

Versatile 2721

Chapter 2721: Ancient City

While the young women took their time bandaging their wounds and treating their injuries, Mo Fan patrolled their surroundings,

He was sure that the creature he had sensed wasn't Royal Pattern Wolf. There had been something else. He could tell the difference between his own beast and other creatures.

Sea Anemone Dandelions had fled because they had sensed Royal Pattern Wolf. The predator which slaughtered Copper-horned Yak had run away as well. It knew Mo Fan had been waiting for it. It hid its aura and used the Sea Anemone Dandelions to test the group's strength. Mo Fan had refused to make any kind of move because he did not want to alert it.

But Royal Pattern Wolf had appeared right at that moment and scared everything away. That predator had run away too. MO Fan was unhappy because he was unable to avenge Copper-horned Yak.

Mo Fan assured himself that his Darkness Seal could last a very long time. As long as the creature lived around here, he definitely would get a chance to catch it.

'You killed my yak! I'll roast you alive!' vowed Mo Fan. 'I challenge you to kill my wolf if you are so powerful!'

"Howl!" The Royal Pattern wolf howled. It knew that Mo Fan had lost the yak he had summoned. It lamented its misfortune at what Mo Fan would make it do.

Mo Fan glared at it. Both of them were dimensional beasts. So, why had the Copper-horned Yak experienced such a tragedy? Copper-horned Yak wasn't really weak.

"Did you run into that creature before?" Mo Fan asked the Royal Pattern Wolf.

Mo Fan was then told that it had bumped into a strong opponent while it was hunting. After a brief spar, they went in separate ways.

The Royal Pattern Wolf communicated with him then that it had sensed the predator's aura. The predator had been lying in wait to ambush Mo Fan and his group. So Old Wolf had rushed to their rescue.

"Are you stupid?" asked Mo Fan. "If that creature even dares to show itself, I can kill it myself. You ruined my plan! Do you really think I would need to be rescued?"

Mo Fan raged. His current level of power was so high that he could kill several ruler-level demons with a snap of his fingers.

Mo Fan had deliberately held back even though some of the young women were severely wounded. He waited for the creature to show itself because it would pose all of them even more danger than anything else in the reeds. He had also wanted to avenge the Copper-horned Yak.

The predator must be killed. If it was capable of killing the Copper-horned Yak, Mo Fan couldn't let his guard down. It could easily slaughter them all.

Mo Fan could not use his dragon sense around the clock. It would exhaust his mental ability.

Many creatures on the coast had evolved into hybrids. As a result, these creatures were more skillful in concealing and disguising themselves. Mo Fan believed it was time to improve his own spiritual realm. Otherwise, he might not really be able to detect them no matter how much he increased his dragon sense.

If he wanted to improve his spiritual realm, he could no longer neglect the other elements.

“My mental state is currently in the seventh realm under the impetus of the darkness source. That night during the advancement of my summoning element, it was clear that my spiritual realm had improved slightly. If my Chaos and Earth elements reach Super Level, I can achieve the eighth realm. If I use my dragon sense along with it, then it will easily reach the ninth realm,” Mo Fan muttered to himself.

‘With a ninth realm dragon sense, nothing can hide from me!’ Mo Fan thought.

This was how Mages worked things around to be more efficient. Unless they possessed Psychic and Sound elements, it would be very difficult to sense the movements in their surroundings to detect creatures lying in ambush.

Mo Fan disliked being passive and helpless. He did not like waiting for the creature to make its move. With a ninth realm dragon sense, he was confident that he could see through most of the ruler-level creatures’ concealment ability!

A ninth realm dragon sense was not limited to sensing things only. If Mo Fan achieved the ninth realm, his Chaos, Space and Summoning elements would become powerful, too.

Cultivation was not the only important aspect of dimensional magic; the spiritual realm played a very predominant role as well. The ninth realm was the strongest realm in dimensional magic. Reaching it meant that one possessed the Great Heaven Seed Elemental element. If anyone continued strengthening their spiritual cultivation, they could also complete their dimensional cultivation.

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“The Mingwu Ancient City is right in front of us. Did you see the ancient green wall?” Big Sister Ruan said happily as she pointed at the building before them.

Mo Fan went up to it and saw that the green wall was covered with lush vines and moss. If he wasn’t looking carefully, he would have been unable to tell that bulging plants and vines covered the ancient green wall.

The green wall was not very tall. The city’s entrance was covered in green spider webs. It looked like a cave. It was hard to believe that this city used to be an ancient city of scenic beauty and powerful people.

Fist-sized spiders crawled on the webs. When it saw the people approach, it hid within the vines. The spiders observed them through the cracks in the veins with their blood-red eyes.

“The spider webs have sealed the entrance. Does this mean no one else has visited here for a long time?” asked Le Nan.

“Maybe or may not be. Some spiders produce webs so rapidly in a small period of time. The webs could have been woven after someone went through. Some spiders can weave many webs to cover an entire entrance in half an hour,” said Mo Fan. “There are some traces of burned plants over there. Maybe other hunters are ahead of us.”

“Let’s go then. They might get it before we do,” said Big Sister Ying hurriedly.

Mo Fan was surprised and curious. “Is there something very important inside?”

“This is something related to Licheng Afterglow Island. We cannot really talk about it. I hope you understand,” said Big Sister Ruan.

“That’s alright. I am not looking to pry, after all. But I think I should mention that when I first arrived here, I experienced a bizarre phenomenon. I saw a purple lightning strike from the sky and hit the ground,” said Mo Fan honestly. “It was terrifying, to say the least. I don’t think even ruler-level creatures would survive a direct strike of lightning like that. Could I ask if the lightning is related to the Mingwu Ancient City in any way?”

He had come to find the totem. Jiang Shaoxu had told him about the bizarre lightning storm and the legend.

Mo Fan vividly remembered that the area where the lightning had struck hadn’t been the center. There was even thicker and harsher lightning in Mingwu Ancient City.

“There are several explanations for this. Mr. Mo Fan,” said Big Sister Ruan as she led the way to the road. “This way, please.” She seemed very familiar with the place.

After they entered through the city entrance, they saw even more of the vines. They were growing wildly everywhere. As they walked closer, they realized that these heaps of vines covered small houses.

The houses were almost entirely covered with vines and ivy. The streets were overgrown with bushes. The place had changed entirely.

“My grandma lived in the ancient city. When I was young, I often came to the city. I seldom wore shoes. I used to run around barefoot,” Big Sister Ruan said to Le Nan softly.

Chapter 2722: Thundercat Statue

Big Sister Ruan talked to Le Nan quietly but Mo Fan overheard their conversation.

“The road ahead is the walkway. The ancient wall looked like it was overgrown with vines and ivies. I only hope that the ancient statues are still around,” Bis Sister Ruan said sadly.

Mingwu Ancient City was strangely quiet. The outside had turned into a hunting ground infested with monsters. The tribes, hordes, and Ocean Demons fought for territories. Corpses and carcasses were strewn everywhere...

When they entered the Mingwu Ancient City, it had gone deafeningly silent. There were screams or roars of ferocious beasts. Apart from the spiders who wove their webs, nothing really jumped out.

Even though the Mingwu Ancient City was abandoned and overgrown, there was this strange sense of peace and tranquility almost as if some ancient mysterious power was still protecting this city from the ferocious demons outside.

As they followed the walkway, they came across an opening where there were many ancient statues. All around those statues, the ground was overgrown with weeds but there was a clear demarcation where the weeds ended and the statues arose, without any sign of impairment or damage.

Mo Fan and young women made their way to the ancient statues. He sensed that something was strange here. He studied his surroundings closely. He realized that the ancient statues were unusual. There were no vines, no ivies, not even the spiders on these statues.

He saw that the vines and ivies had merely grown along the periphery and avoided the statues. The statues themselves looked regal and solemn as if the passage of time and change of environment were of no significant consequence to it.

They were just made out of stones, but how was it possible for them to be so untouched and full of ancient wonder?

He now knew the reason for the absence of demons in this city. They were scared away by the holy aura exuded by these statues.

"This is the Thundercat statue." Big Sister Ruan walked towards a big statue that looked like a cat.

Mo Fan looked at it. The statue looked very lifelike. The sculpted cat appeared to be smiling like an elder who knew of many secrets.

"Is this the one that caused the lightning storm?" Mo Fan asked.

No matter how long he looked at it, he couldn't find anything out of the ordinary. 'Could the stone material be some sort of natural stone that attracted lightning elements, and that it could trigger a more powerful lightning storm during cloudy, rainy, or lightning days?' wondered Mo Fan. 'Or was it a totem?'

He studied it very carefully. He noticed some strange patterns on the Thundercat's paw. The pattern was mismatched with the totem seal which Jiang Shaoxu had previously shown to him...

"What are you looking for?" Du Mei asked him.

Mo Fan had never expected Du Mei to be so polite to him suddenly. She had always been suspicious of him from the time they left the fortress. It seemed being powerful was the key to resolving many things in life.

"Nothing in particular," he said with a smile. "Have you lived here before?"

Du Mei shook her head. Mo Fan did not continue their conversation. Instead, he walked to Big Sister Ruan and showed her the totem pattern picture that Jiang Shaoxu had given him.

"You seem to know so much about this place. Have you seen something like this anywhere here?" he asked.

Du Mei turned her head away sulkily when he ignored her. Big Sister Ruan looked at the picture. "No."

Mo Fan was a little disappointed. "Are there any other ancient statues here?" Mo Fan asked.

"All of them are here."

Mo Fan studied each and every one of them. The ancient statues exuded some holy aura but not one matched the totem pattern in the picture.

"Are you sure all of them are here? I'm looking for an ancient creature. My friend passed me this picture and said I can certainly find some clues at the Mingwu Ancient City," Mo Fan said.

Mo Fan was sure that the totem was here, in this city.

In ancient times, totems played the role of guardian angels who protected certain lands. Each totem guarded a human tribe. If the Mingwu Ancient City started as an ancient tribal land, it would have a totem. In fact, he believed that this totem was what was preventing the demon hordes from marching into the city and devouring everything.

Jiang Shaoxu and Lingling's analysis was correct. There was a totem in this city. But the totem couldn't really be these statues despite them exuding a certain magical aura.

"Move it! Move it now! Quick! What are you waiting for?!"

They heard a man's voice from the woods. They had been resting, but now many of them walked out of the woods and into the clearing where the statues were.

A man in dark green armor led the way. Others followed behind him. There was commotion in the woods. It sounded as though trees were being felled.

"Who are you...?" asked the man. "Ah, forget about it. I have no interest in knowing about you. Could you step aside? We want to move stuff."

"What are you moving?" Mo Fan asked the man.

"That cat statue, of course!" said the man and smirked repulsively. "Kid, traveling with a group of ladies, eh? Aren't you physically exhausted?" The man looked inappropriately at the group of women from Licheng Afterglow Island before his gaze rested on the Thundercat statue. His eyes lit up.

"Heixiu! Heixiu! Heixiu! Heixiu!" A group of men chanted, followed by the sound of a large tree being felled. They walked out of the woods dragging an enormous golden-armored beast.

The enormous golden armored beast was almost five-stories tall. Its limbs were thick, and its body was as large as a mammoth. It was the culprit that had crushed the trees.

On the back of the golden mammoth sat an ancient statue. The ancient statue was grayish white in color. It was a lifelike Flute Heron.

The Flute Heron was an ancient and rare species. It usually made flute-like sounds, hence, the name. It was once native to the Mingwu Ancient City. But it had soon gone extinct like other ancient creatures.

Mo Fan looked at the Flute Heron statue before turning to Big Sister Ruan. "I thought you said there weren't any more of the ancient statues?"

Mo Fan had never seen the Flute Heron statue before. But he realized that these men had moved the statue from another part of the Mingwu Ancient City. They planned to move it out of the city entirely.

Their next target was the Thundercat statue. The men headed towards the ancient statue. The statue itself was not very big. It was only about as tall as a human. But the weight of it was shocking. Even the mighty golden mammoth-like beast struggled to the Flute Herron statue alone.

The hunter group came together to try to help. There were cracks at the back of the golden armor of the huge beast, and each step sunk in the ground at the weight.

“Boss Jin, the beast looks strained by just carrying one statue. The Thundercat statue looks to be about the same size as the Flute Heron statue, how do we move it?” One of the hunters said.

“The Thundercat statue looks more valuable. We’ll leave the Flute Heron here and move the Thundercat statue first!” said the man called Boss Jin.

Chapter 2723: I’m Not Short of Money

“You! How can you move these ancient statues away?!” said Big Sister Ruan angrily.

When she was young, her grandmother had told her about the importance of the ancient statues in Mingwu Ancient City. The ancient statues were the ancient protectors that guarded the city all day and night.

As long as the statues remained in the city, it didn’t matter whether it was invaded by ferocious demons on the land or brutal Ocean Demons from the sea, none of them could break the peace in Mingwu Ancient City. The people in the city had enjoyed peace and safety because of these statues, and they considered them as gods and worshiped them during festivals. At least, they used to.

Big Sister Ruan had never expected someone from outside would even think of stealing them away!

“Lady, do you know how many rich men offer to buy these broken old stone statues of the ancient city?” said Boss Jin, holding out a finger.

“Why would the rich men spend so much money on these statues?” asked Mo Fan, genuinely curious.

“Kid, haven’t you noticed these statues have some sort of magical power that prevents the demons from invading the city? These ancient statues protect this territory,” explained Boss Jin. “They are more powerful than the patrolling mages. The demons have been roaming around outside for years. Even in Base Cities, there is always a danger of being attacked by the monsters. Rich men want to live in peace and they’ve got the money for it.”

“These ancient statues don’t belong to you!” Big Sister Ruan shouted.

Boss Jin turned to Big Sister Ruan and grinned mockingly. “Then tell me, Madam. Who do they belong to? Do enlighten me about the owners of these statues. Is it the people of the Mingwu Ancient City? I don’t see anyone here! They have all fled. The city is abandoned. No one owns these anymore. Finders keepers, you know.”

Big Sister Run was rendered speechless. He was not wrong. Mingwu Ancient City was abandoned. Not one soul lived here. Everything inside it was without an owner.

"I am doing these statues a favor," said Boss Jin. "Can't let them go to waste. So, I risked my life with my men to come here and take these statues to a new home. They will find a purpose; I will get my money. Everybody will be happy. I mean, look at these statues! They are left outside, rain or shine. No one cleans them. No one takes care of them. They look pitiful! We are doing good work here."

Mo Fan admired the hunter. Sure, he stole things but at least he had the decency to defend himself honestly and openly.

"But the statues have been guarding the city for more than a thousand years. If you move them away, you will be condemned by God," said Big Sister Ruan, frantic now to stop them somehow.

"You are from Licheng Afterglow Island, aren't you?" Boss Jin asked.

"Yes." Big Sister Ruan nodded.

"Aren't you afraid of being condemned by God as well?" sneered Boss Jin.

Big Sister Ruan was at a loss for words. The other young girls from Lichen Afterglow Island looked stunned as well. They could not find any words to refute him at that moment.

Boss Jin laughed heartily. He turned to his hunters and instructed them to remove the Flute Heron statue from the back of the beast and load the Thundercat statue first.

Mo Fan looked at Big Sister Ruan. Apparently, Boss Jin knew more about the Lichen Afterglow Island than he did. 'Did Boss Jin just imply that Licheng Afterglow Island owned a powerful statue?' wondered Mo Fan.

Mo Fan remembered Shu Xiaohua had almost accidentally blurted out the reason for their island being safe from demons...

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Mo Fan understood that this group of young women had hidden a lot of things from him. He felt cheated. He had made sure they arrived at the Mingwu Ancient City safely under his watch. But they had refused to even entertain his questions with honesty.

The young women all looked very anxious. They couldn't stop Boss Jin and his hunters from taking the statue. The only ones with high cultivation were Big Sister Ruan and Le Nan but they were outnumbered. Besides, Boss Jin might have even higher cultivation than them combined.

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"Mr. Mo Fan, please do us a favor," said Big Sister Ruan, turning to him. "Please stop them from taking away the statues!"

"I'm afraid it's time to nullify our contract," said Mo Fan. He did not want to cooperate with them anymore.

Both parties had signed a contract on mutual understanding. Mo Fan's side of the deal was to protect them and make sure they reached Mingwu Ancient City safely, while they would answer some of his queries related to his own journey.

Big Sister Ruan had withheld information about the ancient statues from him. It was clear that there might be other statues in other parts of the Mingwu Ancient City but she had lied to him when she told him that the present statues were the only ones in the city.

She had lied to him. Besides, Boss Jin wasn't wrong. No one lived here anymore. So, no one owned these statues. He wasn't breaking a law by taking things from an abandoned city. Mo Fan had no strong reason to confront Boss Jin. It wasn't in this contract and he did not need to care about it.

He had no beef with Boss Jin or his hunters. They weren't actually hurting anyone by doing what they had come to do. In contrast, these young women from Licheng Afterglow Island had deceived him.

"Please. You can raise those questions again and I will answer them honestly this time," Big Sister Ruan pleaded. "These ancient statues must not leave the Mingwu Ancient City."

"I am not interested in that anymore," said Mo Fan. "You won't help me find the ancient creature I am looking for, so why should I help you?"

Boss Jin had allowed Mo Fan to study the patterns on the statue when he had asked, so he didn't really feel like offending him. But the patterns on the Flute Heron statue hadn't matched the picture.

Mo Fan realized that the ancient statues might have nothing to do with the totem he looked for. He could not find any clues. And since these women appeared to know more than they let on, he was sure they had some information on it. Mo Fan could find the clues himself. He felt that there was no need for him to journey with them any longer.

"Our elders instructed us to come here to ensure the safety of these ancient statues," said Big Sister Ruan. "We'll have to report to them through a magic paper boat. Our elders will arrive here. I hope you can help us stall Boss Jin and his hunters. We can pay you more."

"I'm not short of money," Mo Fan said straightforwardly.

He felt very pleased with himself saying that. He had never imagined there would come a day when he could say that honestly. The expenses for the eight elements had cost him an arm and a leg.

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"We... we will help you find the ancient creature that you are looking for," Big Sister Ruan said reluctantly. "I... I have seen the pattern that you showed me."

"You lied to me," said Mo Fan. "The clause of the contract was clear. You should have told me this when I asked you."

Mo Fan had followed the terms of the contract. He had kept them alive through the journey. Otherwise, they would all have died fighting the monsters they had met while coming here.

Chapter 2724: God's Condemnation

"I'm sorry... I'm very sorry, Mr. Mo Fan," Big Sister Ruan said earnestly. "I was being elusive for a reason. We promise to fulfill our end of the contract. Additionally, we promise to tell you about... another thing related to Licheng Afterglow Island's spiritual land, too."

“Licheng Afterglow Island’s spiritual land?” Mo Fan asked. He had noticed that these female mages from the island had a surprisingly high level of cultivation when compared to their lack of combat experience. He had guessed as much that their island might have some heavenly spirits or treasures which made this possible.

“With my Super Level cultivation, do you really think I will bother with Licheng Afterglow Island’s spiritual land?” said Mo Fan, pretending to be uninterested.

“Mr. Mo Fan, you’ve no idea how unique our spiritual land is. As long as you’re willing to swear with your soul curse that you will not leak the secrets of our spiritual land, I can assure you that even a Super Level mage like yourself will benefit from it,” Big Sister Ruan said sincerely.

Mo Fan did believe them. Their cultivation was high enough that it certainly made him wonder about their spiritual land. Mo Fan had visited the Three Step Tower of Pearl Institute and Godly Seal Mountain of Parthenon Temple many times before. There was not much left for him to absorb the power at these two places.

His Little Loach had reached Star Sea Level. If he could find a place as holy as the Three Step Tower and Godly Seal Mountain, his Earth and Chaos elements would achieve Super Level!

The soul cultivation holy place that increased these young women’s cultivation to such a high level must certainly contain a very high nutritional value. Mo Fan considered their offer.

“What did you mean when you warned Boss Jin of God’s condemnation? Asked Mo Fan. “I doubt it was supposed to be only some superstitious rambling.”

“The lightning storms. Whenever someone attempts to steal an ancient statue from this place, a lightning storm ensues,” said Big Sister Ruan, answering honestly this time.

“You mean to say the lightning storm from a few days ago was not some natural disaster?”

“Before Boss Jin and his hunters, someone stole one of the statues from this area. That is why we had to come here in a hurry. The Thundercat statue must not be removed. Once it leaves the Mingwu Ancient City territory, the lightning storms that will strike will be ten times more devastating than the one we saw a few days ago. The fortress might be destroyed,” Big Sister Ruan said solemnly.

Mo Fan vividly remembered the lightning storm he had encountered. It hadn’t struck very far from the fortress. If the next lightning storm was ten times stronger, the fortress wasn’t the only one that would be destroyed. A powerful strike of lightning could wipe out all living creatures in the coastal area.

“Is it truly that terrifying?” Mo Fan asked suspiciously.

“Yes, it is. We might have hidden things from you before but Big Sister Ruan is telling the truth this time. God’s condemnation is real!” said Shu Xiaohua running over to him. She looked at him piteously, pleading for him to believe them.

“Well, I would like to see how this ‘God’s condemnation’ actually works. Perhaps I might find some clue about the ancient creature which I’m looking for,” Mo Fan said.

“I saw the picture you showed Big Sister Ruan,” said Shu Xiaohua anxiously. “She didn’t lie to you about that. That ancient creature can’t be found here at the Mingwu Ancient City. Because... it is at Licheng Afterglow Island!”

“Shu Xiaohua!” Big Sister Ruan rebuked her.

Mo Fan could not trust Big Sister Ruan anymore but he did trust Shu Xiaohua. She never lied.

“Big Sister Ruan, he is not a bad guy. He’s been so attentive in protecting us along the way,” said Shu Xiaohua. “If we are on our guards the entire time and treat him like a stranger, then we can’t blame him for being unwilling to help us.”

Big Sister Ruan was at a loss for words momentarily. There was no definite way to determine who was good and who was bad but they needed his help right now.

There were many secrets in Licheng Afterglow Island. People with malicious intentions laid their eyes on them like hungry wolves. No one could guarantee someone’s sincerity. Anyone could become corrupt and greedy once they saw the wealth and treasures of Licheng Afterglow Island.

“Thank you for trusting me,” said Mo Fan to Shu Xiaohua. “But I can no longer trust Big Sister Ruan. Instead, I am willing to make a deal with you. To be entirely honest, I am interested in your island. My Chaos and Earth elements have hit their bottleneck and I do need a holy place to achieve a breakthrough. I am willing to help you if you are willing to help me.” He passed the picture to Shu Xiaohua. “Have you seen this ancient creature before?”

Shu Xiaohua nodded. She glanced at Big Sister Ruan. Big Sister Ruan did not stop her.

“Our elders did something stupid a few decades ago. They moved one of the ancient statues from Mingwu Ancient City to Licheng Afterglow Island.” Shu Xiaohua glanced at Big Sister Ruan again.

Big Sister Ruan sighed. “At that time, the ones who lived in the Licheng Afterglow Island had to suffer God’s condemnation. An era of continuous lightning storms befell us. The lightning storms lasted for more than a month. The lightning struck from south to north, and from the sky to the sea and land. As a result, the city, agricultural lands, sea, and forests were severely damaged. Many people died because God had condemned us.”

“That was why Boss Jin said that to you,” said Mo Fan, finally understanding everything.

Big Sister Ruan nodded. “Boss Jin wasn’t aware of it back then. Nobody knew. Our elders and ancestors were ashamed of such an incident. They shifted the blame to an ancient creature which possessed a similar lightning ability,” explained Big Sister Ruan.

Mo Fan was stunned. He had guessed that the creature might be on their island but this...

“I believe it is the same creature that you came looking for,” said Big Sister Ruan. “Our ancestors knew that they had committed a sin. They were wrecked with guilt and ashamed to stay in Licheng Afterglow Island. They lived in seclusion from the world. They vowed to protect the ancient statues in the Mingwu Ancient City to atone for their sin.” Big Sister Ruan lowered her head.

She still remembered the look of guilt and remorse her grandmother had worn even at the end of her life. The tribe had refused to face the truth and shifted the blame to the totem inhabiting the Licheng

Afterglow Island. The lightning had caused too many deaths. They had surrounded the ancient lightning creature and attacked it brutally.

“Your ancestors have killed a totem!” Mo Fan cried in shock.

Shu Xiaohua and Big Sister Ruan both lowered their heads and remained silent. Not all of the young women from the group knew about this by the look of surprise and shock in their faces. If not for Big Sister Ruan’s grandmother screaming hysterically in the ancestral hall before her death, Big Sister Ruan and Shu Xiaohua would never have known about it as well.

“Some people say it’s still alive,” Shu Xiaohua whispered.

“Can you find it?” Mo Fan asked.

“Our elders might be able to find it. There is a reason for all this. I had no intention to deceive you...,” said Big Sister Ruan.

Mo Fan sighed. “Alright. I will help you. I will stop Boss Jin and his men. But you have to promise to take me to your island.”

Big Sister Ruan nodded. Mo Fan understood that it must have been very difficult to confide about such a violent past with a stranger. If he could find the totem, even just a carcass of it, this would all be still a worthwhile journey for him.

Chapter 2725: Mighty Cliff Demon King

At the walkway next to the woods, the Thundercat statue had already been loaded on the back of the huge, golden mammoth-like beast. Boss Jin and his men were about four or five hundred meters ahead of them.

But the golden mammoth-like beast had reached its limit. After walking a distance of four or five hundred meters, it slumped down on the ground with all the force of a crashing mountain.

“Boss Jin, the Thundercat statue is too heavy. It cannot carry the statue anymore,” said one of the hunters.

“It has to! Do you even know how much the statue is worth? It has taken us so much effort and energy to find the route to this city! Many of our men have perished! We can’t give up and return empty-handed now,” Boss Jin said in anger.

Boss Jin took out a long flaming whip and lashed at the golden mammoth-like beast’s head. It screamed in pain, struggling to get up.

It managed to barely stand when it fell down on the ground again. It fell down with such a force that its kneecaps shattered and blood gushed out. It was impossible for the golden mammoth-like beast to carry the statue.

“Worthless trash! Who can summon a stronger beast?” Boss Jin shouted at his men. “I will reward him with a tenth of the honorarium.”

“Let me try.” Mo Fan smiled and walked up to them.

“Are you a Summoning Element mage?” Boss Jin raised one of his eyebrows at Mo Fan.

“Yes. I’ve achieved Super Level,” said Mo Fan.

“Great! There is no point in working for those ladies. Come and work for me! I can make sure you get your share of ladies all year round,” said Boss Jin, roaring with laughter.

“This is my first time using the Thousand Tribe Elf Tower since I advanced to the Super Level. I am not sure what kind of beast might appear,” said Mo Fan, squaring his shoulders.

The Thousand Tribe Elf Tower was one of the summoning ancient magic portals in Super Level. A Super Level Summoning Element mage could summon from a pick of the Thousand Tribe Elf Tower, Wan Dragon Valley, and Mound of the Dead Beast.

There were many summoning vessels sold in the market. These vessels contained magical medium power and could be used to open special summoning ancient magic portals which helped to summon any ruler-level beasts from the ancient magic portal.

Regardless of whether the creatures were from the Thousand Tribe Elf Tower, Wan Dragon Valley, or Mound of the Dead Beast, they were all ruler-level. They would be different in temperament to Old wolf who came from a humble background and experienced so many hardships.

Mo Fan focused on opening the Thousand Tribe Elf Tower. He established a spiritual connection with the Thousand Tribe Elf Tower before deciding on summoning a ruler-level beast to fight for him.

“Kid, stop teasing me. I’ve seen many powerful mages before. How can you open an ancient magic portal without relying on any auxiliary means?” Boss Jin’s lips twitched.

“If you never try, you will never know,” said Mo Fan.

“Fine,” said Boss Jin, not really taking him seriously. “Go to that corner and try as much as you can.” He looked at another of his hunters. “Hey, you there! You are a Chaos Elemental mage, aren’t you? Find a way to make that damned statue lighter, will you?”

Boss Jin turned to yet another man. “Hey you! You are a Plant Element mage, aren’t you? Use some vines to hang the...”

While Boss Jin instructed his men, Mo Fan went to the side and began to experiment. Super-level Summoning Element Star Palace was not complicated. The most complicated part was to use his own spiritual force to open the ancient magic portal through the summoning beast plane.

Fortunately, Mo Fan had a black dragon horn helmet which increased his dragon senses in the spiritual realm by leaps and bounds. Otherwise, it would be a fool’s errand to open the ancient magic portal through the seven realms without experience.

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The ancient magic portal – The Thousand Tribe Elf Tower!

Mo Fan took his own sweet time with the process. Star Palace itself was an extremely complicated casting process. If it had not been for the fact that he was a Super Level mage and had mastered many

Super Level profound elements, it would have been extremely difficult for him to accurately articulate two thousand four hundred one star sons through ordinary mental faculty.

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The process of controlling the star son itself was like arranging dominoes which required extremely powerful mental strength and long-term experience.

The methods of articulating, tracing, framing, and constructing Star Palace were not same every time. However, once the person strengthened his mental state, he would not be so helpless when creating the Star Palace from different elements. When advancing to Super Level, the first element Star Palace was the hardest to build. Skill came with practice.

The spirit summoning beast plane soon appeared before Mo Fan. The green mountains unfolded before him layer by layer. The mountains stood in a vast expanse of primeval ancient forest. They were not scattered, but clustered together.

The outermost layer was surrounded by green mountains. The mountains joined together to form a ring that stood in the plain of dense forest.

Within the ring of green mountain range were purple-green mountains which were taller than the mountains at the outermost layer. These mountains joined together in a ring once more.

Within the inner ring, stood another batch of green mountains higher than the layer before them. The purple mountains were tall and rose above the clouds. The purple giant mountains were a thousand meters taller compared to the outermost layer of green mountains and purple-green mountain ranges.

On top of the purple giant mountain was a black-purple godly mountain. The godly mountain consisted of many towering peaks. The cliff ridges blocked the view of the sky. Many formidable creatures hovered at the peaks.

The Thousand Tribe Elf Tower was made up of thousands of mountain peaks that joined together and formed a breathtaking view. The majestic and magnificent view was incomparable to anything found in the human world.

When Mo Fan opened the portal to the Thousand Tribe Elf Tower, he saw a dancing small dot on the cliff of the black-purple godly mountain with the help of his dragon sense. That small dot was a ruler-level creature.

Thousands of meters tall vines drooped on the cliff. The vines swayed in the strong breeze. When the clouds drifted by, a few elves with crystal wings glowed in the holy light. They flew with incredible speed. The jumping light faded from Mo Fan's eyes.

'I have to look for a beast with a sturdy body to move the Thundercat statue,' thought Mo Fan.

Suddenly, a pair of eyes opened on the cliff. It seemed to notice Mo Fan and recognized him to be from another world. It fixed its gaze on him.

Mo Fan was taken aback. He looked carefully to find a Mighty Cliff Demon King with skin the color of the cliff looking back at him. It looked like a bare-handed rock-climbing extreme sportsman climbing higher towards the Thousand Tribe Elf Tower!

'It is the king of the cliff, the elf of the rock! Perfect!' thought Mo Fan.

"It's you! Go, elfball!" he said.

Chapter 2726: Retreated by Force

Bam! Bam! Bam!

The ground shook violently. The dense forest was crumbling because of a powerful force. Branches, leaves, and roots flew in the air.

A black majestic creature with a faint purple ore luster split the soil open. The Mighty Cliff Demon King slowly uncurled itself out of the cracks. With its cliff boulder-like head, it looked down at the humans.

"Oh my god!" One of the hunters screamed. He fled into the woods.

Others were equally dumbfounded. Boss Jin was stunned as he stared at the Mighty Cliff Demon King. However, he held himself together better than the others. He noticed the fading white moonlight Star Palace pattern from the Mighty Cliff Demon King'

"Kid!" he turned to Mo Fan. "Never expected you to be such an expert!"

"It's my first time," Mo Fan said modestly. "I am still not very used to it." He smiled.

"I will give you two-tenth of the honorarium to carry the Thundercat statue," Boss Jin offered.

The Mighty Cliff Demon King was on an entirely different level compared to the golden mammoth-like beast. Boss Jin was aware that Mo Fan had summoned a ruler-level beast. The beast was of a high-class bloodline elemental elf creature!

Mo Fan pointed at the Thundercat statue. The Mighty Cliff Demon King obeyed without hesitation. It walked to the statue and picked it up with one hand. The Mighty Cliff Demon King had underestimated the weight of the Thundercat statue. The statue tilted to one side. The demon raised its other huge, rock hands and caught the statue.

Boss Jin smiled in satisfaction.

The Mighty Cliff Demon King placed the Thundercat statue on its shoulder and walked in the direction of the walkway. It carried the Thundercat statue like a pole. Even if it looked small, it seemed to be a bit heavy even for the Mighty Cliff Demon King

When the Mighty Cliff Demon King went back through the way the hunters had come, the smile on Boss Jin's face disappeared. His face darkened. He looked angry. It had taken a lot of effort and a better part of their day to carry the Thundercat statue all the way from the small forest. They were close to the city entrance! But the Mighty Cliff Demon King had walked only a few steps and placed the statue where it had been before.

"Kid, what is the meaning of this?" thundered Boss Jin.

“Nothing. Someone offered me a higher pay to carry the statue back to its original place,” Mo Fan said bluntly.

“Oh, if I didn’t know better, I would have thought you had some beef to pick with me,” said Boss Jin, trying to keep his cool. “Just a change of employer then, is that it?”

“Yes. If you feel confident enough to fight the Mighty Cliff Demon King to get the statue back, be my guest,” said Mo Fan. “But if you feel like you can’t take it on, you can proceed on your way and find some other treasure to make up for the statue.”

The hunter group glanced at Boss Jin. They did not want to retreat but the enemy was too strong.

“Boss, this kid is trying to make a fool of us! Let’s not waste any more time and strike him!” said a buff man with red hair.

“Hmph! It’s not like we’ve never slaughtered a ruler-level beast before!” said another hunter.

Boss Jin raised his hand, signaling them to be quiet. Recklessness won’t help the situation.

“We want to carry the Flute Heron statue that we found before. Kid, do you have any qualms about that one?” asked Boss Jin.

Mo Fan smiled. “You can’t have any of the ancient statues, as a matter of fact.”

“Kid, who do you think you are?” said another hunter. “Just wait and...”

Boss Jin stopped him. “I wonder what those ladies have offered you. How about this? I will split fifty percent of the honorarium with you. It’s a very lucrative sum. It is certainly higher than what you have been offered.”

Mo Fan did not respond. The Mighty Cliff Demon King returned rumbling through the forest and stood by Mo Fan’s side like an enormous mountain with an imposing aura. The hunter group took a few steps back.

Mo Fan noticed that Boss Jin and a few of the hunters weren’t daunted by the Might Cliff Demon King. They must be Super Level mages themselves. The fact that they had made it to the Mingwu Ancient City safely proved that they were capable enough to fight demons.

Boss Jin shook his head. “Let’s go,” he said to his hunters.

“But why, Boss? If we all work together, I am sure we can take on that beast. It won’t be able to stop all of us at once!” said the red-haired, buff man.

“I said let’s go,” said Boss Jin. “We will survey the city and see what other treasures we can find.”

The rest did not go against Boss Jin’s words. They looked reluctant to give up the statues. They had been so close!

Mo Fan stood there and smiled as they left. Boss Jin turned back to Mo Fan and smiled.

“Kid, those ladies from Licheng Afterglow Island are not as simple and harmless as they look. If they are paying you well for it, I have no qualms about it. But if they have promised something else, be very wary. Don’t trust them,” said Boss Jin with an oily smile.

“Thank you so much for the warning.” Mo Fan smiled sweetly.

...

Boss Jin and the rest of his men, half-soaked in the sea water, walked despondently to the other side of the forest. They were displeased with Mo Fan’s intervention. But they had no intention of leaving Mingwu Ancient City yet.

“Boss Jin, why did we leave without a fight?” asked the red-haired, buff man. “The kid cannot possibly fight us all by himself!”

Boss Jin sneered. “What’s the hurry? I have been in this field of work for years now. No one has dared to rob me of my wares yet.”

“Boss Jin, does that mean you have a plan in mind?” asked one of the hunters. “Are you going to kill the kid once the Mighty Cliff Demon King disappears?”

“You all are fools! If you were in this business alone, you would have died many times by now,” said Boss Jin. “If that kid only had the Mighty Cliff Demon King, I would have slaughtered him right there.”

“Do you think he has other skills?” a hunter asked.

“The chances of a Summoning Element mage, who has just reached Super Level, successfully opening an ancient magic portal are one in a thousand. He succeeded on his first try. This means that he is not majoring in the Summoning Element alone. He has a relatively high level of spiritual realm,” Boss Jin said, his tone serious.

The rest understood Boss Jin’s implication.

“Are we going to just leave?” asked the red-haired, buff man.

“That kid is strong. We’ll wait for Boss Hai and his group. Once they are here, we’ll think of a hundred ways to get rid of him!” Boss Jin said.

Chapter 2727: Brother, You’re a Dragon Among Men

Mo Fan was a little disappointed. He had expected a fight. In fact, a fight would have given him an opportunity to understand and make use of the Mighty Cliff Demon King’s ability. Who would have thought Boss Jin would be so self-conscious?

Mo Fan knew he had exposed himself. He usually kept a very low profile. But he had revealed something from his words. He acted like an ordinary Super Level young mage. But he exuded an imposing aura even then and Boss Jin had taken the hint.

Mo Fan knew that it wouldn’t always work. He couldn’t choose to flee whenever he encountered somebody like Boss Jin every time.

But sometimes, Mo Fan had no choice.

He was like a rich man who chose to act like a common man when courting a common girl so that his wealth would not come between their true love. He would tell her that he only had a 140-square-foot house in the city. In the end, he would look like any ordinary poor man.

As a Super Level Summoning Element mage, Mo Fan had summoned the Mighty Cliff Demon King but he had yet to demonstrate his strongest ability. But it was still a bonus to have scared off people with his present power.

“I never expected you to be so powerful. You can even summon ruler-level beasts! Are all seven-star hunter masters this strong?” Shu Xiaohua stared at the Mighty Cliff Demon King in awe. She looked eager to play with it.

“Not all. I am the strongest among them,” Mo Fan said. He felt refreshed and happy at that moment so he blurted out the words.

“They haven’t left Mingwu Ancient City yet. Maybe they have other plans. We still have to be very careful,” said Big Sister Ruan in worry.

“How long will it take for your elders to arrive?” Mo Fan asked.

“They are already on their way. They will be here very soon.”

...

Mo Fan sat next to the Thundercat statue and relaxed. He felt very bored after a while. He decided to try fusion magic.

Fusion magic enabled different magic to fuse together. He wondered if he could fuse other elements with the Summoning element.

‘Which element is the best to fuse with the Summoning element?’ Mo Fan speculated.

If the Summoning element was fused with the Fire element, would the summoning creature be directional? Could he summon a certain ancient flaming elf from the Thousand Tribe Elf Tower?

If, instead, he fused it with the Lightning element, would he be able to summon a powerful creature with lightning power?

1

The Thousand Tribe Elf Tower embraced randomness. There was always a possibility of failing to summon the beasts. The beasts with the greatest strength remained on top of the Thousand Tribe Elf Tower, while the Mighty Cliff Demon King was regarded as a creature with the lowest strength among them. The higher the beasts were on the tower, the more difficult it was to summon them.

Mo Fan was not particularly powerful in his summoning element. A high level of spiritual force could increase Mo Fan’s success rate in summoning a beast. If he wanted to summon a stronger ancient beast from the ancient magic portal, he would have to continue to upgrade his Super Level Summoning element.

His level of cultivation was the determining factor in summoning any kind of beasts. He wondered

what would happen if he fused Fire with Lightning elements?

He had many questions. If he fused, would the summoning verdict randomly select ancient beast based on the Summoning element? Or, would it summon Lightning or Fire elemental beasts? Or, would the beast be a combination of both the elements?

Mo Fan decided to just give it a try. He crouched down. He put on his fusion gloves and began to use the Lightning element with his left hand, while he used his other hand to open a dimensional ancient magic portal.

Mo Fan was a little excited. No one had ever mastered fusion magic therefore there was no one he could look up to. If he succeeded, this would mean that he could summon stronger and unique ancient beasts from the Wan Dragon Valley or Mound of the Dead Beast as a Super Level Summoning element novice mage!

...

Inside the banana grove, several blue-clad men approached the Golden Sea Hunter Group. They looked solemn but their gazes were razor-sharp.

“Brother, that’s the kid. He is a Summoning element mage. He summoned an ancient rock elf – Mighty Cliff Demon King,” said Boss Jin as he pushed the banana leaves aside and pointed at Mo Fan, who was sitting on the ground.

“How dare the young man act so arrogantly?!” said Hai Huodao.

Most hunter groups who were active in the Fujian area were aware of the Golden Sea Hunter Group. Boss Jin was especially notorious for his sneaky plots and tricks. Meanwhile, Hai Huodao was a man who believed in solving issues by brute force. He was known for his ruthlessness.

Hai Huodao had a few men with him. They weren’t inferior to Boss Jin in strength.

“He must have been bewitched by the ladies from Licheng Afterglow Island. He suddenly became arrogant.” Boss Jin snorted.

“The ladies from Licheng Afterglow Island?” Hai Huodao frowned.

“Don’t worry about them. It seems they were just here for their training. We haven’t seen their elders here,” said Boss Jin.

“Even if

they are here, we have no reason to be afraid of them.”

“Let’s go

and take down that kid!”

...

Hai Huodao led the way. The blue-clad hunters were quiet. In contrast, Boss Jin's men were very talkative. Some of them passed inappropriate remarks against the ladies from Licheng Afterglow Island and laughed.

"Kid, we meet again..." Boss Jin approached Mo Fan with a spiteful look.

However, before Boss Jin could complete his words, he saw a ferocious creature made up of lightning just behind Mo Fan.

The violent lightning element creature was about as large as the Mighty Cliff Demon King. But it was only half a meter taller than an average human.

Its head constantly flashed with a purple lightning crown. Its lightning-like face revealed unemotional eyes. It was draped with a cloak from shoulders to ankle, looking like a European pope standing upright.

"It's R-Raiju!"

The Thousand Tribe Elf Tower was an ancient tower that towered to the highest point of the vault of heaven. The air in the highest point of the vault of heaven was extremely turbulent, and that the lightning of the vault of heaven was the most turbulent of all.

Raiju was an ancient element created in the highest point of the vault of heaven. Its lightning served as a forbidden warning that killed those creatures which had no right to join the Thousand Tribe Elf Tower. Its lightning struck any wandering creature onto the cliff, and the creature died because of a fatal blow.

Hai Huodao was also a Summoning element mage. He had some understanding of how the ancient magic portal worked.

The pope-like Raiju stood beside the young man, giving off an intimidating aura than even most ancestor-level creatures!

1

"Boss Jin, why are you here again? Are you still annoyed by what happened then?" asked Mo Fan with a sweet smile.

He had been so focused on opening the ancient magical portal that he had missed the arrival of Boss Jin and his men. This time, Boss Jin did not have a large group of hunters with him. Instead, he had fewer men with very high level of cultivation.

Boss Jin was at a loss for words. He glanced at Hai Huodao.

Before this, Hai Huodao intended to confront Mo Fan without any mercy. But after seeing this, he had a sudden change in attitude.

"Why would we be annoyed at you over such a trivial matter?" he said with a radiant smile. "I heard from Brother Jin that you are an outstanding Summoning element mage. So, I had to meet you personally. Brother, you look very spirited for someone so young. You are a dragon among men!"

Chapter 2728: Ancient Raiju

The Golden Sea Hunter Group looked strangely at Hai Huodao. He had made such a sudden change in his approach. Didn't he say that he wanted to shred Mo Fan from limb to limb and throw him in the sea for the sharks?

Hai Huodao had called this kid 'spirited' and called him a dragon among men. Everyone wondered how Hai Huodao, a cold-blooded executioner, had become so cunning. Wasn't Boss Jin the shrewd and calculative one?

Hai Huodao's hunters forced an amiable smile when they saw Mo Fan. The same kind of polite and embarrassed smile that appeared on someone's face when their parents forced them to get acquainted with a distant relative.

"Oh? If I didn't know better, I would have assumed you gathered your men to take me on. A little disappointing. I wanted to test the ability of this ancient elf." Mo Fan sighed.

"Brother, I am also a Summoning element mage! I know I am not in a position to advise you but I must say that I understand the Thousand Tribe Elf Tower very well indeed. If Raiju is placed in a superior environment, its strength is not inferior to an average ruler. Hehe!" Hai Huodao smiled.

Boss Jin's expression changed after hearing Hai Huodao's words as did the hunters who came with them. They tried to appear sheepish and innocent.

"I always thought that lightning storms were common in this area. There should be a very strong Lightning element around here. Are you saying that Raiju can demonstrate the power of an average ruler?" Mo Fan asked.

Hai Huodao had broken out in cold sweat which slid down all the way to his spine. "That's right, that's right. It's our pleasure to meet with such a young, handsome, and talented man like you. Brother, should you need any help in the future, just let me know. If there's nothing else, we'll leave now..."

Mo Fan glanced at Hai Huodao and then at Boss Jin. He sighed. 'Since they are being so polite and well-mannered, I can't possibly insist on fighting them,' thought Mo Fan. 'Such a waste.'

"Of course," said Mo Fan. "Go on, then. It's very nice to meet you all." He waved at them.

The Golden Sea Hunter Group was relieved. They smiled and waved as they neared the woods. They were relieved and they never wanted to show their faces here again.

After they left, Shu Xiaohua walked to Mo Fan. "So, the hunters are actually nice people," she said. "I thought they were here to cause trouble. Big Sister Ying is right. You should never judge a book by its cover. Boss Jin and Boss Hai looked so intimidating, but they were so nice and polite."

Mo Fan nodded. "Indeed," he said, "There are many nice people in the world."

Mo Fan glanced at the pope-like elf flashing with lightning from its head to toe. He felt mixed emotions looking at it. He wanted to keep a low profile and yet he wasn't able to control himself.

Mo Fan sighed. If this went on, he would never get around to perfecting his other elements. He rubbed his temple. Maybe it was time to return to Dean Xiao for another round of intense training. Dean Xiao could seal his major elements leaving him with no choice but to improve the ones which weren't sealed.

“Howl! Howl!”

The Royal Pattern Wolf returned to Mo Fan and howled incessantly.

“Have you found the creature that killed the Copper-horned Yak?” Mo Fan’s eyes lit up.

“Howl!” The Royal Pattern Wolf howled in affirmation.

“Go after it! I’m going to slaughter it and offer its head to the Copper-horned Yak!” Mo Fan said furiously.

Mo Fan was irritated that he could not find a suitable enemy to test Raiju’s abilities. He thought the Royal Pattern Wolf had returned to its mother. But here he was! It hadn’t forgotten the murder of Copper-horned Yak.

...

Mo Fan followed Old Wolf and chased after the predator. Raiju floated after them.

The Royal Pattern Wolf led Mo Fan to the seaside. It was actually half of the ancient city which had become submerged. The houses and streets were visible below the water, covered with seaweed and water ferns.

The Royal Pattern Wolf became more cautious. Mo Fan also became more vigilant. Their opponent was extremely evasive so they must take care not to alert it. It would be very difficult to find it again if they scared it away.

As the water receded in waves, the roof of some of the houses came into view. The roof was covered in green muck. Mo Fan wondered about their past inhabitants.

A sea-lion was lying on the roof. Its claws were long like a leopard’s. Its tail curved into a weapon which looked very sharp. It moved its tail back and forth leisurely.

1

Mo Fan recalled the slash on Copper-horned Yak’s stomach. He thought that it had been gnashed by claws. But he now realized that Copper-horned Yak’s stomach was sliced open by that anchor-like sharp tail.

“That accursed creature is sunbathing and enjoying itself!” Mo Fan scowled.

A sea beast’s carcass lay near the creature. Fresh blood gushed out of it. The creature faced the sea. It occasionally leaned down to take a fresh bite out of the carcass.

“Buzz!” The air vibrated with heavy electromagnetism as Raiju floated behind Mo Fan. Apparently, the creature could not disguise itself or remain quiet, for that matter.

Raiju sensed Mo Fan’s murderous intent. The lightning cloak, draped from its shoulder to toe, opened slightly, as if the pope was enlightened by God’s words.

Its impassive eyes flashed. The clear sky turned cloudy. Raiju’s ancient elf magical cloak shaded the afternoon sun. The light dimmed.

A crack of lightning arched across the dim sky and lit it up with a thunderous roar.

The anchor-tailed sea lion raised its head. It often came to this place and lightning in this place was common. It didn't pay much attention to the crackling lightning. But when the lightning struck the sea and snaked towards it, the anchor-tailed sea lion finally realized that the lightning was after him. It fled so fast that it was almost a blur.

"Stop it!" Mo Fan hissed at Raiju.

Raiju did not stop. It manipulated the lightning into a fence which blocked the anchor-tailed sea lion's escape, forcing it to retreat to where it had run from.

Whenever it tried to turn and escape from the other side, the lightning stopped it in its tracks.

Chapter 2729: Absolute Loyalty

Raiju was truly powerful. The lightning struck the anchor-tailed sea causing its flesh to sear and burn. The smell of cooked meat filled the air.

The anchor-tailed sea lion groaned in agony. It rolled and attempted to escape into the sea water. The lightning had struck the sea and heated it up to its boiling point. The blazing white lightning intertwined and erupted blocking every route of escape.

The anchor-tailed sea lion could not endure the blazing white lightning storm, so it jumped out of the sea water again. It moved extremely fast, manifesting hundreds of afterimages. Its razor-sharp anchor-like blade was distinct.

The anchor-tailed sea lion knew it could not escape so it made its way towards Raiju. It decided to kill Raiju before it died.

Raiju's face was hidden in the middle of the haze created by the flashing lightning. Only its impassive eyes were visible. Its eyes shone with arrogance and disdain.

Bam!

Raiju lifted its hand. A string of lightning with ancient inscriptions darted out of its cloak. It uncurled from the robe like a white python and lunged at the creature.

Raiju was tremendously powerful. Mo Fan sensed the vibration because he stood near Raiju. He felt that the space was being ripped apart.

Bam!

Although the anchor-tailed sea lion had countless afterimages, Raiju was able to locate its true form. A white python-like lightning struck the anchor-tailed sea lion and sent it flying.

The anchor-tailed sea lion's head smashed open and blood gushed out. It fell in the shallow seawater. It squirmed and struggled as if it wasn't ready for its own death.

Mo Fan was perplexed. Royal Pattern Wolf's mouth was open in awe. It glanced at Mo Fan. It had taken such pain to rise to ruler-level. Watching Raiju, it felt anxious that Mo Fan would abandon it and choose this powerful creature to be by his side.

Despite being a high-class bloodline wolf, the Royal Pattern Wolf accepted the fact that Little Flame Belle was stronger than it and was often in the lead. But it was hard to accept that a random elemental summoning beast was this powerful!

The Royal Pattern Wolf was sure that if Raiju's python-like lightning struck it, it wouldn't survive at all.

Royal Pattern Wolf had secretly gloated at Copper-horned yak's death. After witnessing Raiju's strength, it felt that an inevitable doom was creeping its way.

"Uh... Well done! You're very powerful. You can go back and rest." Mo Fan tried to regain his composure.

The proud Raiju did not respond. It casually opened the ancient magic portal and flashed through it to the Thousand Tribe Elf Tower exuding nobility and elegance.

Raiju, before leaving, had told Mo Fan about such anchor-tailed sea lions appearing frequently at the peak of the Thousand Tribe Elf Tower which it guarded, and how it had to execute them annually.

The air was filled with a burnt smell. The anchor-tailed sea lion was not an ordinary demon. Even Mo Fan had no idea what kind of species it belonged to. But one thing was clear, the anchor-tailed sea lion was at least a low ruler.

To Raiju, the anchor-tailed sea lion was no different from a fat little sea lion. Raiju had effortlessly killed it with a chain lightning strike.

...

Nonetheless, the anchor-tailed sea lion was a ruler-level demon. Its skin would certainly fetch some money. Besides, its anchor-like tail was very unique. Mo Fan could take it back to create higher level deathstrike magic equipment and armored blade magic equipment.

Anchor-tailed sea lion was an Ocean Demon, too. So, its dirty crystal was also very valuable. Mo Fan walked up to its carcass and instructed Old Wolf to dissect valuable parts of the creature's body.

As Old Wolf went close to the anchor-tailed sea lion, it raised its claws. Mo Fan had instructed Old Wolf to get him its tail first. But now, that same tail swung into an arch towards Mo Fan.

It swung towards Mo Fan's neck. He was unprepared to defend himself. Royal Pattern Wolf charged towards Mo Fan before the tail could behead him and blocked the strike with its back.

Blood spurted all over Mo Fan. In the middle of the chaos, Mo Fan saw the anchor-tailed sea lion, with the smashed head, staggered and fled. Its skin changed into the color of sea water. Mo Fan blinked. The creature had gone under water and was no longer visible.

Mo Fan was furious. He wanted to chase after it but he heard Royal Pattern Wolf groaning in pain. It was more important to tend to it right now.

"Why did you have to defend me?! Didn't you think I could have handled it?" shouted Mo fan, more worried than annoyed. He treated Old Wolf's wounds.

Fortunately, Mo Fan always carried plenty of miracle substances with him. He took out a potion that Xinxia had personally created, adding Life Blessing to it. He poured the potion on Old Wolf's back.

The creature's tail was very sharp. The Royal Pattern Wolf was a ruler-level beast. The star pattern fur on its body came with a natural fortitude that could withstand many powerful magic and sharp weapons. Still, the creature had slashed and cut Royal Pattern Wolf's coat with ease, exposing its bones.

The Royal Pattern Wolf wailed in agony. "Shh... don't move. Otherwise, you will die," said Mo Fan as he pressed it down.

Mo Fan chastised the Royal Pattern Wolf but he was very touched that it had defended him by risking its own life.

When he was at the freshman meeting at Pearl Institute, Old Wolf had used its body to fend off Mu Nujiao's wind disc. It had gotten severely injured but it had bought Mo Fan enough time to cast a counterspell. Mo Fan was grateful that Old Wolf was very loyal to him even after all these years.

Even if Mo Fan had been caught off guard, he would not have died by the attack. His current spiritual realm was so high that he could have solidified or slowed down an attack just from focusing his mind on it.

Old Wolf's sacrifice was very moving yet unnecessary. But the fact remained that the Ocean Demons were ferocious and wicked. They possessed a variety of strange abilities. Mo Fan might really might be harmed someday if he wasn't careful. Having a loyal dimensional beast like Old Wolf definitely made him feel more safe and secure.

When Royal Pattern Wolf was finally in a stable condition, countless green star bugs rose from its fur in a swarm and flew to the surrounding bushes and plants.

When these green star bugs settled on these plants, they sucked the life force out of them. They then returned to Royal Pattern Wolf. As they settled in its fur, Royal pattern Wolf's flesh grew back. The wound began to heal.

Chapter 2730: Mo Fan, The Hardworking Bee

As more and more green star bugs returned, Royal Pattern Wolf's wound healed faster. Mo Fan was delighted.

"It looks like you have finally inherited the ability of that female wolf king!" Mo Fan exclaimed in disbelief.

The Royal Pattern Wolf nodded.

Unfortunately, there were only plants in the surroundings. There was too little life force that could be sucked from the plants. If there were any demons present, Royal Pattern Wolf would have recovered sooner.

“I don’t think there are any demons in Mingwu Ancient City. I’ll send you back to the summoning beast plane. I remember when I summoned the Copper-horned Yak, its companions were gnawed by a group of Evil Rat Demon. It’s time for you to eat the Evil Rat Demons as nourishment,” Mo Fan said.

Evil Rat Demons lived in groups. They basically had ten thousand creatures in a pack. When they attacked, they moved like a violent tide and wiped out everything on the plains, leaving not even a single blade of grass behind.

When Mo Fan summoned the Copper-horned Yak, he had seen them. The Copper-horned Yak which he had summoned had avoided the Evil Rat Demons by sheer luck. However, the Copper-horned Yak’s other family members had been devoured by the Evil Rat Demons. It was time for the Old Wolf to return and destroy them.

“Howl!” Old Wolf howled. It sounded like it had some of its energy back.

“Don’t worry, I won’t spare that son of b*tch!” Mo Fan was infuriated.

One of his dimensional beasts had died. The other one had barely survived. Although it wasn’t Mo Fan’s fault for not being able to guess that that creature could still attack after its head was smashed, he still felt responsible. He was peeved that it had gotten away!

‘Was that creature truly a sea lion?’ wondered Mo Fan.

“I underestimated a low ruler.” Mo Fan took a deep breath.

Regardless of whether the demons were classified as low ruler, average ruler, great ruler, or supreme ruler class, most of the ruler-level creatures stood out from others. They were very powerful in terms of their strength alone.

Some dark, wicked ruler-level creatures had their own means of survival. They always surprised their opponents with unexpected comebacks or attacks unless they were beheaded.

‘A ruler-level demon is already this powerful. I wonder how much more powerful an emperor-level demon might be,’ thought Mo Fan. He recalled a conversation with Commander Hua about the mastermind behind the Monstrous Claw Emperor. Mo Fan was worried about him.

...

The anchor-tailed sea lion had fled. But it was severely wounded. It decided to hide within Mingwu Ancient City since it had lost its head.

The area outside of Mingwu Ancient City was even more dangerous, especially because of the ocean demons that roamed on dry lands. If the wounded anchor-tailed sea lion stepped outside the city, the other creatures would smell it, and the anchor-tailed sea lion would end up being chased and eaten.

It was a severely wounded ruler demon. A ruler was considered valuable to peak commanders, demon hordes, and ocean demons alike. Unless the anchor-tailed sea lion was confident of killing its way to safety from the surrounding predators, it could only hide in Mingwu Ancient City until it healed or at least for the time it took for its head to grow back.

Meanwhile, Mo Fan wondered if an anchor-tailed sea lion was capable of regrowing its head.

...

As Mo Fan walked back through the streets of Mingwu Ancient City, he pondered on the issue of fusion summoning. He had tried the impossible and found out that fusion summoning existed! He might be the first person to ever succeed!

He had learnt that fusion summoning did not just fuse with a particular element to choose a direction of summoning. But both elements had fused and selected a beast of the highest level.

Mo Fan had fused the Summoning element with the Lightning element.

He had reached Super Level second grade bottleneck for his Lightning element cultivation. After he fused his lightning element with his summoning element first grade, his power was determined as Super Level third grade.

Not just anybody could summon Raiju. Only a Super Level third grade mage was able to summon it. Mo Fan had succeeded!

Level of cultivation determined the elf's ranking in the ancient magic portal. And one's spiritual realm determined the success rate of summoning.

Luckily, Mo Fan's dragon sense and his own spiritual realm had enabled him to achieve the eighth realm. Achieving the eighth realm granted Mo Fan a higher success rate in summoning a powerful elemental creature such as Raiju.

'But I must achieve the Summoning element second grade to open Wan Dragon Valley. Or I can use the loophole.... I can use fusion summoning to summon a higher level of ancient giant dragon.'

Raiju from the Thousand Tribe Elf Tower was not the highest grade. There were many elf kings above Raiju. Raiju was just a powerful guardian keeping the peace of the elf kings.

If Mo Fan's Lightning, Fire, Earth, and his other elements achieved Super Level peak, he could summon the elf kings!

It was best if his spiritual level could reach the ninth realm by then. The chance of summoning elf kings with an eighth realm was very low. He had to continue upgrading his summoning element if he wanted to open portals to Wan Dragon Valley and Mound of the Dead Beast.

If there came a time where he had to confront people like Zhao Jing and his army, he could summon an ancient ruler-level dragon, or a sphinx, skeletal crannies, mountain peak corpse from Mound of Dead Beast which are all at ruler-level. He could summon all of them and let them fight his enemies to death while he enjoyed steamboats and singsongs.

He felt like he needed to increase his level of cultivation no matter what. He had to work harder. Mo Fan had achieved Super Level on all his eight elements. Mo Fan felt like a hardworking bee buried in a flowerbed working hard to evenly distribute the dews.

He sometimes compared himself to an ox standing on a vast expanse of land and plowing it diligently. The harder he worked, the more bountiful the harvest would be.

Mo Fan was like a vast agricultural land filled with plenty of flowers. Even though he needed to work harder than others, his harvest was more plentiful than the rest.

As he compared himself to many things, he felt that visiting Licheng Afterglow Island had become a matter of utmost importance. Mo Fan felt the need to improve his cultivation regardless of the totem or Lichen Afterglow Island.

...

Mo Fan returned to the place where the ancient statues were expecting to reunite with the young women from Licheng Afterglow Island.

He hadn't left them alone for long. He supposed that the Golden Sea Hunter group would not return to cause trouble. Besides, the Thundercat and Flute Heron statues were too heavy for them to carry.

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When Mo Fan arrived at the grove, there was no one there. He frowned. 'Where are the ladies?' he thought as he looked around. He had informed them to wait for him right here. He hadn't drawn a circle of protection around them thinking the statues would protect them from demons.

He turned to the statues. The Thundercat and Flute Heron statues were nowhere. The ladies had disappeared too. Mo Fan was offended. Those b*stards had stolen the statues and kidnapped the ladies!

"D*mn it!" he cursed. He should have remembered that there were other forces in Mingwu Ancient City besides the demons. Those b*stards had taken advantage of his absence and pilfered the statues and abducted the ladies.