

Versatile 2611

Chapter 2611: Prayer Lanterns

The lake in front of the apartment complex was starting to freeze. A woman with hair as soft as silk was seated on a bench in front of the lake.

She stared at the lake for a long time, deep in thought. Her delicate figure blended perfectly into the cold night.

After some time, she looked at one of the units in the apartment that still had its lights on.

She hesitated for a moment, then rose to her feet. She walked away from the school, across the frozen grass.

The cold sea breeze lashed the woman like a whip. Even the mink coat she was wearing could not keep her warm.

“She’s here, Councilman Zhuang,” Dean Lee reported.

Zhuang Yue was standing upright with an expressionless face. His lips curled upward when he saw the beautiful young woman approaching him.

“It’s a pleasure to meet you,” Zhuang Yue reached out his hand in a friendly manner.

The woman did not respond. She only stared at Dean Lee with cold, attractive eyes.

“He’s Councilman Zhuang Yue, the person in charge of the operation,” Dean Lee introduced him.

“I’m only doing this for the Pearl Institute,” the woman replied.

“That’s fine. The Pearl Institute represents the Magic City, which represents the country, just like the soldiers who are fighting hard just to make sure their families can live peacefully in the walls of the city,” Zhuang Yue replied.

“The Pearl institute will remember you. All of us will remember you!”

Mo Fan went to the balcony with messy hair after he woke up. He was trying to clear his head with the cold wind.

It was almost evening. They had drank until dawn, celebrating how much of a

failure their lives were, then they had slept through the day.

It had been some time since the Magic City had any sunlight. The evening remained dull, as if the mist in the sky would not disappear for another several dozen years.

Mo Fan could see the artificial lake from his balcony. The surface that had frozen at night would melt in the day.

Lanterns were floating on the lake like tiny rafts.

“Is there a festival today?” Mo Fan was puzzled.

He did not put much attention on the lanterns, since he was starving. He quickly took a shower and headed downstairs. He had not eaten at the canteen downstairs for a long time.

The canteen was very dark.

Mo Fan was confused when he walked into the canteen. Were Lightning Element resources scarce, too? Why were they not willing to turn on the lights? The canteen was also decorated with little lanterns. The dim light they were giving off made the canteen look like a mourning hall.

Mo Fan felt uneasy. He happened to see a familiar man walking toward him.

The man’s face was visible, as he was also holding a lantern. He was grieving!

“Zhang Zhuo!” Mo Fan called out to the man.

Mo Fan still had a slight impression of the man. He was the Shadow Mage who had found the survivors hiding inside a bunker at Bing Town when he was fighting the sea monsters that had invaded the river.

Zhang Zhuo was shocked when he saw Mo Fan. He almost dropped the lantern in his hand.

“Senior Mo Fan!” Zhang Zhuo yelled.

“Shhh!” Mo Fan signaled him to lower his voice.

He pulled Zhang Zhuo to the side. He looked at the lantern in his hand and asked, “What are you doing? Who are you mourning for?”

“Didn’t you hear what happened? Didn’t you see the news? The media has been

reporting the incident for the whole day!” Zhang Zhuo exclaimed woefully.

“I was cultivating in seclusion. I just came out,” Mo Fan replied without blinking an eye.

Then... you should pretend you didn't hear anything. Otherwise, you will be saddened by it,” Zhang Zhuo said slowly.

Mo Fan was utterly confused. He looked at the words written on the lantern. It was a short blessing for someone who had died. Mo Fan was dumbfounded when he saw the name on it.

Ding Yumian!

The deceased was Ding Yumian!

The lake, the school, and many places were full of lanterns that had been made to mourn Ding Yumian!

She had left this world!

“When did it happen?” Mo Fan asked grimly.

“Early this morning. Senior, I'm so depressed. She was such a young and beautiful girl. I stumbled into her a month ago in the library. She told me her greatest wish was to visit the renowned institutes across the world. She wanted to see the cold and beautiful Alps Institute, the noble and royal institutes in Europe, and the romantic and luxurious Aorus Sacred Institute... but she no longer has a chance to fulfill her wish,” Zhang Zhuo sobbed.

“What happened? Did the sea monsters kill her?” Mo Fan demanded.

“No, no, Councilman Zhuang Yue announced it this morning...” Zhang Zhuo shook his head.

Ding Yumian's death was made public through an official announcement

Even if Ding Yumian was a Super Mage, her death would not be announced by a Councilman, nor was it going to shock the Magic City and the whole country.

Mo Fan had a strong feeling it was something that would infuriate and sadden him.

He took out his phone and browsed the news.

Zhang Zhuo did not dare say a word. He could feel Mo Fan's breathing intensifying.

"Did she make the decision herself?" Mo Fan asked after a prolonged silence.

"Yes, Dean Lee has her last words, which she wrote for the school. It was her handwriting," Zhang Zhuo answered.

Mo Fan took Zhang Zhuo's phone and looked at the photo closely. It read: Even though I can't leave the Pearl Institute, I love it very much. I hope my soul can return here.

Ding Yumian was a known Disaster-bringer.

She had been protected by the Pearl Institute. She was not allowed to leave the school because she might endanger other people.

Unfortunately, someone had found her. They had treated her Innate Talent as a secret weapon to eliminate the sea monsters!

Mo Fan had the same idea briefly when he learned Ding Yumian's Innate Talent, but he did not expect it would really happen!

Ding Yumian's mental strength was stronger than ordinary people's. Her negative emotions could influence the people around her.

The truth was, her emotions were able to influence every living creature with intelligence!

She had found out that the sea monster's minds were connected like a giant net. That net covered most of the sea monsters who were invading their country.

Ding Yumian was able to influence the sea monsters with her emotions. Thus, she had become a secret weapon.

She had ended her own life on an unknown island in the middle of the sea.

Her strong urge to kill herself had spread throughout the army of sea monsters that was preparing its next attack.

The sea monsters had ended up killing themselves.

Since that morning, the vast sea had been covered by the floating dead bodies

of the sea monsters and their foul stench!

Chapter 2612: Members of the Tribe of Sea Gods

A group of the Pearl Institute's students, dressed in black outfits, was standing close to the dam.

Each of them held a lantern decorated with a white flower. The warm light was shining on the petals, making them transparent.

The reflection of the lanterns on the surface of the sea resembled blossoming lotuses as they were dropped onto the waters.

The strong waves easily swallowed some of the lanterns and their lights, but many of them drifted into the distance like little rafts, disappearing into the mist.

"Senior, I'll give you one!" Zhang Zhuo held out a lantern to Mo Fan.

Mo Fan shook his head and turned down the offer. He did not want to remember someone like this.

"Look, the sea monster's dead bodies have sunk to the bottom of the sea. Our lanterns should be able to reach that island!" a female student exclaimed happily.

Not long ago, the surface of the sea was covered by the dead bodies of countless sea monsters. They were all facing the sky with wide eyes, like they were complaining to the Heavens indignantly.

However, as the lanterns drifted into the distance, the dead bodies sank to the bottom of the sea. They would soon decompose into nutrients for the microorganisms along the seabed.

"It seems like even the Heavens are hoping we can guide senior's soul back," Zhang Zhuo said with a wry smile. He then turned to Mo Fan.

However, Mo Fan had already left. Zhang Zhuo quickly went after him, but he only saw Mo Fan vanishing with a few silver flickers of light.

"He must be depressed too, but it was senior sister's decision..." Zhang Zhuo mumbled to himself.

A lantern hung with a white flower drifted aimlessly on the sea.

There were a great number of tall brown buildings without windows and doors, looking like a half-completed residential project. The people could easily see the gray sky on the other side between the buildings.

Councilman Zhuang was in charge of the project, so the people had named it Zhuang City. It was less than four kilometers from the Pearl Institute. The members of the Magic Association could watch the place clearly from the Dongfang Oriental Tower.

That evening, Zhuang City was suddenly surrounded by dark red seawater. The sturdy buildings that were designed to withstand the attacks of Commander-level creatures all collapsed and sank into the water.

The Mages guarding the city all died before night had even arrived. Their miserable cries reached the Magic City.

The Councilmen and generals on the Dongfang Oriental Tower were shocked. They had no idea what had just happened. The sturdy maritime fortress had been taken out in such a short amount of time!

Most importantly, the fallen fortress had exposed the dam, the last line of defense for the Magic City!

“Did anyone find out which horde of the sea monsters was responsible for the attack?”

“It might be a new species. We have no information on them.”

“Damn it, none of them managed to take a close look at the enemy? How useless!”

“Didn’t they say we would have a long time of peace after our recent victory? Why are the sea monsters attacking so soon? Was there a higher-level existence, in addition to the powerful creature we took out?”

The trench demons were a kind of intelligent sea monster, and had the power to control many hordes of the sea monsters. They proclaimed themselves as prophets of the sea monsters. Even the imperious Rulers leading the sea monsters had to obey their orders!

However, hadn’t they already killed the prophet?

It should have died with the Rulers and the rest of the sea monsters a week ago, after the Disaster-bringer ended her own life. How did the tribe of the Sea Gods recover so quickly?

“Was the information the Shoreline Alliance gave us inaccurate? They didn’t even realize there’s another high-level Sea God!” Zhuang Yue snarled.

The Shoreline Alliance referred to the intelligent sea monsters who could command the sea monsters to attack their city recklessly as members of the Tribe of Sea Gods.

The Trench Demons that served as the prophets of the sea monsters were one of the Tribes.

The sea monsters did indeed have their own civilization!

Chapter 2613: Undead from the Bottom of the Sea

“Councilman Zhuang, the sea level is falling,” a Battlemage circling up in the sky reported.

“The tide is falling?”

“The sea level has only risen for so many years. When has the tide ever fallen?”

The tide was indeed falling back slowly. The dark red seawater that had destroyed Zhuang City had disappeared with it.

The land that had been drowned by the water was gradually exposed. It was covered in sand and filth. Trash had piled up on the downhills and slopes.

Late at night, the falling tide had revealed a huge strip of land leading to the east. The people were able to see the New Pudong once again.

The seawaters had continuously taken up more human territory. Who would have thought the tide would fall rapidly one day, like it was not going to return again? The people could no longer see any water in the areas that had once been a part of the ocean.

It felt like the seawater had been drawn away. Not only did it give the drowned areas back, it even gave them extra space!

The sand, seaweed, rocks, and dead bodies that were still decomposing for a hundred square kilometers of the seabed were now visible.

The Shoreline Alliance soon assembled a few teams and sent them out to explore the dried land and find out the reason behind the falling tide.

The Tribe of Sea Gods had already won the battle against them by forcing them to hide in the five Headquarters Cities. There was no reason for the sea rulers to retreat!

“Is it a natural phenomenon, or a trick of the sea monsters?” an explorer of the Shoreline Alliance picked up a smelly rock and inspected it.

The seabed was covered in thick mud. Their boots would sink halfway into the mud as they were walking on it.

The team of explorers was made up of elite members of the Shoreline Alliance. The Shoreline Alliance had been exploring the oceans and learning about sea creatures and their evolutions. They had to understand the world under the sea so they could figure out how to stop the sea monsters’ invasion.

The oceans covered massive areas, thus the presence of death that the oceans had accumulated was stronger. In the past, the scholars of the Shoreline Alliance had conjectured the existence of an Undead Kingdom at the bottom of the sea. It was formed by the countless dead bodies of sea creatures that had accumulated over a long time, resulting in insane numbers of undead.

To their surprise, the Sea Undead had charged at their city as soon as the sea level had fallen, as if they had long planned it.

“Dean Lee, aren’t these the sea monsters that died recently? They have all turned into Undead!”

“L..I’m not sure,” Dean Lee’s expression fell sharply. He was starting to have a bad feeling about this.

Dean Lee kept looking at the tide of Undead while he was retreating, His scalp turned numb when he saw an aloof figure standing above the army of Undead!

She was looking down at them like the empress of darkness and death. Her eyes were brimming with hatred.

She was the new member of the Tribe of Sea Gods!

She was capable of commanding this army of sea monsters which had died and turned into undead!

More importantly, Dean Lee found the outline and the pale face of the creature extremely familiar.

The dark red tide closed in on them.

Dean Lee and his men were still around ten kilometers away from the safe zone. They obviously could not make it in time.

The Sea Undead crashed into the team. The members of the team could not escape the fate of being annihilated by the Sea Undead.

Dean Lee also gave up.

He was surrounded by the Sea Undead, but for some reason, they were ignoring him. They had simply swept on past him.

It felt like an invisible barrier was protecting Dean Lee from the Sea Undead. However, Dean Lee knew he was not under any protection.

As he thought, the Sea Undead cleared a path for the figure with a colorful dress, pale face, hollow eyes, and long hair brimming with the presence of death.

“Ding...Ding Yumian!” Dean Lee could not believe his eyes when he saw the woman..

Chapter 2614: The Apocalypse

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The tide of Undead immediately broke through the weakest spot of the dam in the south. The slain sea monsters that had attacked a week ago had been turned into fearless Undead.

The Undead were scarier than the living sea monsters, as they could blatantly abuse their power without needing the unstoppable waves.

The Undead had taken the humans by surprise. They did not have enough Light Mages at the dam.

The Undead soon invaded the safe zone through a new hole in the dam around two hundred meters wide. A dark Aura poured into the industrial area.

The south of the city was an industrial district. The factories were crucial to the city's operation. They were processing Magic Ores and turning them into sources of power and water to keep the city functioning.

However, the Undead destroyed the factories in an instant, rapidly closing in on the busy districts of the city.

The soldiers had no chance of stopping them.

Most sea monsters would back away from fierce resistance and look for other openings, giving the humans time to adjust and control the situation, but the Undead were fearless.

They were only focused on their target. They would not stop even if there were only empty shells!

They were more terrifying than a huge wave of sea monsters. They were charging forward recklessly, bearing an overwhelming presence of death. After destroying the factories, the Undead all headed in the same direction: the Dongfang Oriental Tower! The army and Magic Alliance failed to stop the Undead's advance. Countless buildings and Mages were swallowed by the tide, which was moving inexorably toward the Dongfang Oriental Tower, close to the headquarters of the Shoreline Alliance and the Hunter Union. Many people on the veranda close to the beach were spooked.

The buildings on the other side of Huangpu River were swarming with Undead.

They were climbing the buildings and covered the outer layer of the buildings with their hideous bodies.

The sky was dark, and the sun was absent. The busiest district of the Magic

City had suddenly fallen into a deep abyss of destruction. The High Seaters and Top Seaters were no longer in charge. The buildings were taken over by the

Undead. They were greedily eying the streets, houses, parks, and plazas. The shallow river there was not going to stop them!

A blue light burst out of the top of Dongfang Oriental Tower. Several other buildings quickly followed up and emitted the same light from their tops.

The lights combined in the sky, forming a sacred altar hovering above the buildings.

Liquid light poured out of the altar like silver curtains and swiftly encapsulated the Lujiazui District, trapping the Undead that were trying to cross the river.

The silver liquid was half-transparent, and the people could still see the

Undead through it. They were climbing the silver curtains, trying to find a hole in them.

More Undead were approaching. They had completely taken the other side of the river. The silver curtains and the sacred altar had merely kept them on the

other shore. The Magic Barrier established by the silver curtains temporarily prevented the

Undead from crossing the river to the residential areas, but the Undead were only several meters away from the people!

None of them believed the Magic Barrier was enough to stop the Undead.

Once the Undead reached the residential areas, they would cause a bloodbath in the Headquarters City!

Half of the Dongfang Oriental Tower was covered by the Undead. The streets, alleys, plazas, and parks were already covered by the Undead.

They had used their bodies to flood the city. If the buildings had not been not protected by magic, the whole district would be destroyed in an instant.

“Kill them all!!” Councilman Zhuang Yue snarled from a platform above Dongfang Oriental Tower.

“We have activated the Formations on every building, but these Undead do not have any sense of self-preservation. Their only goal is to destroy and kill.

There’s no way our men can take them all out!”

“My men are dying at an insane rate, too. What’s going on? Why are they attacking this place?”

“The Tribe of Sea Gods surely knows this tower is a symbol for human Mages.

If it’s destroyed, it’s like taking down the enemy’s flag. They are demonstrating their power to us. They are trying to crush our will to fight!”

Several students on the balcony were struck as dumb as wooden chickens. They could see the skyscrapers clearly from their angle.

In the past, the skyscrapers and Dongfang Oriental Tower had stood firmly, pointed at the unreachable sky. Everyone would feel proud looking at them, as they symbolized humanity’s power and status.

But today, the skyscrapers had been taken over by other species. The Undead were not large, but their front limbs were strong and deadly. Their eyes were sticking out of their sockets while their heads were like the skulls of dead fish, and their bodies were covered in venomous spikes. The people who had faint hearts would often collapse after seeing the hideous creatures.

The sea monsters were no longer held on the other side of the dam. The creatures were visible from their balconies. They were witnessing the terrifying sight through their own windows!

They were told that the Apocalypse was coming. It was now happening right in front of them!

“Are we all going to die?” A young man with curly hair was holding a book. He had been reviewing for an exam.

The eyes on his handsome face were hollow.

He had been going to officially become a Mage tomorrow, but he was now unsure if tomorrow would even arrive! Even if he became a Mage, could he really do anything to stop what was

happening in front of him?

He felt like a huge black wave was coming at his raft. The wave could easily crush him and the raft. Was there any meaning to becoming a Mage?

“How long can the altar last? I heard it’s a Forbidden Curse Magic Formation,” another skinny young man asked hollowly.

Meanwhile, tiny cracks surfaced on the silver curtains as if they were responding to the skinny man’s question. They were proving that the magic barrier was not unbreakable. The tide of Undead could break through the curtains at any second!

Chapter 2615: The Buried Army of Sea Monsters

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The young men heard some footsteps on the stairs.

A man in his sleepwear walked over to the balcony with a toothbrush in his mouth and a brushing mug in his hand.

The others were looking at the apocalyptic sight. He followed their gazes.

He took the toothbrush out of his mouth and poured the cold water in the mug

into his mouth.

Gargle gargle...spit!

“Bro, why are you spitting from your balcony? Don’t you know that’s unhygienic?”

“That’s right, do you think you no longer have to behave yourself because we are all going to die?”

Mo Fan casually put the toothbrush and the mug down and replied, “I have never behaved myself.”

Mo Fan looked at the altar and estimated its durability.

It was indeed a Forbidden Curse Magic Formation, but Mo Fan did not believe it would last for more than a day.

The Undead numbers were too overwhelming. Even if the people were stronger, it would take some time to eliminate all the Undead. It would take the military and Magic Association at least half a month to kill them all, without taking into consideration the casualties.

If the altar was the last line of defense for the Magic City, the army of Undead would break through the defense after twenty-four hours and massacre the civilians!

However, it seemed like the Undead were targeting Dongfang Oriental Tower. They were doing everything to climb to its top, like there was something they were after on it.

The tower had plenty of Mages. Their destructive spells could kill hundreds of the Undead in an instant, but the attacks were nothing compared to the numbers of Undead.

“Aren’t you Mo Fan!?” The curly-haired young man recognized Mo Fan.

“I am,” Mo Fan confirmed.

“You live here, too?” The young man could not recall seeing Mo Fan here before.

“Yes.”

“Aren’t you strong? Can you take care of them?” the young man asked hopefully.

“Hold your hand straight,” Mo Fan told him.

The young man was puzzled, but he followed the instruction.

“Raise your pinkie and cover any part of Lujiazhui District. The area that your pinkie covers is the most I can kill,” Mo Fan informed him.

The other young men came over and reached out their hands with the questioner.

Their pinkies could only cover a tiny area of the district. It was nothing compared to the massive army of Undead!

“You are so strong, yet you can only kill that much?” The curly-haired young man looked at his pinkie in disbelief. “Doesn’t that mean we are all going to die?”

“More or less,” Mo Fan nodded.

“Bro, do something, you are a Mage! We don’t want to die.”

“I’m more curious about where these Undead came from and why they are attacking the tower. Are they really trying to crush our will to fight? If so, they could just target the city,” Mo Fan rubbed his chin and thought aloud.

Military force was not the key to resolving the situation. If the Tribe of Sea Gods could regroup so easily after losing so many sea monsters, it was meaningless to put up any fight. It was wiser to abandon the city and move into the mountains.

“Mo Fan!” an aged voice called out.

Mo Fan turned around and saw Dean Xiao standing behind him.

Silver sparkles were flickering around him, while his clothes and beard were still. They showed that Dean Xiao was an impressive Space Mage.

“Dean Xiao, the Undead can only rise with a strong presence of death. Even though countless dead bodies accumulated at the bottom of the sea, the presence of death should have gradually faded away with the waves. I don’t

understand how these sea monsters that Ding Yumian killed could turn into Undead so quickly,” Mo Fan said. “We have gathered some people, but I hope you can come with us too,” Dean

Xiao answered.

Dean Xiao had come to him in person. Mo Fan felt obligated to go with him. Time was of the essence. Mo Fan was surprised that Dean Xiao did not even bother holding an emergency meeting. He simply gathered several people and explained the situation while they were heading east.

Wei Rong, the head of the Fire School, was in the group with them. The others included a teacher with white brows, Professor Shi, and a professor of the Undead Element.

Mo Fan knew all of them, except for the professor of the Undead Element.

The teacher with white brows was a Healer. He was known as Prince Charming at the infirmary. He was the idol of many female students and teachers in the school. He was reserved and only focused on doing his job, but no one knew how strong he was.

If Dean Xiao had invited him here, it meant he was also a strong Mage with a secret identity at the school.

Mo Fan had met Professor Shi in the early days of his studies. He had stumbled into the man on the train to the Magic City when he first moved from Bo City. Mo Fan had also learned the information related to the Totem Beast with mysterious feathers from the professor.

These people were obviously authorities of virtue and prestige from the Pearl Institute. Mo Fan was flattered to be invited along by Dean Xiao, since he had only graduated from the school not many years ago.

Professor Shi stroked his beard and asked, “Mo Fan, I heard you have been to the Dark Plane. What did you learn there?”

“Should I write a review of my adventure there?” Mo Fan replied with a wry smile. You two can discuss it later,” Dean Xiao interrupted their conversation and

said with a stern face, "Take a look at this!"

The photo was printed on paper. Everyone put on a straight face after looking at it.

"Is that her?" Dean Xiao asked Wei Rong.

Wei Rong looked at the teacher with white brows, who looked at Professor Shi and the professor of the Undead Element.

"That is Ding Yumian," Mo Fan declared confidently.

Someone had managed to capture a photo of Ding Yumian being escorted by the Undead like an empress. Not only was her face extremely pale, even her skin was completely white.

However, her lower body was no longer human. Her legs were replaced by colorful scales that resembled a mermaid wrapped in a colorful dress,. Her unique posture while she was standing bore some similarities to the Sea Monster Prophets! "Professor Luo, do you think Ding Yumian's corpse was being controlled by an evil spirit or.." Dean Xiao asked the professor of the Undead Element.

"Ding Yumian's Fourth Element is the Undead Element," Professor Luo replied dourly.

"Why is she doing this? The whole country has mourned for her and thanked her for her sacrifice.. Why did she become an Undead and send the sea monsters that were buried with her to attack us?"

Chapter 2616: Lingering Soul

"Should we approach her right away? I feel she's no longer the Ding Yumian we know," the teacher with white brows spoke up.

"Her evil tendencies are too strong. If I'm not mistaken, she must have killed Dean Lee and the others," Dean Xiao judged.

"Dean Xiao, I still don't understand. Not many people knew about Ding Yumian's power. How did she become Councilman Zhuang's weapon against

the sea monsters?” Wei Rong asked him.

“Dean Lee must have told Councilman Zhuang about Ding Yumian’s power,” Dean Xiao sighed. He added, “Dean Fu had been keeping Ding Yumian’s information confidential, despite the pressure he was under. After he died during the battle at Huangpu River, the school struggled to decide on how to deal with Ding Yumian.” Disaster-bringers like Qin Yu’er and Ding Yumian were constantly on the Heresy Judgment Court’s radar.

Dean Fu used to be Ding Yumian’s protectOr. He had made sure she could stay in the Pearl Institute without being harassed.

After Dean Fu died, Dean Lee took over his role, including the arrangements for special students like Ding Yumian.

“This is a forged document. The other schools never gave their permission, but Dean Lee somehow prepared an official document that said Ding Yumian has been expelled!” Dean Xiao took out a copy of a document.

“It looks just like a real one,” the teacher with white brows observed.

“Exactly. Dean Lee is in charge of the recruitment and expulsion of students with special circumstances. Even if we voted against his decision, he could still forge this document,” Dean Xiao agreed.

“Does that mean Ding Yumian was given the document before she became a weapon? Wouldn’t that make her homeless?” Mo Fan blurted out in surprise. Ding Yumian had always treated the Pearl Institute as her home. It was the protection she needed from the biased world.

To their surprise, someone had taken it away from her!

“It’s not hard to guess that Dean Lee forced Ding Yumian into a corner and suggested a plausible way to save the city on behalf of the school. He was pressuring her to sacrifice herself for the greater good.”

“Isn’t that the same as how the people in the past sacrificed innocent women to the Sea of God?!”

“It made a lot of sense. The primary condition to become an Undead was

hatred. If Ding Yumian willingly sacrificed herself, she would not have any resentment. Even if the place she died at had a strong aura of death, she wouldn't become an Undead," the professor of the Undead Element agreed.

'Dean Xiao, what are we supposed to do now?'

"We must find out the truth. We should visit the place where Ding Yumian killed herself," Dean Xiao declared.

Dean Xiao seemed to have a solid plan on how to deal with the situation.

"What about the tower.." Wei Rong turned around and looked at the sea of Undead that had swarmed into the Lujiashui District.

"There's nothing we can do!" Dean Xiao said decisively.

The sea had fallen a great distance away. The group could walk across the area that used to be underwater. Even the sand of the shallow areas was exposed, and they could even see the slopes that used to lead to the water.

The bottom of the slope had dried up too. Professor Shi was intrigued by the sight of it.

"Did Ding Yumian do this, too?" Professor Shi looked into the distance.

He could see the water had retreated several dozen kilometers away. The white Waves continued to retreat like an army that had given up on invading human territory.

"I'm not sure. Professor Luo, can you find the place where Ding Yumian turned into an Undead?" Dean Xiao was not concerned about unrelated matters.

"It's not far from here," Professor Luo's eyes glittered.

They soon arrived at an area where the sea breeze was absent. The water was perfectly calm, as if it had frozen.

They found an island of coral reefs. The part that was exposed above the surface was only ordinary rocks, but the part under the water formed huge colorful coral reefs. It was like a colorful tree hanging upside down in the water, dyeing the surrounding waters with colors.

"This is it," Professor Luo stated.

The group went onto the island and immediately sensed a strong presence of death circling the place like a wind. It did not fit the tranquil scenery on the island.

“Spirit Communication!”

Professor Luo suddenly raised a hand as his eyes glowed brightly, allowing him to see the tiniest details around him.

A faint blue light appeared on Professor Luo’s palm. It gradually spread out and revealed a wandering spirit.

The spirit was glowing weakly. It was a wandering soul that had yet to evolve. It was like a timid creature that did not dare to leave its habitat, nor did it dare approach the group of human Mages.

“Dean Xiao, it’s a fragment of her soul,” Professor Luo said softly, as if he was afraid of startling the spirit.

The others quickly withdrew their Auras after seeing Professor Luo’s reaction, making themselves look friendly.

The spirit was like a little girl whose mind had not matured. She was observing them timidly, like she was going to run away at any second.

“You guys were close to her when she was still alive. She will remember you if you talk to her, but make sure you don’t scare her,” Professor Luo said.

“How should we address her?”

“Just call her name.”

Wei Rong was the first to approach the spirit. The tough and bulky bloke had suddenly become a gentle and compassionate man.

He recalled the time when Ding Yumian was first enrolled at the school. He also mentioned the interesting things that had happened at the Fire School.

Wei Rong was Ding Yumian’s mentor, and he had taught her most of the spells and abilities of the Fire Element.

Wei Rong was fondly recalling the memories at first to convince the spirit he was friendly, but he teared up halfway.

Wei Rong had watched Ding Yumian grow up as her mentor. She was quiet and shy at first, but she gradually became optimistic and was willing to join more group activities. She eventually became a Super Mage the school was very proud of.

How did she end up like this all of a sudden?

She was now a lingering soul, the soul that had remained in the world after she died.

She could have shone as brightly as a blossoming flower at the Pearl Institute!

Chapter 2617: Multiple Soul Frames

Wei Rong could no longer talk properly after he began sobbing. He sensibly backed away.

The teacher with white brows stared at Ding Yumian. He could not find any words, even after a long time.

He was simply staring at the spirit who was staring back at him.

“Can you tell us what happened?” the teacher with white brows asked softly.

“L.I can’t remember..” the spirit spoke in a soft and gentle whisper. It was Ding Yumian’s voice.

“Don’t let her recall the scene prior to her death. It will only add to her pain.

The harmless fragment of her soul might turn into an evil spirit too,” Professor Luo reminded everyone.

The teacher with white brows let out a sigh and stepped away.

Ding Yumian was a kind student who would volunteer to help the school. The teacher with white brows often had patients and traumatized students whom he did not have time to attend to. Ding Yumian had worked as his assistant for time.

The teacher with white browS was not a talkative man. He had only discussed

the treatments of the patients with Ding Yumian.

However, not only did he feel sorry for Ding Yumian after seeing what she had become, he was very angry, too!

How could Dean Lee do such a wicked thing behind their backs? Shouldn't he take care of every student as a Dean of the school? How could he take away the Woman's right to live so cruelly?

Magic was human's proudest discovery. Magic schools were treated like sacred places!

And yet, Dean Lee had forced a student to sacrifice herself in exchange for temporary peace, instead of using what he had learned for many years to fend off the sea monsters!

Mo Fan went forward and inspected the spirit

The spirit instantly recognized Mo Fan. She smiled, turning the dark presence of death around her into a warm light.

"It's good to see you made it back alive!" The spirit seemed pleased.

"Sorry for worrying you." Mo Fan was ashamed. He did not expect so many people were caring about him while he was in the Dark Plane.

"I told myself I could be like you and do something for the Pearl Institute and the Magic City, but I ran away like a coward in the end. I'm so useless," the spirit admitted.

"Then I must have left you with a terrible impression. The truth is, I would consider the odds of my own survival first before I do something.

If I'm surely going to die, I wouldn't bother with it. Many people are wrong about one thing. They think they can die a worthy death by sacrificing themselves to help the others, but how can you guarantee that you couldn't make a bigger difference if you were alive instead?

"You have only seen my good deeds, but you have no idea how many times I've watched others die just to stay alive. If I'm only trying to enjoy my life in peace, but the whole world wants me to die just so they could live in peace, you can

bet that I would choose to let everyone die with me, too

There were good and bad in the world. When the bad were in charge, it was not necessarily evil to let the world destroy itself.

Ding Yumian was too kind!

If Mo Fan was in her place, he would make sure everyone was going to suffer if they were forcing him to die.

Ding Yumian's eyes glittered, as if Mo Fan's words had untied a knot in her heart that had troubled her for a long time.

"Mo Fan, won't you make her think her intention to get her revenge is right?"

The other half of her soul that has turned into an Undead can already come the Magic Association," Professor Shi said urgently.

"Mo Fan, you should be more positive," Dean Xiao coughed out. Mo Fan's words would seriously lead a lot of good students astray!

"I'm not a teacher. I'm just telling her as a friend what she should have done when she was being threatened," Mo Fan shrugged indifferently. He added, "I should have told her earlier."

Mo Fan's words stabbed everyone in the heart.

Yes, why didn't we tell her earlier?

If anyone among them had realized what was happening and found out she was feeling hopeless because she had nowhere to go, none of this would have happened!

They could still admire her beautiful hair as she was walking happily through the school. They would not be talking to her while she was in the state of a wandering spirit who had nowhere to go.

What was the meaning of this war? Wasn't it to let a kind and beautiful woman like her live peacefully in her beloved school?

"Yumian, do you know your spirit has turned into an Undead?" Professor Luo asked her quietly.

"I...I do, but I'm not willing to go with them," the spirit said.

“Them? thee others were puzzled.

“It means she has multiple Soul Frames. The one that is left here is her Soul of Kindness,” Professor Luo explained.

Soul Frames. Mo Fan had heard the term before when he was going after the Red Demon, but in the case of the Red Demon, each its clones represented a Soul Frame, but Ding Yumian alone had multiple Soul Frames!

“Ding Yumian’s metal strength was unusually high. It was already on par with the mental state of a Forbidden Mage, so it is normal for her to develop multiple Soul Frames,” Professor Luo went on.

Her mental state was already comparable to a Forbidden Mage, when she was only a Super Mage?

Councilman Zhuang and Dean Lee were seriously retarded! With more time and training, Ding Yumian could easily have taken out an army of sea monsters on her own, without having to sacrifice herself!

Every Disaster-bringer Mo Fan had learned of so far had unlimited potential if they used their talents wisely.

Unfortunately, not one of them was treated fairly. The Heresy Judgment Court accused them of being Heretics who would bring disasters to the people around them. Most people chose to believe in the Heresy Judgment Court. Were they afraid of the disasters they might bring, or were they afraid they would become too strong and grow out of their control?

If only they were given proper treatment and training...

Ding Yumian’s unique power could even have been the most effective weapon against the Tribe of Sea Gods, since she could sever the connection between them and the sea monsters. That way, the sea monsters would never be able to threaten the Magic City!

“Can you come with us to Dongfang Oriental Tower? Your other Soul Frames have sided with the Tribe of Sea Gods and invaded the city,” Dean Xiao said.

“Min, but I don’t think I can convince them. They are in great pain and are

driven by anger. They..” Ding Yumian said.

“It’s fine, just do your best,” Dean Xiao said.

If they could not find a resolution, the Magic City would have to face a new enemy.

She was the new empress of the Undead who had risen from the bottom of the sea. She would continue to grow stronger over time!

Chapter 2618: The Skyscraper Fortress

No matter how many layers of magic barriers were covering the buildings, it still felt like the buildings would collapse at any second.

On one side of the river stood the modern city, but the other side was like Hell. Tens of thousands of Undead were crawling around it. Their greedy eyes were glowing like red stars in the sky.

Half of Dongfang Oriental Tower was covered with the ghastly dark-red-skinned creatures. They were using the tower like a pillar to build a black fortress.

It was obvious they were eying the city greedily. Their terrifying gazes had already paralyzed the city, let alone what would happen the moment they broke through the barrier.

‘Troops of Battlemages had gathered along the river. They stood along the river like a wall, but each of their faces were filled with fear.

Could they really stop so many Undead that were at least as strong as Warrior-level creatures? Even a Forbidden Mage would be devoured by the tide of Undead in no time!

“Stay calm, the sacred altar won’t be destroyed so easily!”

“The people on Dongfang Oriental Tower and other buildings will have taken out half of them by the time they crossed the river. Our job is to stop them from reaching the streets!”

The voices trying to motivate the Battlemages never ceased. When the war against the sea monsters first started, the Battlemages were fearlessly charging into the battle.

However, many people realized the motivating words were not going to make a difference. They were now familiar with how strong the sea monsters were. Otherwise, why would they only have five Headquarters Cities left along the coastline?

And now, even the Headquarters Cities were being threatened!

The silver curtains falling from the altar burned with a strong flame. Every time the silver liquid splashed out when the curtains were being attacked, it would burn the Undead that it touched to death.

‘Twenty thousand Undead had already been burned into ashes. They could no longer revive, but twenty thousand was only a small portion of the army of Undead.

The Shoreline Alliance’s headquarters finally reached its limit and collapsed to the ground in a loud blast.

It was like an exploding ant nest. The creatures inside it began pouring out of the building and headed straight to the rest of the buildings.

Many Mages up on the altar were Casting spells continuously. Bright lights were falling from the altar like a storm, but they were like mere raindrops falling into a lake.

They could not even kill the Undead on the outermost layer!

“They are filling the gaps as soon as we break a hole in them. These things are trickier to kill than the sea monsters!”

“There must be a way to leave this place. We have to hurry!” Councilman Zhuang had completely lost his will to fight.

Could they possibly kill all of the Undead?

Of course not!

Most terrifyingly, more Undead was pouring in through the crack on the dam! They could not kill all of the Undead, even if they kept fighting for several days and nights.

“Councilman Zhuang, how can we run away? The city is across the river. Many people are going to die if we abandon our posts,” an elder of the Hunter Union protested.

“We should avoid unnecessary sacrifices. We are well aware of the situation.”

“But there’s no escape! Our only option is to take them out!”

Would other places be safe once the sea monsters took over the Headquarter City?

“Are we going to wait until those monsters climb up the altar and eat us all alive?” Zhuang Yue snarled back at them.

‘The Undead were stronger than anyone could imagine. The altar was soon like a stranded island surrounded by black water.

Many powerful Mages were trapped up on the altar. They were able to hold the Undead off temporarily with the special Magic Formation, but they could not possibly escape unless several Forbidden Mages showed up right now.

‘The Magic City did have a Forbidden Mage, but his priority was to protect the other side of the river!

Dongfang Oriental Tower and the other buildings there were the last line of defense for the Magic City. It was like a magic fortress made up of several buildings which combined into an ancient Magic Formation.

The fortress was still under construction, but the Undead were already attacking it.

The fearless Undead were the most effective vanguards for the sea monsters. It took them less than half a day to break the dam and swarm the magic fortress!

“How did the buildings fall so quickly?” Dean Xiao, Mo Fan, and the others had just returned from the island. They gasped when they saw the Undead had piled up like a huge living fortress.

“Can you find her?”

“Leave it to me.”

Professor Luo used his special power again. In his vision, different Undead were depicted in different colors. The weakest ones were gray, while the stronger ones were red.

Professor Luo soon discovered a bright crimson red figure among the Undead.

She was standing on an overhead walkway. The Undead had piled up over four meters high under the walkway.

‘The buildings nearby were hung with strong Undead bearing long sharp claws. They were mostly Commander-level and Ruler-level creatures. Their numbers were simply terrifying.

‘The woman’s face was as pale as a blank paper. There was not the slightest color of blood on it.

Her eyes were dark and hollow. Her red eye bags and black wrinkles further set off her devilish eyes.

“She’s over there. Are we going down?” Professor Luo asked worriedly.

‘The Headquarters of several had been were taken by the Undead. Human Mages were no longer standing on them. They were occupied by the Rulers of the sea monsters instead.

‘These Rulers were strong enough to destroy a city when they were alive. They had grown stronger under the influence of a mysterious power after they turned into Undead, as if their power was enhanced by a dark energy!

“Let’s go down,” Dean Xiao said.

“They are watching us. I’ll cast a spell to prevent the Undead from hurting us temporarily, but it won’t last for long,” Professor Luo could feel the Rulers of the sea monsters glaring at them.

“Sure!”

Chapter 2619: Pouring Oil on a Fire

Professor Luo Cast a special spell on everyone in the group. It attached to them like a thin raincoat made from crystals.

'An Undead Ruler whose backbone was covered under a shell was standing on the roof of a building. It generally resembled a huge crab, but its mouth and throat made up its entire body.

It felt like its back and its stomach were its upper and lower jaws, while its stomach was its throat!

'The monster could swallow a twenty-story building with a single bite!

'An Undead Cuttlefish was on top of another building. Its strange-looking soft body and its eerily long tentacles were made up of white bones. The magnificent building was struggling to support its weight.

Its head was at the top of the building, but its tentacles were dangling halfway down the sides. The building was around three hundred meters tall. If the buildings had not been protected by the magic barrier, the creatures could knock them down as easily as toy blocks!

'The two Undead Rulers were obviously the strongest among the Undead. There were other Rulers too, but they were looking at the other side of the river restlessly. They were waiting for the altar to be taken down, and the order of their leader on the overhead walkway!

Mo Fan's group approached the overhead bridge. It was built in the shape of a ring. They could see the flowers that had been planted under the bridge.

The strange thing was, even though the place was brimming with the presence of death, the flowers under the bridge did not wilt, nor were they destroyed by the Undead. They were purposely avoiding the flowers so the person on the bridge could admire them.

"Ding Yumian."

Dean Xiao, Professor Shi, Professor Luo, the teacher with white brows, Wei Rong, and Mo Fan all landed on the bridge.

The Undead woman had obviously seen them too. She put on a weird smile.

She had inherited Ding Yumian's memories, but her heart was filled with hatred and vengeance. If the spirit they had found on the island was Ding Yumian's Soul of Kindness, the monster in front of them had Ding Yumian's Soul of Vengeance in control!

"You're not dead? How did you survive!?" the Undead asked Mo Fan directly.

She sounded eager to learn the answer. It seemed like the vengeful spirit had a strong urge to live, even though she had turned into an Undead!

Mo Fan's head hurt.

The Soul of Kindness and Soul of Vengeance were completely different. The Soul of Kindness was relieved to see him alive.

On the other hand, the Soul of Vengeance wanted to tear his head open and learn the secrets of how he had come back to life.

Mo Fan looked at the Undead around him and asked, "I'm curious, too. How did you turn the sea monsters that had died with you into your soldiers?"

'These Undead were the elite soldiers of the Sea Gods. They were the assault troops that were assigned to break through the Magic City's defense, but they had turned into Ding Yumian's soldiers.

"We've already found out the truth about your death. Dean Lee has paid the price for his actions..."
Dean Xiao said.

"Did you come to change my mind?" Ding Yumian smiled eerily. She looked at the Soul of Kindness and asked, "Do you think you have learned the truth because you found her? Do you think you can comfort me?"

Ding Yumian pointed at the Soul of Kindness and said, "When people are alive, they are used to presenting their fake sides to everyone. The truth is, my heart was already full of hatred for a long time. Otherwise, why is she only a spirit, while I became an Undead?"

Ding Yumian was mocking their ignorance.

The Soul of Kindness and Soul of Vengeance. Ding Yumian's kindness was only a disguise! The truth was, she had long accumulated anger and hatred in her heart, which had turned her into an Undead. Her death had provided her with the conditions she needed!

How could she never think of opposing the detestable and filthy humans after being abandoned, hunted, and trapped in the Pearl Institute for so many years?

She was not trying to avenge her death. She did not have the thoughts to destroy the city and everything with it after she turned into an Undead!

Dean Xiao was too naive if he thought he could stop her revenge so easily.

"You are in control, so you can say whatever you want." Mo Fan did not agree with Ding Yumian's Soul of Vengeance.

It did not matter if a person was only acting kind as a disguise. If she managed to suppress her hatred and anger when she was still alive, she was already a kind person!

Everyone would have some degree of hatred in their hearts. However, they were still innocent before they took any action.

They could not accuse someone of being a murderer because they had an urge to kill another person in a heated argument. Only those who put the thought into action were truly guilty!

Even if Ding Yumian was faking her kindness, she had done good things for the people around her, including her willingness to take Zhuang Yue and Dean Lee's advice to sacrifice herself for the city. It meant she was not controlled by her hatred.

If she had truly wanted to destroy the city, she would not have killed herself on the island. She would have done it in the city and killed everyone in it, too!

"I like these flowers, the Pearl Institute, and the magic city. I wouldn't mind accepting my death if the whole city could be buried with me!" Ding Yumian looked at the other side of the river and smiled.

"There are at least two Forbidden Curse Mages on that side. You will perish as soon as you cross the river," Mo Fan warned her.

Ding Yumian's expression turned sinister as soon as she heard his words.

Cough cough! "Mo Fan, we are here to resolve the conflict, not to make it worse. Don't you agree?" Ding Yumian turned to the Soul of Kindness.

The Soul of Kindness immediately nodded. She stood behind the Undead woman, but she was not emitting the same aura.

However, it seemed like the Soul of Vengeance wanted to swallow the Soul of Kindness and make herself whole. Without the Soul of Kindness, she could not have turned the sea monsters that had died earlier in the war into her soldiers.

Professor Shi rolled his eyes at Mo Fan, too.

Mo Fan was supposed to be the mediator, not pour more oil on the fire!

Chapter 2620: A Tooth for a Tooth!

"How about this?" The revenant came up with an idea. She looked at the Soul of Kindness that was unwilling to surrender to her and then at the officials on the altar, "If you convince Zhuang Yue to kill himself on the top of the tower, I'll leave with all the Undead!"

"That's a brilliant idea!" Mo Fan immediately agreed.

For every debt, there was a debtor. It was obvious that the Undead's goal was to take revenge on Councilman Zhuang Yue. Otherwise, why would the Undead surround the Dongfang Oriental Tower, instead of sending them to the other side of the river?

"That won't do, he's a Councilman, after all!" Professor Luo said with a frown.

"You can use the same words he used on me against him. If an ordinary student like me can sacrifice myself in exchange for temporary peace, why can't a Councilman like him sacrifice himself to save the city?" the Undead laughed.

"Lagree!" Mo Fan nodded.

"Lagree too!" Wei Rong added.

"But how can we trust you? What if you continue to attack the city after he dies?" Dean Xiao asked.

“It’s simple, you can ask her to merge with me. You might not trust me, but you can trust that hypocrite. She has been suppressing her power. It’s the reason why we ended up like this. I don’t like my current lifeless body!” the revenant declared.

Everyone looked at Ding Yumian’s Soul of Kindness. The little spirit seemed timid. She was scared to bear the consequences of what was going to happen.

“Can you make sure she keeps her promise?” Dean Xiao asked.

“Little girl, you won’t be able to survive on your own in this world. The Tribe of Sea Gods is incredibly powerful. How can you be sure they don’t have a way to bring us back to life? Don’t you want the man who killed us to pay for what he did to us?” the revenant demanded to know.

Ding Yumian was a Psychic Mage. Her Psychic Element had grown even stronger after she was turned into an Undead.

She did not have to wait for Mo Fan and the others to agree with her suggestion. She had spread her words via telepathy to everyone in the city!

The city became restless.

Ding Yumian’s death a week ago had shocked the city. Countless people had made lanterns to mourn her death and guide her wandering spirit.

To their surprise, Ding Yumian’s spirit had returned in the form of the terrifying tide of Undead currently devouring the Skyscraper Fortress.

Most importantly, they had learned the truth behind her death!

She had been cornered by the cunning Councilman and Dean. She had been forced to sacrifice herself so they could win the battle without losing a single soldier!

Human minds were very strange.

When a robber was holding an innocent passerby as a hostage, many people would accuse the owner of the shop of not giving the robber what he demanded, instead of directing their anger at the robber.

Their minds were not necessarily twisted. It was just their nature of not daring to confront someone who had absolute power and was willing to bring everyone down with them.

She was telling the truth, and singing a melody to earn the people’s compassion.

While she was earning their empathy, they directed their hatred at Zhuang Yue!

Many people were suddenly wishing for Zhuang Yue’s death.

Huge banners rose like they had been prepared in advance. They had Zhuang Yue’s name and the word ‘die’ drawn in red ink!

Zhuang Yue almost fainted in anger when he saw the banners waving in the air.

“Didn’t I do everything for the sake of these pitiful parasites!?! And now they are demanding that I sacrifice myself to that ugly monster?”

“You filthy animals, what right do you have to offer me as a sacrifice?! Why would you believe the despicable monster’s words? I’m your leader! Without me, all of you would have ended up as food to the sea monsters!”

Zhuang Yue was infuriated. Even though he knew the tide of Undead was Ding Yumian’s way of taking her revenge, he still despised everyone who was wishing for his death.

“Interesting, there are so many Zhuang Yues in this city!” the Undead giggled eerily.

The people who wanted Zhuang Yue dead were doing the same thing as Zhuang Yue had done to Ding Yumian. She was amused by their shameful behavior.

“Every human is selfish,” Dean Xiao could only sigh.

Ding Yumian started floating in the air. The air around her turned liquid.

She floated above the buildings and reached the altar.

The silver curtains pouring down from the altar had cracks all over them. They were obviously reaching their limit.

There were Forbidden Mages on the other side of the river. If Ding Yumian tried to break through with force, their Forbidden Curses would cause massive damage to the city. Not only would the city fall into ruins, there was no guarantee the Forbidden Curses would take out all the Undead. Some of them might still sneak their way past!

“You two can play with them for now,” Ding Yumian ordered the two Rulers who were on standby on the buildings.

The White Skeleton Cuttlefish and the Devilish Giant Crab immediately blocked the group’s path and glared at them.

“My spell is no longer working,” Professor Luo informed everyone else softly.

Mo Fan looked at himself and saw the transparent Aura that had helped him avoid the Undead was fading away. The Undead nearby suddenly turned on him with strong hatred.

“Let’s clear a path and get out of here,” Dean Xiao ordered them. “She is determined to kill Zhuang Yue!”

“Mo Fan, you are a Shadow Mage. We’ll hold the Undead off and clear a path for you. You have to stop her!” Professor Shi said.

The Spring of Darkness not only made Mo Fan stronger, but it also gave him a strong Aura of darkness, especially when he was using Black Magic.

He wove through the Undead. They were not interested in him.

Dean Xiao and Professor Shi had both noticed that, thus they had asked Mo Fan to leave first to stop Ding Yumian.

'Mo Fan broke free from the surrounding Undead and saw Ding Yumian had already reached the altar. She was working to break through the altar's defenses, but she seemed quite patient. It was the same as when she and Zhuang Yue were on the island, but this time, it was her turn to slowly force Zhuang

Yue to his death.

It was her revenge.. A tooth for a tooth!