

Versatile 2321

Chapter 2321: A Little Test

“Colonel Mason, why are you here?” Mo Fan had to ask.

Lt. Colonel Mason gave him an ugly smile and beat his chest, as if he was trying to look more like an ape.

“The Lieutenant General acknowledged my strength after I gave him Zonah’s head, so he assigned me to be Brigadier General Blair’s assistant for this operation,” Mason answered confidently.

“Which means, you are the second-in-command of this group?!” Mo Fan palmed his forehead.

“That’s right!”

Not again! He led his troop right toward the enemy’s guns every single time!

Two Fiery Fists with long burning contrails were flying at them from around three hundred meters away.

Mo Fan glanced at the Fiery Fists. He did not take a defensive stance right away.

Based on his experience over the years, the two Fiery Fists were slightly off-angle. They were not going to hit the group.

Mo Fan ignored the Fiery Fists. Besides, it was not like he was the only Mage in the group.

“Water Curtain!” a loud yell sounded nearby. Karl had already stepped forward. He shoved his hand forward and established a standard Water Curtain.

The Water Curtain caught the two Fiery Fists that had appeared out of nowhere and put out the flames in no time.

“It’s common to be hit by spells that go out of control in the middle of a battle. You should focus on controlling your magic instead of trying to put on a show in a situation like this,” Professor Xylan reminded him.

Karl had stepped forward to show off his capabilities, yet he was criticized by Professor Xylan instead. The glow on his face dimmed. “Yes, Professor,” he sighed respectfully.

Several Ice Spears were thrown at them from around four hundred meters away. The spells were more accurate this time, landing right between the people in the group.

Mo Fan watched the spells approach, estimating their paths again. The Ice Spears would be landing right on Mason’s head, if he insisted on standing at the very front like an idiot.

Professor Xylan lifted her eyes. She had also noticed the incoming projectiles, yet she closed her eyes again and remained silent.

She had brought along quite a few high-achiever students from the Aorus Sacred Institute. If they could not handle these random attacks coming in, it was better for them to die to the Ice Spears!

As she expected, another student stepped forward to defend them.

It was Su Xi's turn. She Cast a Shadow Spell and fired a few Shadow Needles at the Ice Spears, intercepting them in mid-air and shattering them.

Mo Fan watched Su Xi's method closely. It was a neat trick using the Shadow Needles to intercept the incoming projectiles. Mo Fan had never tried it before!

Su Xi's Shadow Magic was pretty solid. She did not have to construct Star Patterns as she was Casting the Intermediate Spell, it was like she was carrying the Shadow Needles on her. She was able to fire them off simply by waving her hands.

The broken ice fell to the ground with the raindrops. The Fearsome Martial Bears continued to stride across the battlefield while ignoring the spells that happened to be coming their way.

Mo Fan was not sure whether the Fearsome Martial Bear knew it did not have to worry about these petty spells, or if Professor Xylan had asked it to ignore them so she could test her students' reaction.

Su Xi glanced at Professor Xylan after intercepting the Ice Spears.

Professor Xylan's eyes remained closed, and she did not comment on Su Xi's attempt. Her student was a little disappointed.

A dozen rolling boulders appeared out of nowhere to their left, less than a hundred meters away.

The Fearsome Martial Bear kept moving forward as the boulders were approaching. It fixed its gaze ahead without reacting to the boulders.

Based on Mo Fan's years of experience in preparing for his Math exams, he calculated that the rolling boulders would collide with the Fearsome Martial Bear's legs in two seconds if both sides maintained their pace.

Professor Xylan's students were eager to show off their skills. A young woman with a middle-part hairstyle and a high nose stepped forward and Cast the Basic Earth Spell, Earth Wave.

The Earth Wave manipulated the terrain and formed ravines to slow down the rolling boulders.

The Fearsome Martial Bear kept moving forward. The rolling boulders ended up rolling harmlessly past its feet after their speed dropped. It was a close call.

Professor Xylan opened her eyes. "Well done! It's important to use your brain when using your magic. Magic is like a sword. The higher the level of your magic, the sharper the sword is, but the way you swing your sword will also have different effects!"

Her eyes might be closed, but she was well aware of everything that was going on around her, and had been impressed by how the female student had used her magic.

Karl had used an Advanced Spell to stop two Intermediate Fire Spells.

Su Xi had used an Intermediate Shadow Spell to nullify an Intermediate Ice Spell.

The female student had used a Basic Spell to overcome a spell of a higher level!

It was obvious who was best at using their magic!

Karl did not think his attempt would turn into a negative example, and his face darkened.

Professor Xylan liked to test her students on even the smallest details in the application of magic. She liked smart students who could use their magic wisely. She would compliment them whenever they were able to come up with little tricks to make their magic more efficient. As a result, the competition between the students was fierce.

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“That carefree Professor is teaching her students a lesson in the middle of a battle.” Zhao Manyan was not fond of how they were treating the operation like an excursion.

“Perhaps she’s confident in her strength. I bet she isn’t that worried about the Venomous Insect Shamans,” Mu Bai deduced.

“What she said is right, too.” Mo Fan agreed with Professor Xylan’s words.

Magic was like a sword if it was used as a weapon. The way one was swinging it was very crucial.

The difference when the person was swinging the sword recklessly and using proper techniques was extremely huge!

Chapter 2322: Pretending to be High and Mighty?

A fierce flash of lightning swept across the dim sky and the huge raindrops lit up like a cloud of golden dust for a moment.

Mo Fan suddenly felt his Dark Vein rising. He looked up and happened to catch the flash of lightning lighting up the sky like a match. He also caught a glimpse of a pitch-black claw reaching out from the curtain of rain!

“Move forward, flatten the ground ahead!” Lt. Colonel Mason shouted at the same time.

His Savage Bull Riders were in front of the Fearsome Martial Bear. They were clearing a path ahead like bulls plowing a field, mainly because the Fearsome Martial Bear was used to living in a forest and did not like mud staining the bottom of its feet.

The claw was less than a hundred meters away from the Savage Bull Riders. It was not to be underestimated, since it had woken Mo Fan’s Dark Vein.

However, the Fearsome Martial Bear was still ignoring it.

Even Professor Xylan only took a quick look at it and closed her eyes. However, she quickly re-opened them and glanced at Mo Fan.

Mo Fan could not wait any longer, and activated his Earth Domain. “Star Dust: Rock Repeating Crossbow!”

Countless shards emerged from the ground. Mo Fan sharpened their tips with his will and fired them rapidly at the claw in the sky, like the bolts of a repeating crossbow!

The bolts formed a line and drove at the claw that was about to land on Mason. The bolts struck the claw and broke off one of its talons.

Mason realized something was above him after he heard the impacts. Black splinters began falling from the sky.

Another lightning strike happened to flash in the sky, like it had torn the clouds in half, and revealed the black claw reaching down.

The claw was connected to a strange limb that had extended from somewhere on the battlefield. It looked like it belonged to an enormous creature up in the sky.

Mo Fan’s bolts had destroyed the talon in the middle, leaving the claw with only two talons on the left and two on the right. It looked ghastly and twisted with the huge gap in between the toes!

“What...what the Hell is that?” Mason fell to the ground as the claw plunged at him.

Mason was very lucky that he was right in the middle of the claw where the gap was. He looked like an earthworm digging its way out from under a rooster’s claw.

The toes were terrifyingly huge. Mason found himself frightened stiff in between them as the blow landed. He was so close to being smashed into pieces!

The claw rose quickly after missing its attack.

Everyone thought it was going to come down at Mason again, since he was completely frozen on the spot, but it retreated and disappeared up into the clouds.

A few Thunderbolts Cast by Lightning Mages collided in the sky and created illuminating flashes, but there was no sign of the claw.

The claw was gone. It had disappeared as quickly as it came out of nowhere.

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“What...what exactly was that?”

Mason was dazed with shock. The gouges left by the talons around him were like deep ravines in the ground.

“It seemed to be coming after you,” Captain Benson said.

“But I’m just a nobody...” Lt. Colonel Mason replied softly.

It was clearly beyond what he could possibly handle. He would have had no idea how he died if he was not standing in the gap between the talons.

“Perhaps you caught the attention of the Super Mages of the Brown Rebels after you ruined their plans consecutively,” Captain Benson pointed out.

“But...but don’t we have strong Mages with us, too?” Mason turned and looked at the Fearsome Martial Bear.

“If those nobles of the Aorus Sacred Institute had any respect for us, they wouldn’t ask my men to plow the field. We are warriors, not farmers!” Captain Benson grumbled.

They were plowing the fields just so the Fearsome Martial Bear would not dirty its feet. It was stepping on the tracks of the Savage Bulls as it moved forward.

It was an order their superior had given to the Savage Bull Riders!

They had contributed greatly to the army, yet they were only worthy to be the insoles of Professor Xylan’s Contracted Beast!

Even so, the other troops were jealous of the Savage Bull Riders having the chance to carry out an operation with the people of the Aorus Sacred Institute.

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“You clearly saw it.” Mo Fan stared at Professor Xylan.

“Didn’t you see it, too?” Professor Xylan opened her eyes. She was not surprised by what had just happened.

Mo Fan was utterly speechless. If it wasn’t for the Dark Vein, he would not have noticed the claw hidden in the clouds!

Professor Xylan had obviously noticed it, yet she was not willing to stop it when it was already above Mason’s head.

Does she treat her magic as precious as gold?

“What if I hadn’t stopped it in time?” Mo Fan challenged her.

“So be it then, you wouldn’t have to feel guilty over his death. This is a war; it’s quite normal for soldiers to die in it,” Professor Xylan replied calmly.

Mo Fan’s face darkened.

Leaving aside Lt. Colonel Mason’s stupidity, the Savage Bull Riders under his leadership were working hard to clear a path for the Fearsome Martial Bear, yet Professor Xylan could not care less about their lives!

“You are pretty strong. You don’t look like a student. The Aorus Sacred Institute will remain the same, whether the Federation wins the war or not. Why are you involving yourself in this mess, if you already have a high status?” Professor Xylan asked him.

Professor Xylan was obviously evaluating him.

Even though Mo Fan had only used an Advanced Spell and an Advanced Domain, Professor Xylan was able to learn something from it.

The claw had appeared out of nowhere, and this man who claimed to be a student of the Sacred Aorus Institute was the only one who had noticed it, except for her.

There was another reason Xylan had not intercepted the claw. She was interested in seeing Mo Fan’s strength!

She was testing Mo Fan, just like she was testing her students!

Mo Fan was too lazy to answer Professor Xylan’s question. He folded his arms and closed his eyes like he was mimicking her.

Did she think she was the only one who knew how to pretend to be high and mighty?

Chapter 2323: Students Going to War

The group was approaching a rain forest five hundred meters away. It had three layers, just like the rain forest close to the swamps. They would soon be surrounded by shrubs that were taller than them.

It was easy for a group to get split up in the rain forest. Anyone could lose their way while walking in the shrubs if they were not paying attention.

Even a moving landmark like the Fearsome Martial Bear would disappear under the tall canopy of the trees here!

“Brigadier General Blair, ask your men to get rid of the weeds ahead,” Professor Xylan called out.

“Why don’t you ask Brigadier General Blair to build a highway for your Fearsome Martial Bear?” Mo Fan scoffed. He was seriously finding the Professor an eyesore.

“That would be the best,” Professor Xylan agreed.

“...”

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Mo Fan was only saying it off the top of his head, but Brigadier General Blair actually passed on the request to his soldiers.

A few minutes later, a troop of a hundred Basic Mages arrived and solidified the soil with Earth Wave.

The Savage Bull Riders were razing the plants to the ground, while the troop of Earth Mages was paving a road.

They were clearing a path through the rainforest, just so the Contracted Beast could advance with peace of mind!

A creature of its size could easily walk across a swamp without sinking into it.

It did not feel like they were going to war at all. It felt more like the parade of a royal family!

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“The Venomous Insect Shamans can use their magic freely in the rainforest. It might seem a waste of effort, but it’s necessary,” Mu Bai told him quietly.

“I’m just afraid it’s going to bring us more trouble. The enemy isn’t going to stick to the rules. They must know we are coming after the Venomous Insect Shamans. They can just send their Wind Warships to attack us. We will have to retreat before we even see the Venomous Insect Shamans!” Mo Fan shook his head. He was quite displeased by Professor Xylan’s carefree attitude.

Even the Federation was not as worried as Mo Fan. The generals were not as eager to win the war as Mo Fan was.

He could easily tell Professor Xylan’s attitude toward the fight, judging by the way she had been testing her students previously.

The cries of Savage Bulls came from the distance. Mo Fan could see a gust of wind sweeping the Savage Bulls into the air from up on the Fearsome Martial Bear. The Savage Bulls were flung out of his sight in the blink of an eye.

The wind grew stronger and knocked more Savage Bulls into the sky. The Savage Bull Riders had no choice but to seek cover behind the Fearsome Martial Bear.

“It’s the enemy’s Wind Warships!” Brigadier General Blair yelled.

“How many of them?”

“Four!”

Strong winds were approaching from four different directions. They collided around a kilometer away from the Fearsome Martial Bear and combined into a ferocious tornado.

The tornado was strong enough to toss the Savage Bulls within a certain distance of it into the sky like mere pieces of paper.

Mo Fan harrumphed coldly when he heard the news. As he thought, the Brown Rebels’ generals were smarter than the Federation Army!

Why would the generals even allow Professor Xylan to put on airs in the middle of a war? Wouldn’t it tell the Brown Rebels that the Federation Army had sent out someone special?

“Xylan... Professor Xylan, I’m afraid my men couldn’t stop the Wind Warships,” Brigadier General Blair said apologetically.

“I’m only after the Venomous Insect Shamans,” Professor Xylan replied.

“But they are hiding behind the Wind Warships!” Brigadier General Blair pointed out.

“My magic will only shed the Venomous Insect Shamans’ blood. If you can’t deal with the Wind Warships and bring us to the Venomous Insect Shamans, we will go back to the city,” Professor Xylan informed him.

She closed her eyes again after finishing the sentence, like an imperious statue.

Brigadier General Blair’s expression shifted when he heard Professor Xylan was thinking of turning back.

He didn’t dare say another word. He turned to Lt. Colonel Mason instead.

“You’ve beaten the Brown Rebels several times. Now that the enemy has sent four Wind Warships to stop our advance, what do you think we should do?” Brigadier General Blair asked him.

Mason was dumbfounded.

Why should a little officer like him have to worry about such a tricky question? Those were four Wind Warships, which meant ten thousand elite soldiers of the Brown Rebels!

Lt. Colonel Mason knew his place. He immediately climbed onto the Fearsome Martial Bear’s shoulder and asked Mo Fan for help.

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Professor Xylan opened her eyes a little and glanced at Mo Fan and Mason.

Su Xi was standing beside Professor Xylan. She finally asked, “Professor, the Brown Rebels are clearly coming after us. The Federation Army obviously can’t handle them. Are we really going to give up?”

“I won’t use a single spell,” Professor Xylan stated firmly.

Su Xi was familiar with Professor Xylan. She looked at the Professor’s eyes and soon realized something.

“Professor, you mean we can help, right?” Su Xi smiled.

Professor Xylan did not answer the question, but the answer was obvious.

The Professor had no intention to join the battle, nor did her two assistant teachers, but the students were free to do whatever they wanted.

A cruel battlefield was the best training ground for students. How could they not have the urge to fight when they were surrounded by the howls and blasts of spells? Besides, the Brown Rebels were shameless and despicable. They had murdered a lot of innocent people in Banlo City.

The students were only joining the battle so the Andes Mountain Range could regain its peace sooner!

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Su Xi quickly went up to Mo Fan and his friends.

She brought half of the students with her. They were around Mo Fan's age, but each of them had a proud look on their face. It was a typical trait of every student of the Aorus Sacred Institute, let alone high-achievers in the school.

Most of the students in a university were studying for their Bachelor's degrees, but they were a bunch of Master's and Ph.D. students, and were being taught by a top professor!

"We will lend you a hand!" Su Xi gave Mu Bai a friendly smile.

Mu Bai could feel sadness spreading between his legs when he saw Su Xi wrapping her arm around Karl as they walked over.

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"That's great, you are all high-achievers of the Aorus Sacred Institute, but the enemy's Wind Warships are extremely powerful. I'm afraid the number of people we have here..." Brigadier General Blair began.

The Wind Warships had around ten thousand soldiers. It was a terrifying number, even if they did not take the Wind Warships' firepower into consideration!

Chapter 2324: Catastrophe Wave: Sky-Rolling Mud Sea

Brigadier General Blair had brought a troop of Advanced Mages numbering about thirty.

The students of the Aorus Sacred Institute were Su Xi, Karl, the woman with a tall nose, and four other people. It would number ten if including Mo Fan, Zhao Manyan, and Mu Bai.

The forty of them were going to take on four Wind Warships!

The size of the Wind Warships in the forest was slightly bigger, with between two thousand to three thousand people powering each Wind Warship. They had a higher ratio of Light Mages, meaning that the Light Armor protecting the Wind Warships was thicker.

Two of the Wind Warships were hidden in the thick ground foliage, while the other two were above the curtain of rain.

Normally, a Wind Mage would only be able to fly after reaching the Advanced Level, but when a few thousand lower Wind Mages worked together like a machine, it allowed them to levitate in the sky too.

Wind Gear Wheels came down from the sky and created huge ravines and cracks in the woods. The Fearsome Martial Bear had stopped advancing, and stood there like a pitch-black mountain.

Brigadier General Blair was leading the army. The Federation Army had assigned seven hundred Brutal Lizard Knights to him. He had ordered the Brutal Lizard Knights to take the lead.

The Brutal Lizards were a lot faster than the Savage Bulls. They were also at home in the swampy woods, allowing them to weave through the trees freely.

The Wind Gear Wheels suddenly crashed into the Brutal Lizard Knights, shredding those who could not react in time into mincemeat.

The Brutal Lizards dodged to the sides, but a strong tornado knocked them into the distance before they even saw the enemy's soldiers!

"Stop sending your men to their deaths," Karl told Brigadier General Blair.

Brigadier General Blair had a wry expression. He did not want to sacrifice his men, either. Training a troop of Brutal Lizard Knights cost the army a fortune!

"Water Curtain!" Karl stood in front of the troops. He was eager to contribute and be recognized by Professor Xylan.

The reason Professor Xylan had allowed them to join the battle was very simple. It was a test!

The Water Curtain drifted wildly, like a blue sail a few dozen meters square.

The Water Curtain turned into countless droplets and scattered in all directions when the Wind Gear Wheels rammed into it.

Karl was a little surprised. He did not expect the Wind Gear Wheels to be so powerful. His Water Curtain did not stand a chance!

"Don't underestimate the Wind Warships. The Wind Gear Wheels are very close to the strength of a Super Spell," Mu Bai informed him.

"Humph, are you really comparing them with a Super Spell? I will show them the strength of a real Super Spell!" Karl snarled.

Karl took a step back and stomped his right foot on the ground.

Mud and water splashed into the air, but did not fall back to the ground. They floated in the air in the form of cloudy orbs of water!

The orbs swiftly lined up to construct Star Patterns, which gradually combined into seven Star Constellations.

The twenty-four hundred and one water orbs formed a cloudy Star Palace!

"Catastrophe Wave: Sky-Rolling Mud Sea!"

The Star Palace collapsed as its energy spread across all the soil within half a kilometer of Karl.

The rainforest not only had a layer of mud, but leached soil underneath. The leached soil was extremely loose because of the heavy rain, and Karl's Super Magic easily turned the loose soil for ten meters deep into mud.

The mud within half a kilometer of Karl rose into the air and formed a huge basin, like it was being lifted up by a giant, before it was thrown down at the woods.

When the mud came pouring down, even the mudslides that usually occurred in the mountains were like tiny streams compared to it.

The sturdy trunks of eighty-meter trees were pillars of the forest, yet they snapped like a match as the wave of mud swept forward.

The huge rainforest was instantly devoured by the black mud, together with the Brown Rebels who were hiding in it.

The force of the mud wave greatly surpassed the waves at sea. The Brown Rebels who were caught by it had zero chance of survival. It was worse than falling into a swamp, as the debris that the wave was carrying could easily shatter their bodies.

So this is the strength of a Super Spell? Lt. Colonel Mason could feel his throat bulging as he witnessed the shocking sight before him!

The other soldiers were also dazzled by the spectacular spell.

A Super Mage was shockingly effective in a war. If the Wind Warship was still in the same spot, half of its crew would be dead. Over a thousand Mages would be buried under the mud!

“Do you still think those guys are comparable to a Super Mage?” Karl said proudly.

“Are you all Super Mages?” Brigadier General Blair asked in disbelief.

If these students were already Super Mages, how much stronger would the two assistant teachers and Professor Xylan be?

No wonder she did not bother involving herself. The four Wind Warships were nothing in her eyes!

“Not all, but most of us are,” Karl said.

“Isn’t it too early to celebrate?” Mu Bai asked.

Karl frowned. How dare the guy pour cold water on him? His Super Spell had clearly dominated the battle!

“The Wind Warship had already backed away. They only lost two hundred people at most. A Wind Warship with two thousand Wind Mages can still operate after losing a tenth of its men,” Mu Bai went on.

An assistant teacher glided down from the back of the Awesome Martial Bear. “The enemy had already retreated before they saw the spell. They have a lot of Wind Mages, so they were able to retreat very quickly.”

The assistant teacher was a bearded middle-aged man with brown hair. He looked like a lion who had just woken up from a nap.

“Mr. Commodore, are you sure? My spell covered a distance of almost two kilometers. How did they?...” Karl blurted out in astonishment.

“My Invisible Eagle saw it clearly.” Commodore lifted his arm. His elbow sank a little as the silhouette of a creature slowly appeared on it.

A few seconds later, an eagle fully appeared on Commodore’s arm.. Its special feathers were able to refract light, allowing it to remain invisible even when it was raining.

Chapter 2325: Wind Destroyer!

“Hah, he’s only impressive on the surface!” Zhao Manyan laughed.

Karl’s expression darkened.

He had clearly underestimated the Brown Rebels. The enemy had retreated quickly when they sensed the incredible energy of his Super Spell.

“You should focus more on timing. A heavy cannon isn’t necessarily as useful as a dagger in your hand at times,” Commodore chided Karl.

“The bad news is, the enemy now knows we have a cannon. They will react to it soon,” Mo Fan added in.

Karl glared at Mo Fan.

“Don’t look at me, see for yourself. That guy is probably coming after you!” Mo Fan pointed at a Brown Rebel soaring in the sky with his Wind Wings.

The Wind Mage was maintaining a safe distance from them. He dared not come any closer after seeing the Fearsome Martial Bear.

His eyes were glowing like a cat in the dim sky. He was searching for the person who had Cast the Super Water Spell.

He soon fixed his eyes on Karl. The strange thing was, he was able to pinpoint Karl from such a great height, even though Karl was close to Mo Fan, Commodore, Zhao Manyan, and the others.

“He must be using the Psychic Spell *Homing Eyes*. It can track down a Caster through the residual energy in the air,” Commodore noticed.

“Does that mean the Brown Rebels have their eyes on me?” Karl asked warily.

“I’m afraid so. A Super Mage can easily destroy a Wind Warship, so the Brown Rebels will try their best to mark every enemy who can Cast a Super Spell to prevent them from disrupting the balance of the battle,” Commodore analyzed professionally.

Zhao Manyan immediately looked at Mo Fan after hearing those words. “Luckily, we didn’t use our Super Magic. Otherwise, those guys with cat eyes could easily track us down!” he said softly.

It turned out they were right for being cautious on the battlefield. A Super Mage's spells were very destructive. If the Brown Rebels had not had a way to pinpoint where the enemy Super Mages were, a single Super Spell might have turned the tide of the battle.

Mo Fan looked at the sky. "Even though the Wind Warships are fast, Karl didn't take much time to Channel his Super Spell, either. I believe the guy was keeping watch in the sky from the beginning. He immediately ordered the Wind Warship to retreat when he sensed the Super Spell. As a result, Karl's Catastrophe Wave wasn't as effective as he expected it to be."

The guy with glowing eyes had disappeared. His job was to observe the enemy from the sky on behalf of the Wind Warships, instead of engaging the enemy.

"We have to get rid of him somehow. Otherwise, they will only back away whenever we use our Super Magic. We can't defeat them like this," Su Xi spoke up.

"He won't give us a chance," Commodore agreed.

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The Wind Gear Wheels did not stop coming. There were four Wind Warships in total. The Catastrophe Wave might have driven one of them away, but the other three were still operating as normal.

The female student with a tall nose was in charge of defense. Whenever a Wind Gear Wheel was coming at them, she would Summon a huge rock to block its way, just like a sluice gate.

Most of the students who had come with Professor Xylan were Super Mages, similar to Ritchie and Boleyn.

"Aren't you going to help?" the female student with a tall nose asked Mo Fan coldly.

"Me?" Mo Fan pointed at himself. He subconsciously wanted to call Zhao Manyan over. Zhao Manyan was a lot better than him at defense!

"I remember you were an Earth Mage, too!" the female student pointed out.

"I'm not good at defense. My Earth Element leans more toward offense, but I can't use it since the Wind Warships are too far away," Mo Fan replied.

"Then you can lend me a hand by gathering Earth Magic for me!" the female student went on.

"Fine," Mo Fan shook his head helplessly.

Why do the students of the Aorus Sacred Institute have to be so aloof?

That being said, Mo Fan was surprised by their strength. It felt like the group was stronger than the teams that had taken part in the open tournament.

"They are moving toward the same spot. They are planning to focus fire on us," the female student noticed.

"I don't think it's as simple as that..." Mo Fan looked into the distance.

The wind was sweeping mud and vegetation into the air, making it difficult to see beyond a kilometer.

Mo Fan noticed the four Wind Warships were regrouping at the same location. Thousands of Wind Tracks had been set up white tunnels for the Wind Mages to travel along quickly.

To his surprise, other Mages who did not belong to the Wind Warships were gathering at the same spot too. More Wind Tracks were Cast to expand the Wind Warships and stack them higher.

“What’s happening? Are those Wind Warships able to combine into one?” Zhao Manyan rubbed his eyes and tried his best to gain a clearer view.

Each Wind Warship consisted of two thousand Mages. As the four Wind Warships slowly combined into one, there were almost ten thousand people on its deck!

The Wind Tracks continued to cross paths and establish boundaries with ferocious winds. They looked like enormous shiny white steel plates from afar!

“You are right!” Mo Fan said with a wry smile.

The four Wind Warships had indeed combined into a Wind Destroyer, which was several times bigger!

The Wind Destroyer had ten thousand men: two thousand on the ground, and eight thousand flying in the air!

It was Mo Fan’s first time seeing a Magic Regiment of this scale. Even Super Mages like them took a few steps back after seeing it.

The wind in their surroundings suddenly blew in the opposite direction. It felt like several hands were shoving them closer toward the Wind Destroyer.

The soil cracked and branches began flying forward. Even the curtain of rain was drawn closer to the Wind Destroyer.

“Perishing Dragon Breath!” the Brown Rebel with cat eyes in the sky shouted.

The wind suddenly stopped. Everything was still moving toward the Wind Destroyer from the momentum as a ferocious gust of wind, similar to the breath of a dragon, greeted them!

Chapter 2326: Perishing Dragon Breath

The whole place fell silent!

Everything within their view ahead had turned into dust particles, crushed thoroughly by the overwhelming force!

It was already dark to begin with, but it felt like the whole world was devoured by terrifying darkness when the Perishing Dragon Breath came at them.

It no longer mattered where the Perishing Dragon Breath had come from. It ruled over everything in an instant. The people caught by it found themselves in a deep abyss of a rock quarry. They were no different from the stones around them.

There were many Advanced Mages among Brigadier General Blair's men. However, they were knocked into the air like grains and shredded into pieces by the Perishing Dragon Breath before they went any higher.

Even their blood was sucked away by the shredding airflow. They did not stand any chance!

"Old Zhao!" Mo Fan yelled. The overwhelming Wind Magic had clearly exceeded his own limit.

"I can't protect so many people at once!" Zhao Manyan yelled back.

More people were knocked into the sky before they were shredded like pieces of paper. Their blood spread like dye dropping into a rapid current and dissipated instantly.

Zhao Manyan thrust his hands out and established a Rampart in the shape of an egg. It was imbued with Baxia's Seals to further strengthen its defense.

Unfortunately, the Rampart could not protect everyone, not to mention that Zhao Manyan was barely holding his ground. His energy was being consumed rapidly as his spell withstood the destructive wind.

"Professor Xylan!" Karl yelled.

The enemy seemed to be treating Karl as their priority target. Several gusts of wind with more vivid colors were heading toward him through the darkness.

The airflows were like ferocious dragons weaving through the darkness, leaving deep and wide ravines in their wake.

Professor Xylan was still on the Fearsome Martial Bear's head. She gave a strange order after she saw Karl being targeted by the enemy.

The Fearsome Martial Bear finally moved.

The enormous creature jumped, landing in front of Karl and the others to block the Perishing Dragon Breath.

It joined its left and right arms. The dark crystals sticking out from its elbows formed a sturdy wall, like the gate of an ancient city blocking the enemies' cannons.

The Perishing Dragon Breath unleashed more gusts of wind. They turned into dragons and swarmed across the shallow stream.

The Fearsome Martial Bear was sliding back slowly. Its fur would not be able to withstand the destructive Wind Spell if it lost its balance.

The Fearsome Martial Bear let out a furious roar.

A blue Aura gathered on the Fearsome Martial Bear's crystalline shields, as if the ancient soul of a great beast had woken up following the creature's roars. The Aura formed a thick barrier around the shields.

As the Aura thickened, the Fearsome Martial Bear's shield grew thicker.

The Aura would still dissipate a little every time the Wind Dragons rammed into the shields, but it did not matter how long the shields would last. It had bought some time for the people behind the Fearsome Martial Bear to catch their breaths. Even Super Mages were struggling to withstand the destructive Wind Magic, let alone the soldiers of the Federation Army!

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The Perishing Dragon Breath soon started to weaken.

The rain for a few kilometers around had stopped for some time because of the wind, but its raindrops were not the first to return. It was the soldiers of the Federation Army, who were free-falling from the sky.

The Perishing Dragon Wind had eliminated the Earth Mages who were paving a path for Professor Xylan. The Savage Bull Riders who were mostly Intermediate Mages did not survive, either.

Their remains were soon scattered in the vicinity.

Those were only the remains that were left. Most of the corpses were already gone after the wind blew them to other places.

"Is everyone alright?" Su Xi asked.

"Those who aren't won't be able to answer you," Mo Fan answered grimly.

Professor Xylan had clearly overdone it. It did not matter how outstanding Professor Xylan and her students' cultivation was, the enemy could still crush them like sand by abusing its numbers.

The Fearsome Martial Bear might have blocked most of the Wind Magic, but it was also covered in injuries. If the Perishing Dragon Breath had lasted for a little longer, the creature would have been sent flying and shredded into pieces too.

"Did the Brown Rebels use their ace against us?" Zhao Manyan blurted out in shock.

"That brainless Professor is only making it worse," Mo Fan grumbled. Why couldn't they send someone more reliable?

If they could put a stop to the Frenzy Rain, they would be able to stop half of the enemy, who were only involved in the war after losing their rationality.

Mo Fan initially thought the Professor and her students would get them to the Scorching River, but the Wind Destroyer had proven him wrong.

"Should we try to break through the enemy's defense ourselves?" Mu Bai asked quietly.

"No, it's still too early for that. If we try to push forward now, at least thirty thousand Mages are going to surround us by the time we reach the Scorching River. We might have trouble leaving in one piece, let alone taking down Wu Ku," Mo Fan shook his head.

Professor Xylan might be a pain in the ass, but she was their only hope to reach their destination!

“It’s obvious that Professor Xylan isn’t going to fight, but I’m afraid her students alone aren’t strong enough to defeat the Wind Destroyer,” Mu Bai pointed out.

“We have no idea how many enemies are blocking our path ahead,” Mo Fan agreed.

“What should we do then?” Mu Bai and Zhao Manyan were lost.

Mo Fan turned to Brigadier General Blair.

The general’s face was extremely pale. It seemed like he had lost all hope of winning the battle.

“Brigadier General Blair, how does the Crusader’s Cross Chaos Formation work? If the enemy has sent out their Wind Warships, why aren’t the Crusaders stopping them?” Mo Fan asked.

“The Crusaders have a very limited range, but the Wind Warships are able to fire their Wind Gear Wheels from two kilometers away. Our Crusaders are only effective when they are within five hundred meters of the enemy,” Brigadier General Blair explained.

The enemy’s Wind Warships were abusing the wide area of effect of the Wind Element.

The Crusaders were made up of many Elemental Mages, but they were mostly Basic and Intermediate Mages. Their effective range was only five hundred meters.

As a result, the Crusaders would only suffer great casualties if they went up against the Wind Warships, unless they were within five hundred meters of them!

Chapter 2327: Space-Compressing Bridge

“So its effective range is the problem here?” Mo Fan asked for clarification.

“The effective range of an army is critical in a war. If you are using a long-range bow against the enemy’s crossbows, the long-range bow will have the upper hand as long as you keep your distance from the enemy. The army isn’t going to sacrifice the Crusaders, unless they send out riders and assault troops to take the enemy’s attacks at the front, or a huge regiment is around to escort and defend them,” Brigadier General Blair stated grimly.

Mo Fan had rarely fought in a true battle. He was not familiar with the merits and drawbacks of the armies.

“What if I have a way to increase their effective range?” Mo Fan asked while glancing at the Wind Destroyer.

“How are you going to do that? Are you going to construct a Magic Formation? It’s not going to work! Even if you know how to construct a Magic Formation, the Crusaders are already using the Cross Chaos

Formation, and their effects won't stack. Our army isn't strong enough to use two Magic Formations simultaneously!" Brigadier General Blair shook his head, rejecting Mo Fan's suggestion.

"I learned a special Space Spell from a university in China. It's called the Space-Compressing Bridge. I will open a Space Tunnel in front of the Crusaders which they will fire their destructive spells into. The spells will only need to travel a few hundred meters to cover a distance of a few kilometers," Mo Fan explained.

Brigadier General Blair stared at Mo Fan, reassessing him. "Are you saying that you are an Advanced Space Mage?" he blurted out in surprise.

"Don't worry about the details. If I can set up the Space-Compressing Bridge, can you convince the general to send out the Crusaders?" Mo Fan said.

"Well..." Brigadier General Blair hesitated.

He only had the clearance to dispatch a single troop of Crusaders at most, but they would need at least three troops of the Crusaders to defeat the enemy's Wind Destroyer!

He would need to ask the Lieutenant General for his permission!

Lt. Col. Mason stepped forward and stated sincerely, "Sir, he's the main reason why our troops were able to break through the enemy's defenses and contribute to the army consecutively. Brigadier General Blair, please have faith in him!"

Mo Fan was a little touched. Mason had finally acted like an intelligent human for once!

Mo Fan's rank was not high. He would need officers of higher rank to agree with his suggestion for their superiors to even consider it.

"Fine, I'll give it a try!" Brigadier General Blair nodded.

He could no longer rely on the people from the Aorus Sacred Institute. The merciless Professor Xylan only cared about her students' safety. She had treated the soldiers and riders who were paving a path for her like mere ants. She did not blink when they died in front of her.

Brigadier General Blair had recruited and trained those men himself. His heart was bleeding after the Perishing Dragon Breath took their lives!

—

"Mu Bai, you need to figure out a way to hinder the cat-eyes guy's vision. I'm going to need some time to construct the Space-Compressing Bridge. I'll have to start over again if someone disturbs the process," Mo Fan told him.

"Alright, I'll try to distract him."

—

Brigadier General Blair was very efficient. He soon brought Mo Fan some good news.

The Crusaders were on their way. They would be waiting in the trenches three kilometers behind Mo Fan and the others. Once Mo Fan completed the Space-Compressing Bridge, they would come forward and deliver a huge blow to the Wind Destroyer!

Mo Fan was overjoyed.

He had been searching for a suitable spot to set up the Space-Compressing Bridge. He would need to set it on high ground, similar to how he had done it in Xiamen, to ensure the spells coming out of the Space-Compressing Bridge would reach the enemy.

“This area is completely in ruins because of the Wind Destroyer. The wind has even blown off a few layers of the ground. It’s going to be difficult to find some high ground,” Zhao Manyan commented.

The area used to be part of the rainforest and its three layers of vegetation, but only mud and rocks were left after the Wind Destroyer’s attack. All the trees had been uprooted. It was unlikely Mo Fan would find a suitable high ground at least two hundred meters taller than the Wind Destroyer.

Mo Fan frowned. He would have a hard time following the Wind Destroyer’s location without the high ground!

“You will need a tall structure,” the female student with a tall nose spoke up.

“The problem is, we are in the middle of nowhere, a forest that has been destroyed.” Mo Fan had a feeling the woman was sneering at him.

“I can build it,” the female student stated firmly.

Mo Fan looked at her, a bit surprised.

The woman was very tall and her skin was as pale as snow. She had the figure of a Russian beauty.

Her long peach hair was tied in a ponytail that reached her waist. It almost hit Mo Fan in the face as she turned around.

“Is this the spot? Did you say two hundred meters?” the woman pointed at the spot Mo Fan had chosen.

“Yes, this spot is perfect for following the Wind Destroyer’s movements. It’s also the perfect angle for the Crusaders,” Mo Fan confirmed doubtfully.

Could she really build a two-hundred-meter high structure here?

Even Zhao Manyan would struggle to build a structure that tall with his Earth Magic. After all, it was not as easy as stacking up soil and rocks. She would have to make sure the structure was firm and solid!

It was similar to laying bricks. If she laid them randomly, the structure would collapse eventually after reaching a certain height. However, if the bricks were laid properly, with cement between them, they would form a building many times more solid than the bricks alone.

It was even more complicated to build a two-hundred-meter tall structure. It was almost impossible to build one in a short amount of time, despite the abundant resources nearby.

“Same thing again, you just need to gather the Earth Magic,” the Russian woman told him.

“Oh, alright.”

The woman stepped forward a short distance.

“Eyes of the Rock Demon!”

The color of her eyes shifted. They were dark brown, like pieces of stone without any luster.

The ground began to shake vigorously. The Eyes of the Rock Demon greatly increased an Earth Mage’s control over Earth Magic. Many Builders in cities were skilled at using them.

The sturdy ground started loosening. The Russian was scattering it like sand.

A moment later, several sand dunes emerged and merged swiftly, turning into mud in the heavy rain.

Mo Fan noticed the Russian was combining the rocks, sand, and mud around her and stacking them up!

The mixed substance solidified in mere seconds, like water freezing rapidly after it was poured out from containers in an extremely cold environment.

Chapter 2328: Defeating the Wind Destroyer

The pillar of mud continued to rise. It soon coalesced into the frame of a tall structure.

More mud rose into the air. It looked like the mud was scattering randomly in the air, but it was being stacked higher on the structure.

A magnificent structure was soon assembled in the middle of the battlefield.

Mo Fan lifted his gaze in shock.

The structure was indeed two hundred meters tall! He did not expect the female student to possess such impressive capabilities!

“Construction is my field of expertise,” the young woman smiled after she saw Mo Fan’s shocked expression, but she soon composed herself.

“Thank you!” Mo Fan believed all the real estate companies would fancy talented Mages like her.

Mo Fan climbed to the top of the structure swiftly, and started building the Space-Compressing Bridge. He could not afford to waste any more time.

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Mu Bai did a great job distracting the enemy spotter. Mo Fan quickly completed the Space Compression Bridge. Two silver arcs emitting silver light served as a magical tunnel in the air.

“Are you sure it’s going to work?” Brigadier General Blair sounded a little doubtful. He had never heard of any magic like that.

“You may ask the Crusaders to start Channeling their spells,” Mo Fan replied firmly.

Brigadier General Blair nodded.

He was holding a Sound Magic device that looked like a shell. It let out loud clanks after it was tossed into the air.

The clanking lasted for a while, signaling the Crusaders to make their move.

The Crusaders were extremely slow compared to the enemy’s Wind Destroyer. They mainly consisted of Basic and Intermediate Mages, whose physical attributes were only slightly better than ordinary people. Most of them were running on foot!

“Just ask them to fire their spells into the tunnel,” Mo Fan instructed them.

The Crusaders started drawing Star Orbits and Star Patterns after receiving the signal from Brigadier General Blair.

A Star Palace was built with twenty-four hundred and one Stars. Its special structure could multiply the strength of a spell, but when thousands of Mages were using their magic simultaneously, the number of Star Orbits and Star Patterns easily exceeded tens of thousand, or even a hundred thousand!

A hundred thousand Stars appeared and transferred their energy between the Star Orbits and Star Patterns, and would soon bring forth a tsunami of spells!

“Cross Chaos Formation!”

Thousands of spells were replicated by the Magic Formation. Every Fire Burst, Lightning Strike, Ice Spread, and Brilliant Light had doubled.

The enormous amount of magic looked like colorful carp swimming in a fast-flowing river as the spells entered the Space Compression Bridge.

They were heading straight for the ocean at the end of the river!

Sparks, lightning flickers, ice projectiles, and scorching light scattered through the air.

The three troops of Crusaders added up to over seven thousand men. The number of spells they were firing was insane, especially after they were duplicated by the Cross Chaos Formation!

The spells poured down from the sky and spread across the ground. The smoke they created surged above the clouds and spread a few kilometers away with deafening blasts!

The four Wind Warships had been in a loose formation in the beginning, until they gathered in the same spot to combine into the Wind Destroyer. As a result, they were not able to split up in time.

The overwhelming number of spells swallowed the Wind Destroyer. Its Armor of Light had little to no resistance to the attack. Countless soldiers on the deck of the Wind Destroyer were turned into ashes, and the wetlands, swamp, and the woods perished together with them!

“Keep going!” Brigadier General Blair shouted in excitement when he saw the enemy’s Wind Destroyer collapse.

It actually worked!

The Space Compression Bridge was marvelous. Not only did it solve the Crusader’s problem of limited range, it did not give the enemy any time to react either!

As a matter of fact, the Brown Rebels had been amused by the Federation Army’s attempt to attack them with Basic and Intermediate Spells when they were two kilometers apart. It was no different from firing at the enemy soldiers on a fort’s wall with mere hunting bows!

As a result, they had not even bothered setting up a proper defense with their Light Element.

The first round of spells had quickly eliminated a few thousand Brown Rebels, but the second round of spells was already pouring down from the sky!

“Ice Spread!”

The second wave mainly consisted of Ice Magic. More than fifteen hundred Ice Mages were Casting their spells simultaneously.

The Ice Spread grew like horrendously quick white vines. The duplication of the Cross Chaos Formation turned them into an icy white forest in the Space Compression Bridge.

The white forest of vines quickly reached the spot where the Brown Rebels had sustained great casualties. They smashed into the ground and turned the Brown Rebels into snowmen.

The frost spread so quickly that it looked like white dye was being splattered across the area. The Brown Rebels started fleeing for their lives, but many of them were still caught by the white vines of death. The vines entangled them before freezing them and converting them into a part of the whiteness.

“Keep going, kill those sons of b**tches!” Brigadier General Blair yelled like a madman at the top of his lungs.

The Wind Destroyer had killed most of his men. How could he not want to avenge his men, whose remains were nowhere to be found?

The more deaths the Brown Rebels had, the crazier he grew!

The Ice Magic was soon followed by heavy boulders.

The Brown Rebels who had escaped the frost thought they had made it out of a close call, and then the boulders fell on them and crushed them to pieces. Not only did the boulders fall from the sky, but they continued to roll for over a hundred meters afterwards.

The Brown Rebels who had been trapped in the white forest of vines were crushed into white powder. The boulders completely tore the Wind Destroyer to pieces!

Mo Fan let out a relieved sigh when he saw the Wind Destroyer was finally destroyed.

Even if he exposed his true strength, he would struggle to defeat ten thousand Mages by himself!

Luckily, Mo Fan had painstakingly learned how to construct the Space Compression Bridge from Lin Du before he left Xiamen.

The magic was not that useful for him most of the time, since the enemies he now faced could just dodge spells with ease. He rarely had any problem with the effective range of his spells, either.

However, it became extremely useful in a large-scale battle!

“That’s f**king awesome. Officer Mo, you’ve done a great job! What should I say to the Lieutenant General, so you will be rewarded accordingly?” Brigadier General Blair was having trouble calming down.

“That won’t be necessary. I just want to keep a low profile. I’m not trying to rise through the ranks. However, I’m quite curious about the Crusaders’ Cross Chaos Formation. May I learn it after the war?” Mo Fan requested.

The ability to duplicate spells! It was like Casting spells at half-price!

Mo Fan was looking forward to learning it!

Chapter 2329: Demon Fireflies, Mushroom Ticks

“Well... I’ll try my best to help you, but I can’t really say whether the army is going to allow it,” Brigadier General Blair hedged carefully.

“That’s fine!” Mo Fan said.

After all, many Magic Formations were like the recipes of special drugs, and were normally kept confidential.

For example, the Brown Rebels were able to form powerful Wind Warships, not because they had enough Wind Mages, but because they knew a special technique to combine their strength!

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The Fearsome Martial Bear started moving again. The Brown Rebels were unable to gather enough men to stop their advance in a short time after the Wind Destroyer was defeated.

The group resumed its advance. The Crusaders also took hold of the opportunity to move deeper into the woods.

Raindrops were falling like silk strings, connecting the dense woods and the dark sky. Many flying beasts were soaring through the sky now, belonging to both the Federation Army and the Brown Rebels' air forces.

The areas where the fighting took place were quickly left barren. No plants would survive after being bombarded with Elemental Magic.

The woods before them were so much denser and thicker that certain creatures were unable to move through them freely.

It was possible that the Brown Rebels had used special spells to give the plants some resistance against Elemental Magic. Even an Intermediate Fire Spell or an Intermediate Lightning Spell were being devoured by the green shrubs, like they had landed in a vast sea.

"Mo Fan!" Mu Bai suddenly pointed to the back of the greenery in the distance.

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They were currently on a high point. They could see the Scorching River at the edge of their view, beyond the dense woods on a little downslope!

The Scorching River was a lot wider now, due to the continuous rain. It had spread to the woods, flooding part of them. The shorter plants had become water plants on a riverbed.

"We can see the Scorching River!" Mo Fan blurted out in joy.

They had finally made it after going through all kinds of troubles!

They had thought they were only up against the Black Vatican. They had never expected that they would be caught up in a revolution.

Either way, they had finally made their way to the Scorching River!

"Look at the water," Mu Bai pointed out coolly.

They could faintly see the water of the river flowing into the clouds upstream. The rain was a lot heavier in that area, too.

Instead of describing it as a rain, it looked more like the sky had a huge hole which a sea above the clouds was pouring into. The mist produced from the huge waves alone was like a few dozen dragons swimming around the hole.

"Wu Ku must be there!" Mo Fan exclaimed.

They had seen the exact same sight in the crystal orb that told them where Wu Ku was. Wu Ku must have constructed an advanced Magic Formation there to call down the rain upon the area a few hundred kilometers to the east of the Andes Mountain Range.

— —

A few swarms of red Demon Fireflies flew out of the huge leaves in the woods. Not only were they emitting a strange icy glow, their wings were constantly sprinkling some kind of powder.

The rain did not stop the powder from spreading in the air. Similarly, the Demon Fireflies were able to fly swiftly in the heavy rain, despite their size.

The Demon Fireflies' numbers were not shocking at first, but as the Federation Army approached the forest, they suddenly lit up like a city filled with neon lights in the dark.

"It's the Venomous Insect Shamans!" Brigadier General Blair blurted out in shock.

The soldiers had witnessed how scary the Venomous Insect Shamans were, so they were naturally intimidated as soon as they saw the infamous Poison Mages of the Andes Mountain Range.

The soldiers did not dare to go any further, yet the Demon Fireflies' numbers kept increasing. The noise their wings were making was loud enough to hurt one's ears. The poison powder they were spreading through the air was even more terrifying!

"I'm not sure if you guys are the same... but I'm feeling very uncomfortable right now," Lt. Col. Mason suddenly spoke up.

He scratched his arm and left red markings on it, as if he had scratched it too hard.

There were a lot of insects in a rainforest. Some were as tiny as sesame seeds, yet could leave blemishes all over a person's skin.

"It's been more than a month since you last showered." Zhao Manyan was disgusted by Mason's foul smell. Somehow, he stank like horse dung, as if he had been sleeping in a stable every night!

"Maybe I'm just imagining it," Mason muttered. Anyone would have a tingling scalp after they saw a forest swarming with Demon Fireflies.

"Have you ever seen someone scratching the back of their hand until it bleeds because of their imagination?" Mo Fan pointed at someone close.

A soldier in a simple outfit was scratching the back of his left hand, but his right hand was itching badly too. He had no choice but to scratch his right hand with his left hand. He looked like a filthy wild monkey, yet he did not stop, even when his hands started bleeding.

They looked elsewhere and noticed other soldiers were desperately scratching their exposed body parts, like they had been stung.

"Look under their feet," Mu Bai pointed out.

The rain had washed the blood of the soldier who was scratching his hands to the ground.

A green mushroom grew rapidly where the blood landed. It went from the size of a thumb to a fist in just a few seconds, and it was not stopping.

The mushroom had a weird color and shape, like a pustule growing out of the ground. It even had some kind of fluid in it which was visible while the mushroom was swaying.

(Thud)!

(Thud)!

The mushroom exploded once it expanded to the size of a soccer ball.

The sticky green fluid inside the mushroom sprayed its surroundings like the gouting of a monster. Tiny black creatures crawled out of the mushroom and slithered inside the soldier's pants in the blink of an eye.

"Watch out for the Mushroom Ticks!"

The first soldier did not notice the creatures. He was still scratching his hands like he was trying to tear his skin off.

His body trembled for a second, like he was about to lose his mind, and he dropped to the ground.

His skin started to redden from the back of his hands. His flesh and skin were bloating now.

His bloating skin looked exactly like the mushrooms that were growing out of the ground. The pustules went from the size of a thumb to a soccer ball in no time.

BANG!

Two poisonous mushrooms burst out of the soldier's body, and two more Mushroom Ticks crawled out after they exploded!

Chapter 2330: Oil Lamp Fireflies

The Mushroom Ticks immediately lunged at two other soldiers, as if they were able to smell their infected skin.

They were the size of little scorpions, but every soldier they targeted died quickly!

After their deaths, a few more poisonous mushrooms would grow on their corpses. Some of the bodies even blew up after falling to the ground, allowing more mushrooms to grow out of the ground covered by their blood.

Either way, each poisonous mushroom would explode like a grenade and give birth to a Mushroom Tick, which immediately looked for its next target!

"What's going on here? Those things are like black-legged ticks carrying Lyme Disease, and every infected has two more ticks coming out of their corpses!" Mo Fan was utterly shocked.

Mo Fan was a high-ranked Hunter who had seen many parasitic demon species, yet most of their eggs would only hatch after some time.

In contrast to them, the eggs of the Mushroom Ticks were hatching so fast it was like they had no incubation period. They could take out a soldier and give birth to a few more Mushroom Ticks in just a few seconds. The Mushroom Ticks that were hatched would then attack new targets and give birth to more Mushroom Ticks!

What a terrifying species!

If these Mushroom Ticks were attacking ordinary people in a city, the whole city would be crawling with them in less than a day!

“Are those bastards planning to destroy mankind and make us livestock for the demon creatures by creating such a vicious species!” Professor Xylan cursed.

“Professor, what species are those? Their rate of infection, fission, and attack is insane!” Su Xi exclaimed, her face pale.

It was tricky to deal with the Mushroom Ticks, since they would look for new targets as soon as they hatched. The students only had a short amount of time to kill them. They had no way of killing the Mushroom Ticks once they dug into a soldier’s body without killing the soldier too!

“Let’s just name the species Mushroom Tick,” Professor Xylan said calmly.

“Huh? Name the species?” Mo Fan was dumbfounded. Wasn’t the Professor supposed to be the expert among them? Shouldn’t she be figuring out a plan to deal with the Venomous Insect Shamans’ evil sorcery? “Should we catch a few of them so you can conduct experiments on them?” he sneered.

“That won’t be necessary. It’s just a little trick the Venomous Insect Shamans are using. It’s not that scary once you learn its secret,” Professor Xylan said. She looked at the Russian student and asked, “Julya, do you know what trick the enemy is using?”

Julya shook her head and said sternly, “Professor, I think you should tell us how we should deal with the insects first. Those things are reproducing rapidly. More people are going to die the longer we wait.”

Mo Fan’s face darkened. Was the Professor seriously still just testing her students at a time like this?

“If these insects are laying eggs and hatching so rapidly, it means they are soulless. As a matter of fact, they aren’t even a living species. They are just puppets granted temporary power to attack their prey. They are receiving energy from a source entity, most likely the Poison Mage who created them,” Professor Xylan informed them.

“So we can stop them by finding and killing the Poison Mage who is controlling them?” Julya asked for clarity.

“Exactly, it’s just a petty trick from a Poison Mage. It’s not worth enough for me to dirty my hands. I’ll let you all handle it.” Professor Xylan closed her eyes after she finished explaining. She could not care less about the soldiers who were dying horrible deaths around her.

“I’m not familiar with Poison and Plant Magic...” Julya turned to Mo Fan.

She basically meant she had done everything she could to help.

“Likewise,” Mo Fan agreed.

The Poison and Plant Elements were complicated and contained a lot of variables, unlike the other Elements that adhered to a certain set of principles. Only people who were interested in becoming a Herbalist would spend their time studying them.

Su Xi walked over to Mu Bai and asked seriously, "Senior, do you think the Mushroom Ticks are similar to one of the species in the Andes Mountain Range that we discussed before?"

"The Ancaman Arachnids."

"Yes, but they seem different, too. The Ancaman Arachnids can't reproduce so quickly."

Mu Bai looked at the Demon Fireflies that had lit up the woods like a city and thought about Professor Xylan's words.

"The Demon Fireflies reproduce very quickly, and the Ancaman Arachnids are infectious and have a strong ability to fission," Mu Bai murmured.

Su Xi's eyes glittered. She blurted out, "These Mushroom Ticks must be a mixed breed between the queen of the Demon Fireflies and a male Ancaman Arachnid!"

Mo Fan did not understand a single word of their conversation. He only hoped they could find a solution as quickly as possible.

The Federation Army had lost the previous battle because it was surprised by unknown species of venomous insects which had taken over the battle in no time. The soldiers were too scared to keep fighting.

Fear was more contagious than the venom of the insects. The number of deaths caused by the Venomous Insect Shamans was not high, but the Federation Army had still lost the battle.

The red Demon Fireflies in the woods stopped hovering in the air. They flew higher into the sky, like they had just received an order.

The light of the Demon Fireflies was surprisingly bright when they gathered together. It was shining upon the battlefield like a red moon.

The Demon Fireflies suddenly dove at the ground!

They tore through the gray curtain of rain and scattered above the battlefield like fire sparks before diving at the soldiers.

Their abdomens bloated like oil lamps. An oil lamp could easily cause a carpet of flames once it was flung to the ground!

It did not matter if the Demon Fireflies landed on the ground or the soldiers. Their kamikaze dive instantly turned the area into a valley shrouded by poisonous mist. Every soldier soon found themselves swallowed by the mist!

The bodies of those caught in the poisonous fog festered immediately. Some of them even melted like ice if the Demon Fireflies' poison struck them directly!

"How vicious can those Venomous Insect Shamans be?" Zhao Manyan yelled as he was searching for a safe spot.

Mo Fan was helpless too.

There was nothing he could do to stop the enemy's attack, unless he could find the Poison Mage controlling the insects.

Mu Bai and Su Xi had just figured out the traits of the Mushroom Ticks, but now the soldiers were being attacked by another species.

There was clearly more than one Venomous Insect Shaman!