Versatile 511

Versatile Mage (Web Novel)

Chapter 511: For the Sake of the Kid

Forgemasters were usually Lightning and Fire Magicians.

Since Mo Fan had both Fire and Lightning, he was considered extremely suitable to becoming a Forgemaster, but the art of forging was very profound. Not only would one need to learn lots of information about crafting and materials, including breaking them down, refining them, and then combining them, they would also need to choose their Soul Seeds wisely.

Mo Fan was not into learning life skills and spending his time on random stuff. He preferred killing monsters and PvP battles. Although he would save lots of money by becoming a Forgemaster himself, and he could even make a living doing it, it required a great investment of time. Mo Fan was already running short on time to cultivate, there was no way he would waste more time on other stuff.

His priority now was to improve his four Elements to the highest limit of the Intermediate Level, before he started thinking about breaking through to the Advanced Level!

After Mo Fan returned to school, he was granted the chance to cultivate inside the Three Step Tower for a day.

A single day was too short for Mo Fan. Even if he forcefully made his way to the third floor where the energy was more abundant, it would only stabilize the foundation of his Lightning Element. It was nowhere enough for him to break through.

As such, Mo Fan started to challenge those ranked in the top twenty.

The students in the top twenty were allowed to cultivate in the Three Step Tower for three days every month. Lately, he had spent most of his time on questing and exploring in the wild. His fighting capacity was fairly outstanding, but his cultivation was a lot weaker than those ranked higher on the leaderboard. After all, they were given three days to cultivate in the Three Step Tower every month. Those few days alone were enough to make a huge difference!

Mo Fan did not leave his house unless necessary for two months. Apart from meditating diligently, he also relied on the Three Step Tower to force a breakthrough, and finally managed to improve his Shadow Element Nebula to the second level.

Mo Fan's next target was the Lightning Element, which had idled at the second level for quite some time. He would find himself at a disadvantage against those whose two Elements had both achieved the third level.

The good news was, over the past two months, the little Flame Belle did grow slightly. In the past, Mo Fan only needed to open his hand for the little creature to sleep on his palm. Now, he needed two hands to hold her.

The little Flame Belle still looked like an adorable porcelain doll. If it weren't for the flames burning on her body, she would look no different than a little girl around the age of two.

"The Flame Belle is growing quite fast. However, I'll be challenging the guys in the top twenty next month. She's still too weak against them," Mo Fan said to himself with a frown as he sat at the Clearsky Hunter Agency' bar.

Each of the students ranked in the top twenty was a maniac. Mo Fan already felt the great pressure when he fought against those in the top fifty. As he prepared to challenge those in the top twenty, he was hoping to have more safety measures, in addition to the Black Snake Armor.

"The phases of a Contracted Beast are somewhat similar to a demon beast, which include the Youth Phase, the Adult Phase, and the Peak Phase. A creature with a weaker lineage will go through the phases much quicker. A creature like the One-eyed Magic Wolf only needs half a year to reach the Adult Phase from birth without the support of any item. It's even faster than an ordinary pet dog.

"Your Flame Belle's lineage is rather impressive; it has been two months, but she still hasn't reached the Youth Stage. She's still in her Infant Phase, despite the fact that she has already eaten lots of Soul Seed Pieces..." Lingling informed him as she flipped through the pages of a book.

"Not even the Youth Stage?" Mo Fan was left speechless.

"The growing pace of the creatures that sign a contract with Summoners is affected by the supply of energy your Nebula is providing. As such, the time it takes for her to grow is a lot shorter..." added Lingling.

"...you should just tell me how long she will need to reach the Youth Stage," Mo Fan rested his chin on his hand and wryly glanced at the little Flame Belle running happily along the bar's table.

The Flame Belle looked fairly plump, which was likely because she had been eating well for the past two months. She was almost like a little fireball, who would not feel any pain when falling to the ground. She could easily bounce half the distance she fell from back into the air!

"Based on my calculations, it would normally take her three to five years to grow from the Infant Phase to the Youth Phase. Her pace of growth is very similar to that of humans..." Lingling raised her fingers.

"Alright, I guess I've pretty much adopted a daughter. I'll be an old man when she finally has some great achievements!"

"You've been feeding her Soul Seed Pieces, which should shorten the time it takes to a third normal. This means she will only need around twelve to seventeen months to reach the Youth Phase. Her growing pace will be increased by another three times because of the energy from your Summoning Element. As a result, it should only take her four to five months to reach the Youth Phase, which means the shortest possible time for her to reach the Youth Phase is a month, or three months at the latest." Lingling instantly broke down the information like a king of data.

Mo Fan let out a relieved sigh. It was still acceptable after hearing the analysis. It would be troublesome if she needed three to five years to only reach the Youth Phase.

"Once she reaches the Youth Phase, you can start feeding her Soul Seeds," said Lingling.

"..." Mo Fan was speechless.

Twenty million for a tin of milk powder! How could he possibly afford to look after her?

"Of course a creature with stronger lineage needs a huge amount of resources, but the benefits you get in return are huge, too! I roughly estimate, based on the rate of growth from the amount of Soul Seed Pieces you're feeding her, the Flame Belle should be as strong as the Swift Star Wolf when she reaches the Youth Phase," added Lingling.

"Warrior-level at the Youth Phase?" Mo Fan was stunned.

"That's right, her strength will be Warrior-level during her Youth Phase," Lingling declared confidently.

Mo Fan was speechless for quite some time!

The Swift Star Wolf was already in his Adult Phase, yet his strength was around the early Warrior-level stage, still some distance away from the stronger Warrior-level creatures.

Despite that, even a Fire Magician in the top one hundred would have trouble fighting against him alone!

According to Lingling, the Flame Belle's strength would be around the middle stage of the Warrior-level when she reached the Youth Phase, which meant that those ranked in the top fifty would not be able to defeat her, without him needing to do anything!

Youth Phase, that was only the Youth Phase!

- Doesn't that mean when the little Flame Belle reached the Peak Phase, or even the Adult Phase, even the Commander-level creatures would have to avoid her?!-

"Come, have some Soul Seed Pieces, your dad is loaded with money, you can have as many Soul Seed Pieces as you want, eat more," Mo Fan took out a handful of Soul Seed Pieces from his pocket.

The Soul Seed Pieces were all that remained from those they had collected from the Burning Valley. Mo Fan could not wait to let the little Flame Belle eat them, even though each piece was more expensive than diamonds, just so she could reach the Youth Phase earlier...

The little Flame Belle ate the Soul Seed Pieces like chocolate. She bit half of each piece and on munched it with puffed cheeks. Her eyes were squinted like fiery crescents as she indulged happily.

Mo Fan fondled the little Flame Belle's head with a smile on his face.

"A rich merchant's mansion is haunted, the reward is one million. Are you interested?"

"Yes!"

"A group of herb vendors wants to get some herbs outside of the safe zone. They're asking for a Magician to escort them. The reward is great, but they are only asking for a Hunter Master. Are you interested?"

"Aren't you a Hunter Master? Accept it!"

Mo Fan was extremely pumped. As long as the quest gave money as a reward, he accepted all of them without hesitation, regardless of their difficulty.

It was all for the sake of the kid!

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Chapter 512: Beheading the Darkwing Wolf!

Late night...

The city that was normally lit up with dazzling lights somehow seemed quiet in the midst of the icy wind.

Inside the apartment, Mo Fan pushed the door open tiredly and glanced at the clothes, packages of snacks, and socks that were scattered across the floor...

Not in the mood to tidy them up, Mo Fan toppled over onto the bed and fell asleep.

The quest put up by the herb vendors was extremely difficult. If it weren't for his Black Snake Armor, it might have been the end of him.

Either way, he did not let the Clearsky Hunter Agency down, and managed to complete the quest.

Mo Fan had totally expended all his energy, thus he went to bed straightaway, without realizing that the window was open.

He slept throughout the night and was woken up by the blinding sunlight slapping him to the face.

The little Flame Belle woke up earlier than Mo Fan. She was walking around on the bed, and would trample Mo Fan's face at times. Her fiery feet left scorched marks on his face, waking him up from his half-asleep state.

Mo Fan picked up the naughty Flame Belle and flicked her forehead. The little creature immediately cried out and waved her limbs in the air wildly.

Mo Fan finally calmed her down after feeding her a Soul Seed Piece, before falling back onto the bed after feeling how sore he was.

A few seconds later, Mo Fan flung the blanket open and stared at the clean room in bewilderment.

He might be worn out, but it did not give him amnesia. Mo Fan clearly remembered how messy his room was prior to going to sleep. Why did it completely change after a night? He could still detect a faint pleasant scent lingering in the room.

Mo Fan glanced at the little Flame Belle who was munching her 'chocolate' in confusion, before shaking his head in disagreement. It would be a relief if she didn't burn the room down around him. How could she possibly tidy it up? Since Xinxia had left, he had not cleaned up. Lots of unsightly stuff had stacked up over the past two months...

"Liu Ru?" Mo Fan suddenly recalled something. He glanced at the closed window.

Mo Fan touched his neck and felt something piercing him slightly. He looked into the mirror and discovered a tiny kiss on his neck. There was no hole...

Liu Ru seemed to know that Mo Fan had gone through some tough battles, thus he was extremely worn out. She did not drink his blood.

Over the past two months, Mo Fan was aware that his neck would sprout tiny holes every now and then.

He was guessing it was Liu Ru. She seemed to only be able to drink only his blood to stay alive, yet she was not willing to face him, thus she would only visit him while he was asleep...

She never overdid it, and never showed the greed of a vampire. For a healthy human, losing some blood would actually promote blood circulation, like donating it. Liu Ru would always control her desire without affecting Mo Fan's health.

Looking at the closed window and the mark on his neck, Mo Fan let out a wry smile.

Mo Fan knew she was still in the city, and watching over him secretly. However, Mo Fan never thought she would choose this path.

Even though she would need to drink his blood in order to survive, she was still unwilling to step into his world and disturb his life...

The Nanling Mountains...

Even when one was flying high up in the sky, there was no visible end to the mountains.

Two pairs of Wind Wings spread open, gliding below the layer of the clouds. The wings slashed the white clouds apart, leaving an obvious trail behind.

The owner of the wings was a long-haired man with a stubbled face. He was wearing a torn military jacket, dried blood stains on it.

Below him was a boundless mountain range, glowing eyes poking out between the trees and staring at the human who dared to trespass over their territory. However, despite a great number of demon wolves having gathered, none of them dared to attack the human... because the human was holding an enormous wolf head in his right hand!

The wolf head had two horns and lines indicating a noble lineage on its forehead. Its fangs were exposed to the air.

It was beheaded around the middle part of its neck, blood still coming out from the cut, dripping onto the mountains. As the human flew forward, it left a trail of blood on the ground, from one mountain to the next!

The demon wolves living in the area did not dare to try and kill the human, as the head he was holding in his hand belonged to their ruler, the Darkwing Wolf!

The man had invaded the demon wolves' territory, and ended up bringing the Darkwing Wolf's head back to Bo City.

When the hero Zhan Kong arrived at Bo City, the civilians found themselves tearing up, their hearts filled with respect toward the Battlemage.

"Zhan Kong, you have disobeyed your orders. Didn't I tell you that we'd find some way to eliminate the Demon Wolves Horde, but you insisted on doing it your own way. If you die, Bo City will be in danger..." scolded the new Commander protecting Bo City, Jiang Yu.

Zhan Kong threw the Darkwing Wolf's head to the ground and said coldly, "If I continue to wait for a coward like you to do it, how long will it take before the dead of Bo City finds their peace?"

"What did you say!" snapped Jiang Yu.

"You can punish me however you want, I'll accept it when the time comes." Zhan Kong did not stop there. His Wind Wings prepared to send him back into the sky.

"Where are you going!?" snapped Jiang Yu when he saw that Zhan Kong was not paying any attention to him.

"I"m going to look for Salan," said Zhan Kong.

"The Black Vatican's Red Cardinal?" Jiang Yu was stunned.

Salan! A name that would make many authorities of the Magic Associations shiver in fear!

Zhan Kong did not explain further. He flew into the distance despite the injuries to his body...

The greatest threat to Bo City had been eliminated, thus he would leave the rest to Jiang Yu.

Zhan Kong's eyes were staring to the northwest, filled with murderous intent.

Not only did Zhan Kong kill the Darkwing Wolf at the Nanling Mountains, he had also discovered a shocking conspiracy!

Bo City was never Salan's real target!

"Yu'Er, if I can survive this, I'll look for you under the gaps of Tianshan Mountain...

"If not, please forgive me for not keeping my promise."

"You know I, Zhan Kong, am never intimidated by anyone, but this Salan, his evil is something that no one has ever seen before. The fear he brings is enough to penetrate my bones..."

Zhan Kong wore a dark expression, his hand clenched tightly around a broken necklace.

The sky and the ground were connected into one. The road ahead was filled with uncertainty.

He knew that the closer he was to that person, the closer he would be to death, but he was left with no choice. His figure grew smaller as he flew into the distance on his hunt...

Versatile Mage (Web Novel)

Chapter 513: Huang Ranking

...

"Such an annoying Electric Field, my Ferocious Ant Scorpion can't get close to him!"

Dongfang Ming was anxious now.

Back at Hangzhou, he had been destroyed by this guy's fourth-tier Basic Spell. Now that he was being challenged by him in a ranking battle, he felt like the fight was even harder!

Dongfang Ming had purposely traded his Wing Equipment for an outstanding suit of armor to prepare himself for the duel, as it served as a guarantee that he would be able to face Mo Fan's Basic Spell.

However, not only did Mo Fan not use his Fire Spell, he had used his fourth-tier Lightning Strike to create an Electric Field. Dongfang Ming's second Element was the Summoning Element, yet it was completely useless against Mo Fan!

His Ferocious Ant Scorpion was a unique Summoned Beast.

The fighting ability of a single Ferocious Ant Scorpion was similar to that of a Servant-class creature, but even a Warrior-level creature would have to back off when fighting against a pack of Ferocious Ant Scorpions.

Dongfang Ming's Contracted Beast was the Ferocious Ant Scorpion Warrior. Its strength was nothing outstanding, but he was able to summon more than twenty of them at once to attack his target.

It was basically Dongfang Ming's trump card, one that he had prepared specifically to fight against Mo Fan...

Unfortunately, he did not realize that Mo Fan was not afraid of a group fight.

The fourth-tier Lightning Strike was basically a tiny Domain. Mo Fan was able to abuse the Electric Field to prevent himself from being flanked back when he fought the Giant Lizards. The number of the Ferocious Ant Scorpions was not as great as the Giant Lizards, hence there was no reason for Mo Fan to be afraid!

"The nineteenth rank is mine!" A smile blossomed on Mo Fan's face.

"Thunderbolt!"

He pointed his finger at the sky, triggering a thunderbolt to descend out of nowhere and strike Dongfang Ming's ocean blue armor.

The lightning blasted the thick armor open. Arcs splintered into the surroundings. Dongfang Ming's height somehow shortened; he turned out to have dropped to his knees from the overwhelming impact!

Dongfang Ming's legs were trembling badly. The armor had already blocked a few Lightning Strikes for him, and had finally gone over its limit. The energy of the lightning penetrated his body through the gaps of the armor. He could feel his bones almost falling apart!

He could not accept his defeat. Dongfang Ming initially thought he could redeem himself from the humiliation he had suffered in Hangzhou, yet he had lost once again!

The truth was, Dongfang Ming had an innate talent, which allowed him to draw Star Patterns for the Fire Element twice as fast as ordinary Magician. It was a huge advantage for him, which together with his rich background was enough to secure him a spot in the top three in Pearl Institute. However, he was stuck at rank nineteen instead.

After losing the battle, he had no choice but to hand over his nineteenth rank. Meanwhile, his rank dropped all the way to forty-fifth!

"That lazy prick lost, just as I thought," smiled a young man in the spectator seats.

"Dongfang Lie, how long will it take for you to defeat this Double Innate Elements guy?" said Zhou Shuming beside him.

Dongfang Lie raised his head as if he were in a deep thought. A few seconds later, he finally spoke up, "Based on what he has shown until now... probably one or two rounds of attacks."

Zhou Shuming was startled, before he burst out laughing and tapped Dongfang Lie on the shoulder, "I'll remember that."

"It doesn't mean anything, since there are a few more behind me who he can't surpass. I don't think you'll see me defeating him anytime soon," said Dongfang Lie.

"True, but I have something to tell you, related to this Double Innate Elements kid," said Zhou Shuming.

"Oh?" Dongfang Lie raised his eyebrows.

"He has taken a provisional spot," said Zhou Shuming mysteriously.

"The selection hasn't started yet. How could he possibly get a spot?" Dongfang Lie was not too happy at the news.

Even with his strength, he was not qualified to get a provisional spot. There was no way this Double Innate Elements guy was able to do so!

"Councilman Zhu Meng, the Lingyin Enforcement Union, and Hangzhou's City Council all recommended him. I only heard about it coincidentally," said Zhou Shuming.

"Sounds like a big shot."

"Not really, I've already investigated his background. He was only extremely lucky to help Hangzhou resolve a plague. The Enforcement Union is inclined to recommend him as a candidate for the Huang Ranking. If there isn't any young Magician that has a higher achievement than him, he's most likely going to enter," said Zhou Shuming.

Dongfang Lie finally withdrew his scornful attitude. He glanced at Mo Fan, who was walking down from the dueling ground.

The Huang Ranking! This guy was a provisional candidate of the Huang Ranking?!

There were many talented young Magicians in a country, and most of them went to different famous schools in different places. Normally, it was difficult for them to get the chance to fight against one another. Therefore, how would people evaluate their talents?

Each Element in the schools had their own rankings, while some had rankings for the entire school. Meanwhile, the Hunter Union had the Hunter Ranking...

These rankings were only applicable to their respective environments. It was not enough to become the standard for evaluating one's strength. As a result, the Magic Associations across the five continents had constructed four rankings, designed through precise filtering and evaluation!

The four World Rankings, which were translated into: Tian, Di, Xuan, and Huang!

The Tian Ranking, Di Ranking, and Xuan Ranking consisted of experts from different levels. Most of the Magicians listed on these rankings had wide reputations and outstanding strength. Mu Dao, whom Shi Gua had sworn his loyalty to, was a Magician of the Xuan Ranking. Even without any title, his status was on par with a Councilman.

The Huang Ranking, on the other hand, was for young Magicians.

Protecting the Underground Holy Spring during Bo City's calamity, wiping out the Black Vatican in Shanghai, and resolving the plague of Hangzhou City; Mo Fan was involved, and even played a critical role in all of them.

The Huang Ranking would update once every four years, and the Magician recommended to be listed on the Huang Ranking in the China region was... Mo Fan!

Basically, Mo Fan already had a spot reserved in the World College Tournament. Most importantly, his name was submitted to the National Magic Association, and after going through the Asia Continent Magic Association, his name would be listed on the Huang Ranking.

Mo Fan was pretty much a grass-roots Magician. He would never learn about the four World Rankings if no one told him about them.

To an extent, he would not even know he was already quite famous among the young Magicians in the country. Once the announcement regarding the change of Huang Ranking was made, even those from other countries would learn about him.

Both Zhou Shuming and Dongfang Lie considered themselves among the top talents among young Magicians in the country. They were eagerly anticipating taking part in the World College Tournament and entering the Huang Ranking. When they learned the guy with Double Innate Elements had already secured a spot in both of them, it was difficult for them to laugh at him anymore!

<u>Versatile Mage (Web Novel)</u>

Chapter 514: Innate Talen

"Can't do anything about that, his contributions are not replicable. I'm sure that you're feeling the same way as I am. What right does a guy who struggles to secure the nineteenth rank have to step on us?" laughed Zhou Shuming.

Dongfang Lie went silent for a while, before he said with a smile, "Things aren't that complicated. Both the World College Tournament and the Huang Ranking evaluates one based on their strength. We just need to defeat him. The people of the Magic Association will also take a defeat in the school's ranking into account."

"You're right. I've never heard of anyone listed on the Huang Ranking being crushed by his opponents at school! His contributions to society might be impressive, but he's too weak to be listed on the ranking!" Zhou Shuming was relieved after he heard Dongfang Lie's words.

Mo Fan had no idea someone was already targeting him. Through the repeated duels, he realized that his strength was not too outstanding. He had to rely on the Three Step Tower to improve his cultivation. Otherwise, he would lose horribly against those with half a foot into the Advanced Level!

After Mo Fan secured the nineteenth spot, he was granted the chance to train in the Three Step Tower for five days.

Mo Fan focused on cultivating his Lightning Element Nebula.

Mo Fan went to the third floor of the Three Step Tower and barely stayed there for two days. He finally improved his Lightning Nebula to the third level after crazily absorbing the Lightning Element there.

As for the remaining three days, he focused on the Shadow Element.

His Shadow Element had remained stagnant for quite some time. To his relief, he was able to improve his Shadow Element to the second level before the period of five days came to an end...

If his cultivation had not dropped a level because of him demonizing, he would not have fallen so far behind compared to those ranked in the top twenty. All four of his Elements would have reached the third level!

Mo Fan had many Elements, thus he had to spend extra effort to cultivate them. For those ranked higher up in the ranking, spending a longer time in the Three Step Tower would not benefit them as much, yet Mo Fan was still focusing on improving his other Elements. His Fire Element, which was currently at the third level, was not able to benefit as much as it did when he first entered the Three Step Tower. However, both the Shadow Element and the Summoning Element were being cultivated in the Three Step Tower for the first time, so the results were fairly impressive.

Mo Fan had to climb higher up in the rankings so he could cultivate in the Three Step Tower longer, just so all his four Elements could improve at the same time!

The Flame Belle's growth rate would increase to fourfold when his Summoning Element reached the second level.

This was extremely important to Mo Fan, as the quicker the Flame Belle was able to reach her Adolescent Phase, the faster he would have a Ruler-level Contracted Beast!

His Lightning Element was currently at the third level, while the Shadow Element was at the second level. The next time he visited the Three Step Tower, he would improve his Summoning Element to the second level!

Mo Fan was in a good mood when he came out from the Three Step Tower.

He had spent most of his time training in the wild, and was fairly experienced at battle and completing missions, unlike the Magicians who cultivated at school most of the time. As such, the benefits he received during every visit to the Three Step Tower were relatively impressive, too.

It was similar to a Martial Artist... the Three Step Tower was like rinsing their body in herbs.

Although rising their body in herbs every day did improve their physical attributes, it was not as significant as the hidden potential awakened by those who fought a series of battles, then rinsed bodies stained with sweat and blood in herbs.

As such, lately, whenever Mo Fan visited the Three Step Tower, his cultivation would improve!

Both his Fire and Lightning were at the third level, and the reason why Mo Fan was able to fight against students higher on the ranking. His next step was to improve his Summoning Element to the second level.

The Summoning Element was the one that Mo Fan had spent the least amount of time on. As such, he would need to spend at least seven days in the Three Step Tower to improve it to the second level in one go.

Only those ranked in the top ten were given a chance to cultivate in the Three Step Tower for seven days!

"Mo Fan, are you sure you're not going to take it slowly? Trying to jump from rank nineteen to ten is a bit ambitious!" Ai Tutu warned him seriously when she learned of his intentions.

"Each rank in the top thirty is difficult enough, let alone jumping from nineteenth to tenth. You should try fighting rank fifteen first before going any further," Mu Nujiao shared the same thoughts as Ai Tutu. Mo Fan was definitely being too aggressive!

Mu Nujiao's strength had improved at a crazy rate over the past year as well. She was now ranked forty-seventh in the Plant School, and still climbing her way up.

Mu Nujiao thought she was fast at climbing the ranks. Meanwhile, Mo Fan was trying to get into the top ten!

Those ranked in top ten, if she could describe them... they were simply a bunch of monsters!

"That's wasting too much time! The earlier I can get into top ten, the earlier I can get my hands on the resources... they give lots of Soul Seed Pieces, too. You have no idea how poor I am right now," Mo Fan smiled wryly, glaring at the little Flame Belle playing with his hair!

"I can't say otherwise... from what I know, everyone in the top ten has their own innate talent. If you want to challenge them, you should learn what their innate talents are beforehand," Mu Nujiao advised when she realized that she could not convince Mo Fan otherwise.

"Innate talents?"

"Mm, something similar to your Double Innate Elements. Even though they aren't as bizarre as your Double Innate Elements, those who are ranked higher usually have greater innate talents," said Mu Nujiao.

Now that Mu Nujiao had mentioned it, Mo Fan finally recalled that Dongfang Ming also had an innate talent, which allowed him to draw the Star Patterns at twice the speed of everyone else... However, the guy was too lazy, he did not utilize the potential of his outstanding innate talent.

Innate talents were fairly rare to come by. Normally, those who had one would have a huge advantage over others if they were not putting it to waste. Mo Fan had yet to encounter many who had one, but on second thought, he was now at the Pearl Institute, one of the most famous Magic Institutes in the country. Therefore, it was reasonable to find all sorts of maniacs here...

Most of those ranked in the top ten had an innate talent!

No wonder people kept telling him that it was impossible to win against those in the top ten. Their innate talents had already given them a huge advantage, and if they actually worked hard, how could other Magicians stand any chance against them?

According to Mu Nujiao, since Mo Fan was still a new student, even with his dominating innate talent, there was no rush to challenge the top ten students, as they were most likely seniors in the school, who had taken control of the resources for many years.

They had outstanding cultivations, a full set of equipment, and Soul Seeds for both their Elements. They were basically unbeatable at the Intermediate Level. If he were to stumble into one with an innate talent, he basically had no chance of winning!

Versatile Mage (Web Novel)

Chapter 515: My Opponent is Ding Yumian?

The cultivation regression as a side effect of demonizing had resulted in Mo Fan struggling to keep up with the others.

Mo Fan did not want to waste any more of his time, so he still decided to challenge the top ten students.

Mo Fan's challenge startled the entire Fire School. The news spread crazily fast, and the next thing Mo Fan knew, everyone had given him the title, 'Rank-climbing Demon King'!

Among the newer students, Mu Nujiao had been the fastest at climbing the ranking. She was the only one in the top fifty, yet when compared to the Demon King, she was forty ranks behind!

"Mo Fan, do you seriously have to go so far? I'm still ranked above two hundred. Where will my face be when you enter the top ten?" Zhao Manyan said in despair.

"Forget about climbing the ranking," mocked Mo Fan.

What Elements did this guy have?

Light and Water! Mo Fan knew that most people who Awakened one of these two Elements ended up going to the balcony!

{TL Note: Going to the balcony is slang to describe those who are miserable and thinking of commiting suicide.}

If anything, Mo Fan believed that he would have a hard time defeating Zhao Manyan in a battle, but... everyone else would have the same trouble, too.

He was pretty much a turtle with a hard shell. The only way he could win was to wait until his opponent expended all his energy!

It was truly a miracle that he had managed to secure his current rank. Mo Fan found it interesting trying to picture the students' expressions when they were challenged by him.

"I aim to participate in the World College Tournament. I could not care less about the ranking here," Zhao Manyan said proudly.

"Is the World College Tournament fun?" Mo Fan asked.

"It's not just fun. Once you're selected, the school will sponsor you on a trip to other countries for training. Think about it: not only will your team have a few beauties, you will also meet the hotties from other countries. Therefore, even if you lost all the battles at the City of Water, Venice, you will still become a legend, spreading your seed across the world!" Zhao Manyan plotted ambitiously.

"Spreading my seed across the world!" Mo Fan felt himself lighting up when he heard those words.

Zhao Manyan was truly insightful. Just preying on the beauties in his own country was far from a permanent solution, since there were so many girls across the world waiting for them... mm, mm, the World College Tournament, it was very exciting!

"Alright, it's decided then. Let's fight our way to the World College Tournament!" Mo Fan reached an agreement with Zhao Manyan instantly.

What difference was there between a man without goals and a salted fish? {TL Note: A famous line from Stephen Chow's movie}

Mo Fan suddenly had a new life goal when he learned the benefits of taking part in the World College Tournament from Zhao Manyan!

"The selection for the World College Tournament is pretty tough. Even our Pearl Institute only has limited spots available, but you won't need to worry about that, since you're already a provisional

candidate. As for me, I'll have to work a lot harder. If I fail to secure a spot, I'll miss the chance to enjoy the dazzling world with its myriad temptations," said Zhao Manyan.

"Oh, I almost forgot about that. Dean Xiao did mention it to me before..." Mo Fan finally recalled he did have a spot already. He was basically set for the World College Tournament.

"You are the true winner of Hangzhou's plague; why wasn't I as lucky as you?"

"Lucky?" Mo Fan was left speechless. Either the Silver Skyruler or the Black Totem Snake could smash him into minced meat with a single slap. If it happened all over again, Mo Fan would never involve himself in it!

The unique season had arrived again: the time when people would wear T-shirts, sweaters, slippers, and boots. As they passed by one another on the street, they would all assume other people were idiots.

At this time, all you needed was pure confidence. Despite the falling snow under the bright sun, and the chilly nights across the seasons, you only needed to stay perfectly calm, until the others began to doubt their own attire, and felt skeptical about their lives!

Mo Fan was a man of confidence, not because he had the Fire Element, but because the Flame Belle was equivalent to a small portable furnace. She was pretty much her dad's caring little blanket... so caring that not only did she burn someone's breakfast stall, she even burned the money he was paying to compensate the loss into ashes, leaving Mo Fan absolutely bewildered!

"Off you go, I'll remember you," said the woman who was the owner of the breakfast stall sternly.

"I promise I'll pay tomorrow!" Mo Fan grabbed the little Flame Belle and apologized.

"Guess I'll be taking a day off today. I heard that you're challenging someone in the top ten in the Fire School. Bring my son with you to the duel so he could learn a thing or two from the battle between two talented Magicians, and I'll forgive you for burning my stall today," said the owner who was holding a spatula in her hand.

"Not a problem... err, even you know about that?" Mo Fan's eyes widened.

Wasn't he just challenging someone in the top ten? Why would the owner of a breakfast stall know about it? Wasn't that a bit too exaggerated?

"You can find any kind of news here at my breakfast stall. Most of them are first-hand too, since the students often gather here to eat breakfast..." the owner said proudly.

Mo Fan had been eating his breakfast here lately, thus he eventually became close with the owner.

However, he had overdone it today. The Flame Belle had been misbehaving lately too, unable to control her flames properly, setting everything she saw on fire, including Mo Fan's debit card. He had no choice but to request a replacement one from the bank.

Most importantly, the little Flame Belle was in a bad mood, too. He did not even scold her, but merely mentioned her misbehavior, but the Flame Belle was already promising to run away from home. As a

result, Mo Fan could only comfort the little Flame Belle who had burned the breakfast stall by saying, "You've improved this month, burning one less stall compared to last month."

The little Flame Belle finally returned to the Contracted Space happily to take a nap.

Mo Fan immediately let out a relieved sigh after she was gone. What had happened to her lately, was she possessed by the Eight-Nation Alliance?!

{TL Note: I think the author is trying to refer to the burning down of the Old Summer Palace, which for some reason many people mistakenly thought the Eight-Nation Alliance was responsible for. The truth was, it was burned down by the English and French during the Second Opium War.}

Mo Fan was clearly aware of the abnormal gazes the students were casting at him when he arrived at the Fire School.

He could vaguely tell that everyone had tagged him with 'the guy asking for a death wish'. If the tags could somehow be materialized, Mo Fan felt like they would cover his entire body like a mummy...

Mo Fan continued to show his usual calm and confidence. He was preoccupied with the strange behavior of the Flame Belle and the time left until he had the chance to enter the Three Step Tower again.

"Are you done researching?" Ai Tutu's voice suddenly interjected into his thoughts. Mo Fan almost thought he went into the wrong class.

"Why are you here?" Mo Fan glanced at Ai Tutu and Mu Nujiao in surprise.

"Waiting to see you getting smashed... Don't change the topic, have you found out what your opponent's innate talent is?" said Ai Tutu.

"What innate talent?" Mo Fan seemed lost.

Mu Nujiao rolled her eyes and said sternly, "Didn't we tell you that most of the students in the top ten have innate talents?"

"I knew this maniac wouldn't prepare for it. I've done the research for you. Ding Yumian's innate talent is..." Ai Tutu smiled.

"Ding Yumian is my opponent?" interrupted Mo Fan in astonishment.

Mu Nujiao and Ai Tutu almost lost their minds when they heard his exclamation. Even now, this idiot still didn't know who his opponent was?!

Versatile Mage (Web Novel)

Chapter 516: Mo Fan versus Ding Yumian

Mu Nujiao and Ai Tutu never wanted to talk to Mo Fan again. This idiot had not listened to their warning or advice at all!

Top ten, top ten, top ten, he's challenging someone in the top ten, not just some random rookie. Is he really that brainless not to even look at his opponent's name when he sent out the challenge?!

"Calm down, calm down... hehe," blurted out Mo Fan when he saw the outraged reaction from the two girls.

"Let's go, let him suffer himself!" The angry Mu Nujiao grabbed Ai Tutu and left.

"Humph, we even wanted to collect the information for you, I can't wait to see you being defeated by a girl!" Ai Tutu did not show any mercy either.

Mo Fan felt his balls hurting. He simply wrote his opponent's rank down without caring who the person was. He never knew the goddess of their Fire School was the expert ranked tenth... great...

It's all the Flame Belle's fault. Mo Fan felt like he was losing his sanity lately. Raising a kid was indeed tough!

"Mo Fan, I'm telling you, don't you think that you're good just because you successfully challenged the whole Fire School. The students in the top ten are completely different than the students lower than one hundredth rank. Ding Yumian's strength is actually stronger than her current rank. You're dead for sure trying to challenge her!" Huang Xingli walked up and slammed her hand on Mo Fan's desk.

"It doesn't hurt to try," said Mo Fan hollowly.

"Try? Who do you think our Ding Yumian is, for you to practice on? Those who want to challenge her have to consider for a month before sending out the notice!" yelled Huang Xingli.

"..." Mo Fan was speechless. He could not help but shake his head when he saw Huang Xingli's furious face. It seemed like he had offended... three and a half girls today...

A huge crowd had gathered outside of the dueling ground. Normally, the duels related to someone in the top ten would attract lots of spectators, including Magicians from outside of the school.

However, the dueling ground was not open to the public. Not everyone was allowed to enter.

Mo Fan was rather famous due to his outstanding performance among the new students. Apart from earning the title Demon King, he even challenged the entire Fire School after he somehow came back to life. The news about his Double Innate Elements was spread widely too, thus many had come to watch his duel...

However, more students had come to watch Ding Yumian. Not only was she ranked top ten in the Fire School, she was also one of the Pearl Institute's top ten beauties.

People in China simply liked to create lists of top ten for everything: top ten experts of Pearl Institute, top ten most handsome men in Pearl Institute, top ten beauties of Pearl Institute, etc.

Ding Yumian was easily qualified to enter the list, and was quite famous due to her outstanding strength, too.

The news about the Demon King challenging the goddess of the Fire School spread wildly among the students, and even the owner of the breakfast stall knew about it, so it was not surprising that the dueling ground was crowded with people.

Mr. Qiu Yuhua immediately came over when he saw that Mo Fan was stirring up a scene again. He asked curiously when he saw that Mo Fan was still not heading for the stage, "Mo Fan, why are you still outside? You're the main protagonist today, many people are waiting for you."

"I'll go in a second," replied Mo Fan.

"Alright, your opponent is quite strong today. Try not to lose too hard..." Mr. Qiu Yuhua clapped on Mo Fan's shoulder.

Not long after Qiu Yuhua entered the place, Mo Fan brought a young man around the age of eighteen into the dueling ground.

The young man seemed rather inexperienced with huge occasions like this. He looked quite nervous and excited, and seemed to have lots of questions, yet was not sure how to ask them.

As the two entered the dueling ground, Mo Fan realized that there were more spectators than he had expected. Almost every seat in every row was filled up.

There were duels every day, yet the place was pretty much empty when other students were participating in the duels. At times, there would only be one student as a spectator to testify to the outcome of the battle.

However, it was a different story for the duels that involved students in the top ten. Those were spectacular sights.

On top of that, the top ten students were highly respected outside of the school, too. Any change to the ranking would attract the attention of lots of people!

The barrier was established. Ding Yumian seemed to treat the duel more seriously than Mo Fan. She was already on the stage when Mo Fan arrived, like a beautiful white rose, innocent yet glamorous. Her hair that was tied up in a bun, with fringes hanging in front of her chest, every bit as attractive as usual!

If Mo Fan knew Ding Yumian was ranked tenth, he would have skipped her and challenged the ninth rank instead...

A beautiful woman would naturally have a weakening aura, stopping her opponent from being too harsh on her. Mo Fan was a man who had protective feelings for the fairer sex. He was aiming to get stronger by winning the duels, hence he preferred not to be restricted by his principles.

Most interestingly, it felt like Ding Yumian was able to read Mo Fan's mind. Her pale face wore a determined look as she said to Mo Fan, "You better use all your strength."

Mo Fan was astonished. Was his expression really so obvious? Or, was the woman so good at reading one's expression?

Mo Fan finally knew the reason when the duel began. His intention to go easy on the girl was gone instantly, as his expression was replaced by a stern look!

"Soul Impact!"

Ding Yumian was extremely fast at drawing her Star Pattern. The unique energy of the Psychic Element struck Mo Fan's mind fiercely while the judge's voice was still echoing in the noisy dueling ground.

Mo Fan initially planned to use his fourth-tier Lightning Strike to secure the advantage. To his surprise, his opponent was faster. The Soul Impact immediately interrupted his channeling, leaving him dazzled for around two seconds.

"Psychic Element, f**k me!" cursed Mo Fan.

Mo Fan had just learned how powerful the Psychic Element was a while ago. He never thought he would instantly bump into a powerful Psychic Magician in his first duel against someone in the top ten!

The scariest thing about a strong Psychic Magician was their casting speed. If her Soul Impact was faster than every Spell he had, he would never be able to cast an effective Spell throughout the entire battle!

Mo Fan's style was pure brute force. His outstanding Basic Spells had helped him to dominate opponents with similar strength to him. However, if he could not even finish drawing a Star Pattern, he was pretty much useless!

"Swift Star-"

"Soul Impact!"

"-Wolf...wolf, f**k me!"

Mo Fan immediately had a bad feeling.

Mo Fan was trying to summon the Swift Star Wolf to lift the burden of not being able to cast any Spell, yet he did not even have the chance to cast a Basic Summoning Spell!

He was seriously in a bad position!

Versatile Mage (Web Novel)

Chapter 517: Unrestrained Innate Talen

Mo Fan had overdone it this time!

He finally knew how dumb it was not to research his opponent before the battle. However, even if he knew about her Psychic Element, he would only be less surprised and miserable. Either way, he was totally clueless about how to fight against a Psychic Magician!

Ding Yumian's casting speed was extremely fast, almost instantaneous. Mo Fan could not even draw the Star Orbits, let alone the Star Patterns!

No wonder the girl was able to roughly read his mind, the Psychic Element made her almost unbeatable in most duels.

"Fiery Fist!"

Ding Yumian did not give Mo Fan any chance to cast his Fire Spells. Meanwhile, she took hold of the opportunity to finish a Fire Element Star Pattern while Mo Fan was still affected by the Soul Impact.

Her fringes drifted in the wind before her forehead as a surge of heat energy spread out from the center of the dueling ground to the edges of the boundary. A huge fiery bracelet appeared on her wrist following a groan.

As the Fiery Fist approached Mo Fan, the Spell somehow covered a greater surface area than usual, looming over an area a few tens of meters wide across from where Mo Fan was standing.

"How is her Fiery Fist covering such a huge area?" Mo Fan cried out in astonishment.

He was around a hundred meters away from Ding Yumian. Normally, a Fiery Fist could mostly cover an area with a diameter of twenty meters from a hundred meters away. However, Mo Fan discovered that even though the diameter of the Fiery Fist was not as crazy as forty meters across, the area it covered was still significantly bigger!

It was impossible for him to escape from the Fiery Fist's range with his bare feet.

Mo Fan, who had no chance of casting any Spell, was forced to activate the Blood Tabi. Despite that, the flames still managed to reach Mo Fan, who just made it out of the range of the Spell, as he clenched his teeth from the pain of the burn!

He managed to dodge the attack, yet his forehead was covered in sweat when he looked back and saw the burning pit with a diameter of close to forty meters.

"Is this her innate talent? The area of her Fire Spell was almost double that of any ordinary Magician!"

Mo Fan was astounded. He did not dare to underestimate his opponent any further.

That being said, him being serious did not make any difference at all. Ding Yumian's fighting style was invincible...

Mo Fan was able to dodge the attacks while his Blood Tabi was still effective, but once it was on cooldown, he would have a hard time dodging her Fiery Fist.

"Fiery Fist: Nine Halls!"

Normally, Ding Yumian was like a fragile water lily, but her temperament when fighting was imposing and aggressive, not giving Mo Fan any chance to catch his breath.

She had begun to draw a Star Pattern once again. The outline of the Star Pattern was already completed under her feet. With only a few more strokes to finish the remaining Star Orbits, she would awaken the formidable power of the Nine Halls!

The effect of the Soul Impact finally wore off. However, when Mo Fan was finally able to cast a Spell, Ding Yumian would be less than seconds away from completing her channeling. The time was nowhere enough for him to cast an Intermediate Spell...

Mo Fan only had a chance to cast a Basic Spell. When he saw Ding Yumian on the verge of completing the Fiery Fist: Nine Halls, Mo Fan almost lost his calm and used his Shadow Element.

The Fleeing Shadow was his only chance to escape to somewhere safe...

"No way, I won't use my trump card even if I lose the battle!" Mo Fan forfeited the thought of using his Shadow Element in front of the crowd. He drew the Star Pattern of the Summoning Element at his fastest speed.

"Dimensional Summoning: Swift Star Wolf!"

Seven lunar-white Stars appeared before Mo Fan. A gap was torn apart as the Stars were joined together in orbits.

A magnificent wolf leapt out from the gap. His starry blue hair drifted elegantly in the heat wave.

"Stop howling, start running!" Mo Fan yelled at the Swift Star Wolf who was still trying to declare his presence.

The just-arrived Swift Star Wolf was totally clueless about the situation. However, when he saw a woman not far away slamming her Fiery Fist full of energy onto the ground, and he sensed the overwhelming energy below the ground, he immediately fled into the distance!

The Fire Pillars were twice as thick of the normal Fiery Fist: Nine Halls. The fiery flames surged ferociously as the Fire Pillars rose into the air from the ground!

The Fiery Fist: Nine Halls was a destructive Spell with a huge area-of-effect to begin with, hence the flames produced by the Fire Pillars devoured almost half of the dueling ground instantly...

Together with Ding Yumian's innate talent, the crowd simply saw the dueling ground covered in a blazing red burst of flames; it was impossible to find a safe spot!

The Swift Star Wolf carried Mo Fan away, fleeing like a coward. The beast groaned in pain as he suffered damage from the fierce flames.

Fortunately, the Swift Star Wolf was a very agile creature. He barely found the gaps between the Fire Pillars and rolling flames. Mo Fan was wise to Summon the Swift Star Wolf when he only had the chance of casting a Basic Spell. Otherwise, he would never have been able to escape from a Nine Halls with twice the area!

"Humph, if it weren't for his Double Innate Elements, he would have lost by now!" Huang Xingli blurted out in dissatisfaction from up among the spectators.

Without the Summoning Element, Mo Fan would have lost the duel after being forced into a corner.

Meanwhile, Mo Fan, who was crying out in pain because of the flames, had finally experienced the strength of those in the top ten. The mountain-like pressure had not given him have a chance to catch a breath yet.

"The Focus necklace is able to protect me from her Soul Impact once. Ding Yumian won't know this... I have only one chance to win this battle!" Despite the position Mo Fan was in, his experience in battle kept him from losing his calm.

It was difficult to utilize all his Elements when fighting against Ding Yumian. Luckily, the Focus necklace which Dean Xiao had given him was able to resist a Psychic attack once.

It was Mo Fan's greatest defense. He had to plan his attack carefully to win the duel with it. Otherwise, if he failed to inflict serious damage to Ding Yumian with the opportunity given by the Focus necklace, it was better for him to concede!

-I have no choice but to let the duel drag on, and wait until Ding Yumian begins to panic...The Swift Star Wolf can lift the burden off for the time being...- thought Mo Fan.

The Swift Star Wolf was already injured from the burns, which severely impacted his speed.

However, the Swift Star Wolf was still able to provide assistance. After all, Ding Yumian's Soul Impact was not so effective against him!

"Swift Star Wolf, keep her busy!" Mo Fanordered.

The Swift Star Wolf sprinted forward. He seemed fairly agitated after being burned, and was planning to get his revenge on Ding Yumian...

Ding Yumian remained calm facing the ferocious wolf. She suddenly closed her eyes and drew a Star Pattern rapidly under her feet.

"Spirit Ripple: Pacify!"

Ding Yumian's eyes sprang open, her pupils clear like water, and a gentle ripple slowly spread into the eyes of the angry Swift Star Wolf.

Versatile Mage (Web Novel)

Chapter 518: Counterattacking with the Focus Necklace!

The Swift Star Wolf was sprinting in an imposing manner with winds racing around him, like an arrow being released from a bow...

As the first rippling wave crossed the Swift Star Wolf, the creature maintained his pace, yet his eyes flickered with a hint of doubt.

As the second wave came by, the Swift Star Wolf's savagery was erased, replaced by a gentler look.

As the third wave of ripple struck, the Swift Star Wolf suddenly slowed down and lost half of his imposing manner.

Finally, the Swift Star Wolf arrived before the Ding Yumian as the fourth wave of ripple was produced. The ferocious look that the Swift Star Wolf previously had completely disappeared. Even the claw he had raised to execute the attack had dropped to the ground in the process...

"Good doggie," Ding Yumian reached out her hand and fondled the disheveled hair on the Swift Star Wolf's neck.

The Swift Star Wolf was no longer a fierce creature, but had completely turned into a husky. He stuck out his tongue and seemed extremely comfortable when the girl fondled his hair!

"Go play by yourself," whispered Ding Yumian to the Swift Star Wolf.

The Swift Star Wolf was extraordinarily obedient. He waved his stiff tail and ran outside of the boundary and sat on the ground, like an enormous sled dog. The only thing missing was a collar on his neck!

Mo Fan wore a disgusted look when he saw it happen. Was that Summoned Beast really his fierce, belligerent Swift Star Wolf?

Before at the Drifting Sand River, Xinxia had been casting Psychic Element: Pacify all along. Mo Fan had already thought that the Spell was too good to be true, yet he never knew it was so incredible. She somehow turned his ferocious Summoning Beast into a meek dog...

"Can't you be any more useful?" Mo Fan could not stand it any longer. He sent the Swift Star Wolf back to his own dimension.

The truth was, he was afraid that Ding Yumian would somehow convince his Swift Star Wolf to bite him instead!

Luckily, Ding Yumian was not an Advanced Magician like the Demoness. Otherwise, if she cast the Psychic Element's Mind Control on the Swift Star Wolf, a creature would actually betray its master!

The Swift Star Wolf was hopeless, Mo Fan had no choice but to focus on his plan on utilizing the Focus necklace. It was his only way to win the duel...

"Fiery Fist: Nine Halls!"

Ding Yumian was a madwoman when it came to duels. As the Fiery Fist that was twice its usual size slammed into the ground, the faint brown flames produced by the nine Fire Pillars covered the entire area!

The Fire Seed producing the faint-brown flames was not as powerful as the Rose Flame, yet Ding Yumian's outstanding innate talent left Mo Fan with no room to escape!

A Fire Pillar suddenly jetted out from the ground underneath Mo Fan. He initially thought he had already left the coverage of the Spell, yet the Fire Pillar that was twice as thick as normal took Mo Fan by

surprise. When Mo Fan realized that he was still in the range of the Spell, the Fire Pillar had already knocked him into the air.

Falling from the sky, Mo Fan suffered the burns of the flames nearby. The clothes on his upper body were burned into ashes, exposing his scorched skin.

Mo Fan felt himself suffering from a concussion as he landed on the ground, yet he rose to his feet like an invincible cockroach despite the remaining flames produced by the Fire Pillars still burning around him. He spat out a mouthful of blood.

Ding Yumian glanced at Mo Fan with a hint of astonishment.

"You're still not using your Equipment to protect you under such circumstances?" she asked him.

She could not tell if it was because of Mo Fan's outstanding Fire Resistance from his Soul Seed, or the fact that having three Elements actually made him stronger, that he was still able to stand up after being struck by the Fire Pillar. Normally, her opponents would be half-crippled after suffering a direct hit from the Fire Pillar.

"How could I say no since you're so eager to see my body?" Mo Fan replied with a grin.

"You've got a smooth tongue, but you won't be able to stand for the next month if you don't use your Equipment to protect yourself from my next attack," said Ding Yumian coldly.

Mo Fan remained in his spot. He had already started to draw a Star Pattern.

Two blazing red Star Orbits intersected one another, forming the outline of a fiery Star Pattern. Countless Stars began to appear around them, as a bright line connected them together...

"It's no use!" Ding Yumian knew Mo Fan had been driven into a dead end.

As a matter of fact, Mo Fan knew his Equipment would not make any difference, since he was unable to cast any Spells. The Armor would only buy him some time.

Ding Yumian thought Mo Fan had given up when she saw him casting the Spell.

She had given Mo Fan some time to draw a Star Pattern, as she was trying to see what the guy was up to.

However, as the fourth Orbit was completed, Ding Yumian had no intention of letting him continue further.

Her Psychic Star Orbits was completed almost instantly. The Soul Impact produced an invisible ray of energy, dashing in Mo Fan's direction at lightning speed.

Mo Fan's body was unharmed, but his mind immediately suffered a great blow. The Stars that were being aligned rapidly suddenly fled in all directions at the impact of the Psychic Attack, completely ignoring his control!

"Focus!"

The necklace on Mo Fan's chest suddenly emitted an ocean-blue glow.

The energy entered Mo Fan's mind. Instead of constructing a mental wall to protect him against the attack, it entered deep into his mind and improved his focus!

The Soul Impact simply worked by inflicting a paralyzing pain on one's mind, in order to stop the Magician from being able to control their energy due to the pain. However, the Focus Necklace was able to improve its bearer's focus significantly. The pain was not reduced, but the Magician's endurance was improved.

The Stars fled in fear, yet Mo Fan used brute force to force them back into positions.

The Star Pattern almost crumbled while the fifth Orbit was being constructed. However, the help from the Focus necklace managed to pull the Stars back in time. The fifth Orbit was finally completed, and the sixth Orbit started to form.

"A Focus Magic Tool?" Ding Yumian finally realized why Mo Fan dared to cast a Spell in front of her.

It was too late to cast another Soul Impact. Besides, under the effects of the Focus Necklace, the Soul Impact might not be enough to interrupt the channeling.

"It's my turn to attack!" Mo Fan was engulfed in wild, blazing flames. Even the air surrounding him was set aflame.

"Rose Flame!

"Fiery Fist!

"Nine Halls!"

Versatile Mage (Web Novel)

Chapter 519: It was Meant for External Application

The area of Mo Fan's Fiery Fist: Nine Halls was obviously smaller than Ding Yumian's, yet its power was greater!

The high-temperature flames spread to the barrier. The spectators could clearly feel the heat and the strength of the Rose Flame that belonged to the brute force Magician on the dueling ground.

Ding Yumian, standing in the midst of the Fiery First: Nine Halls, did not hesitate. A suit of light Armor quickly wrapped around her. The Armor was blue, with a soft, smooth surface. It was not made of the skin and bones of demon beasts, but from some kind of plants.

Perhaps since she was a Fire Magician, the armor did not appear to be fire-resistant. As a matter of fact, it did not provide any protection against Mo Fan's Spell, whose power was multiplied two and a half times by the Rose Flame. Ding Yumian had no choice but to back off to the edge of the boundary, outside of the range of the flames.

Mo Fan was well aware of Ding Yumian's fighting capacity. Now that he had finally begun his counterattack, he had no intention of giving Ding Yumian a chance to cast Soul Impact again.

While his Fiery Fist: Nine Halls was still in effect, while the Focus necklace was still effective, Mo Fan began to draw another Star Pattern.

Purple-black Lightning Orbits flickered around Mo Fan's body, which rapidly combined into a fierce Star Pattern.

"Qianjun!"

"Thunderbolt!"

"Wild Strikes!"

The Lightning Star Pattern was still under Mo Fan's feet, yet the crazily violent lightning energy had already gathered above Ding Yumian.

A huge stormy cloud floated above the girl, with bolts flickering like serpents within it. As Mo Fan pointed his finger, the black lightning ray fiercely on Ding Yumian.

The entire place shook wildly under Qianjun's space-vibrating effect!

More lightning strikes descended to the ground, striking Ding Yumian's armor and the ground around her. A huge part of the dueling area was shattered into pieces, spattering in the air.

Ding Yumian basically had no movement Spells. She could only resist with her Armor and Shield Equipment. However, the third level Intermediate Lightning Spell was stronger than the Fiery Fist: Nine Halls, especially when Ding Yumian was the only target enduring the damage. Her Armor was almost shattered into pieces by the lightning strikes...

The wild lightning strikes turned Ding Yumian's surroundings into electric fields. After remaining passive trying to defend herself, Ding Yumian's entire body turned numb!

The arcs of electricity cracked loudly. The whole corner of the stage was destroyed beyond recognition. Ding Yumian, who was still protected by her Shield and Armor, was trembling hard.

Her Armor was already ineffective against Mo Fan's Nine Halls, so it stood no chance against the penetrating, ferocious power of the lightning.

Pieces of blue armor slowly peeled away from her. Ding Yumian tried to brace herself with a pale expression.

"You can no longer defend yourself," Mo Fan stepped forward. Lightning Strikes in the shape of serpents floated around him.

At Mo Fan's command, the lightning serpents lunged at Ding Yumian fiercely. Her destroyed Armor was nowhere enough to defend her against the Lightning Strikes.

"You were willing to suffer from the burns despite being able to use your Focus necklace earlier, waiting for the chance to execute your counterattack," observed Ding Yumian, breathing heavily.

Determined, reckless!

This was Ding Yumian's appraisal toward Mo Fan. Having both Lightning and Fire Elements had turned Mo Fan into a killing machine. He was able to follow up the destructive Fiery Fist: Nine Halls with an even stronger Lightning Strike: Wild Strikes!

Lightning was even more ruthless than Fire. Ding Yumian had rarely encountered opponents with a such a heavy offensive focus. Her Armor was designed to be soft and nimble, allowing her, since she did not have any movement Spells, to move freely and not require her to remain stationary.

Normally, the expensive Armor was enough to block a wave of full attacks from her opponents, yet the light Armor stood no chance against a pure brute-force Magician!

Once Mo Fan landed his attacks, Ding Yumian had no chance of fighting back!

"The two most destructive Spells in the Intermediate Level... (sigh) if Ding Yumian had heavy Armor, Mo Fan would be the one losing the duel."

"There aren't so many ifs, it's a victory for him!"

"You're right... but this Demon King has already leveled up two of his Elements to the third level. What a surprise!"...

The outcome was decided. Mo Fan was extremely passive at the start of the battle. Either his Spells were interrupted by the Soul Impact, or he was burned by Ding Yumian's fire.

Unfortunately, since Ding Yumian's secondary Element was Psychic, it also implied that her offense was quite simple. It was fairly difficult to defeat Mo Fan, who had a high resistance to fire, in a short period of time.

Most importantly, Mo Fan, who had pretended he had no chance of fighting back, suddenly activated the Focus Magic Tool, and utilized both his Lightning and Fire to land destructive blows and shatter Ding Yumian's defense. Ding Yumian had assumed that she had already won the battle, but she was overwhelmed in the end!

Mo Fan only had one chance to strike back... but he only needed one chance!

"Mo Fan is the winner!"

Wei Rong declared the outcome of the duel, leaving the crowd bewildered.

Those who cheered the loudest were all new students. The highest that any other new student had managed to get was Mu Nujiao, who just crossed the fiftieth rank. Yet, as expected of the Demon King Mo Fan, he had defeated an expert in the top ten!

Everyone had witnessed Ding Yumian's strength. The truth was, even those who considered themselves experts would lose before casting a single Spell. Even with a Focus Magic Tool, they would not be able to counterattack using the combo of the two strongest killing Spells in the Intermediate Level!

The truth was, Mo Fan was extremely relieved after securing the win.

If he had not improved his Lightning Nebula to the third level last month, he would surely have lost the duel against anyone in the top ten. Thunderbolt: Yaksha's strength was not as formidable as the Thunderbolt: Wild Strikes!

"My fire has hidden side effects. Use this, it will eliminate the threat." Ding Yumian took a brief rest to recover slightly before throwing a faint brown serum into Mo Fan's hands. Its color was similar to the color of her flames.

Mo Fan was covered in wounds. On the other hand, Ding Yumian did not seem injured, apart from her fatigued look...

"Thanks!" Mo Fan received the serum, and drank it in one go.

Ding Yumian glanced at him with a blank expression.

Mo Fan thought she was attracted by his straightforwardness, not to mention that his perfect body was still exposed. He immediately wore a seemingly attractive smile that he thought was enough to charm thousands of girls.

Ding Yumian was startled, but took out another serum and said calmly, "This thing... is meant for external application."

The blossoming smile on Mo Fan's face suddenly stiffened...

Versatile Mage (Web Novel)

Chapter 520: The Quiet, Handsome Man

"AH!!"

"Ouch!"

"That hurts... softer, softer!"

Mo Fan's cries of agony from the infirmary continued to echo down the halls.

Teacher Bai Mei checked Mo Fan's wounds once again, making sure he did not miss anything, before allowing Mo Fan to put on his clothes.

"The serum that Ding Yumian gave you was quite effective. It completely got rid of the hidden side effects in your body. That being said, the burns are quite serious... it seems like your flesh is quite solid. Any other Magician would have fallen unconscious from the pain," said Bai Mei.

"Maybe my body is becoming resistant since I have been burned many times before?" conjectured Mo Fan.

"Maybe."

"Teacher Bai Mei, can you please treat my useless Summoned Beast, too? He's injured as well."

"I'm not a vet!" said Bai Mei said with a dark face.

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Mo Fan almost felt like he had risen as one of the conquerors of the school after securing the tenth rank. Every student, both new or old, recognized him. Some stayed away from him, some purposely fawned upon him to get closer to him.

Among the older students, Mo Fan was described as arrogant and proud. Among the new students, Mo Fan was highly respected, and almost treated as their leader. After all, Mo Fan was the representative of their batch who had secured a spot in the top ten!

Usually, it was quite common for the new students to be picked on by the old students, be it from not being aware of the rules, or not experienced enough to handle the duels. Their resources would be taken away, too. However, Mo Fan's achievements completely motivated the new students.

There were factions among the students too, but Mo Fan did not join any of them. As such, many factions were holding out an olive branch to Mo Fan, sending out their people to try and convince Mo Fan to join them.

Luckily, a lot of the factions was well aware that Mo Fan had no intention to join any of them. The average ones simply took note of him, while the reputable ones knew that Mo Fan was living in the same apartment as the Mu Family's daughter, thus they simply did not bother to waste their time on him.

However, the peaceful days did not last long. Some strong factions began to reach out their hands towards Mo Fan.

Someone even took hold of the opportunity to reveal that Mo Fan was chosen to be a provisional candidate for the World College Tournament by the higher levels internally. It immediately placed Mo Fan in the center of the limelight once again.

The top ten in the Fire School were basically ranked in the top one hundred of the entire Pearl Institute.

The experts in Pearl Institute agreed that the new student was fairly talented, yet he was still a distance away from being comparable to the top-tier students in Pearl Institute.

Those that were concerned about the World College Tournament knew clearly that the candidates selected to represent their country must have strong leadership. Even the top three in every Element could not make it, so why was a new student worthy of being given a spot?

The guy had only entered the top ten in his Element School. It was uncertain if he was even ranked in the top one hundred in the whole institute, yet none of the students ranked top ten in the Institute were selected as provisional candidates. What right did he have to be selected?

Could it be that he was the true son of the Director of the Magic Education Department?! {TN: This means nepotism at work.}

"Have you heard? Demon King Mo Fan is a provisional candidate. He's been given a spot to take part in the World College Tournament."

"Bullshit, the candidates representing our country are the strongest that have been selected among all famous institutes, to represent our country and compete against the world! Let's not even mention that Mo Fan has just entered the top ten in his Element School. Even if he's top ten in the entire institute, the top one and two from the other institutes are also competing for the spot. He's so far away from making the list."

"I think so too, but it was said that the source is reliable."

"Reliable sources, experts... those are the ones you shouldn't believe at all!"...

Lots of news was spread wildly in the school. Everyone was discussing Mo Fan's achievement of securing a spot in the top ten, but the news of him being a provisional candidate for the World College Tournament completely took over.

Mo Fan was initially enjoying being respected by the new students and teachers, but when the news broke out, every student's eyes became bloodshot when they were looking at him, as if a plague had just broken out in the school!

"Standing so high up from all the flattering, it's only a matter of time until you fall to your death!"

"A guy like you is a provisional candidate? Even those from the same institute can beat you up, let alone the experts from other institutes!"

"So that's the provisional candidate? He looks normal to me."...

Mo Fan was totally annoyed by the voices around him. He felt a strong urge to find the person who leaked the news and beat the crap out of him!

However, it also showed how important the spot was to everyone. Both the experts who were competing for the spot and those who were envious at him despite having no chance to make it at all cared a lot about the World College Tournament!

On second thought, it made total sense. The World College Tournament was held conjunctively by the Magic Associations of all five continents, and the most renowned institutes of magic across the world. Even though the teachers were not willing to solely rely on the outcome of the tournament to criticize the performance of each country, the young Magicians were extremely passionate and competitive, hence the World College Tournament every year was super exciting, grabbing the attention of the whole world!

The disciples of renowned families tried desperately to earn their reputations in their schools, yet nothing was as significant as taking part in the World College Tournament. Even as a reserve participant, the family which the participant was from would still benefit a lot from it!

Normally, the factions would only put extra focus on Mo Fan because he had shown outstanding performance at school. However, after the news about him being a provisional candidate was made

public, Mo Fan suddenly became a hot product. Every faction was keen to convince him to join them, even though they had not confirmed the validity of the news.

As a result, the people at school were jealous of him, but the factions outside of school were extending their olive branches. Meanwhile, Mo Fan's only desire was to be a quiet, handsome man.

Mo Fan only learned some time later that Tang Zhong, the Head of the Magic Court, was one of the authorities who had a vote in selecting the candidates. Tangyue had already mentioned to Mo Fan about some gift she had prepared for him, which was simply the fact that she already knew her grandfather was voting for Mo Fan to be selected.

Somewhat coincidentally, someone who had a vote in selecting the candidates from the Magic Palace had retired, thus he had given his vote to Councilman Zhu Meng. Meanwhile, as a Councilman, Zhu Meng also had a vote in his hand. As a result, the person in charge of the Magic Palace, whom Mo Fan scolded a few times, ended up with two votes.

Basically, any student with four votes was very likely confirmed to be selected.

Tang Zhong had voted for Mo Fan, and Councilman Zhu Meng, who felt the urge to redeem himself from his mistake of trying to kill the Black Totem Snake, ended up giving the two votes to Mo Fan, too. As a result, Mo Fan, who now had three votes, was basically a provisional candidate!

As the selection for the World College Tournament was about to take place, as all the top students in those famous institutes were competing fiercely for a spot, one could simply imagine the hilarious expressions they had when they learned that someone was chosen internally as a candidate!

For example, Dongfang Lie, who was ranked first on the Fire School's ranking, was still trying to earn his nomination!