

Versatile 2001

Chapter 2001: Upsetting the Apple Cart

“Mo Fan, are you seriously juggling them now?” Zhao Manyan asked when he saw Mo Fan using Space and Chaos Magic in such a fancy way.

“It’s me being wise and farsighted. It’s a form of art, or should I wrap myself in armor and charge at them like a retard, like you?” Mo Fan shot back.

Magic of different Elements was interweaving on Mo Fan’s palms. The Basic and Intermediate Spells he had strengthened multiple times were surprisingly effective in this chaotic battle.

However, the beasts of the horde were not gentle animals. Even as many demon creatures were fleeing from the Valley of Glaciers, more demon creatures had shown up in front of Mo Fan. His weaker spells were no longer enough to resolve the situation.

“Make way, I’m going to use a Beast Tide!” Lu Xiu yelled.

Lu Xiu opened a Summoning Gate. A bunch of wild boars with thick fur and long tusks charged out of the gate while uttering loud cries.

They were around forty to fifty boars, each around the size of a jeep. The ice began to crack as the boars stomped on it.

However, the Steel Spike Bulls and Tianshan Howling Bears did not treat the boars seriously, and continued to charge ahead. The stampeding creatures soon trampled the boars and knocked them flying. The boars were not on the same level as the demon creatures!

“Damn it, their numbers are too much for us!” Lu Xiu cursed.

“Back away, let me handle it,” Mo Fan told Lu Xiu.

“You?” Lu Xiu twisted his lips disdainfully. “Do you think your Beast Tide is stronger than mine? You should just focus on using your Lightning Element. It’s your only chance!”

“Can you move aside now?” Mo Fan replied evenly.

Lu Xiu glared at Mo Fan, then noticed Mo Fan was emitting a lunar-white light. The Star Patterns combined into a spectacular Gate on the ice, opening in the direction of the beast horde.

Roars burst out of the Gate, carried on a formidable Aura, and were followed by massive figures rushing out of it from a different world.

The creatures were as restless as bulls provoked by a red cape. Rock Beasts covered in dark golden armor extended their limbs and charged at the beast hordes fearlessly!

The endless streams of Rock Beasts pouring out of the Gate were like dragons with spikes on their back. Their heads were as deadly as the lances of knights as they charged at the enemy. The group of Rock Beasts pouring out of the Gate was just as menacing as the beast hordes that were charging down the mountain!

Bang!

Bang!

The Rock Beasts had an ultimate showdown of brute strength with the Steel Spike Bulls and Tianshan Howling Bears. Their armor, blood, and flesh scattered in the air amid the simplest and purest form of strength. The ones with sturdier flesh were the winners, there were no techniques or skills involved. The creatures with the slightest drop in confidence were crushed to pieces in the collision.

The stampede of the Dark Golden Rock Beasts!

Mo Fan's Beast Tide was not limited to Summoning his demon wolves. He kept Summoning the demon wolves mainly because their overall strength and discipline were better than other species that were randomly Summoned from the Summoned Beast Plane.

Each activation of the Summoning Gate was able to Summon a different species. Mo Fan knew his demon wolves would suffer great losses in a battle like this. They could also end up as the Frosty Ancient Eagles' food supply, so it was better to Summon the Dark Golden Rock Beasts!

The Rock Beasts used a simple yet violent approach. The beast hordes were confused when they saw the Rock Beasts. Were they out of their mind? They were clearly charging in the wrong direction!

They had to keep an eye on the Frosty Ancient Eagles that could pluck them off the ground even if they were running at full speed. The beast hordes crashed horribly when obstacles suddenly appeared in their path. Huge creatures were rolling and flipping across the surface of the frozen lake!

"Mo Fan, your Beast Tide is pretty impressive. Those creatures are avoiding us!" Jiang Yu exclaimed, his eyes glittering.

Jiang Yu was also a Summoner. He knew a Beast Tide was a clear indicator of a Summoner's strength. The Beast Tide of a strong Summoner was like hundreds of beasts charging down a mountain, or dragons crossing a lake. On the other hand, the Beast Tide of those who did not put much attention into their Summoning Element would feel like a bunch of ducks crossing a river!

Lu Xiu's boars were obviously the latter. It was important to compare spells in a practical setting. If they did not have to fight the powerful creatures of Tianshan Mountain, would they even realize how petty their magic was?

"He's just relying on his magic Equipment to increase the scale of his Beast Tide. It's not that impressive!" Lu Xiu's Beast Tide was obviously inferior in comparison. However, he blamed it all on Mo Fan's Ring.

Lu Xiu was sharp enough to notice that the Magic Medium Ring was the main reason why Mo Fan was able to Summon so many creatures. However, the Magic Medium Ring was only so effective because Mo Fan had been feeding Soul Essences to it!

However, Mo Fan considered it meaningless to be fussy about someone who was never going to admit defeat.

Mo Fan's Beast Tide had eased the pressure on the Mailong Private Military Group, which meant the other groups were intercepted by the beast hordes. They were trapped in the middle of the lake while the Frosty Ancient Eagles circling in the sky continued to pick them off one by one.

A huge group of Frosty Ancient Eagles suddenly appeared above the Mailong Private Military Group, their wings beating wildly at different altitudes. Some were so quick that the people could only see their afterimages. The cunning Frosty Ancient Eagles would mix up their attacks by probing their enemies. A pair of sharp talons would stab through their ribs from behind once they lowered their guard!

"What's going on? Why are the creatures focusing on us all of a sudden?" Zhao Manyan was under great pressure. The Frosty Ancient Eagles had broken through a few of his Barriers.

Jiang Shaoxu frowned. She fixed her eyes on a woman in thick makeup and a black and red outfit in the Inverse Hawk Hunter Group. She snarled, "That b**ch, she's using the Psychic Element to direct the Frosty Ancient Eagles' anger toward us, to ease the burden on her group!"

Chapter 2002: Someone Is Messing With Us?

Jiang Shaoxu was a Psychic Mage. She had wondered why the Frosty Ancient Eagles that had been picking their targets randomly had suddenly gathered above their team. She soon discovered the reason with her Psychic Magic!

They were provoked!

The Maga in a black and red outfit had directed the creatures' hatred toward them. The number of the Frosty Ancient Eagles that were circling above the team had multiplied fourfold!

"Jiang Yu, watch out behind you!" Nanyu yelled.

Jiang Yu was summoning his Beast Tide. Even though it was not as impressive as Mo Fan's Beast Tide, it was still able to clear a path for the team. To his surprise, he felt a sudden great pain from his back as a sharp talon punctured his shoulder!

The Night Rakshasa quickly reacted by cutting through the Frosty Ancient Eagles' nails.

Unfortunately, one of the talons still buried itself in Jiang Yu's back. The Frosty Ancient Eagle dragged him into the sky.

The Night Rakshasa jumped into the air and sliced down like a black crescent!

Her sharp claws tore the Frosty Ancient Eagle in half. The Night Rakshasa was just a little flea compared to the Frosty Ancient Eagles, yet the strength stored in her petite body was enough to rip the Frosty Ancient Eagle to pieces!

The insides of the Frosty Ancient Eagle poured down from the sky. However, the detestable creature had tossed Jiang Yu higher into the sky prior to its death, passing him to its comrades.

The Night Rakshasa's fur stood on its end when she did not see Jiang Yu fall down to safety. She moved like a black ray of light, bouncing off a Frosty Ancient Eagle that was gliding at a lower height to catch up with the other one that had caught Jiang Yu.

The Frosty Ancient Eagle was extremely quick, and beat its way into the sky after catching its prey. The Night Rakshasa was unable to fly. She could only bounce off the backs of the Frosty Ancient Eagles!

"They got Jiang Yu!" the slow-reacting Zhao Manyan finally yelled.

Ai Jiangtu had barely protected Jiang Shaoxu from the encirclement of the demon creatures. The expression in his eyes shifted when he saw his team member being dragged into the sky. However, as he was about to chase after Jiang Yu, several layers of wings came and intercepted him!

"That b**ch, if anything happens to Jiang Yu, she's going to pay with her life!" Jiang Shaoxu cursed.

Jiang Shaoxu had the Psychic Element too. Would she be afraid to pull off dirty tricks like the woman had done to them!?

Since the woman had set them up first, Jiang Shaoxu was not going to show them any mercy!

Jiang Shaoxu cast the same spell, Spirit Ripple, and inflicted fear on the beast hordes that were fleeing for their lives.

The beast hordes had been avoiding the team after they were hindered by Mo Fan's Beast Tide. The fear that Jiang Shaoxu inflicted on them drove the creatures that were approaching the Mailong Private Military Group to charge toward the Savage Raptor Hunter Group instead.

The woman was focusing on directing the anger of the Frosty Ancient Eagles towards the other groups. Little did she know, the beast hordes that were carrying Jiang Shaoxu's rage were already heading her way!

"I can't fly up there. How are we supposed to save Jiang Yu!?" Zhao Manyan swore. He could not see Jiang Yu anywhere above them.

Many Frosty Ancient Eagles had shown up so suddenly. Their team was struggling to fend them off.

"The Night Rakshasa can't fly. She's going to be in danger if she keeps forcing her way up!" Nanyu exclaimed.

While everyone was worried about Jiang Yu, several Icecloud Jellyfish appeared out of nowhere. They were able to attach themselves to other creatures and devour them, rendering their abilities useless.

The Icecloud Jellyfish were very aggressive. Over half of the Frosty Ancient Eagles quickly fell victim to them. A strong gust of wind rose into the sky and shattered the Frosty Ancient Eagles that had been targeted by the Icecloud Jellyfish.

Broken ice poured down like crystal rain. An alluring figure hovered between the Icecloud Jellyfish and the wind, her silver hair drifting elegantly.

“Thousand Leaves Saber!”

The figure spun around like a dancer, firing blue gusts of wind in all directions.

A single wind slash might not be enough to penetrate the Frosty Ancient Eagle’s sturdy feathers, but what about hundreds, or even thousands of them?

The Frosty Ancient Eagles turned into a bloody mist, and their lifeblood poured down like rain. The Thousand Leaves Saber returned to Mu Ningxue’s hands after annihilating all the creatures within a kilometer, combining into a magical wind sword!

“Slaughtering Wind Slash!”

A blue line sprang into the clear sky. The Frosty Ancient Eagle that had captured Jiang Yu suddenly froze in midair. Its body fell apart, sliced perfectly in half, just before they started falling.

Jiang Yu was falling to the ground. Mu Ningxue observed everything before glancing at the Night Rakshasa, telling her, “He’s all yours.”

The Night Rakshasa put on a grateful face. She ran swiftly toward the spot Jiang Yu was falling to.

The Night Rakshasa was quite small, like an insignificant hare in the eyes of the enormous creatures, and was able to move freely amid the chaotic battle. No creature would bother wasting their time on her.

“Jiang Yu’s armor can withstand the attacks of a Ruler-level creature. He should be fine,” Guan Yu said.

“He was lucky that the Frosty Ancient Eagle died before it reached its nest. Otherwise, he would be dead even if he was wearing indestructible Armor!” Zhao Manyan let out a relieved sigh. He glanced at Mu Ningxue, who brought such a bloodbath to the Frosty Ancient Eagles, and exclaimed, “The Goddess is as reliable as usual when it counts! Look at Mo Fan, he might have seven Elements, but he didn’t even use a lot of them!”

“I can only fight on land. Those in the water and in the sky are out of my reach. However, if any of you are killed on the land, I’ll bury myself next to you!” Mo Fan lost his calm after hearing Zhao Manyan’s comment.

How were the creatures in the sky his problem? It was not his fault that he could not fly!

He was not a f**king swan. Did people seriously expect him to be able to fight in the air, on the ground, and in the water?

“Jiang Yu is the first person to reach the mountain!” Zhao Manyan noted wryly.

“You can go ahead and ask the Frosty Ancient Eagles to give you a ride too!” Nanyu scoffed.

“Friends, how should we make that b**ch pay?” Jiang Shaoxu was still irritated.

If the woman had not sent the Frosty Ancient Eagles to them, Jiang Yu’s life would not have been in danger.

“I’m used to stirring up trouble even when people aren’t messing with me, let alone when they do... was she trying to set us up? We’ll make her pay then!” Mo Fan declared.

Chapter 2003: Scandal of the Zhao Family

“Mo Fan, we are currently in a pinch. Let’s forget it for now. We’ll settle the debt later once we crossed the lake,” Nanyu said.

“Once it’s over, she will never admit it if she has the slightest brain. We should settle it here and now. Just keep following Mu Ningxue, leave her to me,” Mo Fan declared.

“You’re still so hot-tempered,” Nanyu said helplessly.

“I’m not, I’m pretty calm now,” Mo Fan left before he even finished the sentence.

Mo Fan did not use Blink, yet he was able to move three hundred meters without leaving any traces behind. The other people could only see wisps of black energy, and his movement was unpredictable, as if he was able to use the Fleeing Shadow continuously.

“That guy, since when is his Shadow Element so outstanding?” Guan Yu was surprised by Mo Fan’s evasiveness.

Guan Yu was an assassin-type Mage, so agility was very important to him!

Mo Fan was able to move freely through the chaotic battle. On top of that, most of the powerful Mages were completely unaware of him.

“Where did the little demoness go?” Jiang Shaoxu turned around and saw the glamorous girl was gone too. She quickly looked up, as she was worried the Frosty Ancient Eagles had caught her.

“She left with Mo Fan,” Lingling said.

“Why did you call her little demoness? It doesn’t sound appropriate,” Guan Yu said.

“Why not? Don’t you know a girl of her beauty has brought nothing but disaster to countries in the past? How is Mu Ningxue so carefree? Won’t she suspect something fishy between Mo Fan and the girl? He’s definitely not an upright gentleman!” Jiang Shaoxu sniffed.

“Speaking of which, is the little girl going to be fine following Mo Fan around? Can she look after herself?” Guan Yu asked in a worried voice.

“Guan Yu, don’t you worry about that. That little girl is stronger than you... Are you guys going to be fine on your own? I’ll go with Mo Fan,” Zhao Manyan said. How could he possibly miss out on the fun?

“Shouldn’t you be focusing on the task on hand? Jiang Yu almost died!”

“Well, he’s still alive, right?”

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The Savage Raptor Hunter Group was ranked at the top of the country. Zhao Kang was one of the captains in the Hunter Group. He had been hired by the Zhao Clan to explore Tianshan Mountain.

As a matter of fact, Zhao Manyan knew Zhao Youqian was the main sponsor of the Savage Raptor Hunter Group, so it was not surprising that his distant cousin Zhao Kang held an important role in the Hunter Group.

Zhao Manyan was still in disguise. Zhao Kang had rarely interacted with Zhao Manyan in the past too, so he did not recognize Zhao Manyan. However, Zhao Manyan was aware that Zhao Kang was one of the members of the Zhao Family who was very close to Zhao Youqian. Apparently, Zhao Kang was Zhao Youqian's go-to for illegal matters. Their father had a huge argument with Zhao Youqian because of it. It had happened around the finals of the World College Tournament.

Zhao Manyan briefly explained Zhao Kang's background to Mo Fan as they were approaching the Savage Raptor Hunter Group.

"Zhao Youqian must have done a lot of black deeds, right?" Mo Fan asked.

"Mm, my father isn't stupid. I'm clearly not a good businessman, but he still made me his successor because he knew the wicked things that Zhao Youqian had done. Even though no businessman is perfectly clean, there are lines that we should never cross. There are things we shouldn't do even if we can make a lot of money from them." A lot of things had crossed Zhao Manyan's mind when he first saw Zhao Kang.

Zhao Kang was Zhao Youqian's errand boy. In the past, he had constantly followed Zhao Youqian's orders. Zhao Manyan had long despised Zhao Kang, yet to his surprise, Zhao Kang was now a captain of the Savage Raptor Hunter Group. He must have done a lot of 'favors' over the years.

"I see. I initially thought your brother only turned wicked because your father favored you too much," Mo Fan said.

"Zhao Youqian knew his misdeeds would soon come to light. My father knew it too. If Zhao Youqian became his successor, the Zhao Family's reputation would be ruined, so my father changed his mind. Do you have any idea how twisted Zhao Youqian is? He blamed all the misdeeds he did on our father after killing him, since the dead can't testify. In the end, a bunch of hoodlums showed up at my father's funeral and wrecked the place. His reputation was completely ruined. I won't forgive him for that!" Zhao Manyan clenched his teeth.

"Why didn't you tell me before?" Mo Fan raised his brows.

"No one likes to share their family's scandals. You've never mentioned your mother-in-law or your stepmother to me, either!" Zhao Manyan said.

"Holy crap, I can't believe you have the guts to bring that up now. I should take you out first before dealing with the Psychic Maga!" Mo Fan swore.

"Let's take her out first. Leave Zhao Kang alive, he still has some uses!" Zhao Manyan responded grimly.

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The situation was simple. Zhao Kang was a black-hearted man. He was the one that had asked the Psychic Maga to redirect the anger of the Frosty Ancient Eagles onto the national team.

Zhao Kang obviously held a grudge against the national team, mainly because of his relationship with Zhao Youqian. Otherwise, why would he choose the national team when there were other groups around? Or did he think the national team was an easier target?

Either way, they had no intention of forgiving Zhao Kang and the Psychic Maga!

“Apas, can you control the Frosty Ancient Eagles?” Mo Fan asked her.

“The Frosty Ancient Eagles are quite intelligent. It’s going to be tricky,” Apas said. She grinned when she looked at the Psychic Maga, “It’s easier to control her.”

“You can control her directly?” Mo Fan was surprised.

“Her Psychic Magic is full of weaknesses. Her cultivation might be higher than the Mole Woman, but her foundation is not as solid,” Apas said.

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“Mole Woman?” Mo Fan was confused.

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“I think she’s referring to Jiang Shaoxu,” Zhao Manyan offered.

“...”

The mole actually set off Jiang Shaoxu’s beauty, yet the way Apas mentioned it sounded strange.

Forget it, Jiang Shaoxu had also given Apas a less-than-complimentary nickname. They could call one another whatever they liked!

“Apas, have her strip and dance in front of the beast hordes until she is trampled to death,” Zhao Manyan suggested.

“...” Apas glared at Zhao Manyan after his perverted request!

Chapter 2004: An Eye for an Eye

Zhao Kang’s group had almost reached the mountain. He frowned after glancing at the Mailong Private Military Group.

“Black Spade, they don’t seem to have suffered great losses,” Zhao Kang told the woman with the Psychic Element.

“There seem to be experts among them. The Liden Royal Family must have spent a fortune on them to acquire the Sacred Lotus,” Black Spade replied.

“Yassen and the others are quite close with the Liden Royal Family, too. If they do find the Sacred Lotus, it’s very likely they will sell it to the Liden Royal Family,” Zhao Kang commented.

“We shouldn’t mess with Senior Hunter Yassen. His team is very strong,” Black Spade said softly.

“Let’s focus on the Mailong Private Military Group then,” Zhao Kang agreed viciously.

“Brother Kang, I don’t understand. Why must we pick on those who serve the Liden Royal Family?” Black Spade was confused.

“Brother Zhao Youqian and Liden’s eldest grandson are close friends. Liden’s eldest grandson asked him to get rid of the mercenaries that were hired by the Liden Royal Family. Once the queen is dead, Brother Zhao Youqian will be able to secure a lot of business opportunities from the Liden Royal Family. Black Spade, have you lived in a royal palace before? After everything is done, I’ll bring you along and let you stay in the palace for half a month so you can enjoy how it feels to be a member of the royal family,” Zhao Kang told her.

Black Spade’s eyes glittered. The palace of a royal family with carpets covered in fresh flowers and valuable ornaments embroidered on the walls... they also had maids serving while they were having breakfast.

“Brother Kang, it’s not that difficult to take out the Mailong Private Military Group, but it’s going to be tricky to take out Yassen and his team... it’s a difficult job, and we’ve lost quite a few men already,” Black Spade told him.

“Don’t you worry, if it doesn’t work out on our end, Brother Zhao Youqian has another plan in mind. Hehehe, Brother Youqian always has a backup plan... it’s just who he is,” Zhao Kang replied with a vicious look in his eyes.

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Apas was able to hear every single word of the conversation. She relayed the information to Mo Fan and Zhao Manyan.

“So the Liden Royal Family is involved... I was wondering why Zhao Youqian would bother sending his men here. It’s not like he needs the loot on Tianshan Mountain for his own business,” Zhao Manyan muttered.

He should have long figured it out. Zhao Youqian had been close to the people in the Liden Royal Family for some time. He had a lot of business in the Middle East, too. Queen Liden’s eldest grandson was definitely a good entry point!

“Zhao Youqian has a backup plan; what would it be?” Mo Fan was puzzled.

“Isn’t it obvious? He’s going to kill the woman who’s pregnant with the successor to the throne,” Apas said indifferently.

Zhao Manyan was startled. He did not even realize it, but he trembled when Apas mentioned it.

How insane had Zhao Youqian become?

Sending men to stop the Mailong Private Military Group from acquiring the Sacred Lotus was still acceptable in Zhao Manyan's eyes. After all, it was never peaceful between factions that were competing with one another. They would use all kinds of dirty tricks to achieve their goals, but it was inhumane to target the mother of the queen's youngest grandson!

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"Your brother is seriously out of his mind!" Mo Fan stated.

"Damn it, the Zhao Family is seriously screwed at this rate! The Heavens know what we did. I can't believe that Zhao Youqian has managed to wash his hands clean all the time. I should really send him to the most reputable psychiatric hospital in the world as soon as possible!" Zhao Manyan snarled.

"I don't think he has gone mad. He's just a little twisted," Mo Fan commented.

"Who cares whether he's still thinking straight or not, don't you know it's common for the loser of a family or clan's infighting to be sent to a psychiatric hospital? As long as you behave yourself by eating and sleeping obediently, you can still live comfortably as a useless person. However, if you are up to something, the psychiatric hospitals have instruments that will teach you to behave properly. Do you really think the doctors in the psychiatric hospitals are clueless that you are not normal? You're just not allowed to live a normal life anymore," Zhao Manyan informed him.

"..." Mo Fan was left speechless. So that's how it was in the renowned clans. He had definitely learned a lot!

"Because of that, the psychiatric hospitals charge insane fees. I'll have to spend over a hundred thousand every year if I send Zhao Youqian to one. Wouldn't it be better if I used the money to provide for a mistress instead?" Zhao Manyan had to say.

"You think you can send your brother into a psychiatric hospital with your current strength? I believe the psychiatric hospitals suit YOU better," Mo Fan refuted.

"Being rich doesn't mean anything."

"Yeah, being rich doesn't mean he can hire Forbidden Mages as bodyguards, but he can still invite Forbidden Mages to his functions. I wonder if that old turtle of yours can beat a Forbidden Mage?" Mo Fan challenged him.

Zhao Manyan fell silent, glaring at Zhao Kang and Black Spade for a while, "Those assh****, how dare they mess with the national team? Let's deal with them first. They even think they can enjoy living in a royal palace. I should send them to Tianshan Mountain's Lake of Corpses!"

"You're finally being practical..." MO Fan agreed.

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BANG!

The freezing lake ahead exploded. Ice splinters flew at the groups like a rain of swords.

An enormous demon leech with several layers of flesh appeared from the hole. It felt like its body was able to expand infinitely. It went from a dozen meters tall to the height of a skyscraper in a moment, swallowing a bunch of Frosty Ancient Eagles with a single bite!

The Savage Raptor Hunter Group froze as soon as the white demon leech appeared.

“Luc...luckily it wasn’t after us,” a Hunter Master in the group gasped.

“What kind of monster is that!?”

“Everyone, stay calm, don’t provoke it,” Zhao Kang told the others.

Black Spade stepped forward. Her hair floated as her eyes transmitted the energy of a Spirit Ripple to the white demon leech that was hunting the Frosty Ancient Eagles.

“Black Spade, don’t be reckless, you will get its attention,” Zhao Kang told her.

Black Spade did not listen to him. She kept using the Psychic Spell.

“Black Spade, what the f**k are you doing? I told you not to mess with it!...” Zhao Kang yelled.

The demon leech suddenly bent forward and faced the people of the Savage Raptor Hunter Group, as if it had been provoked by the Psychic Spell.

Zhao Kang’s expression shifted.

Black Spade finally managed to recollect herself. She was dumbfounded when the huge creature started focusing its anger at them.

What just happened? What was she doing? Why did she provoke the creature with her Psychic Spell?

Chapter 2005: Forming an Alliance

The white demon leech was obviously a greater threat than the Frosty Ancient Eagles, especially when it had a clear target in mind.

Zhao Kang immediately ran toward Yassen’s group when he noticed something was not right. His men were being butchered by the demon leech. The cries of the Savage Raptors echoed across the lake as the demon leech dragged many Hunter Masters into the water.

The water of the lake was bone-chilling. No one knew if there were other creatures hiding in the lake’s immeasurable depths. The Mages that were dragged into the lake by the demon leech had no chance of survival, regardless of their cultivation.

“B**ch, what the heck have you done!?” The rest in the group were not idiots. They clearly saw Black Spade using her Psychic Magic to provoke the demon leech.

The other groups were approaching the mountains, meaning that their partnership was reaching an end. No one was willing to turn around to save the Savage Raptors!

The Savage Raptor Hunter Group suffered great losses after the encounter with the demon leech, not to mention the Frosty Ancient Eagles were constantly hunting them now!

Zhao Kang followed Yassen's group and managed to flee to safety.

"Help me, Brother Kang!" Black Spade was running on the ice. She even took off her coat just so she could run quicker.

"Humph, are you trying to get revenge because of your sister? You have only yourself to blame if you die!" Zhao Kang swore at her.

"What did you say? My sister?" Black Spade was startled.

Zhao Kang ignored Black Spade's reaction. He waved his hand and Summoned a rock barrier, blocking the direction Black Spade was running into.

Black Spade was not an agile Mage. She trembled in fear when she saw the rising wall gradually blocking Zhao Kang's cold face.

The ice behind Black Spade collapsed as the demon leech drew closer. It opened its mouth and swallowed the human who had dared to provoke it!

"How could you do that to your own teammate?" Senior Hunter Yassen spat.

"She deserved it. She provoked the monster and almost got us all killed," Zhao Kang said disdainfully.

"Is that so..." Yassen did not comment on it further. He glanced at the remaining Savage Raptors and noticed they were skillful in their own way. They had managed to reach the mountain after the team split up.

As for the rest of the groups that were stuck in the middle of the lake, there was nothing much Yassen could do. They had obviously failed to overcome the beast hordes, and the Frosty Ancient Eagles had already gathered above them. If they did not make it out, their chance of survival were very slim.

"How many teams made it?" Yassen asked the woman at his side softly.

"The Mailong Private Military Group has arrived now. The explorers hired by the Sacred Hall of Liberty are all here. The Savage Raptor Hunter Group lost a few of its members. The Mu Clan had a lot more casualties, and only five of them are left. The Heaven Star Mercenary Group is here too, but the rest aren't even teams anymore," a Huntress beside Yassen reported.

"Many of those with a weaker cultivation are dead."

"Indeed, they struggled against the Frosty Ancient Eagles."

Among the groups, only those with higher cultivations, like Yassen and his men, had managed to preserve their numbers. Their strength was enough to guarantee their own safety. As for the other groups with numbers in strength, their survival was purely based on luck. The unfortunate ones had ended up as food to the demon creatures of Tianshan Mountain.

Many people had died in the battle. Only half of the human explorers had made it to the other side of the lake.

Tianshan Mountain was like the Gates of Hell!

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“What now? Are we going separate ways, or are we sticking together?” Kuma asked.

The Mailong Private Military Group’s numbers had gone from a hundred and ten to thirty-eight. Even Kuma was in disbelief from shock.

They had only reached the Valley of Glaciers, where the entrance of the Scar of Tianshan Mountain was located, yet they had already lost two-thirds of their team! Putting aside the question of whether they could claim the Sacred Lotus or not, how many of them would survive until the end?

“Tianshan Mountain is a lot scarier than we imagined. If we split up here, not many teams are going to survive,” Senior Hunter Yassen spoke up bluntly.

“You mean, we should continue to stay in an alliance?” Kuma asked.

“Mm, the lowest level of the demon creatures in the Scar of Tianshan Mountain are at the Commander-level. There’s a great chance we’ll stumble into Ruler-level creatures, and more than one of them... I do know everyone here is confident in taking on one Ruler-level creature, but two or three of them at the same time? I don’t think anyone will escape,” Yassen mused aloud.

“My people are almost all dead, I’m fine with staying in the alliance, but there must be rules...” the leader of the group hired by the Mu Clan, Xing Hui, spoke up.

“For those who are willing to form an alliance, I just hope we can work together at all times. If anyone tries to mess it up, I, Yassen, will be the first to kill them!” Yassen warned them.

“It seems like there are people who don’t agree with the idea?” Zhao Kang observed.

“It’s fine, they can go their separate ways. We won’t force them.”

Kuma was the leader of the Mailong Private Military Group, and had great trust in Yassen. She immediately agreed with Yassen’s suggestion.

Tianshan Mountain had crushed Kuma’s confidence. If the rest of her men could not rely on a stronger group, how were they supposed to survive the Scar of Tianshan Mountain?

“The Mu Clan is quite embarrassing. Look at the Scouts, they have only lost one member,” Bertan of the Sacred Hall of Liberty commented.

Xing Hui glanced at the ninth team of the Mailong Private Military Group. How did they make it across the lake in one piece?

“They are Super Mages on average,” Yassen informed the others.

Yassen’s impression of the national team had changed. His group was at the Super Level on average, but those younger Mages were all Super Mages too! They were the real elites present!

“Strange, why are there a few abandoned tents here?” Kuma suddenly noticed.

Yassen followed her eyes and saw some tents, drinking bottles, and some clothes that were not buried under the snow.

“It looks like someone has reached the Scar of Tianshan Mountain before us,” Yassen frowned.

“Could it be them?”

“I can’t think of any others that are strong enough to do so except them.”

Chapter 2006: Learning the Hard Way

Mo Fan and Zhao Manyan found Jiang Yu at the back slope of the nearest hill. He was not in too bad of a condition, but he had only broken his legs. His chest had been pierced by talons, and he had also hit his head on a rock and was bleeding.

“I can tell you indulged in your desires at the capital for too long. You don’t even have the basic awareness to protect yourself. Don’t you know you should land on your body instead?” Zhao Manyan murmured while carrying the bloody Jiang Yu away.

“Stop it, he clearly landed on his legs. Otherwise, how did he break them? He rolled over on his back and hit his head,” Mo Fan explained for Jiang Yu, who was unable to talk.

“Oh, I misunderstood. Luckily, Mo Fan and I came over in time, or you’d be dead. By the way, we also took out the woman who set you up, so you shouldn’t have any regrets,” Zhao Manyan said quietly.

“I...I think I...I’m still alive...” Jiang Yu replied weakly.

The Mailong Private Military Group did not have a Healer. The only doctor in the group was now most likely being digested inside a Frosty Ancient Eagle’s stomach.

Luckily, the Mailong Private Military Group had chosen to stick with the alliance. Otherwise, Jiang Yu would not have survived for more than a day. Normal people were not able to survive in the icy wind and snow, let alone an injured person!

—

“We have so many wounded, we have to stick with the queue. It’s fine if you want us to treat your teammate. Get the beauty of the national team, Mu Ningxue to perform an erotic dance in front of us and help us loosen our nerves, and we will treat your friend first,” Bertan told them.

“You might not know this, but Mu Ningxue is the hot-tempered Mo Fan’s girlfriend, so you better hope he doesn’t hear this,” Ai Jiangtu informed Bertan.

“I know, I know. Mo Fan, the strongest participant in the World College Tournament, the so-called strongest young Mage in the world... I’ve long wanted to see what he got,” Bertan replied airily.

Ai Jiangtu frowned when it was clear Bertan was not willing to treat Jiang Yu.

—

Ai Jiangtu told everyone Bertan's attitude after he returned to the team, automatically filtering out the inappropriate part related to Mu Ningxue. If he didn't, Mo Fan might just have gone ahead and killed him. Ai Jiangtu was well aware of Mo Fan's temper!

"Old Ai, I think you're being too polite when talking to foreigners. I'll pay them a visit. I guarantee you they will come and treat Jiang Yu right away." Mo Fan rose to his feet. He was about to take matters into his own hands.

Ai Jiangtu quickly stopped Mo Fan. "No, don't... let me figure out a way."

"There's no other way. There's only one Healer among us, and he's with the explorers hired by the Sacred Hall of Liberty. I must say, Nanrong Ni might be a disgusting person, but she was very useful in certain situations. We should find ourselves a Healer next time. It's so annoying. Look at Bertan's attitude; the man is acting like the whole world is at his mercy," Zhao Manyan scoffed.

The national team had once had a Healer, Nanrong Ni, who was now Mu Ningxue's enemy.

When Mu Bai was around, his skills and knowledge at treating injuries were also useful to a certain degree, but Zhao Manyan was definitely afraid of his methods.

Mo Fan went up to Apas and asked her quietly, "Apas, can you heal the wounded?"

"Do the Medusae sound like a species that is good at healing?" Apas replied sharply.

"I believe you can expand your business. Don't just focus on things that harm others. That way, the Medusae will eventually become humanity's good friends!" Mo Fan replied.

"Hah!" Apas rolled her eyes and ignored Mo Fan.

—

—

Nanyu and Ai Jiangtu went to discuss things with Yassen, but they heard a few cries before they even got down to business.

"This Mo Fan is just as unreasonable as rumors have mentioned," Yassen smiled helplessly.

Nanyu and Ai Jiangtu were startled when they saw Mo Fan holding Bertan by the collar, dragging him toward Jiang Yu.

Mo Fan cursed along the way, "It f**king took you half an hour just to get a drink. You just had to force me to do it my way. Isn't it better when you are sensible enough to treat my friend's wounds!?"

"I can walk myself!" Bertan complained helplessly

Bertan still had no idea what the cold thing that was held to his groin was, yet he could feel his balls twitching as he recalled the sensation.

"Heal my friend and do some pole dancing at the bonfire over there, or you're going to pay for it!" Mo Fan kicked Bertan from behind.

"I...I don't know how to pole-dance..." Bertan whined.

"Just do whatever dance you know, and you better show some respect to my girlfriend, or I won't go easy on you again!" Mo Fan swore.

"Of course..."

Mo Fan glanced at Ai Jiangtu and Nanyu, who had returned to the team. He shrugged when he saw the weird looks on their faces. "It's cold and the situation isn't favorable to us. We don't have time to reason with them!"

"Mo Fan, I must say, you're more like a powerful second generation compared to the rest of us," Nanyu had to comment.

"Yeah, you shouldn't be so harsh with the others. We are all noble Mages. Shouldn't we settle our disputes peacefully? I was just kidding with you. There's no reason not to heal your friend since we all agreed to form an alliance. Young man, don't be so hot-tempered. There are many strong Mages in this world. You can't possibly get your way every time with violence when you eventually meet someone that is stronger than you, right?" Bertan added quickly.

Mo Fan snorted disdainfully at the man.

If he met someone he could not defeat, then he would just reason with them! They had nothing but time since they were currently trapped in the harsh environment on Tianshan Mountain.

—

The alliance seriously lacked Healers. Many people were suffering from serious injuries. The alliance decided to rest up before heading to the Scar of Tianshan Mountain.

The Scar of Tianshan Mountain was right before their eyes. They had already reached their destination.

However, every step forward would require a lot of planning. The groups were relieved when they had a chance to sit down and share their experiences. It turned out that every group had different encounters along. Many of them were extremely lucky, as they did not stumble into any deadly species along the way.

"Bertan, what is your team here for? Don't tell me you're seriously on an expedition?" Mo Fan was a lot more easygoing when he saw Bertan diligently healing the wounded from the other groups.

He didn't hold a grudge when someone like Bertan started behaving himself after learning the hard way.

Chapter 2007: The True Colors of the Scar of Tianshan Mountain

"We are actually working for the Sacred Hall of Liberty. The Sacred Hall of Liberty and the Dubai Magician Tower have reached a deal. The Dubai Magician Tower asked the Sacred Hall of Liberty to provide them with some perfect Elemental Diamonds. You should know how rare those Elemental Diamonds are. We only found a small amount of them after searching for them throughout the

Americas. Most of them have ended up in the hands of black market merchants or renowned clans. The price will be several times higher if we try to buy from them. The Sacred Hall of Liberty doesn't want to be taken advantage of, so they hired us to collect more Elemental Diamonds.

"I found one at the lake not long ago. Tianshan Mountain is really a land of treasure. I believe there are more of them in the Scar of Tianshan Mountain, since no one has ever set foot inside it!" Bertan was a talkative person. He explained everything, even though Mo Fan had only asked the question casually.

"Elemental Diamonds?" Lingling looked intrigued.

"Hehe, many people know that the pure Elemental Magic Ores are the main source of energy for modern cities, but they are clueless about something that can replenish the energy of Mages," Bertan kept going when he saw Lingling's reaction.

"Elemental Diamonds are commonly used for constructing complicated Magic Formations, such as a teleporting formation with a precise destination," Lingling spoke up.

"That's right little girl, you know quite a lot about them! But do you know that certain magic doesn't require the Caster to expend their own energy? The Caster is only a medium, as the spell consumes a large amount of energy from the Elemental Diamonds. For example, a torch will need batteries and the components inside it to emit light. The Caster is like the wires. The batteries are the ones providing the energy, which the Elemental Diamonds serve as," Bertan said.

"So you're saying that we won't have to worry about our energy anymore? We just need to bring a few Elemental Diamonds around and we can use our magic without limit?" Mo Fan comprehended it in his own way after hearing the gist of it.

"You can think of it like that, but it isn't available to everyone. Only a certain group can do so. As for who they are... well, I'm not allowed to tell you," Bertan hedged.

"If we can generalize it, it would be a great invention. I'm fearless most of the time, until my energy runs out!" Mo Fan murmured.

"A single Elemental Diamond is around the price of a mansion with a sea view. I doubt ordinary people could afford it, leaving aside the question about how we could turn ourselves into conduits," Zhao Manyan said disdainfully.

The leaders of the alliance began to discuss their next steps after they were done with the conversation.

It would soon be winter on Tianshan Mountain, so they could not afford to waste too much time. If they did not leave this place before the snowstorms came, they had no idea when they would be able to, if it was even a possibility!

Tianshan Mountain was just as merciless toward Super Mages as it was to anyone else. The winter snowstorms were going to trap all visitors. Why else did the beast hordes risk their lives to leave the mountain? Why did the Frosty Ancient Eagles have to stock up on food supplies for winter when they were already creatures of the Ice Element?

The winter of Tianshan Mountain was the true bringer of silence!

“A snowstorm is happening in ten days. I doubt anyone would like to spend the winter here, so we’ll set out for the Scar of Tianshan Mountain in the morning. The terrain of the Scar of Tianshan Mountain will defend us from the icy wind so we can preserve our energy,” Yassen told the others.

“Not a problem! We also want to visit the legendary place as soon as possible,” Xing Hui agreed.

“Since we agreed to form an alliance, I hope everyone doesn’t have any other plans in mind. I know we are here to achieve our goals or to finish our jobs and quests, so let’s achieve them together instead of dying for no reason on the mountain,” Yassen said solemnly.

— —

The alliance entered the Scar of Tianshan Mountain the next morning.

Everyone assumed the Scar of Tianshan Mountain would be a pitch-black icy ravine, but they were dumbfounded by the sight before them when they advanced into it.

It felt like they had just entered a different world. White ice was coating the irregular mountains like sheets of armor. The mountain range extended off into the distance. The peaks nearby were white, while the ridges in the distance were blue, and had merged with the blue sky. It was like a spectacular sculpture that a master artisan had crafted all his life!

Most shockingly, there were thin clouds floating around like veils at different altitudes. The smaller ones were around the size of a basketball court. The big ones were like icy curtains as wide as the sky, covering the highest peaks of Tianshan Mountain.

“I finally understand why they always say we shouldn’t trust rumors. The Scar of Tianshan Mountain is unlike anything that people have mentioned. I feel like I’ve entered a kingdom of ice in the Heavens instead of a canyon in the ground!”

“This is mesmerizing. This is the real Scar of Tianshan Mountain!”

The glaciers were hanging above them like a frozen waterfall in the clouds. They sometimes felt like the ice hanging above them was the actual surface when they were walking in areas shrouded by the clouds, like they were in a world that had been turned upside down.

The funny thing was, none of their information had described what the Scar of Tianshan Mountain actually looked like. It was either described as a hell of ice or a deep valley of snow surrounded by cliffs. The truth was, it was not snowing inside the Scar of Tianshan Mountain right now, so everything was as silent and still as a painting. The mountains were like mirrors, and the clouds were like curtains. The level of oxygen was low, but the air was still very refreshing.

There was nothing terrifying. Everyone was prepared to face the Gates of Hell when they entered the Scar of Tianshan Mountain, but they were greeted by a sacred place where they could forget all pain, fear, and sufferings!

“If this is the Scar of Tianshan Mountain, I think being trapped forever here isn’t that unacceptable...” Jiang Shaoxu was lost in the beauty of the place.

“Give me a beauty and I’ll make my own tribe here!” Zhao Manyan exclaimed in appreciation.

Chapter 2008: The Ancient Eagles' Nest

People easily lowered their guards when they were mesmerized by beautiful things. Even Mo Fan, who had been to the Dark Plane, was oddly relaxed when he entered the Scar of Tianshan Mountain. It was a visual pleasure, like a noble goddess wearing a sacred veil was whispering her secrets into his ears. Anyone would open their hearts to her.

Scary?

How was the Scar of Tianshan Mountain scary?

They were actually ashamed of their greedy and wicked thoughts toward the goddess prior to their arrival!

It was quiet. There was not a single cry or screech of demon creatures in the Scar of Tianshan Mountain, as if everything was in a deep sleep. Their footsteps in the kingdom of ice were the loudest noises. They subconsciously softened their voices and were friendlier to one another.

"Damn it, where are we supposed to look for the Night Amethyst in such a huge place? I'm afraid Mu Bai's body is going to turn cold soon!" Mo Fan was utterly lost as he looked over the Valley of Glaciers ahead.

The women had never seen anything so pure and beautiful, but now the atmosphere was completely ruined by Mo Fan's exclamation. This was especially true for Mu Ningxue, who was born with the innate traits of an Ice Spirit. She felt an odd sense of belonging when she arrived at this place.

Unfortunately, Mo Fan had little appreciation for nature and its beauty.

"Look at the glaciers and clouds ahead. Why do they feel so artistic? They are full of holes... to be honest, they might be able to cure my trypophobia!" Zhao Manyan blurted out.

Clouds had shrouded the area ahead. The ground was sloping up while the clouds were heading down, a spectacular view of this place that was surrounded by ice.

It was different from the snowy valleys they had visited so far. The Valley of Glaciers was full of ice studded with holes. Most of them were hanging above the clouds, so they looked like beehives from afar.

Senior Hunter Yassen suddenly halted in his tracks. He signaled the others to keep quiet with a gesture.

Everyone was indulging in the scenery. The atmosphere suddenly became tense when Yassen started acting so grimly. They all stood there, not daring to make a single noise, staring ahead while staying on alert.

"I...I think we have arrived at the Frosty Ancient Eagles' nests," Yassen told everyone softly.

The Frosty Ancient Eagles' nests!

Many of those in the group almost screamed. Why would the Frosty Ancient Eagles build their nest in the middle of the path? How were they supposed to keep going forward?

"It should be fine, right? We managed to cross the lake. We should be able to kill them all considering our strength. We can definitely make our way through their nest!" the healer Bertan spoke up.

"You're too naive!" Lingling blatantly conveyed her disdain of Bertan's ignorance. "The demon creatures that live together usually split the work, like a den of lions. The lionesses are responsible for hunting prey, while the lions only have to wait for the lionesses to feed them. However, it doesn't mean the lions are only good at breeding. When the den of the lions is threatened by other species, the lions will step forward and eliminate the threats to protect the den."

Yassen turned around with a grim face as Lingling was speaking.

"Little girl, are you saying that only the females among the Frosty Ancient Eagles attacked us when we were crossing the lake, but the stronger males were staying in the nest to protect it from invaders?" Yassen asked her.

"Among eagles, the males are usually stronger. Take a look at the ones that are patrolling in the sky. Aren't they different from the ones we encountered before?" Lingling pointed up at the clouds.

Everyone followed Lingling's finger and noticed the male eagles that were patrolling had an impressive crest on their heads that was glowing like the sun. Their body structure and wings were obviously stronger than the Frosty Ancient Eagles they had fought against. Even their talons were brimming with power!

"The Frosty Ancient Eagles at the lake are petite compared to them... My gods, do we really have to take this path? Can't we find another way?" Bertan had already lost his confidence.

The other Mages also felt hopeless after learning the truth.

The females of the Frosty Ancient Eagles were already a huge headache for them, let alone the stronger males that seemed even greater in number!

"We shouldn't forget about the Ruler-level eagles, and their queen and king, if we are close to their nest," Yassen added some fuel to the fire.

"Please, don't even mention it. I'll just find some valuable rocks nearby to turn in the job. I'm not going to take a step closer to them," Bertan said.

"There must be a way."

Everyone fell silent. Some were already backing away, hoping the patrolling eagles would not notice them.

—

"Mo Fan, the eggs of the Frosty Ancient Eagles can only hatch in extremely cold and dark environments. Those are also the places where Night Amethysts are usually found, so it's simple where you should go next," Nanyu told him quietly.

“Why do I feel like it’s not simple at all? I might not be good at studies, but I’m pretty sure all living creatures treat their eggs and younglings very seriously, especially the places where they lay their eggs. There must be a powerful leader among them guarding the eggs, and you’re telling me that’s where I should go to look for the Night Amethyst?” Mo Fan protested.

“I’m saying that it’s a possibility, since the conditions for a Night Amethyst to form naturally are extremely harsh. If you can’t find one where the Frosty Ancient Eagles are laying their eggs, you will have to go deeper,” Nanyu persisted.

“Please don’t add injury to my insult!” Mo Fan pulled a long face.

Mo Fan’s heart was covered in holes, just like the eagles’ nesting grounds.

While Mo Fan was figuring out a plan to tackle the situation, a deafening roar suddenly came from above. The glaciers attached to the mountain cracked and fell to the ground. It looked like the huge mountain had just shed a layer of its skin. The Mages quickly backed away to safety!

“My ears hurt!”

“Such a powerful roar!”

Chapter 2009: It’s Friendly

Mo Fan looked in the direction the roar came from and saw a striking creature glowing a sacred white standing on a peak there. Its white fur drifted wildly in the cold wind. It let out another deafening cry, as if it was going to trample every creature under its feet.

“A fully white demon tiger. It must have a pure lineage!” Mo Fan took a deep breath.

The Tianshan Demon Tigers they had encountered in the Alpine had stripes and markings on them, but the demon tiger on the peak was as white as snow. Its hair was giving out an indescribable sacred aura, and its muscular build was brimming with power and savageness!

“It’s a Skyridge White Tiger, a true child of the Sacred Tiger!” Lingling’s eyes glittered like she had discovered something rare.

“As expected of the Scar of Tianshan Mountain! I didn’t expect to see a creature as rare as the Skyridge White Tiger in person!” Nanyu exclaimed.

“Lingling, how is the Skyridge White Tiger related to the Sacred Tiger of Tianshan Mountain? What about the Totem Beast we are looking for?” Mo Fan asked quickly.

“The ancestor of the powerful Tianshan Demon Tigers is a Sacred Totem Beast. The purity of their lineage matters a lot. The Sacred Tiger of Tianshan Mountain who is rumored to have given some people special blessings must be the Sacred Totem Beast we are looking for, similar to the Black Totem Snake, to Baxia, and to the Deer God. However, according to certain records, the Sacred Tiger is significantly stronger than most ancient Totem Beasts. He must be close to the Emperor-level!” Lingling said.

“So is the Sacred Tiger of Tianshan Mountain the strongest Sacred Totem Beast among the four?” Zhao Manyan asked.

“No,” Jiang Shaoxu shook her head firmly and explained, “The Sacred Tiger of Tianshan Mountain is only a Child Totem of the four Sacred Totem Beasts that are related to the Kunlun Ancestor Tiger. Their relationship is similar to that between the Black Totem Snake and Baxia.”

“What about this creature?” Mo Fan pressed.

“It should be a level lower than the Sacred Tiger. However, just by looking at its fur, it’s obvious that it has been cultivating in the Scar of Tianshan Mountain for more than a hundred years. It’s weird that it has suddenly shown up close to the Frosty Ancient Eagles’ nest.”

The powerful Skyridge White Tiger was roaring at the Frosty Ancient Eagles’ nests. A few of the ones with weaker support had even fallen to the ground!

The Mages thought the nests only had a few dozen Frosty Ancient Eagles in them when they were observing the nests from afar, but everyone gasped when they saw the Frosty Ancient Eagles boiling out of the nests like angry bees!

How did such a small nesting site contain over a hundred Frosty Ancient Eagles? How many Frosty Ancient Eagles would the bigger sites contain?

Even though the Frosty Ancient Eagles were not Commander-level creatures, they were unusually strong. The Intermediate Mages among the mercenaries were like helpless little chicks when facing them!

“They are going after the Skyridge White Tiger,” Lingling pointed out.

The Frosty Ancient Eagles were enraged after their nests were destroyed. They flew at the peak where the Skyridge White Tiger was standing and circled it like a tornado of sheening feathers.

The Skyridge White Tiger did not stay on the peak, and ran away across the irregular glaciers.

It seemed to be exposing itself to the Frosty Ancient Eagles on purpose. It was running across the ridges and mountains, while making sure the Frosty Ancient Eagles could see it.

The Skyridge White Tiger was surprisingly quick, and its jumping ability was shocking. It managed to jump from one hill to another even if they were a few hundred meters apart. The Skyridge White Tiger soon vanished into the woods deep in the mountain. The Frosty Ancient Eagles flew into the distance as they chased after the bold Skyridge White Tiger.

“Is the Skyridge White Tiger our friend? It has lured many Frosty Ancient Eagles away for our sake,” Zhao Manyan exclaimed.

“We should keep going and cross their nest then.”

“It depends on the Senior Hunter’s decision.”

Senior Hunter Yassen was hesitant. The Skyridge White Tiger might have lured many Frosty Ancient Eagles away, but it was still their nesting ground. It was difficult to tell how many Frosty Ancient Eagles had stayed behind, making it extremely dangerous!

“It’s an opportunity for us. If we don’t take it, I’m afraid retreating is our only option,” Xing Hui said impatiently.

Xing Hui was representing the Mu Clan. There had been many casualties among his men. If he did not return to the Mu Clan with any valuables, not only would he fail to be promoted to a core member, he might even be exiled somewhere far away.

“Yeah, we are ready to face our death.”

“Let’s go then. We are aware of how strong the Frosty Ancient Eagles are. I believe any group will most likely going to fail on their own, so I hope we can work together. No one wants to be wiped out here,” Yassen finally agreed.

“Don’t worry, Senior Hunter, we are now grasshoppers tied to the same rope.”

“Let’s go!”

—

The Skyridge White Tiger had lifted a great burden from everyone’s shoulders. The alliance advanced cautiously into a gully which blocked the view of the patrolling Frosty Ancient Eagles in the sky. They might be able to remain unnoticed if there were no high-level creatures patrolling the area.

“Did you see that? It’s an Ice Fundamental Crystal!”

“There are many pieces of Soul-grade Ice Seeds too...”

“There seems to be Ice Elemental Diamonds on the nests. Oh my, I can’t take it anymore,” Bertan blurted out.

The people were afraid of being discovered by the Frosty Ancient Eagles, yet they still had the urge to climb up to the nests and claim the shiny valuables. They had been to many places across the world, yet they had never seen Soul-grade resources woven into some demon creatures’ nests like they were just some insignificant pebbles.

Mo Fan was desperate for money. Money was the huge difference between a grassroots Mage and the rich second generations. Mo Fan had used all his money to improve his cultivation and strengthen his abilities. He could not even afford magic Equipment, but everyone else on the national team, including Zhao Manyan, owned a full set of luxurious magic Equipment!

Chapter 2010: The Eagles’ Food Storage

Mo Fan was just like every mercenary and Hunter. His eyes were glittering with greed.

Normally valuables like the ones just above him were located a few thousand meters deep in the ground under the watch of some powerful demon creature, instead of hanging in the air within his reach like bunches of grapes. Even he could not withstand the urge to claim them, let alone the other Advanced Mages.

Money was everywhere! Each of those valuables was worth a million at least. Mo Fan would happily nod in agreement if anyone suggested they kill all the Frosty Ancient Eagles and take all their treasure!

“Night Rakshasa, can you take some of them?” Jiang Yu whispered to the Night Rakshasa after failing to hold back his greed.

Jiang Yu’s Night Rakshasa had another impressive ability beyond her outstanding strength. She was good at theft!

The Night Rakshasa had a petite, harmless demeanor. Most demon creatures were not going to treat her as a threat, let alone certain enormous creatures with slower reactions.

The Frosty Ancient Eagles had quick reactions, yet the Night Rakshasa was still able to weave through them freely, like she had at the lake.

The Night Rakshasa was fond of shiny valuables too, although the things above her were no different from marbles in her eyes.

“I should warn you all, don’t even think about taking the things above us. Our priority is to make it through safely. There are more valuables waiting for us ahead!” Yassen had stayed fairly calm.

Jiang Yu hesitated when he heard the warning.

“Go ahead, your cat will be fine even if she pees in their king’s nest. Those floating ice clouds won’t be a problem for her. Hurry up and loot them so we can share them among ourselves. I’m tired of living in poverty!” Mo Fan urged him.

“I’m confident in the Night Rakshasa, just don’t let Yassen and the others know,” Nanyu added quietly.

Jiang Yu was relieved when Nanyu agreed too.

Everyone was familiar with Jiang Yu’s Night Rakshasa, so despite Yassen’s warning, they agreed to let the Night Rakshasa steal the valuables.

“There are all ours!”

“We are rich!”

“I can finally afford some worthy equipment,” Mo Fan said.

The Night Rakshasa was indeed one of the most mystical creatures in the world. She easily snuck through the lair of the Frosty Ancient Eagles. Many Frosty Ancient Eagles saw her, but they simply ignored her.

The Night Rakshasa was very intelligent. She knew she could only carry so much, so she only focused on the valuables. The adorable shirt that Jiang Yu had made for her soon became quite heavy.

The national team followed the rest of the group, but they would look up occasionally and murmur, "Yeah, that one, awesome!"

"The Frosty Ancient Eagles are returning to their nests!" Nanyu quickly informed Yassen when she heard something.

The group was startled.

They were still in the vicinity of the eagles' nests, so the Frosty Ancient Eagles were obviously going to see them when they came back. They were basically stuck in the eagles' nesting ground!

"What should we do now!?" Kuma hissed urgently.

"Over here, hide inside! The Frosty Ancient Eagles won't spot us," Bertan blurted out. He had located a cave.

"Go inside, even if they did spot us, we won't be surrounded."

The group quickly changed direction and took cover in the cave.

The cave was very deep. Anyone with some common sense would know the temperature would be lower deeper inside the cave, and they would most likely suffer from hypothermia. If their blood stopped flowing, they would be frozen forever.

The Valley of Glaciers had many species of demon creatures that were beyond the strength of humans, so a lot of Mages ended up hiding inside caves to avoid the demon creatures. However, many people did not return after going into the caves. Hypothermia was like boiling a frog. Their bodies were no longer under their control by the time they realized death was approaching!

Fighting the Frosty Ancient Eagles was suicidal. They could only bet their lives on hiding in the cave and waiting for a better opportunity to flee for their lives.

"The cave is so deep. Luckily, there's reflected light in here. Otherwise, we wouldn't be able to see a thing," Kuma said softly.

"Did you see the bloodstains?"

"I did..."

"There are more of them ahead. Have we entered a lion's den instead?"

More blood was spotted as they went deeper into the cave. They even found some fresh bloodstains!

"Look ahead!"

"My god, isn't that Might? I saw him being caught by a Frosty Ancient Eagle..."

"There are more ahead. Those are frozen Steel Spike Bulls!"

"And the Tianshan Howling Bears!"

As the group went deeper into the cave, they saw frozen creatures covered in blood stuck on the walls. In addition to the demon creatures, the humans that were caught by the Frosty Ancient Eagles were here too!

They were already dead and had been turned into frozen specimens. The Mages realized they had entered an ice chamber where carcasses were stored!

"I...I think we've found their food storage!" Mo Fan murmured.

"Don't say it, I'm about to throw up!" Jiang Shaoxu was covering her mouth.

These frozen dead carcasses were the Frosty Ancient Eagles food supply for the winter. All of the people who were fighting alongside them not long ago had ended up like this. The Mages were about to lose their minds, especially since some of the victims used to be their comrades!

The cries of the Frosty Ancient Eagles came from outside the cave.

Nanyu soon heard the Frosty Ancient Eagles' moving around. She blurted out, "Crap, it sounds like they are coming for their food."

"It's not even dark yet. Why do they have to have their meal so early!?" Zhao Manyan whined.

"Who cares when their mealtime is? We must figure out a plan. We can't be stuck in here, or we'll be frozen like them!" Guan Yu snarled.

"What can we possibly do?"

"They have clearly classified the food so they can survive the whole winter. The demon creatures at the back are frozen in thicker ice. They must have been stored here more than half a month ago. The ones closer to us are covered in thinner ice and are still covered in blood. They are the demon creatures and our allies from the lake..." Lingling pointed out.

"What does that mean... are you saying that the Frosty Ancient Eagles are suffering from obsessive-compulsive disorder?" Mo Fan's mouth coughed up.

Lingling rolled her eyes. She was so calm that she did not look like a teenager at all. "Judging from the scratches, they usually start with the food that was stored more than half a month ago. They are reserving the latest food supply for winter!"

"Mm, we can ask Sister Ningxue to freeze us over on this side and pretend we were caught more recently!"