Lesser Earth Dragon crashing through the canopy of the trees on the mountain, but could not tell if it had landed safely.

Meanwhile, the Mountain Crusher Ruler had also lost control and was falling from the sky after the strong kick. A few of the bones on its back had been broken by the impact. It had fallen significantly behind the Little Moon Moth Phoenix before it realized what had happened.

The Mountain Crusher Ruler was too far behind to catch up to Little Moon Moth Phoenix. Even if it tried to catch up, it could no longer reach a higher altitude after the Great Lesser Earth Dragon had broken its bones!

“Stay there for now, we’ll come and pick you up!” Li Dexin yelled after seeing his Great Lesser Earth Dragon landing safely.

The Great Lesser Earth Dragon was surprisingly obedient. It stood up on the mountain and responded to its master with a loud roar.

A Summoner was unable to withdraw their Contracted Beast if they were too far apart. Li Dexin had done a great job helping the Little Moon Moth Phoenix eliminate an opponent. At the very least, the group’s lives were no longer at risk!

Li Dexin did not forget to mock Mo Fan. “Humph, your flames weren’t even that impressive!”

“Well done, General Li,” Mo Fan was not fussed about it. He raised his thumb to Li Dexin.

Chapter 1734: The Complete Horn of the Deer God

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Little Moon Moth Phoenix was now able to fly higher without having to worry about the Mountain Crusher Ruler.

Only three mountains were left at their current height. Mo Fan glanced at them and noticed a strange ancient tree.

Astonishingly enough, the tree was growing right on top of the clouds. Its roots were intertwined throughout the clouds, its twisting trunk having branches extending out from the mountain or meandering upwards.

“That’s the Tree of Vows!” Lingling declared confidently.

“Are we almost at the Skycloud Realm already?” Mo Fan asked.

“Mm, the Skycloud Realm is just ahead, but apparently, we must rely on the special tall trees to move around. Otherwise, the Wind of Sorrow will freeze everything in the Skycloud Realm,” Lingling said.

The greater the altitude, the lower the temperature, especially when the strange Wind of Sorrow was around. The temperature was enough to stop a living creature's blood from flowing, hence even the Ruler-level creatures struggled to fly at this height.

Mo Fan soon noticed a few Ruler-level winged beasts heading toward the towering trees. They circled the splayed branches, using them as a cover from the fierce Wind of Sorrow.

"Let's head over, too. I think we should also be able to find what we have come for," Zhao Manyan said.

The Tree of Vows was their goal. They could not care less about anything else.

Little Moon Moth Phoenix approached the Tree of Vows and landed on a huge colorful leaf. The leaf directly prevented the icy Wind of Sorrow from striking Little Moon Moth Phoenix and the others.

"Is there really a Deer God here?" Mo Fan looked around, but did not find any trace of the Deer God.

"Speaking of which, don't you think the tree looks a little familiar?" Lingling wondered aloud.

Mo Fan looked up and studied the tree. He did recognize the tree from somewhere after taking a closer look. He soon realized something after thinking about it.

"This thing... it looks just like the demon tree, apart from the difference in color!" Mo Fan exclaimed.

The Giant Purple Linden!

The Tree of Vows' appearance was extremely similar to the Giant Purple Linden. If Lingling hadn't pointed it out, he would not have noticed it at all!

"What's going on here?" Zhao Manyan was terrified too.

"Stay calm," Yu Shishi broke in. "Little Moon Moth Phoenix has explained to me from what she can recall. The Tree of Vows and the Giant Purple Linden used to be a single tree with two trunks that existed between the Ashwood Wind Layer and the Skycloud Realm. However, the Giant Purple Linden was cursed by some powerful magic, forcing it to feed on blood and flesh just to survive, thus turning it into the demon tree you stumbled into..."

"The Tree of Vows and the demon tree were twins?" Zhao Manyan was shocked.

"Mm, that might be true! The Tree of Vows is empowered by the Psychic and Blessing Elements. Anyone who swears a vow under the Tree of Vows will imprint it in their soul," Lingling informed them.

"Will it attack us, then?"

"No, don't worry. The Tree of Vows doesn't have any power to attack," Yu Shishi told them.

"Why does Little Moon Moth Phoenix know all this?" Mo Fan asked, confused again.

"She used to live on the Tree of Vows a long time ago!" Yu Shishi said.

"I see."

"Can you ask Little Moon Moth Phoenix about the Deer God? Take a look at this," Mo Fan took out the Horn of the Deer God and showed it to Little Moon Moth Phoenix.

The Little Moon Moth Phoenix beat her wings and glided down to the roots of the Tree of Vows. Its roots were dangling from the cliffs of the mountain, as if they were growing inside the clouds to acquire nutrients from them.

The Little Moon Moth Phoenix flew into the clouds, and soon returned with something like a piece of coral.

“What is that? It’s the God Deer we are looking for. Don’t tell me it has already gone and died?” Mo Fan protested.

Little Moon Moth Phoenix went up to the disappointed Mo Fan and placed the object she had found in front of him.

Mo Fan took a closer look at the strange object. He had no clue how it was related to the Deer God.

Little Moon Moth Phoenix began to emit a purifying light. It shone upon the object and the outer surface began to peel off!

The surface fell off and revealed a yellow horn. When the stuff that had attached to it had fallen off, Mo Fan was surprised to see that it was indeed a beautiful horn of a deer!

The horn had a unique luster, the same as the colorful leaves of the Tree of Vows. The horn was also a lot bigger than the part Mo Fan was holding!

“Mo Fan, your horn is actually a broken piece from the horn here!” Zhao Manyan blurted out after noticing something.

The purifying light Little Moon Moth Phoenix was emitting washed across the horn Mo Fan was holding, revealing its true colors. Mo Fan followed Zhao Manyan’s instructions and attached the Horn of the Deer God he had bought in Greece to the larger horn. He was shocked to see that the Horn of the Deer God he had accidentally stumbled into at an auction was actually only a part of the real horn, and only around a fifth of it, at that!

After the missing piece was added to the horn, it instantly unleashed a strong aura. Mo Fan felt like a Totem Beast with five different Elements was standing before him!

“Little Moon Moth Phoenix says the God Deer has long since passed away, but the real Horn of the Deer God might provide you with some help,” Yu Shishi informed him.

Mo Fan observed Little Loach’s reaction. The little pendant was blatantly broadcasting its urge to devour the whole thing!

It was more than just some help for him; it was exactly the Totem Power Little Loach was desperately looking for. Mo Fan could even feel an overwhelming mysterious force rising from the Horn when the missing piece was reattached to it!

“Wait, my wooden clapper isn’t reacting. Goddamnit!” Zhao Manyan suddenly yelled.

He had followed Mo Fan through depths of sorrows to look for the Totem Beasts, but it turned out that his wooden clapper was not even interested in the Totem Power of the Deer God. He was about to suffer a mental breakdown.

He had a feeling that he had been tricked by Mo Fan!

“Old Zhao, don’t be like that. Once I reach the Super Level, I can figure out a way to help you overcome your difficulties too,” Mo Fan comforted Zhao Manyan.

Mo Fan was overjoyed. This should be enough for him to achieve the Super Level!

He would worry about Old Zhao’s advancement later. If worse came to worst, he could just accompany Zhao Manyan until he found the way to achieve the Super Level!

Chapter 1735: The Fruit of Vow and Blessing

Zhao Manyan was in a bad mood. Mo Fan and Mu Bai already made contact with the Super Level, yet he was still stuck at the Advanced Level. How was he going to boast about his talents if they went to find hookers together?

That being said, the wooden clapper did not show any interest in the Horn of the Deer God. Perhaps its energy was incompatible since Baxia was a Totem Beast in the ocean, while the Deer God was related to the sky!

What kind of Totem Power would be compatible, then?

Mo Fan gladly claimed the Horn of the Deer God while Zhao Manyan was lost in his thoughts. Little Loach could slowly absorb the Totem Power of the Horn of the Deer God after it was placed inside the Space Ring.

Little Loach was extremely satisfied. The Totem Power of the Horn of the Deer God suited its appetite perfectly. It was even stronger than the Totem Power it had taken from the Moon Moth Phoenix before!

They had come a long way for the Tree of Vows, and almost died as a result. Mo Fan was overjoyed after his efforts finally paid off.

Little Loach’s speed of absorption did not disappoint Mo Fan. He soon felt the energy essential for him to achieve the Super Level inside what Little Loach was feeding him!

“You should keep the energy first. I don’t have time to cultivate right now!” Mo Fan quickly told Little Loach that there was no need to rush it, seeing how loyal it was.

Mo Fan would have no problem reaching the Super Level with the help of the Deer God’s Totem Power. He just needed to cultivate in seclusion for some time!

The cold Wind of Sorrow swept and shook the colorful leaves vigorously. Jiang Shaoxu lifted her eyes and pointed above the Tree of Vows, “They are still going higher. Should we catch up to them?”

“Little Moon Moth Phoenix won’t be able to endure the Wind of Sorrow any further,” Yu Shishi told them.

Yu Shishi had hoped that Little Moon Moth Phoenix would be able to reach a greater height, but her physical strength was no match for the Silver Skyruler and the other Ruler creatures. Their current height was likely Little Moon Moth Phoenix's limit. She might freeze to death if she tried to go any higher.

Not only was Little Moon Moth Phoenix struggling against the Wind of Sorrow, the rest of the group had no chance to resist the extreme wind, either!

"Hopefully, the other winged beasts are stronger than the Silver Skyruler," Zhang Xiaohou mentioned.

"The Silver Skyruler is very strong among the Ruler-level creatures. There's nothing we can do in this competition for the throne of the Emperor of Feathers. Let's hope our country is blessed by the Heavens. Otherwise, another great disaster is going to come from the Qinling Mountains," Jiang Shaoxu murmured.

"With your father around, no city in the Central Plains will be in danger, even if the Silver Skyruler managed to take over the Qinling Mountains!" Li Dexin swore.

"Knowing how grim the situation of our country is, it's better if we can lessen the threats," Jiang Shaoxu replied.

Zhang Xiaohou was still looking up. His eyes were fixed on the winged beasts flying to greater heights after passing the Tree of Vows, including a formidable silver figure.

Even though the Black Totem Snake was able to beat the crap out of the Silver Skyruler, these Ruler-level creatures were still too strong for them. They would most likely be wiped out if they dared to provoke the Silver Skyruler!

Zhang Xiaohou clenched his teeth. If only his cultivation was a bit stronger, he would definitely chase after the Silver Skyruler, even if he could only stop the Silver Skyruler from claiming the throne of the Emperor of Feathers. He knew what the terrifying consequences would be once the Silver Skyruler claimed the throne better than anyone else!

Mo Fan knew what Zhang Xiaohou was thinking. He patted his friend on the shoulder and said, "Forget it, you can take on the responsibility in the future. With your cultivation and the help from the military, the day when you are strong enough to face the Silver Skyruler won't be far away, even if it does become the Emperor of Feathers of the Qinling Mountains."

Zhang Xiaohou nodded. He understood where Mo Fan was coming from. Going after the Silver Skyruler now was suicide. He would not give up if it was within his capabilities, but if something was beyond his capabilities, he had no choice but to set it aside for now. He had to hold his ground no matter what happened. He needed to be confident about his future!

"The Tree of Vows has some rare fruits. I'll ask Little Moon Moth Phoenix to pluck them for you, but I'm afraid we won't have a chance to see the Sacred Waterfall. We'll bring the fruits back to prove that we reached this height!" Yu Shishi declared.

The Tree of Vows was like an old home to the Little Moon Moth Phoenix. She was very familiar with its surroundings.

The Tree of Vows was the home of some special creatures. They were hiding behind the colorful leaves and observing the outsiders alertly. However, they did not attack them since the Moon Moth Phoenix was around.

Little Moon Moth Phoenix plucked some fruits and split them among the group.

“What can I use this for?” Ling Fei asked.

“The fruit’s effects differ between people. You can just bring it back and eat it. Consider it a blessing for being able to find the Tree of Vows, but a creature can only eat a single fruit from the Tree of Vows. After the first fruit, eating more of the fruit won’t bring you any benefits, and it might harm you instead,” Yu Shishi said.

“The fruits of the Tree of Vows are similar to the Blessing of the God’s Seal from the Parthenon Temple. You should treat it preciously. We only have the chance to claim them after reaching our current altitude during the Ceremony of the Winged Beasts...” Jiang Shaoxu said.

“Are you serious? It’s comparable to the Blessing of the God’s Seal?” Mo Fan and Zhao Manyan’s eyes widened simultaneously.

“Mm, it’s a permanent blessing, but I have no clue if it’s as effective as the Blessing of the God’s Seal. It might only be a minor improvement to our strength,” Jiang Shaoxu said.

“Are the fruits really that impressive? Little Moon Moth Phoenix, I have a basket here! Can you please fill it up with the fruits for me?” Mo Fan asked the Little Moon Moth Phoenix shamelessly.

“Are you going to eat the fruits like they are rice!?” Yu Shishi snapped.

“I can give them to the others, or even auction them in the marketplace. I bet they are as expensive as a huge building in a city!” Mo Fan exclaimed.

“Mo Fan, she already said that the Tree of Vows will only grant its fruits to the creatures that have reached it. It won’t give the fruits to those that have never been here,” Lingling said.

“Oh, that’s true...” Mo Fan felt it was a pity. However, he was curious when he recalled Jiang Shaoxu’s words. He asked, “Jiang Shaoxu, it’s your first time here. How do you know all this?”

“I read it in my brother’s journal. It’s the reason I’m here,” Jiang Shaoxu said.

“Jiang Shaojun has been here, too?”

“Mm, I’m following the trail he left. I might be able to bid him farewell for real once I reach the end of it!” Jiang Shaoxu smiled.

Chapter 1736: The Leaders of the Totem Beasts

The final showdown for the throne of the Emperor of Feathers was no longer the group's concern. Only the strongest winged beasts could reach the Skycloud Realm and the legendary Sacred Waterfall. The members of their group were barely qualified to face Ruler-level creatures. However, the Ruler Level and the Super Level were extremely broad and limitless, just like the Skycloud Realm!

Achieving a higher level was like entering a bigger domain. They were merely rookies in the domain. The Silver Skyruler might be weaker than the Black Totem Snake, but the Black Totem Snake was more or less at the top among Ruler-level creatures. Mo Fan had to put a lot more effort in if he was planning to reach the same height as the Black Totem Snake. Luckily, he found the path of cultivation rather enjoyable, especially when so many people were making their way toward the stronger domain together with him!

The group descended the mountain upon which the Tree of Vows was located. Li Dexin managed to withdraw the Great Lesser Earth Dragon, who was clinging to a cliff, back into his Contract Space on the way down.

"We should be careful on our way back. Many winged beasts will still be roaming in the mountains," Bai Hongfei reminded them.

"Bai Hongfei, didn't you notice the winged beasts are not showing any intentions of attacking us? They are even clearing a path for us!" Yu Shishi pointed out.

Bai Hongfei immediately looked around, and finally noticed the winged beasts were deliberately avoiding them. Bai Hongfei initially thought the winged beasts were wary of their strength, but after a closer look, he realized they were behaving respectfully, instead of displaying hostility in their eyes!

"We've taken part in the Ceremony of the Winged Beasts and managed to reach the Tree of Vows. We might be outsiders, but the winged beasts will still respect us for that!" Jiang Shaoxu judged.

"Does that mean we can go anywhere we want when we come to the Qinling Mountains again?" Zhao Manyan asked.

"Not necessarily. The winged beasts that obey the ancient rules and respect the Tree of Vows will be friendly and respectful to us, but those that are savage and violent will still attack us, such as the White Magic Falcons, who don't really obey the ancient rules of the winged beasts. The same goes for the Nanjiang Birds. They are very belligerent!" Zhang Xiaohou stated firmly.

"The main reason is because we are not winged beasts. Things would be a lot simpler if we were," Jiang Shaoxu said.

"Little Moon Moth Phoenix must have a certain status though, right?"

"Of course!"

The Moon Moth Phoenixes had rarely stayed in the Qinling Mountains. She was most likely going to stay at Fanxue Mountain, since there were countless blue moths within its territory!

Mo Fan looked up after reaching the ground. The sky which he had thought he could see the limit of with a single glance was a lot higher than he had imagined. He could not help but wonder what level the

winged beasts residing at the Sacred Waterfall were. They were truly the rulers of the skies if they could easily command the flying creatures throughout the whole country!

“Mo Fan, the Deer God Totem Beast is the other half,” Lingling suddenly spoke up.

“What do you mean the other half?” Mo Fan asked.

Lingling showed Mo Fan the complete seal symbolizing the Deer God.

“Take a look at this! Little Moon Moth Phoenix’s Totem Seal can merge with the Totem Seal of the mysterious feather!” Lingling took out a scroll of the Totem Seals she had drawn.

The scroll contained the Totem Seals that Lingling had discovered so far. They had learned from Jiang Shaojun’s notes that the Totem Beasts were closely related to one another. They could use simple arithmetic to figure out the identities of which Totem Beasts were related.

For example, the Totem Seals of the Black Totem Snake and Baxia represented the Black Tortoise once they were combined!

“I know about that,” Mo Fan said.

“Look at the Seal of the Deer God. It can’t combine with the Seal of the Moon Moth Phoenix. The Seal of the mysterious feather couldn’t combine with the Seal of the Deer God, either!” Lingling pointed out.

Mo Fan immediately felt his head spinning.

The Totem Seals were very complicated. They were not just a combination of several simple shapes; they were just as complicated as a person’s fingerprint, so it took a lot of time to analyze and compare them. They had to familiarize themselves with the traits of the Totem Seals to do so. However, Lingling had already discovered that the Totem Seal of the Deer God was incompatible with the Totem Seals of the Moon Moth Phoenix and the mysterious feather, and they were not even that far from the mountain. How ridiculously efficient was she!?

“What did you infer then?” Mo Fan asked.

Jiang Shaoxu suddenly squeezed her face between them and asked them both, “Do you know the true origin of the Nine Provinces?”

Mo Fan and Lingling were startled. Where did the woman come from? Had she been eavesdropping on their discussion about the Totem Seals?

“Didn’t the Nine Provinces rely on the Totem Beasts to grow stronger?” Mo Fan had to ask.

Jiang Shaoxu put on a cunning grin, as if she was keeping them in suspense, yet she ended up running out of patience first. She said, “That is only the surface of it! Do you know why the Nine Provinces were so strong in the past, when other countries and continents were still in their primordial state?”

“Is this a history test now?” Mo Fan scoffed at her.

Historical records only started from the beginning of the Magic Civilization. Every record about the era of the Totem Beasts was deemed forbidden, thanks to the Magic Association. As the highest authorities

of society, the Magic Association clearly did not want people to know too much about the past. In other words, learning that humans were merely slaves or vassals during the era of the gods!

Countries like Greece, Egypt, and India had their own ancient gods.

The ancient gods in China were the Totem Beasts, but even so, the records never mentioned anything about them. Mo Fan had no idea how the ancient gods of the other countries treated humans in the past, but after interacting with the Black Totem Snake, Moon Moth Phoenix, and Baxia, he was quite convinced that the Totem Beasts were extremely friendly and sincere to humans. They were unable to reproduce, so they had treated the Chinese as their own people.

As for Greece, their ancient gods were more violent. The Tyrant Titans enjoyed feasting on humans as they pleased, hence the rise of the Parthenon Temple was like a blessing to the people. The Parthenon Temple and the Tyrant Titans were still warring with one another, even today!

The extinction of the Totem Beasts in China was perhaps the most difficult mystery to solve, or maybe it was not the same in the past. The Totem Beasts might have waged a war against their ancestors, too!

“The Nine Provinces had several ancient gods. These extraordinary creatures were the leaders of the Totem Beasts. In the earliest days, the Kunlun Mountains were under the control of one of the leaders. The first Moon Moth Phoenix was the Emperor of Feathers in the Qinling Mountains, but the truth is, the first Moon Moth Phoenix was only a subordinate of the leader of the Totem Beasts in charge of the Kunlun Mountains!” Jiang Shaoxu declared.

Chapter 1737: Vassals

Mo Fan gasped. He wondered where Jiang Shaoxu had learned all that from!

“Therefore, it’s very obvious that the Deer God you found is the vassal of another leader of the Totem Beasts. It’s not from the same hierarchy as the Moon Moth Phoenix,” Jiang Shaoxu went on.

Lingling glanced at Jiang Shaoxu. Everything she had said was exactly what Lingling had concluded about the Totem Beasts already.

Lingling had been studying the Totem Beasts while Mo Fan was busy in foreign countries. She had discovered there were many different types of Totem Beasts in the ancient past of their homeland. Some were specifically referred to as the Sacred Totem Beasts, who were basically the leaders Jiang Shaoxu had mentioned.

An example of the Sacred Totem Beasts was the Black Tortoise, whose symbol was a combination of those of the Black Totem Snake, Baxia, and some other Totem Beasts.

Now they had also discovered the existence of another Sacred Totem Beast! Both the Moon Moth Phoenix and the owner of the mysterious feather were its vassals. Lingling initially thought the Deer God was one of its vassals, and that the Seals of the Totem Beast, the mysterious feather, and the Deer God

would point to the Sacred Totem Beast. However, it turned out that the Totem Seal of the Deer God was incompatible with the Seals of the Moon Moth Phoenix and the mysterious feather!

In other words, the Moon Moth Phoenix and the mysterious feather were related to one Sacred Totem Beast, while the Deer God was the vassal of another one!

Unfortunately, they only knew about a few Totem Beasts. They lacked the pieces to speculate on the appearances of the Sacred Totem Beasts!

“We’ve helped you with your goal this time, just tell us what you know,” Mo Fan stated. The explanation about the Totem Beasts had gotten his attention.

Zhao Manyan was a Totem Guardian, too. He quickly stepped closer and listened carefully.

Jiang Shaoxu noticed the Violet Imperial Battalion had gone ahead, leaving only Mo Fan’s close associates behind. She lowered her voice and said quietly, “Long ago, the Nine Provinces actually had many ancient beasts. They were hostile to one another and fought each other. It was extremely chaotic. Humans were frail, too, so they had no choice but to submit to the powerful ancient beasts. The ancient beasts who were willing to provide humans with protection were called the Totem Beasts, but the Totem Beasts opposed one another, too, so the human tribes ended up constantly waging war against one another.

“The Sacred Totem Beasts were special, as they realized they were simply killing one another for no reason. They did not want humans to suffer continuous casualties just because the Totem Beasts were fighting one another. To preserve the humans and the Totem Beasts, a few Totem Beasts, the strongest among them, stepped forward to implement the rule of not permitting Totem Beasts and humans to fight one another. Humans, Totem Beasts, and ancient beasts that broke the rules would be punished severely.

“With those rules, humans, Totem Beasts, and ancient beasts were able to enjoy some peaceful eras. Didn’t we just participate in the Ceremony of the Winged Beasts? It’s actually one of the rules that a Sacred Totem Beast came up with to stop the winged beasts from massacring one another, using the height they can reach as a way to decide their status and earn respect from their tribes. That being said, many winged beasts are reluctant to obey the rules. After all, the Sacred Totem Beasts are no longer around, and the Totem Beasts have almost gone extinct. The winged beasts are relatively conservative, hence the Qinling Mountains are well-preserved, and the creatures here are still sticking to the old tradition to compete fairly with one another.”

Mo Fan, Lingling, Zhao Manyan, and the others stared at Jiang Shaoxu in astonishment. She knew far more than they had imagined.

There had to be a reason why the Ceremony of the Winged Beasts was held. The ruler of the winged beasts must have started it, and the latter generations agreed with it too, so they continued to pass the ceremony down to their descendants.

“The peace lasted for some time, allowing humans to grow stronger, even while the ancient beasts expanded their territories. Humans discovered magic and began to control their own destiny, while the ancient beasts left the Totem Beasts and turned into the demon creatures that are crawling all over the mountains and wilds as we speak. However, the Totem Beasts that initially took care of humans and

ancient beasts all disappeared for an unknown reason. Perhaps the humans whose wings had fully grown overthrew them!” Jiang Shaoxu finished.

“Ah? Why couldn’t it be the powerful demon creatures that overthrew the demon beasts? The demon creatures are crueller and fiercer than us. They have a lot of strong species too!” Zhao Manyan protested.

“Well, you’re saying that because you’re thinking from a human’s point of view. I only said humans, Totem Beasts, and ancient beasts, because we always differentiate ourselves from the demon creatures, but try thinking from the Totem Beasts’ point of view! Humans are actually no different from other ancient beasts to them!

“It wasn’t like the Totem Beasts were particularly kind to humans. They were just too powerful, hence they were unwilling to harm creatures who were weaker. Humans were simply too weak in the past, so the demon creatures always picked on them, which is why they relied more on the protection of the Totem Beasts. Besides, humans were grateful to and respectful of the Totem Beasts, so they ended up getting closer to them! The truth is, the Totem Beasts were never biased toward any species. They were just maintaining order during ancient times with their power and status,” Jiang Shaoxu rebutted him.

The Totem Beasts were protecting every weak living creature, and humans were one of them!

When the Magic Civilization was born, humans finally grew stronger and became a powerful species.

If the Totem Beasts were overthrown by a certain species that had risen abruptly, the humans who had learned magic were clearly one of the suspects. Humanity only became powerful after the Magic Civilization was born. Before that, they were not so different from the ancient beasts and demon creatures!

“It’s what we thought, too,” Mo Fan smiled wryly.

Humans were most likely the ones who had annihilated the Totem Beasts. They might not be able to find any proof in the ancient records of their country, but they had arrived at the same conclusion by looking at the history of countries like Egypt and Greece.

“Therefore, it’s actually quite stupid that we are searching for the Totem Beasts now. HAHAHA, it was our ancestors who annihilated them!... Luckily, the Totem Beasts that are still around are not the same as the Totem Beasts in the past. Since they have been tangled up with humans for so long, they are no longer used to living with creatures besides humans. They have become extremely rare, and are actually considered a weak species. They might even end up becoming vassals to humans!” Jiang Shaoxu went on.

As a single entity, the Totem Beasts were still insanely strong, yet when compared to an entire species, they were indeed at a disadvantage in terms of numbers.

The Black Totem Snake who had long resided in the West Lake had only shown himself once, but he had almost died to Zhu Meng!

The Moon Moth Phoenix had lived in the deep forest with only her final breath left. She would have died if she did not have a Totem Guardian!

Jiang Shaoxu was absolutely right. The Totem Beasts were very likely to become vassals of humanity!

“You must have learned all this from Jiang Shaojun. Does that mean the strongest Totem Beasts he was looking for were the leaders of the Totem Beasts, the ones who implemented the rules?” Mo Fan asked her.

“Mm, my brother was looking for the Sacred Totem Beasts! Those Sacred Totem Beasts were insanely powerful. Even if there was only one of them alive in this world, it could still solve the problem we are facing with ease,” Jiang Shaoxu admitted.

Mo Fan gasped, suddenly lost for words.

It seemed Shao Zheng was aware of the truth too, which was why he had assigned Mo Fan to look for the Totem Beasts!

Chapter 1738: The Opinionated Idiot

“Even though it’s impressive that you’ve learned all this before us, I seriously don’t understand why you are smiling like a smartass.” Mo Fan looked at Jiang Shaoxu and saw her grinning proudly.

“You’re the one trying to be a smartass. Do you really think I don’t know you are using Totem Power to strengthen yourself? Why don’t you call me your grandmother, and I might consider telling you another secret?” Jiang Shaoxu rolled her eyes at Mo Fan.

Mo Fan twisted his lips and said disdainfully, “I have Lingling by my side. It’s only a matter of time until we track down the next Totem Beast, now that we have the complete Seal of the Deer God. There’s no reason for me to submit to you.”

“I don’t have any clues left!” Lingling answered at the worst time.

Mo Fan turned back to Jiang Shaoxu promptly. “Grandma, do you really know where to find the next Totem Beast?”

“...” Zhang Xiaohou, Bai Hongfei, and Zhao Manyan were lost for words to describe Mo Fan’s attitude. Perhaps calling him a b**ch might be the most appropriate!

Jiang Shaoxu was only messing around. She had followed Jiang Shaojun’s path looking for the Totem Beasts, so she naturally hoped someone could go with her. She had almost lost her mind while she was wandering in the Qinling Mountains alone!

“Around ten years ago, my brother told me many stories. I used to think he had read the stories from some books, but I eventually realized that they were all his personal experiences, things he had encountered while he was searching for the Totem Beasts. My brother was like a journalist. He actually found the traces of many Totem Beasts and proved their existence, but he never disturbed them. However, he only recorded some of his discoveries, and kept everything else in his mind,” Jiang Shaoxu told them.

“Ten years ago... weren’t you already fourteen or fifteen? Damn, were you still listening to bedtime stories at that age?” Mo Fan blurted out.

Jiang Shaoxu was startled, as if something embarrassing had been exposed. She blushed and snarled, “What the heck is wrong with you!? Can you not focus on the unimportant bits!? Why couldn’t I be afraid of thunder when I was younger!?”

“My bad, keep going!” Mo Fan apologized without hesitation.

“I’m telling you, if you are serious about looking for the Totem Beasts, you should be treating me well. Otherwise, the Deer God is the last Totem Beast you will ever find in this world, humph!” Jiang Shaoxu vowed to him.

“Mo Fan, you should watch your mouth,” Zhao Manyan nudged him.

He and Zhang Xiaohou needed the Totem Power, too. They had not found a way to achieve the Super Level, so the Totem Beasts that Jiang Shaoxu had mentioned were very important to them!

“By the way, my brother also went to other countries. The enormous beast in the ocean we stumbled into, and the wooden clapper with a magic Seal, were both related to a Totem Beast. If I’m not mistaken, it must be the Totem Beast Baxia!” Jiang Shaoxu fixed her eyes on Zhao Manyan as she recalled something.

“We know, we know.” Mo Fan and Zhao Manyan didn’t keep Baxia a secret from Jiang Shaoxu, since they were now all in the same boat.

Jiang Shaoxu was surprised. She did not think Zhao Manyan would catch Baxia’s attention out of nowhere, and become his Totem Guardian!

“Keep going,” Mo Fan urged her.

“The Totem Beast I’m about to reveal is related to Baxia, too. If I’m not mistaken, it’s also a descendant of a Sacred Totem Beast!” Jiang Shaoxu said.

“Don’t tell me you’re referring to the enormous snake in Hangzhou?” Zhao Manyan immediately lost interest.

“Of course not! Who doesn’t know about the giant snake in Hangzhou!?” Jiang Shaoxu grunted.

Zhao Manyan’s eyes glittered.

“Strange, if the Black Tortoise was a Sacred Totem Beast, wasn’t he the sire of the Black Totem Snake and Baxia? How is there another Totem Beast related to the Black Tortoise?” Lingling asked.

“No, that’s not it, the Black Tortoise didn’t sire just two Totem Beasts. There must be others about. I’m not sure about the exact number, but I’m confident it’s more than two!” Jiang Shaoxu declared.

Mo Fan and Zhao Manyan exchanged glances with one another. It was definitely shocking news to them!

“No wonder the Totem Power of the Deer God wasn’t useful for me. It didn’t even let me take a sip of the milk. It turns out that I was looking for the wrong brand!” Zhao Manyan realized.

It explained why Baxia had asked Zhao Manyan to go on adventures and look for the power that was hidden away. It turned out that there were other Totem Beasts related to the Black Tortoise, beyond the Black Totem Snake and Baxia himself. Baxia had asked Zhao Manyan to look for Totem Beasts of the same bloodline as him!

“Mo Fan, did you receive a lot of energy from the Deer God?” Zhao Manyan asked.

“Yeah, and it’s very pure, too. It was several times stronger than the Totem Power I received from the Moon Moth Phoenix. I seriously doubted the Totem Power would be enough for me to achieve the Super Level, but from the looks of it now, not only is it enough for me to reach the Super Level, it might give me a huge push in the early stage of the Super Level, too!” Mo Fan admitted.

Little Loach had yet to fully absorb the energy of the Deer God. It showed how pure and abundant the energy of the Deer God was. Even the Underground Holy Spring was not as fascinating to Little Loach!

If Jiang Shaoxu was right about the existence of the Sacred Totem Beasts in the past, and the Deer God was only a vassal of one of them, it meant Little Loach preferred the Totem Power of the Totem Beasts from the same bloodline. If he could find other Totem Beasts of the same bloodline, it would grant him huge benefits!

Once he reached the Super Level, he would have eight Elements in total. Without proper sources of nutrition, Mo Fan seriously wondered if he could feed all his Elements enough!

“Do you know where the next Totem Beast is?” Zhao Manyan was running out of patience.

He was keen to achieve the Super Level so he could become stronger. Even though he had left everything about his family behind and preferred the freedom he currently had, the Zhao Family was still his roots. He would have to go back one day!

“It’s in the... oh, I don’t feel like saying it all of a sudden. The two of you might be trustworthy at times, but you can be cruel and unscrupulous, too. How would I know if the two of you are going to leave me behind, and go look for the Totem Beast yourself?” Jiang Shaoxu smiled.

“How is that possible? Why would we do such a thing, unless the place is extremely dangerous?” Mo Fan demanded.

“That arrogance of yours is very annoying. Not every woman likes to hide in safety and wait anxiously for your return, do you understand? We enjoy the thrills and adrenaline rushes too, especially when we find the answers to the questions that have bothered us for a long time. Don’t you think so too, Lingling?” Jiang Shaoxu inquired.

Jiang Shaoxu’s words fit Lingling’s mood perfectly. She was still holding a grudge against Mo Fan for not bringing her to the Pyramid!

The Great Pyramid of Giza! Lingling had dreamed of seeing what was inside of it. She had read many books about it since she was young, but she could only determine if the books were telling the truth by going into the Pyramid.

But Mo Fan did not bring her along. The reason was that he was afraid to put her in danger.

However, if she was told to stay at home and boring school every day, she would feel no different than a soulless shell!

“Mm, he’s an opinionated idiot,” Lingling agreed.

Chapter 1739: Yes, I’m Lying

Mo Fan was left speechless.

“Therefore, don’t even think I’m going to spill it all out now. Just make the necessary preparations. I’ll let you know when it’s time to go!” Jiang Shaoxu smiled.

Lingling’s eyes flickered with a cunning look, too.

Jiang Shaoxu’s idea was brilliant. From now on, she did not have to tell Mo Fan everything whenever she discovered something. Otherwise, Mo Fan would simply toss her aside if he thought it was too dangerous!

He would have no choice but to bring her along if she did not spill the beans. That way, she no longer had to stay at that boring school or at home!

Mm, perfect!

Not every woman was stupid. Jiang Shaoxu was very clever!

Zhao Manyan’s face darkened. He finally had a chance to achieve the Super Level, yet Jiang Shaoxu was not willing to spill it!

“Fine, let’s head back for now. We’ll go once we are ready. We’ll bring you two along, too,” Mo Fan said helplessly.

Speaking of which, Zhao Manyan had been following him around to many places, yet he had never received any benefits. They were supposed to split the benefits of coming to the Qinling Mountains evenly, yet the Totem Beast here did not fit Baxia’s preferences. If he did not find a way to help Zhao Manyan achieve the Super Level, his friend might end up falling out with him!

Besides, the Totem Beasts were somewhat related to one another. In Lingling’s view, the Totem Seals were like playing a crossword puzzle. Once you found enough words to fill the blanks, it was possible to guess who the unknown Totem Beasts were!

Lingling was already drawing on her scroll to look for the Totem Beasts that suited Little Loach’s taste. She needed more clues provided by other Totem Beasts first, however...

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“Wait,” Apas suddenly spoke up, stopping the group from leaving the mountain.

Mo Fan turned to Apas, a little confused. She did not explain herself. She suddenly headed into a tall bush and disappeared.

“Hey, what are you doing? It’s too dangerous to wander alone!” Li Dexin yelled. He quickly ran to the bush, yet Apas was already gone.

In Li Dexin’s eyes, Apas was just like Lingling. These delicate young girls were nowhere enough to fill a demon creature’s mouth!

“Go after her, what are you waiting for? There are many Witch Hawks around here!” Jiang Shaoxu urged, worried about Apas’ safety too.

“Her? I’m more worried about the demon creatures she stumbles into!” Mo Fan answered.

Should he even worry about the safety of a successor to Medusa?

If he disregarded her age and ranked the demon creatures in terms of seniority, Apas would be the ancestor of these demon creatures!

Mo Fan was not worried at all. Apas kept saying she was not good at fighting and that she only had Psychic Magic at her disposal, yet did she really think Mo Fan would believe that?

She might seem harmless and was willing to follow Mo Fan around like a little servant girl for now, but he could guarantee that she was trying to come up with a plan to murder him without having to damage her noble soul every night!

Therefore, Mo Fan actually held a little grudge against his second Contracted Beast. How did he end up with such a disobedient and cunning snake beauty? He would rather have a diligent, obedient beast like the Great Lesser Earth Dragon!

— —

Apas wove through the thick bushes. The trees ahead were razed to the ground.

A bunch of Witch Hawks was circling above the shrubs. Their faces were twisted and ugly, like old hags. Their chests were busty, but they were covered in disgusting feathers. The lower halves of their bodies resembled a hawk.

The Witch Hawks were commonly found in Europe, called Harpies there. Nobody knew when they had come to secure themselves a spot in the Qinling Mountains. They were vicious and cruel, and enjoyed circling a dying creature. They would utter unpleasant shrieks while watching their prey die.

Death was already a torture, not to mention being constantly bothered by the unpleasant cries of the Witch Hawks prior to it. They would stick their ugly faces close to their prey as if they were trying to say, “Hey, you’re dying, but we are still alive. You’re going to die, and we will live for a long time!”

The Witch Hawks were holding a party around the body of a demon creature. They were singing in piercing screeches!

A pitch-black bird was lying in a pit there. Its eyes were filled with discontent, but it was directed at the sky instead of the lowly Witch Hawks who were ridiculing it.

Soft footsteps were heard. A pretty and clean-skinned face soon showed up in front of the demon creature who was on its last breath.

The Witch Hawks began to panic. They let out intimidating cries at the young woman.

Apas coldly scanned the surroundings and told the Witch Hawks, "You will die if you are still in my sight after three seconds!"

The Witch Hawks were from Europe, and the Medusae were the noblest and most cold-blooded of the demon creatures of Europe. The Witch Hawks actually forgot how to fly after feeling the enormous pressure. They quickly crawled away and fled wildly into the bushes!

Apas crouched down slowly. She placed her hand on the pitch-black Flamebird's forehead.

She was not wearing any expression, yet her eyes were constantly flickering with emotions, as if she was experiencing what the Flamebird had been through.

A tear left Apas' eye and ran down her face as she lifted her hand from the Flamebird's head. The tear turned into a stone before it touched the ground.

"We've been to the Tree of Vows. The person you are waiting for wasn't up there," Apas told the dying Flamebird.

The Flamebird tried its best to look at Apas.

"Do you want to hear the truth?" Apas asked.

The Flamebird's eyes remained fixed on Apas.

—

When Mo Fan found Apas, she was coming back with a strange gloomy aura.

Mo Fan saw the remains of a cremated Flamebird, and black feathers scattered around it.

"It was the Flamebird?" Mo Fan asked.

"Mm," Apas nodded.

"Who was its owner?" Mo Fan asked.

"I don't know," Apas answered.

"You're lying," Mo Fan replied.

"Yes, I'm lying," Apas admitted blatantly.

Mo Fan did not expect such a direct response from her.

Well, she already said she was lying. What else did he want from her?

Chapter 1740: The Super Level! Part One

The group left the Qinling Mountains, and no longer had to suffer in the Wind of Sorrow. A sense of freedom surged in their bodies. If they had stayed a few more days in the Qinling Mountains, they might have to regrow their skin!

They stayed in the town below the Qinling Mountains for the night. Mo Fan could not wait to begin his meditation after claiming the Totem Power of the Deer God.

Little Loach had given Mo Fan a huge push in the back. He felt like he would break through the walls of the Super Level in a few days without trying too hard. Every time Little Loach had a breakthrough, it would grant Mo Fan huge benefits, too! Mo Fan did not want to waste the opportunity to strike while the iron was hot!

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The Stars flowed inside Mo Fan's Spiritual World. Each color represented a different Element.

The Stars of the Lightning Element and the Fire Element were the most restless. Little Loach had only provided Mo Fan with a single push, so if he did not control it well, it might end up being distributed to every Element. It was unreasonable to split the momentum up, unless the force was actually strong enough to break through the walls of all five of his Elements at once!

"Should I choose the Lightning Element or the Fire Element?" Mo Fan's head began to hurt as he inspected his two primary Elements.

The energy from Little Loach was only enough to push a single Element to the Super Level. Mo Fan was struggling a little to pick between the Fire Element and Lightning Element, since both of them were ready to advance to the Super Level!

"Lightning Element it is! It's the big brother, after all," Mo Fan said to himself.

Mo Fan's Fire Element was an ace because of Little Flame Belle. Even if his Fire Element reached the Super Level, his Fire Element would not improve by much if Little Flame Belle did not also have a breakthrough. After all, without Little Flame Belle's help, Mo Fan was only a Fire Mage with the Meteor Scarlet. His control of the Fire Element was too weak!

The Lightning Element was different. The Lightning Tyrant matched Mo Fan's demon flesh perfectly, and it was significantly stronger than the Meteor Scarlet, too! Besides, Mo Fan had also used the Blessing of the God's Seal on the Lightning Element to improve its base damage, so the Super Spells of his Lightning Element were going to be insane!

Most importantly, Mo Fan had long desired the Super Lightning Spell, the Seal of Nine Laws. Apart from the imprisonment effect when using the nine lightning halberds, the target trapped inside the spell was constantly blasted by lightning strikes! It might not be ideal against demon creatures with huge numbers, but it was perfect against strong Ruler-level creatures of massive size!

Lightning!

It was decided: he would improve the Lightning Element to the Super Level first!

After making his decision, Mo Fan focused his attention on the Lightning Element's Galaxy.

Little Loach had been with Mo Fan for many years, and was well aware of its master's thoughts. It immediately opened the valve, allowing the abundant energy to pour into Mo Fan's Spiritual World.

"There's so much!"

Mo Fan was startled. How much did Little Loach even eat it, to provide him with so much energy for the breakthrough?

The tremendous tide surged into Mo Fan's Spiritual World. The little purple galaxy did not have the space to contain it all. The barrier bounding the galaxy shook hard after the energy slammed into it.

As a matter of fact, the barrier had already been worn down by Mo Fan's previous breakthrough attempts, but it was simply too solid. It would hardly move unless it was filled up with energy beyond its capacity. It was like a metal cage, while the energy of the galaxy was just an embryo. Even if he smashed himself into pieces, the walls of the cage would hardly budge!

It was possible for an Intermediate Mage to break through to the Advanced Level with talent, determination, and the energy they had accumulated on their own, but the energy accumulated by oneself was nowhere enough for to break through to the Super Level. Every Super Mage had relied on some rare natural resources, absorbing that energy into their Spiritual World and using it to break the cage!

These sources of tremendous energy were not necessarily compatible with a Mage's constitution, so every Super Mage had their own way of achieving the Super Level, which would affect the spells they would be able to use in the future. The process no longer followed the standard outline of the early levels.

People with greater control over their Elements found it easier to find their unique path. Mo Fan's Fire Element was a great example. His Fire Element was no longer restricted to the respective form of the Basic, Intermediate, and Advanced Spells. His Fire Burst, Fiery Fist, and Sky-Flame Funeral could take different forms, based on the capabilities of his Fire Element.

The minor variations available to an Advanced Mage were only the beginning. Only those in the Super Level were able to modify their spells as they pleased!

—

It was a quiet night with sparse stars.

There were no colorful clouds, nor an overwhelming ripple of energy bursting out of the room in the little town to alert every great talent nearby. There was not even the special effect when a player's HP and MP fully recovered after leveling up...

The broken pieces of the barrier were scattered through the vast Galaxy. Apart from the deep look in Mo Fan's eyes and the sense of relief in his heart, breaking through did not startle even a single blade of grass or tree. Bold mosquitoes were still circling Mo Fan's head while struggling to decide if they were going to drink his blood from his forehead or his neck. They were totally unaware of how terrifying the man they were up against was.

Whapwhapwhap!

Finally, Mo Fan grinned while swatting the mosquitoes away at a ridiculous speed.

“Phew~!” Mo Fan opened his palms and blew the dead mosquitoes away. He had a calm face, while his eyes flickered with the arrogance of someone superior.

Such a petty life was gone so easily...

Normally, he would gladly toy around with the dead bodies of the mosquitoes he had killed with his own hands for some time and utter a few curses before getting rid of them, but he was now a Super Mage. His frame of mind had escalated. It was no longer necessary to be fussy about these lowly creatures!

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“I’n not drunk, I’n not drunk, I don need your help!”

Zhao Manyan waved his hand in front of the bar. He insisted on not letting Zhang Xiaohou support him.

“Brother Zhao, I know you are not drunk, but I wouldn’t want to embarrass myself, either. You can either walk properly, or stop telling people that you’re my brother. I’m still the person-in-charge here,” Zhang Xiaohou replied.

“It’sh not even dat mush offa deal!” Zhao Manyan answered, climbing to his feet. He dusted off his shirt and said, “Of...of coursh you’re my brother. I’m going to tell everyone here about it... and becaush of that, I promish you that I will not crawl my way back. I will lift my chin and marsh like a sholdier... How doesh that shound!?”