#### Versatile 1751

Chapter 1751: The Earth Element as Ferocious as a Tiger

Zeng Tong took his time. He first used a Basic Spell to probe Mo Fan. The truth was, he was not trying to test Mo Fan, he was just mocking him.

The ground was covered in sand, making it perfect for using the Earth Element. Zeng Tong easily completed the Basic Spell of the Earth Element. He was planning to use Earth Wave to teach Mo Fan a lesson when he noticed Mo Fan was still slowly drawing the Earth Element's Star Orbit. He could not help but chuckle.

The man was too slow. Normally, people would have finished channeling their Intermediate Spells by now! It seemed like he had chosen a weakling as his opponent. He did not mind. He decided to have some fun fooling around with the man. He knew how difficult it would be for him to graduate from the school. He always felt better after he came here to bully some rookies!

Zeng Tong was very patient, waiting for Mo Fan to finish the Basic Earth Spell. They were sharing the same ground. Wasn't it obvious who would have control over it?

"Rock Fangs!"

Mo Fan finally made his move. His hands emitted a golden-brown glow as he focused his attention on the ground below Zeng Tong's feet.

Something began to grow rapidly underground. A rock resembling a beast's fang sprang up at Zeng Tong.

Zeng Tong was expecting a slight movement from the Earth Wave, which would be merely a little breeze for him, so he was astonished when the terrifying rock erupted out of the ground and almost went through his pants.

Zeng Tong reacted fairly quickly. He rolled away on the ground and barely dodged the deadly Rock Fang!

"What...what magic is that !?" Zeng Tong crawled to his feet and blurted out in a strange voice.

"It's the Earth Element, Rock Fang: Crocodile Snap!" Mo Fan moved both his hands simultaneously.

Zeng Tong was still recovering from the shock when he noticed several Rock Fangs approaching from ten meters away on his left. Even though they were made of stone, they still looked extremely sharp!

Several other Rock Fangs were also coming from the right. Zeng Tong felt like he was stuck in a swamp, with a huge rock crocodile showing its teeth above the mud!

"Rock...Rock Barrier!" Zeng Tong quickly cast the Intermediate Earth Spell to defend himself.

Boulders emerged at his sides to protect him, but the strength of the Fangs was too overwhelming. The Fangs punched through the boulders made of normal rocks and continued to press forward. They almost pierced through Zeng Tong's body!

The Fangs were getting closer, forcing Zeng Tong to remain motionless. His legs began to tremble. He stared at the sharp Fangs now merely inches from him in fear and disbelief.

"Withdraw!"

At Mo Fan's command, the sharp golden-brown fangs immediately turned into dust and fell apart, scattering across the ground.

Zeng Tong remained in the same posture for quite some time, even though the Fangs were gone. He stared as Mo Fan walked closer, looking at him as if he was a monster.

"Relax, relax!" Mo Fan patted Zeng Tong on the shoulder.

"How...how...how did you do it? That's impossible, you were only using the Basic Spell of the Earth Element. How did it change so much?" Zeng Tong stammered.

"Control! A Basic Spell can have various forms too, if your control is good enough! Like this! Flying Sand Rocks!" Mo Fan raised his hand. The ground ahead began to tremble, and the sand and rocks on it sprang into the air!

The sand and rocks turned golden-brown as they flew through the air. They were targeting the wooden dummy at the center of the training ground, and shredded it into pieces in less than two seconds.

Zeng Tong wasn't the only one staring with wide eyes, as the spell also attracted the attention of the rest of the students at the training ground. They were curious to know what spell Mo Fan was using!

The Earth Element would normally transform so remarkably only after the Eyes of the Rock Demon were unlocked at the Advanced Level. Only those with outstanding comprehension and the help of Soul Seeds could cast spells other than the standard Earth Wave and Rock Barrier!

"Control..." Zeng Tong was lost in thought.

Didn't control over an Element only come into play after reaching the Advanced Level? Could this guy be an Advanced Mage?

Zeng Tong was about to ask Mo Fan that, but saw he was already leaving the training ground.

"Doesn't he look familiar?" a student practicing his Ice Element asked aloud.

"Ah? You think so, too? He's indeed very familiar. He looks like the genius of our school, Mo Fan!"

"Yes, that's him!"

"Are you kidding now? How could Mo Fan be an Earth Mage?"

Zeng Tong froze in place. Something felt even more off after he heard the discussion between the other students.

Finally, Zeng Tong realized something. He tried to look for Mo Fan, but Mo Fan had already disappeared into the crowd at the exit.

"Did...did he reach the Super Level?"

Super Level!

It was unreachable, like reaching the gates of the Heavens, to students like Zeng Tong, who were merely passing their time in school. If that man was really Mo Fan, it meant he had become a Super Mage!

Most importantly, he had just challenged a Super Mage to a duel!...

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Mo Fan was even more satisfied with his Earth Element after he left the training ground.

He had made so much progress with such little time. The Super Level had indeed opened up a whole new level of magic for him!

"Speaking of which, that guy's Intermediate Rock Barrier didn't even stop my Rock Fangs!" Mo Fan fondled his chin and felt extremely pleased with himself.

The additional control from the Super Level could not give a Basic Spell extra damage. It could maximize the potential of the Basic Spell by altering its form, but a Basic Spell would never be comparable to an Intermediate Spell.

However, Mo Fan's Rock Fangs managed to pierce through the defense of an Intermediate Spell. It showed how incredible the additional effect of his Earth Element was. It had made his rocks as sturdy as metal!

"Should I get myself an Earth Soul Seed, too? I believe the additional effect is stackable with a Soul Seed. Doesn't that mean it's even scarier than having dual Soul Seeds?" he mumbled to himself. "Well, I should test the additional effect of my Earth Element for a few more days and figure out exactly what it does. It will help me find a more suitable Soul Seed."

If the Basic Spell of his Earth Element was already so impressive, how strong would his Earth Element be if he had a Spirit-grade or Soul-grade Seed, too?

It was like the difference between the puppy of a hunting dog and the cub of a tiger. The hunting dog might become as fierce as a wolf after some training, but even if a tiger liked to sleep most of the time, it could still tear a well-trained hunting dog to pieces, let alone a tiger that had gone through intense training!

Mo Fan's Earth Element with the additional effect was just like the cub of a tiger. He would not mind spending all his savings on it, knowing how much room for improvement it had!

Chapter 1752: The Impersonating Incident

Mo Fan returned to his apartment at a casual pace. Apas was still playing around with her Plant Element, meaning that Mui Nujiao was still occupied, too.

Mo Fan pushed the door open and instantly saw a young woman wearing standing in front of the bar in Snoopy underpants and a loose T-shirt. She was not surprised when she heard the door open. She grabbed a bottle of fruit wine and tugged the pants thoroughly displaying her curves up. Her bottom even wriggled happily after it felt more comfortable.

"Jiaojiao, do you want to drink with me? My mentor is so annoying. He didn't want to let me graduate with excellence. Unforgivable!" Ai Tutu called out.

"You either go shopping and eat or drink and sleep at home. There must be something wrong with the Pearl Institute's system if you can graduate with excellence," Mo Fan replied, admiring the pleasant view.

"Bullshit, I'm very hardworking... AH! Demon King, why is it you!?" Ai Tutu turned around in shock and saw Mo Fan was already sitting on the couch.

"This is my place. It's been a while since I came back, so I came to check if my two canaries had brought other men back home," Mo Fan shot back.

"Wait, aren't you at Qinghai?" Ai Tutu looked at Mo Fan curiously.

"Qinghai? Why would I be in Qinghai?" Mo Fan was confused.

"Check this out! Did you already sneak back to the Magic City after committing such a detestable crime? That's pretty quick of you," Ai Tutu said.

"What do you mean by detestable crime? I have no clue what you're talking about," Mo Fan was struggling to keep up with Ai Tutu's thoughts. He had no idea what she was rambling about.

Ai Tutu was rather confused, too. She quickly recalled something and ran to the dining table. She grabbed the newspaper and placed it in front of Mo Fan. "Take a look at it yourself, the whole city is signing a petition to take you down!"

"Take me down?" Mo Fan was extremely confused. He took the newspaper and began reading it.

He just finished the story when there was movement at the door. Apas and Mui Nujiao came in and changed into house slippers.

Mui Nujiao glanced at Mo Fan before looking at Ai Tutu. She rolled her eyes and said, "Tutu, what the hell are you doing?"

"What am I doing? Nothing, I just showed Mo Fan what he did!" Ai Tutu protested.

"Go back to your room and change!" Mui Nujiao sighed.

"AH!" Ai Tutu only then realized what she was wearing. She glared at Mo Fan and shouted, "Assh\*\*\*, jerk!"

"Hey, how is it my fault? It was you who stayed around for so long in that outfit. I was being kind enough by not pointing out how fleshy you are. Look at Jiaojiao, look at Apas, and look at you..." Mo Fan criticized without mercy.

"AHHHHH, I'm going to kill you!" Ai Tutu pounced at Mo Fan like an enraged kitten.

Mui Nujiao immediately stopped her and herded her back to her room.

"Right, Jiaojiao, take a look at this, what the hell is going on?" Mo Fan handed the newspaper to Mui Nujiao.

Mui Nujiao did not even look at the newspaper. She said, "I only learned about this not long ago too, so I came back with Apas straightaway. You were clearly busy Awakening your new Elements when the incident at Qinghai took place. How could you possibly be responsible for it?"

"I was wondering if I had somehow learned the Shadow Clone Jutsu," Mo Fan smiled.

"Let me handle it. I'll ask Uncle Guo Liyu to testify that you were with him when the incident happened," Mui Nujiao said.

"That won't be necessary, I don't want too many people to know that I've reached the Super Level," Mo Fan stopped her.

Mo Fan needed more time to cultivate after reaching the Super Level. If more people learned that he had reached the Super Level, it would surely bring him a lot of trouble!

"True, you have a lot of enemies. They will realize how much of a threat you have become if they learn you are now a Super Mage..." Mui Nujiao nodded.

Many of the renowned clans would not treat Mo Fan seriously before he became a Super Mage, nor would they bother sending their elders to deal with him. However, that was no longer the same after Mo Fan reached the Super Level. The renowned clans would now no longer hesitate to pick on Mo Fan just because he was affiliated with the national team, nor would they care about their seniority...

Mo Fan did not want to disclose the news about him reaching the Super Level so soon. He wanted to wait until his cultivation of the Super Level was stabler.

"Speaking of which, there was a similar incident two months ago, too. The government official in charge of the area happens to be a distant relative of our clan. He knew we were working closely with Fanxue Mountain, so he helped to suppress the news," Mui Nujiao told Mo Fan after she recalled something.

"What happened?" Mo Fan asked suspiciously.

"It was a small ore vein. Apparently, you brought a few of your friends to exterminate the demon creatures in it, but you ended up attracting another species of demon creatures there. The ore vein that was supposed to multiply the economy of the town turned into a den for demon creatures. The military had to send more men to defend the town. It was to the north of the Dongting Lake," Mui Nujiao said.

"I've never been to the north of the Dongting Lake," Mo Fan stated firmly.

"You haven't?" Mui Nujiao was surprised.

"No, I went to the Thousand Islands Lake after coming back from Greece, then I went to Fanxue Mountain, then the Qinling Mountains after that. I came straight to the Magic City after coming back from the Qinling Mountains," Mo Fan related.

"That's strange. I thought you, Zhao Manyan, and the others messed up, so we stopped the news from spreading by compensating them for the loss," Mui Nujiao said.

"Why didn't you tell me about it?" Mo Fan wondered.

"Your whereabouts have always been unpredictable. It's very difficult to find you," Mui Nujiao answered promptly.

"True... but I've never done anything like that, including polluting the East Side Lake in Qinghai," Mo Fan informed her.

Mui Nujiao thought for a while. She glanced at the news and asked, "What if someone is impersonating you?"

"Obviously. At the very least, someone is using my name while doing these things!" Mo Fan agreed.

"It only happened during the last few months, never in the past. Why were they impersonating you? The incident in Donghai got a lot of attention. Even the media was spreading the news. If you don't explain yourself to the public, many people are going to find trouble for you," Mui Nujiao warned him.

"I know, I'll clear my name!" Mo Fan sighed.

"Perhaps someone is purposely defaming you?" Mui Nujiao suddenly guessed.

Mo Fan was startled. He did not think it was possible at first, but now that he thought about it, especially after recalling the guy who was impersonating him in front of the Pearl Institute, that was very likely to be the case!

"Help me search the news in other places and see if there are any similar incidents," Mo Fan asked her.

"Sure!" Mui Nujiao agreed.

Chapter 1753: Reputation In Ruins

"Don't even bother, your reputation is already done for!" Ai Tutu's voice came from up the stairs

Ai Tutu had quickly put on some clothes. She came down the stairs angrily, waving a bunch of articles that she had cropped from the newspapers, and scattered them in front of Mo Fan.

Mo Fan took a quick glance at the articles. They were mostly related to him. They mentioned his name and even had his photograph, yet he had never been to any of the places where the incidents occurred, nor did he commit the shameless offenses!

Mo Fan quickly scanned through the articles again and asked Ai Tutu with a confused face, "Why are you collecting these?"

"I'm doing it for Jiaojiao. I want her to learn your true nature! Look at what you've done! Not only did you bring trouble to the small towns, you also laid your hands on the innocent women there! I seriously think Jiaojiao and I should consider moving out from here. Otherwise, it's only a matter of time until you lay your hands on us!" Ai Tutu piped up.

"Isn't that what you've been looking forward to?" Mo Fan grinned.

"Bullsh\*\*! People like you are the most detestable. You think you can just do whatever you want because of some achievements. I hate people like you the most!" Ai Tutu spat back.

"Tutu, that's enough," Mui Nujiao stopped Ai Tutu from grumbling endlessly.

"You're still defending this assh\*\*\* even now? Look at what he has been doing lately! I heard a bunch of people are gathering to take him down. I bet the whole street is going to chase after him soon!" Ai Tutu said.

"Tutu, you should be more rational. The media was only making things up and emphasizing the negative side of things to get more attention," Mui Nujiao said.

"Making things up? Look at this, and this; there was evidence too!" Ai Tutu complained.

"The culprits in these photographs are not Mo Fan. Someone must be impersonating him," Mui Nujiao sighed.

"Jiaojiao, what's wrong with you? Are you so head over heels in love with him? He's clearly a bad guy, yet you still insist on defending him!" Ai Tutu snarled.

"What the heck are you saying ?" Mui Nujiao rolled her eyes. She seriously wondered what Ai Tutu had going on in her head.

Mo Fan looked at the articles Ai Tutu had collected about the crimes he had committed. He noticed that the incidents had only begun around three months ago. It was around the time he returned from Greece...

"What do you think?" Mo Fan asked Mui Nujiao.

"I feel like someone is behind all this," she stated.

The incidents were only short periods of time apart, yet the media had reported every single one of them, including some incidents that had occurred in extremely remote places. It felt like someone was putting up an act while being filmed, just so the media could report it.

"I think so, too," Mo Fan nodded.

"They are purposely doing things that are going to ruin your reputation," Mui Nujiao continued.

"These guys are truly disgusting. They better hope I don't get my hands on them!" Mo Fan grunted.

The incidents were mostly related to some detestable acts that would arouse public anger. Many people had begun to doubt his character as the winner of the World College Tournament.

Mo Fan was quite popular in his homeland, so it was difficult to defame him. However, many incidents had been officially reported by the media, with photographs as evidence. The people quickly chose to believe that there were serious problems with Mo Fan's character.

Mo Fan had a lot of enemies in China, especially the renowned clans. They were stirring up havoc behind the scenes to make matters worse, beginning to fan the flames of doubt among the people. As a result, more people had sided against him, while the others that were clueless about the truth had tagged along as busybodies...

After all, even Ai Tutu, who was quite familiar with Mo Fan, had assumed he was responsible for the incidents, let alone the people that did not really know Mo Fan personally!

"The pollution in Qinghai is going to be a huge problem. It might become the fuse," Mui Nujiao said.

"I know that. It's my fault for being too low-key, allowing those idiots to take advantage of it and impersonate me easily. The people won't believe me even if I tried to explain myself. I can only get some peace if I find the culprit behind everything," Mo Fan sighed.

"Yes, and I doubt this is going to be the end of it. You rarely show yourself in public, so even though many people know who you are, they don't really know what kind of a person you are, which allows people with malicious intent to take advantage of you..." Mui Nujiao went on.

Keeping a low-profile turned out to be a mistake. Mo Fan shook his head helplessly. He was amused by how the whole thing had ended up. He was supposed to be the victim, yet he had to take the blame instead!

"I must learn the Super Lightning Spell as soon as possible. I seriously don't know how to handle this. Jiaojiao, do you have any good suggestions?" Mo Fan asked her.

"It's not that easy to clear your name. After all, people in many places have indeed suffered great losses from the incidents. They need someone to blame for their losses, and since they don't know that the culprits were impersonators, they ended up venting all their anger on you. Even if you try to clear your name, they will still think you are involved somehow. After all, the incidents only happened because people were impersonating you to ruin your reputation!" Mui Nujiao pointed out.

"That's true," Mo Fan agreed with her.

"How about this? I'll collect information on the recent incidents and see if we can compensate them for the losses..." Mui Nujiao said.

"Why do we have to compensate them for their losses!? I had nothing to do with them!" Mo Fan's eyes widened.

"I know you didn't do anything, but the people won't believe you. People are the most irrational when they are driven by anger after suffering incredible losses. They do not even care who's actually responsible, they just need a way to vent their frustration and someone to blame! "I've scanned through the articles. Apart from the pollution in Qinghai, the rest aren't as serious as the news mentioned. We can easily pacify the people with some compensation. We'll then prove that you are innocent to them, and tell them they were tricked by impersonators. They will slowly accept the truth instead of assuming you're trying to shift the blame because they can't think straight. When the truth eventually comes to light, they will realize that you had nothing to do with the incidents, and they will be extremely grateful for what you did," Mui Nujiao said.

Mo Fan stared at Mui Nujiao with his mouth open. "Jiaojiao, you will be a very good public relations officer if you were working in a company!" Mo Fan complimented her.

Chapter 1754: Bus Trip

Mo Fan did not expect Mui Nujiao to use such an approach to deal with the matter. However, when he calmed down and analyzed the situation, it was true that people were only looking for a way to vent their anger and frustration while they were not thinking straight.

"I'll handle it for you. You should disappear and focus on your cultivation for some time. Once the wind starts to blow in the opposite direction, you will show yourself and clear your name. You won't have to waste your time running around in vain for now," Mui Nujiao said.

"Alright," Mo Fan nodded.

Ai Tutu was still holding a grudge against Mo Fan. She blurted out, "Jiaojiao, you have almost become this demon king's personal assistant. Why are you being so nice to him? Let him settle his own mess!"

"I'm hoping that he can be the ambassador of my high school for mages. I don't want his reputation to be ruined," Mui Nujiao smiled and responded naturally.

Mo Fan was very inept about matters like this. He was glad that Mui Nujiao was willing to help.

Mo Fan cast his thoughts aside and prepared to focus on his cultivation. The Pearl Institute was a suitable place for him to cultivate in seclusion. The facilities and the atmosphere would urge him to work diligently.

Mo Fan knew he was currently in the teeth of the storm. He decided to put on a pair of frameless black glasses and perm his hair. He also let his fringe cover his forehead.

He suddenly went from a clean, manly, passionate young man to a quiet gentleman. He was able to blend into the students of the Pearl Institute easily.

Mo Fan was well-behaved, and spent a peaceful week at the Pearl Institute. He kept seeing the same young girls taking a few sneak peeks at him while they were pretending to take some rest from their studies at the spots where Mo Fan usually went for his meditation. As he thought, his charm was still undeniable even when he was not interacting with anyone, feeding his narcissism!

One day, Mo Fan sat on the grass under a huge tree at dawn just like usual. He enjoyed meditating here because of the fresh air.

"Morning!" Mo Fan noticed an ordinary-dressed woman placing a huge newspaper down beside a flowerbush less than five meters away before sitting on the ground.

Mo Fan greeted the woman casually. He kept stumbling into her over the week, even though they would mind their own business most of the time. They just greeted one another casually.

"Morning," the woman replied with a smile. She was the shy but polite kind.

Mo Fan did not flirt with the woman any further. He was about to close his eyes to focus on practicing the complicated Lightning Star Palace when he noticed the woman still staring at him from the corner of his eye, like she had something to say to him.

Mo Fan turned to the woman and asked, "What is it?"

"Are you an Earth Mage?" the woman asked softly.

"Yeah," Mo Fan confirmed with a nod.

Mo Fan was able to hide his Lightning Element well, but was still struggling to hide his Earth Element. The presence of the Earth Magic would sometimes linger close to him.

"Oh... Well, I've joined the Earth Element Club. The club is holding an unusual gathering that is open for students of our school. Are you interested in it?" the woman asked.

A gathering for students with the Earth Element?

Mo Fan had never participated in gatherings like this, but it was actually quite important for Elemental Magic. Since Mo Fan was a total newbie with his Earth Element, he might be able to prevent his Earth Element from going astray by listening to other Earth Mages' experiences.

"Sure, I was planning to practice my Earth Element. The gathering is perfect!" Mo Fan said.

"Deal, we'll meet at the south entrance tomorrow morning!" the woman smiled.

Mo Fan nodded. He did not speak any further and focused on practicing his Earth Element now.

The next day, Mo Fan went to the south entrance of the school like he had promised. He noticed thirty to forty people gathering at the entrance, each carrying some luggage. Mo Fan was the only one that showed up empty-handed.

"Over here!" Tao Jing waved her hand.

Mo Fan went over to Tao Jing after he saw her. He noticed two other male students standing beside her. They were inspecting him with hostile looks. They were obviously wondering why Tao Jing had invited another man to tag along for the gathering.

"What is the coach for?" Mo Fan asked curiously, glancing at the coach in front of the entrance.

"Huh? Did I forget to mention..." Tao Jing patted herself on the head and said apologetically, "We are going to Dingcheng. A senior suggested we take a coach so we can enjoy the pleasant scenery along the highway. It also gives us enough time to share our experiences with one another."

"You didn't tell me we were leaving Shanghai!" Mo Fan protested.

"You didn't even prepare before coming here! You're such a weirdo," the man with a slicked-back hairstyle beside Tao Jing said in displeasure.

He did not expect to have an uninvited guest. Even though they were planning a gathering, it was going to be a little trip with some adventure. A trip like this was perfect for people to develop some intimate relationships!

"My bad, I forgot to mention it... I'm sorry, I guess I won't be going then," Tao Jing said.

"Of course not!" the man with slicked-back hair immediately denied. "It's such a rare opportunity!"

"Dingcheng, right? Let's go. I can just buy the stuff I need when we arrive," Mo Fan said.

Mo Fan did not want to be a let-down, since he was already here. Besides, he had to disappear for some time, too. There were too many disturbances around him, especially with the people that kept pouring filthy water on him.

It was not a bad idea to enjoy some peace somewhere else by tagging along with a group of strangers. He could cultivate during the trip, and slowly familiarize himself with the Earth Element!

Even though both Zhang Xiaohou and Zhao Manyan had Awakened the Earth Element too, people's Earth Elements did not necessarily have the same path. Mo Fan needed more information and knowledge to figure out his own path for the Earth Element!

"Get in," Mo Fan waved at Tao Jing, signaling her that he was ready to go.

Tao Jing was obviously feeling sorry for Mo Fan. She sat down beside him after getting on the coach. It immediately set off the man with slicked-back hair. He was the kind that did not know how to conceal his feelings. He stood beside Mo Fan.

"I'm switching seats with you; you will take the one behind," the man with slicked-back hair stated in a commanding voice.

Mo Fan lifted his gaze and looked at the man.

"Zhou Donghao, what are you doing!?" Tao Jing could not stand it any further, and glared at the man.

"I just think that we will have more stuff to talk about, since we have known one another for so long," Zhou Donghao said defensively.

Zhou Donghao did not dare behave recklessly in front of Tao Jing, but he kept glaring at Mo Fan, hinting that Mo Fan should give up on the seat.

Mo Fan completely ignored him. The guy responded with a menacing look, clearly waiting to get some revenge. He sat on the back seat in a bad mood.

The bus began to move. Mo Fan focused on practicing his control of the Earth Element's Star Orbits. He was finally able to complete the Star Orbit with ease after practicing it for more than a week. His casting speed had improved greatly, too.

However, Mo Fan was not satisfied with just the Basic Spell of the Earth Element. He used the abundant energy hoarded by Little Loach from its recent upgrade in an attempt to break through to the Intermediate Level of the Earth Element.

His Earth Element would be a lot stronger after reaching the Intermediate Level!

It was different from cultivating the Element slowly, like he had in the past. He was confident that his Earth Element could reach the Intermediate Level if he was diligent enough. He worked on it during the time the journey to Dingcheng was going to take.

The people on the coach began chatting not long after Mo Fan closed his eyes. Mo Fan could hear them, but it did not distract him.

"I heard Dingcheng always has rich resources of the Earth Element. If I'm lucky enough to find an Earth Soul Seed there, I will be able to make a name for myself at school!"

"Yeah, the place is rich in resources, but they are all hiding in the Forest of Rocks, which has terrain as complicated as a maze. There's no way we can find a Soul Seed, unless we have an experienced mentor with the Earth Element guiding us. Finding a Soul Seed isn't as easy as plucking wild mushrooms by the side of the road," a relatively older student replied.

He was the organizer of the trip to Dingcheng, having gathered a bunch of students with the Earth Element for the trip. He had introduced himself prior to the departure; his name was Lin Qihui, and he was Tao Jing's senior.

"So none of you has a Soul Seed, haha!" Zhou Donghao laughed proudly.

"Brother, what Soul Seed do you have?"

"Silt Rock!" Zhou Donghao subconsciously raised his voice as he answered proudly. "It will turn the ground under my target's feet into a swamp that is difficult to break free from whenever I cast my spells!"

"Impressive, doesn't that mean your opponent will struggle to move around !?"

"Of course! I would have a higher rank if my other Element wasn't so useless," Zhou Donghao declared.

"Speaking of which, Lin Qihui, aren't there rumors about some terrifying creatures showing up in Dingcheng? Are you sure it's safe for us to go there?" someone asked.

"Don't worry, a few mentors with the Earth Element from the Magic Association will be around. It will only take them seconds to take care of the creatures. There's nothing to worry about. We will benefit a great deal just from observing and learning from them!" Lin Qihui answered firmly.

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The students chatted continuously on the coach. Mo Fan filtered out the useless information and took in the bits related to the Earth Element that he found useful from their discussion while he was meditating.

Everyone's path of cultivation was different, but it was not so obvious when they had only learned the Earth Element at the Basic Level. However, the way people used their Earth Element greatly differed once they reached the Advanced Level.

Mo Fan remembered one of the gatekeepers from the Sacred Hall of Liberty in the United States of America was an Earth Mage. He had imbued his muscles with the magic of the Earth Element to turn himself into a brown Hulk. He was unmatched in close combat. Mo Fan could not remember his name, but his way of using the Earth Element was quite unique, suprising his opponents in fights!

Mo Fan was not planning to use his Earth Element solely for defensive purposes. No matter how hard he worked, the defense of his Earth Element would never compare to a turtle-shell Mage like Zhao Manyan. The defensive ability of Manyan's Earth Element was ridiculous!

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However, the Earth Element could be used to attack, and it could be very strong, too!

Mo Fan was planning to look for a suitable Earth Soul Seed during the trip to the famous Dingcheng, to start on his own path of the Earth Element!

"Speaking of which, how did Vani of the European University Institute even do that?" Mo Fan fell into deep thought.

Mo Fan remembered when he snuck into the military town in Cairo and fought Vani, who was a very strong Earth Mage. The Hillock Whale he had cast had taken Mo Fan by surprise.

The enormous rock whale that sprang out from the ground like the soil was water was big enough to devour an entire building. Its massive and sturdy body possessed great destructive strength. Not only could it smash anything into pieces, it could even slam down on its target like a moving mountain!

Mo Fan had a strong first impression of Vani's spell. He was wondering how to Summon a super rock whale from the ground and make his enemy tremble before its formidable presence!

"I will need at least the energy of the Star Constellation at the Advanced Level to Summon such an enormous whale..." Mo Fan was still thinking as he got down from the bus.

They had yet to arrive at their destination. They were only getting a breather at a rest stop along the journey.

Mo Fan was not going to take a piss. He went to a spot with solid ground, covered in grains of sand, and began to draw a Star Orbit!

The seven Stars of the Earth Element were connected with a single thought. It was a big improvement from his slow casting speed before. If he took too long to cast his spells, an enemy could easily dodge them, or even interrupt them!

"Hillock ... "

Mo Fan pointed his finger at the ground his Earth Magic had covered.

The ground cracked open quickly. A rock creature resembling a fish leapt out from the gap!

Mo Fan was going to yell Hillock Whale imperiously, but he was lost for words when he saw the rock-fish leap into the air... and break into dust after falling to the ground.

That was no Hillock Whale, it was only a golden-brown carp! He wondered if he should take a picture of it and post it on his news feed to wish people good luck!

"Ugh, is the difference really that huge?" Mo Fan rubbed the back of his head.

Mo Fan was struggling to accept how big the difference was. Not only was the rock carp too small to fit on a plate, it had only reached a height of two meters with its leap. Its appearance was not that intimidating, either, and it had even failed to dive back into the ground. It had smashed itself into pieces instead!

He needed more practice!

Seriously, he needed a LOT more practice!

He had to reach the Intermediate Level! The Rock Carp he could Summon then would be a lot bigger and stronger. Otherwise, people who knew him might call him an Earth Mage, but people who were clueless might think he was an entertainer!

Chapter 1756: Element Banning Order

When Mo Fan returned to the coach, Tao Jing stared at him with a confused face. She finally asked, "What were you doing?"

"Practicing my spell, but it's nothing like I imagined," Mo Fan sighed.

"You seem pretty diligent, yet why is your cultivation not that impressive?" Tao Jing had to ask.

"Maybe I just look diligent. Many times, I only went somewhere with fresh air and beautiful ladies to take a nap," Mo Fan laughed.

"..." Tao Jing was left speechless. He had somehow even complimented her when he was describing himself as lazy.

"See, Tao Jing, I already told you that you should be careful of people who show up out of nowhere and try to get closer to you. They might have some ulterior motives. You shouldn't invite people like him again!" Zhou Donghao spoke up quickly.

Tao Jing could not care less about him. Mo Fan glanced at Zhou Donghao and shook his head speechlessly.

A person with such a low EQ like him should not even bother trying to flirt with women. She only saw him as an acquaintance, yet he was already trying to control her with his male chauvinism. It would be ridiculous if Tao Jing was fond of someone like him!

Inner qualities mattered. A man should be gentle and considerate, like him! Otherwise, why would Tao Jing take the initiative to invite him, instead of someone else?

Dingcheng had been famous for a long time. It was the most influential Earth Element city after Lhasa. Many Earth Mages had gathered here.

Mo Fan was only a primary school student when it came to the Earth Element. He obediently followed the arrangement of the seniors of the Earth Element Club. He politely and humbly entered the city that had been completely built up using a kind of gray-white rock.

It was not a residential city, but a military fortress. It did not have many forms of public transports like a normal city, and even the buildings were constructed with wood and stone. There was no sign of the reinforced glass, windows, elevators, and air-conditioners that were common in a city.

Only Mages were allowed to enter a military fortress. Normal people, including merchants, were not allowed to enter. It was not discrimination against them, but because there was a chance for a military fortress to be invaded by demon creatures at any second. Normal people would not be able to protect themselves!

After the coach made its slow way into the city, Mo Fan realized the city was a lot bigger than he had imagined. It had even broken the mold when choosing a suitable place to build a city. It was built on a mountain, instead of a flatland!

The mountain formed the foundation of the entire city. The gray-white buildings were like stairs up the mountainsides. The buildings were stacked on top of one another along the steep slope. Even the streets, watchtowers, and roads were elevated around the mountain!

Mo Fan could see the entire side of the city from his angle, but from afar, it looked like the buildings were irregularly placed around a huge rocky mountain. It was both messy and in order. It was a strange sight, indeed!

"It's just like people have described it!" Mo Fan exclaimed when he saw it better.

The city played an important role in the country, since it provided supplies of stone and Earth Element resources to a lot of cities. As the sea level rose, many headquarter cities had to set up their defenses and build long dams, greatly increasing the demand for stone supplies. Dingcheng had become a super factory, supplying the cities along the coastline with stone. Huge trucks were constantly heading north and south to deliver the supplies. Some described Dingcheng as the Stone Heart of China. Mo Fan could not help but agree with them after seeing it in person.

The city was indeed like a huge pounding heart, pumping blood to the rest of the country!

"Strange, why are there so many soldiers in the city?" Lin Qihui asked, looking confused

"People are crowding at the entrance. Is there a queue to enter the city?"

Mo Fan went down the bus and saw the city gates were no longer allowing vehicles to drive inside. As a matter of fact, the vehicles were struggling to go anywhere, since the entrance was crowded with people!

"Why aren't we allowed to enter the city? We've been living here for a long time! Is this how the military is going to treat us Hunters!?" a Mage dressed like a Hunter shouted angrily.

"Yeah, so what if we aren't Earth Mages? We've never heard of any cities that ban other Elements!"

The noise kept growing. It was obvious that these people were trying to enter the city, yet the military had a strange order that denied their entry.

"A passage for Earth Mages? Over here, we can take this!"

"There's no queue here!"

Zhou Donghao found another entrance into the city. He quickly called the others over.

Everyone on the coach was an Earth Mage, hence they successfully entered the city after some checking. The Hunters were even more displeased after seeing how the Earth Mages were treated.

However, the military was very strict with the order. The Hunters did not dare cross the line. They could not do anything but complain at the entrance.

Mo Fan was confused as he watched the people who had been stopped at the gates.

Why was the city stopping Mages with other Elements from coming inside? Wasn't the Magic Association going to say something about it? The Magic Association was just as powerful as the military!

"There's another checkpoint?" Tao Jing blurted out.

There were Battlemages standing in a straight line along the passage they had entered. They had an imposing bearing, like they were going to execute them on the spot if they dared to do anything reckless!

"You will have to comply with the rules once you enter the city," a Battlemaga with a high rank stated.

"What are the rules?" Lin Qihui asked, at a loss now. He did not remember it being so complicated to enter the city. It used to be a free city with not many rules, mainly consisting of Hunters and people that had come for training. It was rare to see the military here, but somehow, it felt like the military had taken over now!

The Battlemaga did not answer Lin Qihui's question. She pointed at the Element Banning Order on the board beside her, telling the group to read it themselves.

### Announcement!

The city has been promoted to a first-tier Rock City. Starting from midnight on the first day of the month, the city will activate the first-tier city barrier. During the process, Elements other than the Earth Element will disrupt the stability of the barrier, hence the city has implemented an Elements Banning Order to ensure that the barrier is formed successfully.

# All Mages without the Earth Element are not allowed to enter the city!

# All Mages will have to seal away Elements other than the Earth Element!

"What kind of rules are these? Why have I not heard of them before !?" Lin Qihui yelled.

"You have never heard of them because you are ignorant. It's standard procedure when a city is forming its barrier, preventing other Elements from disrupting the process. Otherwise, all the efforts put in to set up the barrier will be in vain!" the Battlemaga said impatiently.

"Senior, I think we learned that from the textbooks in primary schools," Tao Jing spoke up softly.

"Seriously?" Lin Qihui blinked.

"It's true, it's necessary to ban other Elements when a city barrier is activated for the first time. Most cities set up their barriers in the past, so it's rare to encounter a situation like this nowadays," Tao Jing nodded.

"How unfortunate, the city just had to be promoted to an Elemental Capital during our trip!" Lin Qihui grumbled.

"The situation along the coastline is grim. The demand for stone is significantly higher than supply, so cities like this are playing an important role. It's only a matter of time before the military takes over. Luckily, the military didn't ban everyone from entering the city. Otherwise, we would have to go back!"

Chapter 1757: The Cave of Darkness

"I have a question. How are you going to restrict the use of other Elements? Do we have to refrain from using them ourselves?" Tao Jing asked.

"The Barrier Core uses the Earth Element. If you want to enter the city, we'll apply a Seal to your Spiritual World that is tightly bound to the Barrier Core. The Seal will separate the other Elements in your body, preventing you from using them. As a matter of fact, when the Barrier Core is activated, the presence of the Earth Element within fifty kilometers from it will be overwhelming, thus reducing the level of other Elements. Mages close enough might fail to cast spells of the other Elements!" the Battlemaga said.

"What happens if we are in danger?" Lin Qihui had to ask.

"You can choose not to enter the city! We were supposed to not let ANY visitors in during this time!" the Battlemaga snapped sharply.

Lin Qihui was troubled. He turned around to discuss it with the others. Even though he was the organizer of the trip, he had to let the others decide if they were willing to Seal their Elements off.

"If the presence of the Earth Element is strong here, wouldn't we benefit from it if we cultivated here?" Tao Jing said.

"Yeah, this might actually be an opportunity for us. Apparently, some Earth Mages have managed to break through to the higher levels at times like this!"

Lin Qihui asked everyone in the group and it was soon plain that no one was planning to leave. They all wanted to observe the Barrier Core in action!

"How about you?" Tao Jing asked Mo Fan, who was not a regular member.

"I've already come here. There's no point to turning back now," Mo Fan said.

Mo Fan did not mind Sealing his other Elements off temporarily. He had already decided to disguise himself as a student with the Earth Element while his reputation was still in ruins. It did not matter if he could not use his other Elements, as long as his life was not in danger.

The Seal only prohibited his Spiritual World from connecting with the outside world. It was not going to suppress one's Spiritual World entirely, so Mo Fan was still able to Meditate while his other Elements were Sealed. It would not stop him from practicing his Star Palace!

His Star Palace was an ambitious project. The Magic Accelerators Zhao Manyan had bought for him were not effective at all, but Little Loach provided Mo Fan with great help after its recent upgrade. He believed he could learn the Super Lightning Spell before the arranged duel with the man from the Zu Clan. Otherwise, he might not stand a chance against him!

The Battlemaga began to Seal off their Elements after the students gave their consent.

A man in a light brown outfit came up and greeted the Battlemaga with a gentle smile. "Wen Xia, why are you on duty here today?"

"I don't feel like seeing those idiots, and don't you call my name!" The Battlemaga drove the guy away impatiently.

"Fine, I'll be patrolling around the Dongtian Cave to prevent those annoying little demons from messing with our barrier," the man informed her.

Wen Xia simply ignored the man. She uttered coldly to Mo Fan, who was standing behind Tao Jing, "Next!"

She had been very efficient in Sealing the students' Elements. She was expressionless throughout the process, like an inspector stamping pork meat. However, her eyes sharpened when it was Mo Fan's turn, as if she had noticed something.

"You are a student, too?" Wen Xia asked him seriously.

"Yeah, I'm from the Pearl Institute!" Mo Fan took out his student ID.

Dean Xiao had purposely given Mo Fan a new identity to help him with the disguise. Mo Fan had come prepared.

"Humph!" Wen Xia checked Mo Fan's ID and did not ask any more questions, but her eyes were filled with disbelief.

She could easily determine a person's cultivation from the difficulty of Sealing off their Elements. She was having difficulties sealing Mo Fan's Elements. If it wasn't for the Barrier Core, she would have failed to Seal Mo Fan!

Mo Fan's identity was valid, hence Wen Xia felt there was no need to expose him. Many people had learned about the city's upgrade through different sources, so a lot of Earth Mages had come to take advantage of it.

The Seal was placed beside a person's soul. Mo Fan tried using other Elements after going into the city, but quickly confirmed his Elements were 'muted'.

It felt like he had the log and the tinder, but it was still impossible to start a fire without oxygen. The presence of other Elements was too lacking here!

The unique walkways and stairs made of stone in the city were a dazzling sight. However, the soldiers patrolling the streets gave them a feeling that a war was going to break out at any second.

The inn they were staying at was located at the middle of the mountain, and was also built with wood and stone. Mo Fan was able to see the other side of the large city behind the tall mountain. He roughly estimated the city to be around three times the size of Bo City, not to mention having so many buildings that were densely packed together. It would be very easy for people to lose their way among the buildings!

"Come, I'll bring you all to the famous Dongtian Cave!" Lin Qihui seemed very excited. He was gathering the group up before they could get some rest.

The group followed Lin Qihui to the west side of the city. Mo Fan soon noticed that the mountain was not just an isolated peak. It was connected to a mountain range extending into the distance to the west. The city was only the tip of the iceberg that was the mountain range!

The Dongtian Cave was shocking to see. The truth was, it was not just a cave; it was more like an underworld that had yet to be fully explored even today!

The terrain of the Dongtian Cave was heading deeper while the mountain was growing higher, forming in a huge ravine between the ground and the mountain. They were so far apart that it felt like the mountain was actually floating above the ground. The end of the ravine was a steep slope, diving down into a world of stone and darkness.

Mo Fan stood on the edge and stared into the cave. Even though he was unable to see what was inside the cave, he was quite impressed by the spectacular view. No wonder the city was so famous, having such a unique cave right beside it. It was definitely worth coming for!

"Apparently, it's so big inside that it feels like there's no end to it. The city has explored less than a tenth of it so far," someone in the group mentioned.

"It might be less than a tenth. I didn't have the guts to go inside the last time I came. I won't miss out on it this time!" Lin Qihui said passionately.

"Heaven knows what kind of monsters are down there; I'm not going inside. We'll just stay outside and look around."

"Don't worry, someone will be guiding us."

"The city is being upgraded to a first-tier Elemental Capital. Could it be that someone has discovered some rare resources inside the cave? Otherwise, where did the Barrier Core come from?"

"It's possible! I bet there's more than one in the cave, so the military has decided to take over. Oh my, the place must be full of treasures. The Soul Seeds will be everywhere, just like weeds!"

Everyone in the team felt excited all of a sudden. Even Mo Fan was intrigued, staring into the dark cave.

He might actually find something valuable inside it!

Chapter 1758: Stirring Up Trouble

Mo Fan quickly shook his head. "Why would I even bother? I'm only a Basic Mage now!"

The Barrier Core had turned the whole place within fifty kilometers into a Magic Sealed Area where only the Earth Element was available. With Mo Fan's current capabilities, he would have to flee for his life like a dog, even if he only found a slightly valuable Earth Crystal in the cave!

He had to remain calm and refrain from stirring up any trouble. He had to stick to his disguise of a student with the Earth Element, for the sake of his country!

He took a few deep breaths of the fresh air in the mountain and reclaimed his temperament as someone who stood aloof from worldly affairs. Didn't the experts living in seclusion always behave like this? Even though his heart was going to stay reckless until he had reached the age of a hundred, he did not mind enjoying some peace once in a while.

Thud!

Mo Fan noticed a sudden movement in the darkness he was staring at. A huge figure slowly came out of the dark ravine.

"A demon creature has shown up!" a Battlemage suddenly yelled while firing a Light Spell into the sky as a signal for others to prepare for battle.

2

"It seems something is crawling out from the cave. It's a very common sight in this city."

"It looks pretty tough. It's too dark to see it clearly."

"It's coming out, it's out, how reckless is that thing? Isn't it worried that the Mages here are going to blast it into pieces!"

Mo Fan and the group were standing on safe walls. The ravine was very intimidating to look at, but the huge creature coming out from it did not seem to be too strong.

A troop of Battlemages soon showed up. They spread out between the ravine and the walls of the city, working to prevent the demon creature from entering the city.

The monster opened its mouth and roared at the troop of Battlemages blocking its way.

The monster was rather fearless. It charged at the Battlemages with huge strides!

It was around four meters long. Its body ratio resembled a weightlifter with a massive build, something that had undergone long periods of training. It was not that huge compared to other demon creatures, but it was still impressive when the demon creature was charging towards them at full speed!

The monster's hide was light brown. The group only discovered it was covered in rocks after it left the shadows in the ravine. More precisely, it was a Rock Monster!

The Rock Monster charged ferociously, and smashed right through the rock barrier in front of it, a temporary defense the Battlemages had set up. They initially thought it was enough to stop the Rock Monster, yet it had collapsed like mere sand.

Luckily, the Battlemages were well-trained. They quickly moved into formations and stood at different angles facing the Rock Monster.

When the Rock Monster tried to attack one of the Battlemages, the Battlemage quickly backed away while the rest of the Mages attacked it at will.

The Barrier Core was still being set up, hence the Battlemages could only rely on their Earth Spells to attack the Rock Monster. They eventually broke through the outer layers of the stones covering the Rock Monster!

The Rock Monster was kited like a beast trapped in a cage, and the battle ended in a few minutes. The Rock Monster fell to the ground, and broke into a pile of rocks.

"The Rock Monster doesn't seem too strong. I bet we could take it out easily too," Zhou Donghao chuckled after seeing the Rock Monster falling to the ground.

"Yeah, it seems pretty dumb."

"You are overestimating yourself. Without good teamwork, the members of the team would easily panic if the Rock Monster caught one of them. It's very likely that the Rock Monster would wipe out the whole team, since only our Earth Element is available," Lin Qihui refuted after analyzing the fight.

Mo Fan had been paying sharp attention. He had a feeling the Rock Monster was actually tricky to deal with. The Battlemages had a great advantage in numbers while flanking the Rock Monster, which was why the creature looked slow and clumsy. However, it would be different if someone was fighting the creature alone. Mo Fan clearly remembered how the Rock Monster had smashed through the Rock Barrier that several Battlemages had constructed together!

"It's no use if we keep talking here. There are obviously a lot of creatures like the Rock Monster in the cave. Didn't we come to train ourselves? Let's try killing one if we happen to stumble into it!"

"You kept saying how good and skilled you are on our way here. Don't be the first to wet your pants when it's really time for you to fight the Rock Monsters!" Liang Junheng, another member of the group, countered.

Zhou Donghao pointed at Liang Junheng and grunted, "What do you mean by that? Are you looking down at me?"

"I'm not looking down at anyone. I just feel like a dog that bites doesn't like to bark, but those that are weak and timid are usually the ones that bark the loudest. To be honest with you, I'm getting bored of hearing you boast. You were disturbing my sleep on the way here," Liang Junheng sniffed.

"It seems like I'll have to show you what I'm capable of. Otherwise, someone is really going to think he's all high and mighty!" Zhou Donghao snarled in return.

"What are you two arguing for? We are on the same team. We shouldn't fight among ourselves..." Lin Qihui quickly mediated between the two.

"That's right, there's no point arguing with mere words. You won't be able to find out who's better," Mo Fan added when he saw it was the right time.

"Who's better? Humph, we'll see when we are inside the cave the day after tomorrow. You're going to regret it!" Zhou Donghao told Liang Junheng.

"I can't wait to see what you've got," Liang Junheng replied disdainfully.

Zhou Donghao expression was dark. He had obviously fallen out with Liang Junheng.

Tao Jing rolled her eyes at Mo Fan and asked, "You look like a gentleman, so why were you fanning the flames under these circumstances!?"

"Fanning the flames? Did I?" Mo Fan fondled his chin and answered with a stern face.

"You don't want to admit it? It was only a quarrel in the first place, but now it has turned into a duel because of you!" Tao Jing said.

Mo Fan shrugged. He was not willing to admit it.

He was not allowed to stir up trouble, but it did not mean he was not allowed to provoke others to stir up trouble. Otherwise, it was going to be a boring trip!

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Mo Fan went back to the inn after he achieved his goal. He felt like his Earth Element was about to have a breakthrough, as if his Stars had learned a great deal after witnessing the spectacular sight of the ravine!

Little Loach was very impressive after its recent upgrade. His Earth Element was able to reach the Intermediate Level in such a brief period. It was crazy good!

He should be able to protect himself now that his Earth Element was in the Intermediate Level. It should only take him a few days to learn the Star Pattern. It was very easy to learn how to control the low-level Stars when his rank was so much higher!

Chapter 1759: The Man that Came Out of a Golem

At night, Mo Fan resisted all kinds of temptations and instead sat on the balcony of his room. He enjoyed the night breeze from the bald mountain while attempting to break through the barrier of his Earth Element.

As a matter of fact, the experience of cultivating on the balcony reminded him of the days when he was still studying at Tian Lan Magic High back in Bo City. He had spent every night on his balcony, as he desperately wanted to stand out among his peers. He would not leave until sunrise. He would spend months doing the same thing, but making negligible progress.

However, it was completely different now. It had only been a few days since the Awakening of his Earth Element, yet he was already about to expand his Earth Element into a Nebula.

The barrier he was trying to break through was not very sturdy, mainly because Mo Fan's mental strength was simply too outstanding. The bottleneck he used to struggle against back when he was still in high school no longer existed.

"Great, the process is very smooth!"

Mo Fan rose to his feet and felt the fresh energy of the Earth Element pouring into his new Nebula.

He was more sensitive to the presence of the Earth Element in his surroundings after his cultivation improved. Earth Magic was indeed several times stronger when the Barrier Core was active, and was repelling the other Elements.

"I might be able to reach the Advanced Level of the Earth Element in no time by cultivating in an environment like this!" Mo Fan's eyes sprang open. He was glad that he had decided to tag along with the group!

Mo Fan practiced constructing the Lightning Star Palace for the rest of the night. The Star Palace was made up of twenty-four hundred and one Stars. Mo Fan had only reached the second Star Constellation, while the first one was the foundation of the Advanced Level he was already familiar with.

At dawn, Mo Fan stretched out and decided to take a walk on the street, as he was feeling a little hungry. He finally found a stall selling buns outside the fortress.

It was rare to see a breakfast place like this when only Mages were allowed to enter the city. It lightened up Mo Fan's mood, as he was a little worn out after cultivating for the whole night.

"Hey, are you serious about what you just said?" a Hunter whispered beside the stall.

"I saw it with my own eyes. A Rock Monster like nothing I've seen before came out of the ravine yesterday. The military took care of it..." a man wearing a straw hat said.

"I heard that too, but why was it a big deal?"

"It was not, until you saw what was inside the Rock Monster's body," the man with a straw head continued theatrically.

"What could it be? Probably some expensive rock crystals, if we are lucky enough!"

"It was a human! There was a man inside the Rock Monster after it turned into a pile of dust. It was most likely one of the miners who went missing a week ago!" the man with a straw hat exclaimed.

Mo Fan was munching his buns without paying much attention to the conversation. However, he immediately raised his ears after hearing what the man had just said.

He was at the scene yesterday when the Rock Monster showed up. However, they had left early after the Rock Monster was taken out due to the argument. They did not see what the military did to the remains of the Rock Monster. To his surprise, there was a follow-up after the incident!

The Rock Monster was obviously an Elemental creature. Why would there be a living human inside it? Was the man eaten by the Rock Monster?

A piercing siren suddenly went off, startling the people in the city's west.

The siren was an indication that the city was under attack, so everyone was immediately on alert.

"Something has invaded the city, let's go take a look!"

1

"It's coming from the ravine!"

Mo Fan followed the Mages to the outskirts of the city.

He stumbled into Tao Jing and Lin Qihui along the way. The two had come over from the inn as soon as they heard the siren. Tao Jing was surprised to see Mo Fan. "You woke pretty early!" she greeted him.

"I was feeling a little hungry, so I went to grab breakfast. It looks like something has happened," Mo Fan answered calmly.

"Let's go take a look!" Lin Qihui said enthusiastically.

The three ran to the outskirts and stood on the wall. They were able to see the whole ravine with a single glance. They felt suffocated just looking at it.

There was a low-lying field between the ravine and the fortress, where many Battlemages were standing by.

A bunch of Rock Monsters, similar to the one they saw yesterday, had shown up a kilometer away in the ravine. Their stone bodies looked quite solid under the sunlight. They were like tanks rolling out as they charged at the fortress in a straight line!

"Why are there so many of them all of a sudden?" Tao Jing blurted out in surprise.

"It's pretty normal. There are millions of demon creatures in the cave. This is nothing in comparison. The military should be able to take care of them with ease," Lin Qihui answered easily.

Mo Fan looked at the number of troops. The military had allocated plenty of soldiers to the city to ensure it was upgraded successfully. The Rock Monsters might be a pain to deal with for a group of Hunters, but their attempt to break through the city's defense was like hitting a rock with eggs!

"Help, someone!"

They suddenly heard a man crying from below the wall.

"There's something over there!" Tao Jing pointed at the street and buildings after she quickly noticed something.

"It's a Rock Monster... how did it end up in the city?" Lin Qihui blurted out in shock.

"We have to save him!" Tao Jing immediately jumped down from the wall. She nimbly made her way down the wall by using the buildings of different heights as her stepping stones.

She soon reached the building the Rock Monster was near after a few jumps.

The Rock Monster looked no different from a human from afar. However, they realized it was as big as a house after they were close enough. It had already caught the man who was screaming for help when Tao Jing arrived.

"Let go of him!" Tao Jing snapped.

She drew a Star Pattern and summoned a heavy object that looked like a stone cauldron. It slid across the ground and rammed into the Rock Monster's legs.

The Rock Monster staggered from the impact, tossing the man into the air. Lin Qihui had just arrived and managed to catch him.

The man was not injured, he was only feeling a little light-headed. Lin Qihui handed the man to Mo Fan and said, "Bring him somewhere safe. I'll help Tao Jing. She can't handle the Rock Monster alone."

"I'll help her, a little demon creature like that..." Mo Fan said.

The Rock Monster was tough, but it could not even withstand a single spell from a violent Mage like Mo Fan. Therefore, the Rock Monster was like a little weakling in his eyes, since it was as easy as pie for him to eliminate it.

However, Mo Fan remembered that his other Elements were not available before he finished the sentence. He could not help but shake his head helplessly and sigh.

Who cared if he couldn't use other Elements? He could treat it as a practice putting his Earth Element to practical use in a real fight!

Chapter 1760: Rock Fang: Queen of the Night's Bind

Tao Jing had successfully made the Rock Monster angry. It jumped onto a building and tore its roof off with brute force, lifting it above its head!

#### BANG!

The Rock Monster tossed the roof at her. Tao Jing backed away in a panic and hid behind a warehouse. To her surprise, the Rock Monster's strength was absolutely terrifying. Not only did the hurled roof smash the warehouse into pieces, it even knocked her into the air!

Tao Jing was covered in ash and cuts inflicted by the flying debris. She gasped in pain as blood poured out from her wounds.

"Tao Jing, don't force yourself, let me handle it!" Lin Qihui quickly ran forward when he saw Tao Jing was injured.

The Rock Monster had already jumped down from the building. Its huge body landed right in front of Lin Qihui. He had initially steeled himself to face the creature, yet he could not help but panic when the Rock Monster landed in front of him with a huge crash.

"Rock...Rock Barrier!" Lin Qihui quickly set up a Rock Barrier to separate the creature from him and Tao Jing, trying to buy some time.

The Rock Monster simply ignored the Rock Barrier, smashing through it with its shoulder like a rugby player. The Rock Barrier shattered like a bubble. It was obvious that an Intermediate Spell Rock Barrier that was not enhanced by a Soul Seed was nowhere enough to withstand the blow!

"Quick, run!" Lin Qihui grabbed Tao Jing's hand and cast Earth Wave when he realized how unfavorable the situation was.

Lin Qihui was very good at using Earth Wave. They managed to flee fifty meters away from the Rock Monster while it broke through the Rock Barrier, and found a spot to hide behind some containers.

"Luckily, that creature isn't fast. We should be able to shake it off if it tried to chase us," Lin Qihui let out a relieved sigh.

The Earth Element was very effective at increasing one's speed when it was not being used for defense. Earth Mages had the lowest death rates in the wild. Lin Qihui was relieved they had gotten to cover in time!

The Rock Monster stared in the direction the two had fled in. It suddenly let out a huge roar and smashed its right fist on the ground!

The roads and streets in the city were made of concrete. The concrete suddenly began to ripple in a strange way after the Rock Monster touched it. It surprisingly softened and started wriggling toward the Rock Monster!

"What's going on? Why is the ground moving !?"

"Damn it, help, it's dragging us toward it!"

The concrete for over a hundred meters around the Rock Monster had turned into a wriggling rug. All the buildings and warehouses were slowly moving toward the Rock Monster!

Both Tao Jing and Lin Qihui had fallen victim to it. They were trying to speed themselves up with the Earth Element, but the ground kept moving toward the Rock Monster. Lin Qihui almost had the urge to use both his hands to speed themselves up.

"That thing is using Earth Magic too. It's an Earth Elemental creature!" Tao Jing shouted.

"I know that, but what else can we do !?" Lin Qihui yelled back in fear.

Elemental creatures were a special kind of demon creature. They were usually born in places with extreme levels of certain Elements. Their appearance was related to their Elements most of the time. For example, Little Flame Belle looked like she was made of fire.

The Rock Monster was obviously a similar existence. They usually had control over their respective Element, and that control was usually greater than human Mages. Therefore, using the Earth Element in front of the Rock Monster was like trying to display their skill before an expert!

The Rock Monster's level was incomparable to a blessed creature like Little Flame Belle, but its magic was still very annoying to human Mages. In addition, the Earth Magic also gave the creature outstanding strength. Even a Warrior-level Elemental creature was several times tougher than a normal demon creature!

Lin Qihui and Tao Jing were using the Earth Wave to run away, but the Rock Monster was using it to drag them back. It was unlikely they could escape unless their cultivation was a lot stronger than the creature!

"We were too confident in ourselves!" Lin Qihui greatly regretted his decision.

He assumed he could easily handle the Rock Monster when he saw how easy the soldiers had defeated one yesterday. However, when it was his turn to face a Rock Monster, he felt like the creature was

stronger than him in every way. His defense was too weak against it, and he was having difficulty running away!

The Rock Monster charged at Tao Jing and Lin Qihui when it saw the two were getting closer to it, swinging its fists in the air. Rock particles rapidly attached to its fists during the process.

In less than two seconds, the Rock Monster's fists were wrapped like huge hammers, while its arms were the handles!

The hammers were insanely huge and heavy!

The Rock Monster swung its new rock hammers, fully capable of smashing humans into mincemeat, at Tao Jing and Lin Qihui. The two kept backing away. Their faces had turned extremely pale!

"Rock Fang: Queen of the Night's Bind!" a loud voice rose from not far away.

The Rock Monster was sprinting across the concrete, but three boulders resembling the fangs of a beast suddenly emerged from the ground and blocked the Rock Monster. It tried to smash right through the boulders, but the golden-brown Rock Fangs were too strong for it!

The Rock Monster was struggling to move forward as three more Rock Fangs emerged behind it just when it was about to back away, sealing its escape and trapping it completely!

More Rock Fangs quickly appeared on both sides of the Rock Monster. The huge creature could no longer move sideways!

The Rock Fangs surrounded the Earth Monster like an enormous Queen of the Night blossom. Each Fang resembled a thin and long, yet sturdy, petal of the flower. The Rock Monster was stuck in the middle of the Rock Fangs!

The Rock Fangs curved slightly. Their tips were bending inward slightly, holding the Rock Monster's shoulders and back in place, preventing it from jumping.

The Rock Fangs were perfectly symmetrical, like a cage specifically built for the creature. The Rock Monster was planning to murder its targets with its rock hammers, yet it could only let out a fierce cry now, as it could not even take another step!

"Back off, my magic won't last for long!" Mo Fan shouted at Tao Jing and Lin Qihui.

The two noticed that the Earth Wave dragging them toward the creature had disappeared, and quickly fled into the distance. They turned around and looked at Mo Fan's Rock Fang: Queen of the Night's Bind after reaching a safe distance, and were absolutely dumbfounded. What kind of spell was that? Since when was the Earth Element able to bind a target?