

Versatile 371

[Versatile Mage](#)

Chapter 371: The Fifth-ranked Innate Talent

Lightning strike!

Liu Yilin did not even have the chance to summon his defensive Equipment. The overwhelming energy violently penetrated his body, as if countless eels had crawled all over him, even into his esophagus and body through his mouth. His inner organs had a clear taste of the lightning.

Liu Yilin did not even have the time to scream out in pain. His entire body turned pale white as his face contorted.

Apart from the pain, his eyes were staring at Mo Fan, looking rather confused, too. How did he appear so silently? Why is his body covered in a layer of shadow? How was Dongfang Ming, who was considered unbeatable among Intermediate Magicians, defeated in less than fifteen minutes?

"Hey, I'm keeping my promise. I'll beat you up every time I see you!" Mo Fan kicked at Liu Yilin as he lay on the ground.

Liu Yilin was unable to move. The kick left a size 42 shoe mark on his face. The mud under its sole stank. The sticky feeling from it felt like his face was inches away from a manure pit...

Humiliation! Such humiliation!

Liu Yilin hated Mo Fan to the bone. Even skinning him and ripping out his tendons was nowhere enough to vent his anger.

Mo Fan was never afraid of offending people. He was not even worried about the scum of the Black Vatican, let alone Liu Yilin, who was only a university student.

"If you think this is the greatest humiliation you have ever suffered, then you won't think so in the near future, if you ever try to avenge yourself. To be honest, I have no idea what I've stepped on before. The boundary of White Town was set up on a poultry farm. I was in quite a rush, so I didn't have time to clean my shoes. Actually, your fair, clean face will do just fine!" Mo Fan patted the dust off his shoulders and left.

After Liu Yilin was taken out, Tangyue began her counterattack.

She was an Advanced Magician after all, so her casting speed was significantly faster than her opponents.

The blazing red flame produced a fiery ring surrounding Tangyue, which quickly contracted and bound itself onto her right arm.

"Fiery Fist: Nine Halls!" She adeptly cast the third-tier Fiery Fist. Burning lava burst out from her fist.

The fiery pillars were fairly brilliant at night. The nine pillars were constructed following the layout of the Nine Halls. The space between the pillars was filled with wild flames, while rains of fire poured down on the field and scorched the land.

Liu Zhongming and his companion suffered greatly from the heat. Their defensive Equipment was unable to protect them from the high temperature and the violent fire pillars. If Tangyue hadn't held back, the two would have been burned alive.

Tangyue had tied her hair up. Her pale face reflected the flickering light of the flames. She looked rather haggard.

She withdrew the power of the Nine Pillars, and the grass field soon regained its peace. They managed to get rid of the four interns and probationary members of the Magic Court, but she was more concerned about the Royal Guards.

"Let's go, they are pretty close to us," Tangyue said, after taking a glance at the Totem Orb she was carrying.

"Mm." The Swift Star Wolf was injured, so they had no choice but to proceed to the mountain with Fleeing Shadow.

The mountain was only a short distance away. Using the darkness as the cover, they quickly dissolved the shadows and ventured deep into the bald mountain.

A moment later, the Royal Guards arrived at the "crime scene" riding a weird blue bird with wings over ten meters long.

Wu Pingjing pulled a long face when he saw the four people crying out in agony while lying on the ground.

"Didn't we tell you to only keep them busy!" snapped one of the Royal Guards.

Dongfang Ming endured the pain in his bones as he rose to his feet and reported with a defeated look, "I...I thought their strength was fairly average..."

"Dongfang Ming, do you really think you're very good? Tangyue is an Advanced Magician, and yet you still think you stood a chance against her?" a judge of the Magic Court, Li Jin, scolded him.

Li Jin was Dongfang Ming's superior. As a matter of fact, he was in charge of this group of four. He initially thought they would be rewarded greatly for their contribution by locating Tangyue and Mo Fan, but now, what awaited them turned out to be serious punishment once they returned to the Enforcement Union!

"He was defeated by the other kid," said Liu Zhongming with a cold harrumph.

Liu Zhongming had no intention of taking the blame. He was strictly following the orders given to them. It was Dongfang Ming who suggested they could take the enemies down, as he was overconfident in himself.

"Isn't that kid an Intermediate Magician too?" asked Li Jin. The question placed Dongfang Ming in a more awkward situation. He had no clue how to answer it.

Wu Pingjing glanced at the battered and exhausted losers and asked with a cold smirk, "Do you really think the young man with Tangyue is some normal Magician?"

Wu Pingjing had checked Mo Fan's background. He was closely related to the calamity of Bo City and the operation that wiped out the Black Vatican in the Magic City. How could someone like him be a nobody?

"His innate talent, Double Innate Elements, is ranked fifth on the leaderboard. He is the strongest student that the Pearl Institute has ever recruited. He played an important role in stopping two of the major plots set up by the Black Vatican. In terms of talent, he's more than a level higher than you. In terms of background, do you think the Pearl Institute will lose to your Zhejiang Institute? In terms of strength... you trash couldn't even last more than fifteen minutes against him. If the people of the so-called renowned Dongfang Clan have nothing but pride, you will never be able to join the Enforcement Union!" Li Jin was utterly furious.

It would still be acceptable if Dongfang Ming had lost to Tangyue, but he had lost to Mo Fan, who was also an Intermediate Magician.

It was not the first time Li Jin had tried to teach Dongfang Ming that there was always someone better than him out there, but he was blinded by his pride, and made a grave mistake. Even Li Jin, who was a senior in the Enforcement Union, was unable to defend him this time.

"Go back home and treat your wounds. You will no longer call yourself part of the Enforcement Union," the Head of the Royal Guards, Wu Pingjing, said coldly.

The group of four did not dare to make any noise, while Li Jin was too scared to plead for them.

Offending the Head of the Royal Guards was still bearable, but if Councilman Zhu Meng were to put the blame on them, they would no longer be accepted by any Magic Association!

"I'll make him pay when I see him next time!" Dongfang Ming swore, clenching his teeth.

Dongfang Ming was not bothered by the consequences. He was more concerned that he had lost to Mo Fan, who appeared to be in the same generation as he was.

Meanwhile, Liu Yilin had initially planned to avenge himself, but when he learned that even Dongfang Ming had been thoroughly defeated, a great shadow of fear rose in his heart.

He was nothing compared to Dongfang Ming, and yet even he had lost completely. What right did he have to seek his revenge on the guy?

[Versatile Mage](#)

Chapter 372: Escort Successful

After crossing a few hills, Tangyue took out the Totem Orb.

The life energy inside the Totem Orb had almost depleted, thus she had to release the Skyscraping Snake as soon as possible.

The moment the orb was taken out, a great mist burst out from it.

The mist was blue-black in color. Mo Fan even hid some distance away to observe it, but to his surprise, the mist quickly spread to his area. Within seconds, his vision was shrouded, preventing him from seeing clearly.

In the darkness, Mo Fan could sense something slithering in front of him.

He felt a cold sensation. It appeared that something was pushing at him, forcing him back further.

Mo Fan touched it with his hand and found it to be some cold snake scales. He immediately realized that the big guy was extending his body. Mo Fan quickly ran to a higher rock nearby.

He stood on top of the rock and glanced down. The entire place was shrouded in a blue-black mist, taking up half of the mountain.

In the mist, a giant figure would show himself at times, presenting his firm, sturdy scales. The patterns on the snake's skin looked like a wall painting to Mo Fan at his distance.

Before, he was observing the big guy through a window on a building. This time, there was nothing between them. A great chill rose from deep down in his soul. Mo Fan did not even dare to look at him any further.

A moment later, the blue-black mist finally cleared. An enormous snake lay right on the mountain.

Its body was coiled around the rocks, hung on the walls and spread across the ground. It felt like the mountain was on the verge of collapsing due to its weight.

Mo Fan had jumped onto the rock to make space for the Skyscraping Snake. However, when he glanced down, his entire field vision was occupied by it. It was a stunning view!

"Mo Fan, jump over here. The big guy is bringing us to the cave," Tangyue boldly stood on the Skyscraping Snake's head and waved her hand at him.

"Err, I think I'll escort him from here," said Mo Fan.

There was a kind of despairing fear one would experience when they stood on a lonely rock, surrounded by snakes underneath!

He was standing on a rock, with a single snake right under him. However, the snake was even more terrifying than thousands of ordinary snakes together. The fear due to the sheer difference in size fully occupied his mind.

"Come over quick. Otherwise, I'll let the big guy invite you personally," said Tangyue.

As soon as Tangyue finished her sentence, Mo Fan instantly jumped down from the rock and landed on the snake's head with a pale face.

The Skyscraping Snake's head was spacious enough to build a basketball court on. His remarkably large eyes were staring at Mo Fan. He did not even dare to take a deep breath.

"Don't worry, he knows that you've helped him in his most crucial time. He won't blame you for stepping on his head." Tangyue let out a charming smile when she saw Mo Fan's terrified expression.

She initially thought nothing in the world could intimidate Mo Fan. If he were being naughty again, she would just let the big guy teach him how to behave.

The Skyscraping Snake hissed. Mo Fan immediately saw a giant red rug swaying wildly in front of him. He almost fell to the ground... to the snake's head!

"He's saying thank you," said Tangyue with a giggle.

"You're...you're welcome..." responded Mo Fan with a forced smile.

"Let's go, big guy. You're safe now," Tangyue liked to sit between the Skyscraping Snake's eyes, waving her fair legs on the beast's forehead.

Mo Fan simply closed his eyes, feeling rather uncomfortable.

The Skyscraping Snake slithered across the hills. The backbone of the hills, which seemed quite massive to human eyes was only a little fold on flat ground for the beast. His body remained stable as he moved past it.

Sitting on the Skyscraping Snake's head, they crossed several hilltops in the blink of an eye, but the truth was, he was moving at a fairly slow pace.

After crossing several hills, a relatively huge mountain finally appeared in front of them.

The huge mountain was their destination. The hills were only like pieces of rocks in the Skyscraping Snake's eyes, whereas the mountain was huge enough to be called a hill.

It was easy to spot the cave. It was located right at the waist of the white mountain. The Skyscraping Snake climbed along the mountain walls and soon arrived at the entrance of the cave.

It was not necessary to describe the size of the cave, since it was able to contain the Skyscraping Snake within it. As a matter of fact, Mo Fan was not too inclined to follow the snake into it. The cave was fully covered in darkness, so it was impossible to tell if there were any beast living inside it. It was said that the cave extended in all directions like a maze. Not only did it connect several mountains together, one could also access the underground realm from the cave. It was not exaggerating to say there was a pack of demon beasts living inside it.

"Big guy, rest up now. We're heading back," Tangyue stood on the wall so her line of sight was parallel to the Skyscraping Snake's head.

The Skyscraping Snake hissed, as if he understood what Tangyue was trying to say.

"Oh, you better give me some of your blood," said Tangyue.

The Skyscraping Snake bent backward slightly and bit his body with his fangs, leaving two huge holes.

He took a sip and sucked quite an amount of blood from them.

"That's too much!" Tangyue waved her hand.

Mo Fan was left speechless. The Totem Beast was rather straightforward. The blood he had sucked up alone could give Tangyue a blood bath!

"What are you planning to do with his blood?" Mo Fan was confused.

"The plague is getting serious. We might be able to find the source of the plague from his blood, and use it to produce the serum," said Tangyue.

The plague had been bothering Tangyue throughout the journey. Now that the Skyscraping Snake was safe, her priority now was to deal with the plague. The Skyscraping Snake's poison was mainly from his blood, so if she could bring his blood back, assuming that he was truly responsible for the plague, the blood would be useful in finding the cure.

"You've got to be kidding. We tried so hard to escape, and now we have to find a way to go back?" Mo Fan was not sure if he should be laughing or crying.

"What else should we do? We can't just ignore the plague. We don't have to do anything. The Royal Guards will be here soon. They will bring us back," said Tangyue.

"...is there a better way? I'm afraid that they will try to get even with us along the way," said Mo Fan.

"We're running out of time. A minute wasted might mean another person catching the plague. Let's hope the blood will work," said Tangyue.

"If it worked, it would prove that the beast is responsible for the plague. That way, Councilman Zhu Meng will be even more determined to eliminate him."

[Versatile Mage](#)

Chapter 373: Misfortune Does Not Come Singly

In the quarantine zone set up for the plague, rows of beds were arranged under white tents. The beds were filled with patients covered with blisters on their arms and faces. Dark specks were visible on their extremely dry skin, but regardless of how much water they drank, it did not provide relief to the pain they were experiencing. Instead, more unknown liquid burst out from the blisters.

The cries of agony rose one after another in the area. They consisted of the elderly, adults, and kids. The adults were immersed in fear of the unknown plague. They glanced at the Healers walking past them, hoping they would be treated. Unfortunately, even the experts were totally clueless about how they could help them. Meanwhile, the innocent kids were enjoying themselves playing chase between the beds. They clearly had no idea what was awaiting them.

Outside of the quarantine zone, several respectful people in the medical field were seated in a temporary meeting room made from tents. Instead of discussing how they could help the patients, they were actually counting down the time left for the infected people. They had never felt so helpless before.

"Mr. Lu, we only have three days left. The first batch of patients will end up just like the corpses we saw before. The total number is..." said a middle-aged man wearing a white coat.

Mr. Lu raised his hand, signaling him not to say any more. He knew better than anyone else the total of people who were infected the earliest. That alone was not the reason why he was feeling extremely uneasy. The main reason why it all felt like the apocalypse to him was that the number of patients in the second batch and third batch was still multiplying exponentially. The total had gone over the limit they could estimate, as the people were scattered across all corners of Hangzhou City.

"Mr. Lu, if we could find the source of the plague, we would be able to develop the serum to cure it. Everyone knows the gigantic snake is responsible for it, why aren't we hunting it down yet?" asked the man in the white coat.

As soon as he finished the sentence, the Head of the Magic Court, Tang Zhong entered the tent. Mr. Lu cast a glance at him without saying anything. Mr. Lu was well aware that the snake was not a demon beast. It was the guardian of their city!

Tang Zhong was followed by Councilman Zhu Meng. His expression was a lot more dignified than before, but his gaze was filled with a hint of fury, a clear indication that he had just argued with the Head of the Magic Court.

"Tang Zhong, are you seriously going to wait until the whole of Hangzhou is piled up with corpses!? If you continue to do nothing, your wish will be fulfilled very soon! When that happens, you will be condemned by every person in Hangzhou. I don't care about my Threat-Eliminating Strategy, I'm not ordering you as a Councilman, I'm just trying to save the people affected by the plague!" Zhu Meng slightly lowered his stance.

Tang Zhong did not seem relaxed at all. He desperately wanted to resolve the matter. His determination was swaying too.

Zhu Meng was about to say something when a Royal Guard quickly approached him and whispered in his ear.

His expression immediately changed as he blurted out in excitement, "Did you bring back the Totem Orb?"

The Royal Guard responded in a soft tone, "We've let you down. Please punish us!"

Councilman Zhu Meng almost lost his temper. They had sent out many interns, and yet they still failed to catch the two Magicians. A bunch of idiots!

The Royal Guard, Li Jin lowered his head further and added when Zhu Meng slightly calmed his anger, "We've brought Tangyue and Mo Fan back, awaiting your order."

"Bring them here, now!"

A moment later, Tangyue and Mo Fan, who had surrendered themselves, were brought to the quarantine zone. They were both dumbfounded, as they never thought the plague would become so serious in just the past few days.

As they were brought to Zhu Meng, the Councilman glared at the two with a shuddering jaw. He said with a grim laugh, "How nice of you two! If it were possible, I would execute you right on the spot! Should I bring you two on a tour around the area, so you can understand how much of a mistake you've made after witnessing how this whole place has turned into hell!"

Mo Fan remained silent.

Tangyue bit her lips. Everything had happened too quickly, and the plague had worsened faster than she could imagine. The whole city had fallen to the plague after they left with the Skyscraping Snake, with everyone's life at stake. No one had seen a plague that could spread so rapidly, turning a peaceful, modernized city into a terrifying place full of sickness.

She reached out her hand and handed a huge jar of the Skyscraping Snake's blood to Councilman Zhu Meng, "This is the god's blood. If he's the origin of the plague, the blood should be useful to us."

Zhu Meng signaled at Mr. Lu, who quickly received the blood and went to the lab with his team. They only had three days left to develop a serum.

"Guards, lock them up," ordered Zhu Meng.

Li Jin immediately took them away.

As soon as they left, a man wearing the outfit of a Commander quickly came into the room. He saluted at Councilman Zhu Meng before whispering a piece of news into his ear.

"What did you just say!?" Councilman Zhu Meng stared at him.

The crowd immediately shifted their attention toward Zhu Meng when they saw his abnormal reaction. They could not imagine what news it would be to bring such a great shock to him.

"We've just received the news from the fortress. The situation is extremely critical. Councilman, please hold a meeting to assist us with the ambush," said the Commander.

"Alright," Zhu Meng nodded in disbelief, "I'll send the order at once."

When Wu Pingjing, the Head of the Royal Guards, saw Zhu Meng's reaction, he asked, "Councilman, what's going on?"

"Misfortune does not come singly, for f***s sake!" Councilman Zhu Meng let out a sigh. He did not even have time to tidy his beard, disheveled from the wind.

The Commander realized that everyone in the room was considered authority figures, so he quickly announced the shocking news.

"The fortress close to West Ridge, to the west of Hangzhou City, has just told us that a huge group of White Magic Falcons has appeared. They were hungry, berserk, and fearless. No matter how we've attacked them with magic, they show no intention of retreating, and were flying straight toward the city..."

Tang Zhong's face filled with astonishment!

From what he knew, a huge pack of White Magic Falcons was residing in West Ridge. However, they had always stayed within their territory, compared to the other demon beasts.

Tang Zhong could not understand why the pack of White Magic Falcons would ambush Hangzhou all of a sudden. It was fairly rare for the demon beasts to launch an attack at a city, especially when Hangzhou City was heavily guarded.

"We've got a big problem..." said Councilman Zhu Meng.

Tang Zhong nodded with a frown. The entire city was immersed in terror from the plague. The ambush from the demon beasts would only make the situation worse!

[Versatile Mage](#)

Chapter 374: The Betrayal of the Heavenly Eagles

To the west of White Mountain lay the West Ridge. The place fully retained its original appearance, with towering mountains and old trees.

For a very long time, the West Ridge was strictly a no-fly zone. Even airlines were told to avoid flying over the region, as it was inhabited by lots of White Magic Falcons.

The White Magic Falcons were extremely violent, with a strong sense of territory, to an extent that they would attack any Commander-level or even Ruler-level demon beast flying over their territory relentlessly. Even a harmless sparrow that lost its way would be considered hostile.

They were fierce, but had great unity. They were the biggest threat to the west of Hangzhou City.

However, despite being fairly close to human's territory, they had never shown any intentions of infiltrating the safe zone, as if they were content with the current situation as long as their territory remained unharmed.

As the years passed, the West Fortress slowly let their guard down toward the White Magic Falcons. They almost assumed they were behaving themselves. To their surprise, the White Magic Falcons launched an attack while the city was suffering from an outbreak.

The Battlemages grouped up in their platoons at the fortress. They were standing on top of temporary platforms while staring at the demon beasts flying in their direction with numbers as dense as the clouds...

As a matter of fact, it had been many years since they last saw such an incredible number of demon beasts attacking human territory.

"Come, time to clear some pests," a Commander who looked fairly young waved his hand, signaling his men to mount their Heavenly Eagles.

The White Magic Falcons were not very powerful, but the biggest problem was their flying ability. The Magicians on the ground could not reach them with their attacks.

Flying demon beasts were usually the most difficult to deal with. Luckily, West Fortress was usually stationed with elite Battlemages, with a bunch of Heavenly Eagles on standby. The Battlemages were able to ride the Heavenly Eagles to stop the invasion of the White Magic Falcons.

"It's been a while since we last enjoyed ourselves a great battle," the Vice Commander licked his lips, as if he had a great lust for blood.

"Soldiers, move out!" The Commander gave the order.

The Battlemages quickly mounted the Heavenly Eagles and gave the beasts the order to move out.

However, an unexpected event took place.

The Heavenly Eagles remained stationary. None of them were flapping their wings.

Normally, once the order was given, the Heavenly Eagles would soar into the sky straight away. They had been tamed by the Beastmasters for a very long time. Apart from head-on battles, they had always obeyed the orders from the Beastmasters.

"Summon the Beastmasters at once. I want to know what's wrong with these Heavenly Eagles!" snapped the Commander.

The soldiers were ready to charge into the battlefield and eliminate the demon beasts that dared to infiltrate Hangzhou, yet the Heavenly Eagles stood firmly in their spots, as if they had all reached an agreement.

"Commander, you're looking for me?" a Beastmaster in uniform appeared.

"Take a look at these Heavenly Eagles, why aren't they obeying our orders?" said the Commander.

The Beastmaster went up to one of the Heavenly Eagles and placed his hand on its body. He closed his eyes as he tried to sense the feeling that the beast was experiencing.

A moment later, the Beastmaster's eyes sprang open and glanced toward the flying figures in the distance. He blurted out, "They are afraid!"

"Afraid of what?" scolded the Commander.

"The Heavenly Eagles and the White Magic Falcons belong to the same race. Even though they are tamed by us, they still have the blood of demon beasts flowing inside their bodies. They are unwilling to oppose the White Magic Falcons..." said the Beastmaster.

"Damn it, useless idiots!" scolded the Commander.

"No matter how long we've tamed them, they can't disobey the law of nature. Besides..." The Beastmaster went up to a Heavenly Eagle which seemed to be struggling and placed his hand on its neck.

The Beastmaster's face turned pale. His eyes were staring at the army of the White Magic Falcons in disbelief, as if he had sensed the great terror in the Heavenly Eagle's heart.

"Besides what, say it now!" said the Commander impatiently.

Without the help of the Heavenly Eagles, how many Battlemages actually had the ability to fly? This was a very serious problem!

"Once a Commander-level Four -Clawed Magic Eagle appeared, our troops will lose fighting against the demon beasts in the air. The Heavenly Eagles will not dare to go against a Four-Clawed Magic Eagle!" said the Beastmaster.

"I'm well aware of that. If our air defense collapses, the demon beasts can easily fly past us into the city!" said the Commander.

The Beastmaster's eyes were still full of terror. He shook his head and glanced at the Heavenly Eagle besides him.

The gaze of the Heavenly Eagle turned from submissive to rage. Its black pupils had turned crimson red. It flapped its wings wildly, not to fly into the sky to war, but trying to fling the person on its back down.

Suddenly, every Heavenly Eagle began to scream. Their eyes were staring at the intruders in the distance, as if they were responding to a call.

"What's going on!"

"I'm losing control of my Heavenly Eagle!"

"So am I!"

The beasts struggled wildly and twisted their bodies. If it weren't for the chains tying their legs down, they would have already flown into the air.

"They are turning... they are betraying us!" yelled a rather experienced soldier.

"What?" The young Commander quickly glanced at the Heavenly Eagles and saw their pupils changing color. They were resisting violently, some even attacking the soldiers.

"This is bad!" The Beastmaster had totally lost control of the situation.

"What exactly is going on?" yelled the young Commander. The Heavenly Eagles had always been submissive. Why would they start a rebellion today?

"Didn't I mention that if there was a Commander-level Four Clawed Magic Eagle nearby, these Heavenly Eagles subconsciously fear the demon beast, as they possess a lower lineage! However, if a Ruler-level demon beast of the eagle species were to appear, they would betray us straight away due to its overwhelming presence!" shouted the Beastmaster, his face pale.

Ruler-level! The young Commander totally lost his calm when he heard the term. It was the first time a demon beast of that level was involved in an invasion!

"Quick, kill the Heavenly Eagles now! Otherwise, they will betray us! These beasts with petty lineage will never be able to resist the presence of a Ruler-level demon beast!" blurted out the Beastmaster.

The soldiers were stunned.

They never thought a Ruler-level demon beast would be so terrifying. Even the Heavenly Eagles, who were tamed and trained like soldiers since they were young, stood no chance against the presence of a Ruler-level demon beast.

"What are you all waiting for? Do you want to see the fortress destroyed? Kill the traitorous Heavenly Eagles now!" the Beastmaster roared furiously when he saw the hesitation among the soldiers.

The young Commander clenched his teeth and made the cruel decision. "Kill, kill them all now!"

[Versatile Mage](#)

Chapter 375: Summoned Back to West Lake

A seventeen-year-old teenager sat at the edge of the ninth lookout tower of West Fortress.

He was carefully blowing a flute. The melody was utterly pleasant. It had a unique, countryside rhythm.

As the melody played, a gray-white Heavenly Eagle in its growing stage flew out from the trees and landed beside the teenager.

The teenager fondled the gray-white Heavenly Eagle's head and said with a smile, "Gray, were you secretly hunting down hares? Is it because the food here at the fortress doesn't suit your taste? Or has that prick Beastmaster been torturing you again... Alright, I know that he's picking on you because he's not fond of your impure lineage. I'll make you something delicious when I have the chance."

The Heavenly Eagle nodded as if it could understand the teenage boy's words.

The boy and the eagle played on the lookout tower for a while. Suddenly, a sharp siren was heard coming from the fortress. It immediately burst into an uproar as troops of Battlemages were summoned to the front line.

"What's going on?" the teenage boy yelled at a messenger soldier passing by the lookout tower.

"Wang Xiaojun, what are you doing up there? Hurry up and hide inside the fortress! A small guy like you will be eaten by the White Magic Falcons fairly quickly," said the messenger.

"It's alright, I have Gray protecting me," said Wang Xiaojun.

Meanwhile, a tall, skinny bloke whose face was full of pockmarks appeared. He raised his head to look at the teenager and demanded, "Protect you? We've just received the order from our superiors! All soldiers must kill the Heavenly Eagles they are looking after at once!"

"What are you saying? Why would the army give such a command?" exclaimed Wang Xiaojun in disbelief.

"A Ruler-level demon beast has appeared from West Ridge. Every Heavenly Eagle of the fortress is turning against us. What are you waiting for? Didn't I tell you to kill your Heavenly Eagle now? Those who disobey the order will be punished by military law!"

Wang Xiaojun was stunned. He glanced at Gray, who was still not mature yet...

How could he possibly kill him with his own hands?

The gray eagle was the only present left him by his elder brother, who had sacrificed his life for the army. He had been taking care of the bird since he was a youngling, the gray eagle was his most important friend and companion.

"Humph, a Heavenly Eagle like that with impure lineage should never have been allowed to stay in the army," said the Beastmaster with pockmarks.

"No!" Wang Xiaojun suddenly bit his lips, looking at the Heavenly Eagle, and blew his flute.

The eagle obeyed the signal like a soldier as soon as the piercing sound was made.

Following another signal from the flute, the eagle flapped its wings and rapidly soared into the sky.

Even though it was not mature, and its wings were still not fully grown yet, its speed was comparable to the ordinary Heavenly Eagles.

A brief moment later, the gray figure quickly disappeared into the trees.

The Beastmaster with pockmarks was infuriated. He pointed his finger at Wang Xiaojun and snapped, "You little bastard, you dared to disobey a military order. You're not worthy to stay in the army, just like that crossbreed Heavenly Eagle. Do you have any idea what you've done? The beast will turn against us. It will attack the fortress with the White Magic Falcons!"

The teenager Wang Xiaojun lowered his head and fell silent.

He could not understand why the army would make such a cruel decision. He was clueless about why it was given in the first place. However, he and Gray had kept one another in company for a very long time. He was willing to take the punishment instead of doing such a cruel thing to his companion.

As the Beastmaster left furiously, Wang Xiaojun finally raised his head and saw piles of white feathers drifting to the wind in the fortress...

At the taming ground nearby, piles of Heavenly Eagles were lying in pools of blood!

They were struggling in pain. They were begging for mercy in the pools of blood as they uttered cries of agony... The sound of their cries penetrated the teenage boy's heart like swords!

Each of the Heavenly Eagles was part of his eldest brother's painstaking efforts, and they were falling right in front of him. The worst thing was, instead of being killed in battle, they had fallen at the hands of their beloved Beastmasters.

The teenage boy did not want to watch any further. He quickly closed his eyes.

They were no tears, yet his heart was bleeding!

In the Enforcement Union's meeting room, as soon as the news from West Fortress was announced, the Head of the Magic Court, the Councilman and the rest fell deadly silent.

No one expected the situation to turn so serious quickly, be it the plague that had taken them by surprise, or the army of White Magic Falcons ambushing Hangzhou for no particular reason.

"The White Magic Falcons are definitely something that the military would not want to face. Not only has our line of defense collapsed, the Heavenly Eagles have also turned into a threat. Luckily, the Head of the Beastmasters told his men to kill all of them decisively. Otherwise, the situation would be much worse," said an Elder of the Magic Court, Li Tian.

"We're having internal trouble and outside aggression at the same time. Has Mr. Lu managed to develop the serum for the plague?" asked Zhu Meng.

"We do have the serum, but the blood of the Black Totem Snake is only enough to resist the plague. It's nowhere enough to cure the patients. We need the Black Totem Snake's bile or something else," answered Mr. Lu.

Tang Zhong frowned and glanced at Tangyue, who was being guarded by two Royal Guards, "Head to White Mountain at once, and take some bile from the god."

Councilman Zhu Meng quickly rose to his feet and said, "If we could invent a resisting serum from his blood, he must be responsible for the plague! Do you have any idea how serious the situation is! How much time do you still want to waste on following your ancient tradition? Your stupidity is going to get lots of people killed!"

Tang Zhong fell silent.

Zhu Meng walked out from his seat and came up to Tangyue with great fury.

Tang Zhong quickly rose to his feet. He thought Councilman Zhu Meng was going to unleash his anger on Tangyue.

Councilman Zhu Meng stood there staring at Tangyue.

A while later, he suddenly lowered his head, as if he had instantly sacked his imposing dignity. He totally lowered his stance, as if he were pleading.

"I can totally understand where you all are coming from, but Hangzhou is currently in a great crisis..." Councilman Zhu Meng's eyes were bloodshot. It was obvious that he had not slept in many days. "The ambush of the White Magic Falcons is going to be a fierce battle. If we don't get rid of the plague within a day, Hangzhou would be piled with corpses soon enough. Therefore..."

Councilman Zhu Meng lowered his head further, almost as if he had bent his body ninety degrees at Tangyue. "I beg you, summon the Black Totem Snake back. I promise you, if we manage to find a cure, we will not kill him."

Tangyue took a few steps backward, staring at Councilman Zhu Meng in disbelief.

As she gathered her thoughts, she looked at Tang Zhong.

Tang Zhong nodded helplessly!

He too was extremely concerned for Hangzhou. He had no intention to be the sinner responsible for the countless lives who were endangered. Since Zhu Meng was willing to compromise by sparing the Black Totem Snake's life, he would not hesitate any further.

"Alright, I'll summon him back now. I'll summon him back to West Lake," said Tangyue.

Versatile Mage

Chapter 376: Killing the Snake

West Lake was already chilly in autumn. The surface of the water was cold and shiny.

In the past, the lake used to be crowded with tourists or aged civilians, but it was now completely deserted.

First, everyone was terrified by the plague, so most people preferred to stay indoors if they could. Everyone was scared of catching the plague. Second, every entrance to the lake was sealed off. Members of the public were not permitted to get close to the water or the shores.

The lake was so huge that it felt like a sea.

Along the lengthy Su Causeway of West Lake, the trees slightly swayed as the breeze swept past. At night, they looked like women with astonishing physiques tidying up hair they had just washed.

On the causeway, Councilman Zhu Meng and the Head of the Royal Guards Wu Pingjing were standing at the edge, facing the city.

Their gaze crossed the lake and saw the skyscrapers opposite the water. The reflection of a variety of buildings could be seen on the lake. The city was situated beside the lake, and the lake reflected the famous city. It was a spectacular view!

Dark clouds drifted in the night sky. The faint glow of the moon outlined the shapes of the clouds. The spotlights above some skyscrapers joined the fun and shone their light on the clouds too, making them look extraordinarily stunning as they hung in the sky above the developed city. Their unique appearance was visible on the surface of the lake too.

Suddenly, a blue-black mist appeared close to the colorful clouds. The faint mist loomed over the land. The night sky turned slightly dim, but a while later, the mist became extremely thick, completely shrouding the moonlight. Even the colorful lights from the city were completely sucked in.

A great darkness swept across the sky.

The pitch-black mist floated above Hangzhou City and slowly approached the deserted West Lake.

On the causeway, Councilman Zhu Meng, Wu Pingjing, Councilman Luo Mian, Li Jin, Tang Zhong, Tangyue, Mo Fan, Li Tian, Leng Qing and the others raised their heads, staring at the black mist looming over the lake.

"So this is how he appeared and disappeared in the busy city out of nowhere..." Leng Qing said calmly.

Leng Qing was a woman who was both cold and alluring at the same time. She was also Little Loli's sister.

It was Mo Fan's first time meeting the Eldest Senior Sister of the Clearsky Hunter Agency. To his surprise, Leng Qing was a Vice Elder of the Magic Court, possessing incredible power and status.

"He's coming." A smile surfaced on Tangyue's face.

As she thought, when she blew the pipe made of his snake scales, he would show up regardless of where she was.

He had returned. Even though he had not fully recovered from the ecdysis, he still showed up.

The blue-black mist was now at the center of the lake. Suddenly, a gigantic, long shadow fell into the water, like a black lightning bolt striking the lake!

As the giant snake disappeared into the water, a great wave splashed across the lake.

The water droplets in the air poured down like rain. The tide spread from the center of the lake toward the causeway, almost washing over it!

The crowd on the causeway stared with their eyes open wide. Many of them were seeing the true appearance of the Black Totem Snake for the first time.

It took some time for the water to return to calm. The Black Totem Snake rose from the water, revealing his head and neck as he swam toward the causeway. Despite only showing a small part of his body, it felt like a giant cruise ship was moving towards them!

"Big guy, are you done with your ecdysis?" yelled Tangyue as she looked at the Black Totem Snake in the lake.

The Black Totem Snake slowly approached the causeway. His neck and head were significantly taller than the land. His lantern eyes stared down at the people on the causeway.

Even though he was only looking at Tangyue, everyone felt like he was looking right at them.

"The ecdysis is still not done yet," Councilman Luo Mian could easily tell from a single glance.

If the Black Totem Snake had finished the ecdysis, the patterns on his body would become very obvious. It would not be as faint as they currently were.

Besides, his presence was not as intimidating as it usually was. Councilman Luo Mian could even tell it was feeling weak.

Councilman Zhu Meng turned around and glanced at Councilman Luo Mian.

Councilman Luo Mian nodded. His eyes flickered with a menacing look!

Councilman Zhu Meng slowly raised his right arm and clenched his fist. It was the gesture assigned to send a signal to his men!

As soon as Zhu Meng sent the signal, countless figures leapt out from the causeway. They were extremely well-trained, hidden at different spots along the path. After Zhu Meng gave the order, it only took them a few seconds to appear on the causeway.

Those who were leading the groups wearing the outfit of Royal Guards were easily identifiable. They turned out to be Councilman Zhu Meng's personal army!

As for the rest of the people, most of them were wearing outfits of the Magic Court. The color of their outfits clearly implied that they were under Councilman Luo Mian!

Usually, Judges of the Magic Court would go to different places to carry out the missions assigned to them. It was definitely the first time they had all gathered together.

"Take him down!" yelled Councilman Zhu Meng.

"Activate the Lightning Punishment Formation. We can't let him escape!" ordered Councilman Luo Mian with a loud voice.

The change of events had taken place too quickly. It took Tang Zhong, Mo Fan, Li Tian, Tang Zhong, and Leng Qing by surprise.

Tangyue's eyes were filled with disbelief when she saw the Magicians appearing on the causeway.

"What are you doing?" yelled Tangyue.

The two Councilmen had never mentioned these people who were hiding in the dark. It was impossible to believe that they were not planning something else by having so many Advanced Magicians here!

"Tangyue, you've done great. We will take over from here," Councilman Luo Mian said with a smile, fondling his goatee.

"The threat must be eliminated. Once he's dead, the plague will be gone, too!"

Today would be the day of death for this Totem Snake who had brought them the disaster!

Tangyue was thunderstruck. She never thought the two Councilmen would team up to lie to her... Councilman Luo Mian had always been opposing Councilman Zhu Meng to protect the totem beast!

[Versatile Mage](#)

Chapter 377: Suppress the Snake, the Lightning Punishmen

Mo Fan stared at the causeway in astonishment. He glanced at the huge number of Royal Guards and Judges of the Magic Court. Each of their auras was significantly stronger than his.

Normally, it was rare to see one or two Advanced Magicians. Who knew they would see two groups of them here.

The scene was very spectacular, something that had never taken place before. The Black Totem Snake who revealed his giant head above the lake sensed the hostility from the humans on the causeway. He opened his cave-like mouth and blew a strong wind. The powerful gust destroyed the lines of willows on the causeway. The leaves drifted to the wind, as sprays of water splashed upon the land. It felt like a hurricane had just swept past the place.

"Activate the Lightning Punishment!" demanded Councilman Luo Mian with a loud voice once again.

Suddenly, a strong lightning energy rumbled in the sky above.

Mo Fan raised his head and saw giant purple lightning bolts flashing above the dark clouds. Countless Lightning Stars were connecting together in a rapid pace. It looked like the trailing paths of meteors intertwining with one another, resulting in stunning Star Patterns.

The Star Patterns stacked on top of one another, forming a spectacular Star Constellation.

The Star Constellation stood out in the dark sky with clear vertices. It was extremely three-dimensional and lively.

The Star Constellation symbolized the casting of an Advanced Magic.

Mo Fan initially thought that the casting of that spell, containing an overwhelming lightning energy, had ended, but little did he know, it was only the tip of an iceberg. As the clouds scattered, Mo Fan saw six more Star Constellations formed with two hundred-forty-three stars each, close to the first one he had seen!

Seven Stars were called a Nebula, the symbol of a Basic Spell.

Forty-nine Stars formed seven Nebulas, illustrating a Star Pattern which symbolized an Intermediate Magic.

Two hundred-forty-three Stars formed forty-nine Nebulas, which would then form seven new Star Patterns. The end product was a Star Constellation, an Advanced Magic!

Currently, there were seven Star Constellations in the sky, each alone was enough to amaze the crowd below. As they were connected together in the night sky above the lake, they constructed an astonishing structure with the Stars!

A Star Palace!

The Star Palace that symbolized the Super-level!

Its brilliance was unmatched in the sky above the city. It blazed fabulously in the middle of the darkness, lording over the modern city below!

Mo Fan was dumbfounded!

Even the Star Patterns made of forty-nine Stars that he was extremely familiar with were enough to produce powerful Spells. How destructive would the force of this spell being produced by the Star Palace in the sky be!?

The purple Sky Palace was so huge that it looked extremely close. As the Star Constellations were fully connected together, the overwhelming lightning energy clumped together into stormy clouds. The astounding Lightning Magic began to descend!

The Spell consisted of nine heavenly halberds made of lightning. They were formed by countless lightning arcs piercing through the layers of cloud. Their length and width were like huge pillars supporting the sky...

A stunning purple, from the eye-catching lightning halberds...

A deafening blast took place, as if the sky were shattered into pieces. The powerful lightning struck fiercely from the sky and penetrated the lake in a straight line.

Over in the city, the pedestrians and the residents admiring the view of West Lake on the tall buildings were immediately fixated by the purple flash in the sky. As the lightning halberds descended, their flashy appearance was fully presented to the people.

Spectacular, marvelous; the lightning energy they contained was strong enough to shudder the Heaven and Earth. Even though the world was full of Magic, demon beasts, and mysterious energy, many people still found the view absolutely unbelievable as they witnessed this level of Magic up close!

"Is...is that really Magic?"

"Such a horrifying lightning. It feels like a punishment given by God to the mundane world!"

"What is going on at West Lake? Where did the lightning halberds come from?"

Many people had seen the lightning halberds, regardless of which part of the city they were from. The halberds had torn the dark sky apart. It felt like some energy from the Heavenly realm had accidentally fallen to the Earth...

The nine lightning halberds dropped from the sky and formed a formation with the shape of an enneagram. They stood firmly above the lake like pillars, surrounding the Skyscraping Snake.

They were like giant purple electric pillars, with dense lightning chains spreading across one another. Lightning sparkled fiercely between the pillars!

Lightning, forks, chains... Mo Fan's vision was inundated with the shocking purple from the lightning energy unleashing from the halberds!

The lightning halberds stood firmly. The Skyscraping Snake furiously stirred up massive waves after learning that he was being suppressed in the center. He even slammed his body into the halberd to break the lightning chains.

However, the lightning halberds were solid as rocks. Each time the Skyscraping Snake slammed into the halberds, the formation would return the favor by whipping the Skyscraping Snake with the lightning chains.

The Black Totem Snake was like a giant python that had fallen into a trap. He struggled violently, but he only ended up injured due to the thorns in the trap. He uttered deafening cries of pain which echoed throughout the entire city.

"Oh my God, am I having a nightmare?"

"Snake, it's a snake, a...a gigantic snake!"

"The Skyscraping Snake, it's the same snake that appeared in the city!"

"Holy cow, it really exists! It's here right in West Lake!"

A great crowd had gathered near the shore, far away from the center of the lake.

As a matter of fact, both the lightning halberds and the Skyscraping Snake were extremely far away, but due to their massive size, they could still clearly see them in the darkness. The purple lightning brightly illuminated the lake, and the terrifying body of the Skyscraping Snake.

The city burst into an uproar. Even though West Lake was sealed off to the public, there were gaps through which the people could still see the Su Causeway. If it were just a normal battle, it would be hidden in the darkness. However, the scale of the battle was too huge and stunning. Everyone could clearly see it from far away. The astonishment on their faces had reached the limit!

The towering lightning halberds stood over the vast lake. The Skyscraping Snake, which had left a scar in the people's hearts, was currently being suppressed in the middle of the lake right beside the city...

Chapter 378: The Angry Crowd, Kill the Snake!

"This..." Mo Fan could not believe what he saw.

"Lightning Punishment Formation-The Seal of Nine Laws! It's a Lightning Element Super Magic. Once it's fully established, its power is strong enough to trap a Ruler-level demon beast. Councilman Luo Mian and Councilman Zhu Meng have long prepared for this. They have been planning to kill the Black Totem Snake all along," said Leng Qing, who was standing beside him.

The lightning struck the Black Totem Snake like merciless whips. The Black Totem Snake had just gotten rid of his most important layer of defense recently, thus he was experiencing tremendous pain. Each bolt of lightning left a deep wound on his body.

He did not give up. He opened his mouth wide and bit on one of the lightning halberds, trying to break it into pieces. However, the lightning turned out to be stronger, penetrating his throat and entering his esophagus. It electrified his inner organs and dealt a great blow to him.

An ordinary Commander-level demon beast would simply be shattered into pieces by the powerful blow. However, the Skyscraping Snake was still able to gather his strength and tore at the lightning halberd once again. In the end, the shock from the lightning paralyzed him, but he was reluctant to give up.

He was infuriated like a tyrant, glaring at the two humans who were responsible. He wanted to escape from the formation just to swallow them into his stomach!

He grew more savage as more wounds began to appear on his body. He was utterly fearless, even if he was facing the extremely destructive Lightning Spell. He wanted to destroy everything, to destroy the lightning that dared to infuriate him!

"Stop it now, I beg you please, stop it!" Tangyue pleaded desperately.

Each time the Black Totem Snake was struck by a lightning bolt, Tangyue could sense her heart being struck by a great blow.

“Begging for mercy?” Councilman Zhu Meng blurted out coldly. He glanced at the terrifying people in the distance who were gathering at the shores around the lake and pointed with his finger. A rather huge crowd had already gathered there.

“Why are you doing this!” snapped Tangyue.

Councilman Zhu Meng was expressionless. He opened his mouth and uttered with a thunderous voice facing the busy city, “People of Hangzhou City, this is the snake beast that appeared before in the city. He is also the source of the plague. He is now residing in West Lake. Unfortunately, some people treated him as a god, thus insisting on protecting him! Today, I, Zhu Meng have decided to eliminate him once and for all to prevent disasters like this from happening in the future. If you agree with me, please let me hear your voice!”

Zhu Meng’s voice was extremely clear, as if it had spread to every little corner in the city. He had used some Magic that Mo Fan had never seen before.

On the other side of the lake, although the Su Causeway was quite a distance away from the shore where the crowd was, as the number of people increased, the crowd suddenly became rather obvious from the distance. Their faces were filled with astonishment, although most of them were still overwhelmed with fear of the unknown beast.

The crowd consisted of students of Magic Schools, ordinary businessmen, old folks who were passing by, normal civilians and quite a number of Magicians who were pursuing justice. They could not believe such a gigantic beast had been residing so close to their city. If they had not seen it with their own eyes today, they would never have believed it to be the truth.

The crowd was terrified and furious. They felt like someone had lied to them, someone who could not care less about their lives!

“Kill him! We have to kill him!”

“How could we possibly let something like that to stay in West Lake. Kill him now!”

“So he is the cause of the plague! He is a great threat to us!”

The voices of the crowd stacked upon one another, echoing across the lake loud and clear at the causeway.

“No, that’s not the truth. He’s not the cause of the plague. He’s actually the guardian of the city. You can’t hurt him!” Tangyue screamed loudly on Su Causeway.

However, her voice alone was no match against the voices of the crowd. Even if her pleading could be heard by the people, they would not show any hint of mercy. Their hearts were overwhelmed with fear and anger. Similar to Councilman Zhu Meng, they only wanted to drive the beast away from their city.

The protests grew louder gradually...

The Black Totem Snake was covered all over with cuts and bruises. His unyielding gaze began to show a hint of fatigue.

He was getting too weak. He was already suffering a punishment from the law of nature due to the ecdysis, and now he was trapped within the destructive lightning formation established by the humans. He no longer had the same spirit of trying to break free from the formation. The lightning bolts continued to strike him recklessly.

He could hear the voices of the crowd coming from the shore. As a matter of fact, he was not too bothered. He endured the pain from the shock of the lightning and slowly turned his head around toward Tangyue.

Tangyue was kneeling helplessly on the edge of the causeway. She seemed extremely tiny in comparison to the rage of the crowd.

If it weren't for her, the Black Totem Snake would never have left the safest hiding spot during his weakest period.

He had existed for many centuries, thus he was surely more intelligent than humans. He had total trust in her, and yet...she had let him down!

Seeing the bruises and wounds on the Black Totem Snake's body, whose eyes displayed a hint of fatigue and disappointed, she felt like he was asking her, why had she let him down!

Tangyue was full of tears. There was nothing she could do. She was surrounded by Magicians who were stronger than she was, and the shore was crowded with people demanding the death of the snake. What could she possibly do?

Mo Fan clearly heard her sobs. Similarly, there was nothing Mo Fan could do.

The people of the city were already trapped by the fear of the snake and the plague. Once they found the source of the plague, they would only follow their instincts.

Councilman Zhu Meng was doing something that perfectly suited their requests. Mo Fan believed that he would soon obtain the support of the people of Hangzhou City. No one would care about the despair that one woman was currently suffering.

"Careful, he's trying to barge out with brute force!" yelled the Head of the Royal Guards, Wu Pingjing.

Mo Fan collected his thoughts and saw that the Black Totem Snake, still being tortured tremendously by the lightning, trying to poke his giant head out from the formation.

The wild lightning bolts struck his head fiercely, and yet he continued to charge forward as if he were already numb.

He extended his head as close as possible to the causeway. The Judges of the Magic Court and the Royal Guards quickly backed off. Despite being trapped within the Lightning Punishment Formation, the Black Totem Snake was still very intimidating!

As the people assumed that the Black Totem Snake was desperately trying to break free with his last effort, he slowly moved his head toward Tangyue who was kneeling on the ground in despair...

The snake gently hissed, poking his tongue out from his mouth.

The tip of the tongue appeared in front of Tangyue and gently fondled her face.

Tangyue was stunned.

The tongue was extremely gentle, like a father trying to wipe the tears off her face.

Tangyue raised her head, glancing at the giant head. She stared into the snake's eyes, which had a gentle look despite the pain and torture he had suffered, before glancing at the tongue which had fondled her face gently. He was trying to comfort her!

At that instant, Tangyue completely broke down and burst out in tears!

[Versatile Mage](#)

Chapter 379: Emergency Support

Mo Fan was stunned.

He had heard many tales about the Black Totem Snake from Tangyue. The Black Totem Snake was indeed looking after her, just like her senior.

However, Mo Fan was shocked that the Black Totem Snake would care about Tangyue so much. Most demon beasts would have already lost the ability to think rationally after suffering from the bruises and wounds, and would go berserk.

However, the Black Totem Snake did not lose control of himself. In fact, he seemed rather lost when he saw Tangyue bursting into tears.

This was Mo Fan's first time sensing such emotion from the utterly terrifying gigantic snake. He was treating Tangyue like his own kid, not allowing her to suffer at all. He was scared to hear her crying, even though he was still enduring the pain from the Super Magic Formation!

"Do you believe it? Do you believe a totem beast like that is the source of the plague and the disaster?" said Mo Fan to Eldest Senior Sister Leng Qing beside him.

"Does me believing make any difference?" Leng Qing's voice was filled with a hint of unwillingness.

As a matter of fact, she was more inclined toward the Totem Guardians side. Unfortunately, the terrified people of the city wanted the Black Totem Snake dead as soon as possible. The Su Causeway was crowded with Advanced Magicians. They were waiting for the Black Totem Snake to become weaker, so they could flank him from all directions and eliminate the Ruler-level demon beast.

On the causeway, Councilman Zhu Meng and Councilman Luo Mian totally ignored the Black Totem Snake's gentle behavior. They were waiting for the Black Totem Snake to weaken.

"Shall we attack now?" asked Councilman Zhu Meng impatiently.

The West Fortress was under attacked by a pack of White Magic Falcons, a grave threat to the city. Zhu Meng had no time to waste any further. He had to eliminate the Black Totem Snake to get rid of the plague, then hold back the White Magic Falcons.

"Don't, we can't afford to underestimate the Black Totem Snake. If you withdraw the Lightning Punishment Formation, more than half of your men would die in order to kill him. His power is still too much for us to handle even though he is currently going through ecdysis!" Councilman Luo Mian was more familiar with the Black Totem Snake than the others.

Councilman Zhu Meng hesitated. He glanced at the Head of the Royal Guards, Wu Pingjing beside him.

Wu Pingjing said with a nod, "Councilman, we can't rush it. Let's strike after the Lightning Punishment Formation has tortured him a while longer."

Councilman Zhu Meng lowered his hand and decided to wait it out.

However, a brief moment later, the Royal Guard Li Jin hurriedly came up to Zhu Meng and blurted out without saluting, "Councilman, West Fortress is requesting backup!"

Councilman Zhu Meng frowned. He glanced at the Black Totem Snake which was still trapped within the nine lightning halberds and said, "Give us some time, we need to kill the snake first."

"It's an emergency. A Ruler-level demon beast had appeared among the White Magic Falcons. Our line of defense had crumbled due to the betrayal of the Heavenly Eagles. We totally lost our air power. Only Advanced Magicians are able to stop the army of White Magic Falcons. The fortress has summoned every Advanced Magician nearby, but it's still not enough to hold off the invasion of the White Magic Falcons. Without support, the demon beasts would soon appear in the sky above the city. When that happens..." said Li Jin.

"Is it really that serious?" Councilman Zhu Meng was stunned.

"Without the Heavenly Eagles, the soldiers guarding the fortress are totally useless!" said Li Jin.

The Elder of the Magic Court Li Tian glanced at Councilman Zhu Meng, who was hesitant after hearing the shocking news, "We can't afford to lose any time. Councilmen, please bring the Judges of the Magic Court and the Royal Guards to the frontline at West Fortress at once!"

"No, we have to kill the beast first!" stated Councilman Luo Mian with a loud tone all of a sudden.

Zhu Meng was puzzled.

"The Black Totem Snake's endurance is shocking. We might have to wait until late at night before his stamina is depleted. It's better to attack him by then. If we attack him now, it will result in a great number of casualties. Without enough Advanced Magicians, we won't be able to provide enough support to the front line. Hangzhou will truly suffer a terrible disaster.

"The Lightning Punishment Formation has the beast trapped. It will not be able to break free from the strongest entrapment Spell among all Super Spells in just one or two days. We should focus on the invasion now, then kill the beast once the city is safe!" said Elder Li Tian.

Councilman Luo Mian pulled a long face. He glanced at the severely injured Black Totem Snake, and took another glance at Councilman Zhu Meng.

Councilman Zhu Meng was the one who had authority over the Magicians. The strength of his Royal Guards was astounding. Therefore, he was the person making the final decision...

"Since we're running out of time, we should take the risk to kill the beast at once. With the Royal Guards here, he won't be able to resist much longer," said Councilman Luo Mian.

"Wait!" Councilman Zhu Meng raised his hand.

"Zhu Meng, we have to kill him now to prevent any changes to the plan," said Luo Mian.

"To the front line at once!" ordered Zhu Meng sternly.

"This..." Luo Mian reacted strangely.

"Head of the Royal Guards Wu Pingjing, listen up! Bring the Royal Guards to the front line of West Fortress at once! If I see a single White Magic Falcon trespassing into the safe zone, I'll hold you responsible!" declared Councilman Zhu Meng firmly.

"Affirmative!"

Wu Pingjing leapt into the air and flew into the sky above the causeway as three pairs of wings appeared on his back. Each wing was ample and long, fully extended. Each beat produced a gentle flow, pushing Wu Pingjing into the sky...

"Six wings... This Head of the Royal Guards' strength is a bit too terrifying!" Mo Fan stared after Wu Pingjing who was disappearing into the sky.

Following Wu Pingjing's summon, the Royal Guards immediately rose into the sky after him!

The causeway had lots of powerful Magicians on station. They either cast a Wind Element Advanced Spell to summon Wind Wings on their backs, took out their Wing Equipment and adeptly flew into the sky, or Summoned their flying mounts to soar into the sky...

The Royal Guards who were holding their positions on the causeway moments ago had all flown into the distance. They quickly flew west, with Wu Pingjing leading in front. The sight was rather spectacular, making those who had yet to possess any flying ability quite jealous!

Speaking of which, how powerful exactly was the Black Totem Snake that was being trapped within the Lightning Punishment Formation...

The causeway was crowded with many experts, and the Black Totem Snake was already weakened due to the ecdysis and the Lightning Punishment Formation. However, the two Councilmen still assumed it was a great risk to kill it now?

Either way, the Black Totem Snake's life was spared for now!

Mo Fan was about to walk over to Tangyue when he saw Leng Qing glaring at Councilman Luo Mian, as if she were trying to peek into the cunning old man's mind.

"Big sis, what's wrong?" asked Mo Fan.

"I have a feeling that this entire incident isn't as simple as it looks," said Leng Qing grimly.

Versatile Mage

Chapter 380: Vermin Spotted!

Mo Fan was smart enough to know that Leng Qing was implying something. He lowered his voice and asked, "Big sis, do you know something?"

"My people have access to some information, and I also spent some time investigating the identities of the first two corpses that were found after the snake appeared in the city. I didn't find anything useful, but someone seems very suspicious now." Leng Qing was fairly tall and was currently bearing a sharp gaze. Her aura was quite different from the girls with cold personalities.

Luckily, she was Lingling's sister. Otherwise, Mo Fan would simply not approach a woman like her.

"Big sis, are you suspicious about... the plague?" Mo Fan noticed something from Leng Qing's tone.

"Do you want to save the snake?" asked Leng Qing.

Both Li Tian and Leng Qing were leaning towards the side of the Totem Guardians. They had already asked Mr. Lu who was leading the medical team. He mentioned that even though the blood of the Black Totem Snake was able to resist the virus, it was not enough to cure it. It implied that the Black Totem Snake was not the true cause of the plague.

Besides, White Town was severely impacted when the outbreak took place, but the Black Totem Snake was staying at West Lake before. If he were the cause of the plague, the most serious outbreak would have happened to the people close to the lake instead.

The Elder of the Magic Court Li Tian and Leng Qing had both been investigating the incident. They had acquired some leads, but they were unable to sort out who their real targets were.

"I do, but..." Mo Fan glanced at the dispirited Tangyue sitting at on the edge of the causeway.

Mo Fan knew they did not have any convincing proof, but his instinct was telling him that the Black Totem Snake was not evil.

Mo Fan felt rather down, as he had never seen his Miss Tangyue so helpless before.

"My people have been allocated to West Fortress. I didn't have anyone to help. If you're willing to assist me, head to White Town at once and see if there's any trace of other demon beasts," said Leng Qing.

"I thought someone had already investigated it. Would it make any difference?" said Mo Fan.

White Town was the place of the outbreak, thus the government would have sent Magic Court people over. What could he possibly find there?

"If someone were purposely hiding the truth, or preventing people from finding the true cause, the government's efforts would have been in vain. I've already asked Lingling to go to White Town. You will regroup with her there. Remember, we don't have much time. Once the White Magic Falcons are driven back, Zhu Meng would surely come and kill the Black Totem Snake straight away. There's nothing we could do once the beast is dead, and it would be even harder to discover the truth," said Leng Qing sternly.

"So big sis was already investigating it. Don't worry, if there is indeed something fishy at White Town, I promise I'll find it!" declared Mo Fan, tapping his chest.

"Great, we'll move separately. Please find the truth before they return!" said Leng Qing.

"I've no clue where to start from. What shall I do first?" blurted out Mo Fan.

"I've already sent the information to Lingling. She will give you the debrief."

"Fine."

Leng Qing left quickly. Mo Fan still had no idea what important clue she had discovered a moment ago.

Either way, Mo Fan did agree that something was fishy about the whole incident. If there was more to the plague than what they were seeing on the surface, he was determined to unveil it.

Following Leng Qing's instructions, Mo Fan arrived at White Town after dark.

White Town was in a complete lockdown. Either entering or leaving the town was incredibly troublesome, very different from the situation a few days ago.

As Mo Fan was troubled trying to find a way to sneak into the town, he received a call from Lingling, who urged him to regroup with her at the main entrance.

As Mo Fan made his way toward the entrance that was heavily guarded, he saw Lingling wearing a black dress with flowers on it standing in a little corner. Her watery eyes were staring at Mo Fan, who had arrived late. Her extremely eye-catching double ponytails increased her charm tremendously. Mo Fan could not help but feel a great urge to hug her and rub her cheeks.

"I knew you wouldn't die so easily," Lingling was same as usual. She glanced at Mo Fan for a while, before a smile surfaced on her face.

"You're getting prettier," Mo Fan reached out his hand and pinched her cheek.

Lingling immediately twisted her lips. She hated someone pinching her cheeks the most. The girl who was like a little noble princess a moment ago instantly turned into a raging wild cat, reaching out her claws to scratch Mo Fan, as if she were determined to kill Mo Fan at the cost of her own life.

Mo Fan grabbed Lingling's head with his hand, preventing her arms and legs from reaching him. He chuckled and said, "Alright, time to focus on the real business."

"Humph, if you dare pinch me again, I'll chop your hands off!" Lingling squalled like a fierce cub.

"Your sister mentioned that she had given you some information. What was it?" asked Mo Fan.

"Mm, I was actually in charge of the operation, too! Around two months ago, she told me to look into a batch of blood serums being transferred around by the government. The blood serums were supplied to the rest stations, lines of defense and fortresses in Zhejiang Province. You do know that there are endless casualties from fighting demon beasts. Most hunters use a fifth of their income to buy blood serums, to prevent themselves from dying from excessive loss of blood in the wild. The rest stations,

lines of defense, and fortresses are places that require a huge amount of blood serums, too..." As usual, Lingling opened her mini laptop and placed it on her legs.

The blood serums were very common yet expensive medical supplies. They were normally used as blood supplies.

Magicians with Healing Magic were less common than other Elements. The Healers could not possibly look after every injured person. Therefore, the serums invented by the Healers were extremely important. Among them, the blood serums had the highest demand. After consuming a blood serum, a Magician's ability to produce new blood was ten times stronger. Most external wounds could be treated in a short period of time by consuming the blood serum and wrapping them up in bandages, assuming the wounds were not infected.

The blood serums were rather costly. Magicians who spent most of their time fighting in the wild would spend a part of their income on them, thus the providers of blood serums could easily make a huge profit off them...

"What about the blood serums?" asked Mo Fan.

"The blood serums are refined using a special type of blood obtained from demon beasts. The entire process is supposed to be under strict monitoring, and the products have to pass several tests before they are distributed to the rest stations, the military, or sold to the hunters or traders... My sister found out that someone tried to produce blood serums using a different ingredient to replace the special blood, which ended up producing a batch of defective blood serum," said Lingling.

"Black-hearted vendors?" said Mo Fan in a surprised tone.

"The Magic Association is in charge of the blood serums, and the government would also have a supply of them. It would be a lot easier if only the sellers were involved," said Lingling.

"Huh?" Mo Fan raised his brows.

Looks like we've got vermin in the government and the Magic Association, too!