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Chapter 531: The Nomination Tournament!

Lintong Headquarters...

The military instructor Fei Jiao had assigned to coach the special forces soldiers sat down on the training ground, right under the flag.

“Where did the news come from?”

“One of the villages outside of the safe zone, I think it’s called Hua Village. The villagers said that they saw torn clothes on ripped-apart bodies when they walked past them somewhere nearby during the day. Judging from the clothes, we can basically say that the squad... was completely wiped out,” said the soldier who was delivering the information.

“Huh, rescue team, rescue team... that was more like a suicide team. Which asshole was it that sent my men out there!?” cursed Fei Jiao as he quickly rose to his feet.

“Instructor, calm down...”

“How can I? Those who died are my students, my students! What do I tell Zhan Kong now!?” yelled Fei Jiao furiously.

He pointed at the buildings nearby and started cursing, from his superior to his subordinates, as if he had gone mad.

The Commanders in the meeting room did not dare to show themselves. Fei Jiao was firing the shots at pretty much everyone.

“Go, assemble a team... Bring them back, either alive or dead!” said Fei Jiao to the soldier.

“Instructor, please calm down. They have most likely stumbled into a Dark Abyss. Otherwise, they would not be wiped out even if they merely bumped into a Corpse General!”

“What...what did you say?” Fei Jiao was startled.

“The Dark Abyss, they were chased by something, and somehow ended up close to a Dark Abyss. Even those with Wind Elements did not survive!”

“Dark...Dark Abyss... Why is that thing appearing?” blurted out the instructor, his eyes wide and face blank.

Dark Abyss...it was exactly like Hell. Even the strongest Magician in the entire Ancient Capital had no chance of surviving after falling into one.

Fei Jiao would not blink if he was told to enter the dragon’s pond or the tiger’s lair, but the Dark Abyss, it was not just a simple death, but falling straight into Hell... {TL Note: Dragon’s pond, tiger’s lair = an idiom used to describe dangerous places}

“Instructor, instead of making a scene here, you should notify the families of the dead. I’ve checked his background; Zhang Xiaohou came from Bo City. He grew up without his parents. It was his grandmother who raised him. Even though she survived the calamity of Bo City, she’s approaching the end of her life... As for Zhang Xiaohou, you might want to tell him yourself. He also has a close friend, who should be the closest to him apart from his grandmother. Should I tell them the news?” asked the soldier.

“Zhan Kong has gone missing, how am I supposed to find him? As for his grandmother... don’t tell her yet, she’s already so old,” Fei Jiao continued after a sigh, “As for his friend... I’ll try to find Zhan Kong first. If I can’t find him, we’ll let his friend know.”

“Instructor, don’t do anything stupid, that’s the Dark Abyss, God knows how many lives would be needed to fill it up...”

“I know that! Piss off from my sight, every time I see you, there’s always bad news!”

The Magic City...

Cold wind blew overhead. The city was filled with coughs everywhere, most likely due to the new flu that was spreading around.

“Why don’t you close the window when you go to bed?” asked Ai Tutu as she glanced into Mo Fan’s room.

“I’m a Fire Magician, and I also have a little mobile furnace lying beside me. I prefer the fresh air when the window’s open!” Mo Fan sat in front of the computer and scrolled across the web pages, looking for interesting news related to the Ancient Capital.

The world was full of disastrous events. In his original world, there were natural disasters, but in this world, the disasters were usually invasions of demon beasts.

Ai Tutu proceeded to mock Mo Fan when she saw the guy suddenly became interested in affairs in the country.

Mo Fan turned off the computer and looked back at Ai Tutu. His gaze blithely swept past her busty chest before he replied sternly, “Did you just say that everyone ranked in the top twenty in every school has a chance to enter the Nomination Preliminaries for the World College Tournament?”

“Yeah, didn’t you notice that Sister Mu has been cultivating in seclusion for a long time already?” said Ai Tutu.

“She did improve very quickly,” Mo Fan nodded.

Mo Fan was fairly impressed by Mu Nujiao’s determination. He did not see her much for the past few months, and every time they met, the girl always asked for a duel.

It was most likely because the formidable faction supporting Mu Nujiao had decided to focus on helping her enter the World College Tournament. Not only did she have two high-quality Soul Seeds, all the Equipment she was wearing was luxurious too. Ai Tutu had also told him that Mu Nujiao still had a

trump card up in her sleeves. She was preparing to use it as a surprise move during the Nomination Preliminaries.

Mo Fan was looking forward to seeing it.

Thinking about it, Mu Nujiao's Mu Clan was one of the four great clans in Magic City. It went without saying that they would want to compete for the spot.

Similarly, the extremely wealthy Zhao Clan was in a similar situation, too...

Even the playboy Zhao Manyan had turned into a different person, always busy with some secret training.

Zhao Manyan was most likely not going to compete for the spot offered by the Institute. However, even if he were trying to earn a spot somewhere else, he still had to work extremely hard.

Regardless of having a formidable faction supporting them, the number of competitors was like a vast ocean. Without a certain level of capability, they had no chance of standing out among the candidates...

Basically, everyone who was planning to compete for the chance of being nominated for the World College Tournament had turned into a cultivation lunatic.

As for Ai Tutu...

This young mistress from a wealthy family had a huge bust, but little to no goals. She continued to enjoy life, but since her close friend had devoted herself on the path of cultivation, she was bored to death.

Mo Fan was a seeded candidate, thus he could skip the Nomination Preliminaries if he wanted to...

The others had all gone to cultivate, only Mo Fan was still slacking around, which was why Ai Tutu had been staying with Mo Fan lately, hoping that he would find something fun for her to do.

"Speaking of which, I suggest you take part in the Nomination Preliminaries, too," Ai Tutu was not planning to take part in them, but she was fairly familiar with the event.

"Why is that?" asked Mo Fan.

"You currently have three votes, which is basically no different than a provisional candidate, yet you still need to get a fourth vote somehow. If you manage to get the nomination, you basically earn yourself another vote. First, no one will be able to stop you from securing a spot, and second, you can also shut the mouths of those who are doubting you," Ai Tutu declared.

Mo Fan nodded. He agreed with her reasoning.

Not everyone was aware of how he got the three votes in the first place, thus they would assume that he was merely being favored by someone. As a result, they would not be convinced of his qualifications.

Meanwhile, Mo Fan had always liked fighting. The Nomination Preliminaries would definitely involve the strongest students in the entire Institute. If he did not take hold of the opportunity and trample some of those disrespectful idiots, wouldn't he simply let the Black Snake Armor, which he still hadn't used, and the Flame Belle, who had finally reached her Youth Stage, down?

As the saying went, a dragon gave birth to dragons, a phoenix gave birth to phoenixes, and the sons of mice were experts at digging holes. Even though Mo Fan did not give birth to the Flame Belle, out of all his resources, she was somehow better at stirring up trouble than her father!

The little Flame Belle was a huge fan of getting into fights!

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Chapter 532: Impersonating

The Nomination Preliminaries!

Pearl Institute had ten nominations in total. Those who were nominated still needed to go through another two rounds of competition before deciding the candidates.

The rules of the Nomination Preliminaries were fairly simple: it would simply gather those in the top twenty in every Element School to duel with one another.

Most interestingly, the duel was not only one versus one, but four versus four, with randomly assigned teams.

Each student who was participating in the Nomination Preliminaries would team up with three other participants temporarily and fight against three other teams.

Although the outcome of the battle would affect their chance of being selected, losing the battle did not mean all hope was lost.

The overall rankings inside the Institute was not decided through battles between the different Elements, since one Element would be more effective against some Elements, and ineffective or neutral against the others. Everyone in the Institute was an Intermediate Magician, so they would only have two Elements at most. Those with only defensive or healing Elements would never be able to climb the rankings, yet those Magicians were always the most important persons in a team...

As a result, the Institute had made the Nomination Preliminaries a team battle instead. Every duel would have three referees, and each of them had eight points to spare. Regardless of the outcome of the battle, those who performed better would be given more points.

The participants with the highest points would be nominated, and the higher-ups would decide the final ten nominations.

Nominations simply meant the candidate had earned a vote.

Only those with four votes were able to represent the country in the World College Tournament. As for the source of the other three votes, it was a lot more complicated. They could come through the support from renowned families, Magic Associations, or the military ...it basically depended on the student's capability and reputation!

Mo Fan already had three votes, yet those were more like tokens of appreciation, and he was quite lucky to get them, too...

Therefore, it was important for him to earn the nomination, too!

He was extremely excited when he learned about the structure of the tournament. A one-on-one battle was fun, but it basically came down to who had the higher cultivation and equipment most of the time.

A group battle was more reliant on the skills of the participants, how to utilize their Magic perfectly, which could even grant them a chance to turn the tables!

Just like how he had worked together with Zhang Xiaohou and Zhao Manyan at the Drifting Sand River, this felt extremely good!

The World College Tournament was obviously based on teamwork, too, hence the preliminaries would also be testing the participants' abilities when working in a team.

Ai Tutu had become Mo Fan's little tail. The girl was a fun seeker, and assumed that she would always find something interesting when following Mo Fan around, hence she energetically signed up for the Nomination Preliminaries on Mo Fan's behalf and helped him take the draw, too...

Mo Fan spent most of his time cultivating. His ears were shut off from matters outside of the window, yet he would still hear about all sorts of nonsense from Ai Tutu's mouth that never stopped talking, including how the granddaughter of the school's guard had fallen in love with some renowned family's Young Master...

Ai Tutu was dying from boredom, so she was fairly passionate about signing Mo Fan up for the Nomination Preliminaries.

After finishing the draw, she quickly visited the Institute's forum.

Once the draw was done, most participants would reveal their numbers on the forum, and would organize a meet-up fairly quickly just to learn what Elements each teammate had and practice together if needed.

Ai Tutu had made herself Mo Fan's secretary. When she saw someone assembling those with the same number, she quickly put on some makeup and went to meet the rest of the team.

Mo Fan's teammates had gathered at the field. When Ai Tutu arrived in her slightly exposed outfit, the other three had long been waiting for her.

"Is your team number eleven?" said a male student among the three.

"Ah, I know you, you're the handsome leader of the Lightning School, Gu Jian!" Ai Tutu's eyes flickered when she took a closer look at the student.

The guy called Gu Jian wore a stiff expression as he glanced at Ai Tutu.

Beautiful women, busty women, Gu Jian had seen lots of them. He had no interest in women for the time being...oh, it's only because his mind was occupied with thoughts of securing the nomination. Even

when a woman was lying naked in his bed, he had promised himself that he would focus on cultivating instead!

Gu Jian did not have a good first impression of Ai Tutu, as he was worried that she was a vase. It was not ideal to lose their first duel. Even though the outcome did not matter, only by winning would he be able to showcase his exceptionalness!

{TL Note: A vase here means someone who's completely useless, and can only be used as decoration}

"Since everyone's here, let's first talk about the Elements we have," said Gu Jian to the others like a captain.

"Err..." Ai Tutu was only here on behalf of Mo Fan, who had gone to the Three Step Tower to cultivate. She definitely needed to explain that to the team.

Gu Jian immediately frowned and said, "Are you actually one of team eleven? Don't waste our time here, we still need to practice."

"...err...yeah, yeah I am," said Ai Tutu in a panic.

Ai Tutu had long heard Gu Jian's famous name. The reason was that her aunt had asked her to meet the son from Gu Family during the Lunar New Year...

The meeting was basically a blind date.

It was very common between renowned families, since Ai Tutu was already at an age suitable for marriage. She was not passionate with her cultivation, and was merely wasting her time fooling around. Her family had decided to let her marry someone instead, so she could have a change of heart.

Unfortunately, this Gu Jian was the one that her family was fond of. Ai Tutu had never thought Mo Fan would be grouped with the man who might be her fiancée in the near future.

The man was extremely handsome and talented, one of the top students in the Lightning School. He did meet most of Ai Tutu's requirements. On second thought, Ai Tutu decided not to tell them she was only here on behalf of someone yet. She wanted to observe Gu Jian more with the opportunity given to her.

"So what Elements do you have?" asked Gu Jian.

"My primary Element is Plant, and my secondary Element is Light," answered Ai Tutu.

"Oh, not bad, since our team doesn't need more offensive Magic," Gu Jian's expression improved slightly.

"Alright, let's start the training, it's better to be prepared."

"Good, let's work together as a team!" Ai Tutu said with a blossoming smile.

Mo Fan who was currently cultivating in the Three Step Tower never thought Ai Tutu would go so far...

Even after Mo Fan left the Three Step Tower, Ai Tutu still did not tell Mo Fan about the tournament. Little did he know, Ai Tutu had already impersonated him just so she could spend some time with the man she was interested in!

Or more precisely, Mo Fan should have expected things to go wrong when he asked Ai Tutu, whose brain was full of papaya, to help him...

Not only was Ai Tutu's brain inversely proportional to the size of her breast, there was nothing she would not do...

"Swift Star Wolf, why are you running away, where's your savagery as a wolf?"

"Awoooo~!" Swift Star Wolf ran to the corner of the training ground, fighting a strong urge to burst into tears. It was the only place not covered in flames!

The entire place was set aflame. A little girl with an appearance like a porcelain doll floated above the fierce flames, her petite figure totally made of fire. She was laughing pleasantly, yet the sound of it was like a signal of destruction for the Swift Star Wolf!

"Swift Star Wolf, fight like a man, go... ah, ah, little Flame Belle, go burn your Uncle Wolf, why are you burning your father instead!..."

"Stop, stop, little Flame Belle, it's your fight, not mine, stop possessing my body. Holy shit, Swift Star Wolf, come back here, I'm not going to fight you when she possesses me, why are you running... Dimensional Summoning, humph, where do you think you're running to!?!..."

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Chapter 533: That Bitch!

In a luxurious Western-style restaurant, Dongfang Lie slowly finished up his dessert, wiped his mouth, and said to the person opposite him, "Is that so, he lost the first battle?"

"Maybe we've been putting too much attention on him. It seems like the kid said to be a provisional candidate doesn't have anything up his sleeves," replied Zhou Shuming with a disdainful grin.

"I wasn't really bothered by him, but you, the woman you're interested in is staying in the same house as him, God knows what would happen between them," said Dongfang Lie.

Zhou Shuming's face turned dark as he glared at Dongfang Lie.

The two were concerned whether Mo Fan was able to secure the nomination, since it would determine if he was chosen for the World College Tournament.

However, the good news was, Mo Fan had lost in the first battle...

The losses would not be recorded on the score sheet, yet without winning, it was difficult to earn enough points.

Basically, they had overestimated the guy.

As Dongfang Lie had mentioned, if he were in a serious battle against the kid, he would easily defeat him in a few rounds.

"How about the next battle, who are his opponents?" asked Dongfang Lie.

"Bai Yulang from the Magic Association, as for the other three...nothing outstanding, but since they are in the top twenty, they won't be weak either."

"Bai Yulang, he's a tough opponent."

The same night, on the same field...

The four students from Team Eleven who lost their first battle sat on the grass with unpleasant looks.

Their opponent team did not have anyone famous, yet they still lost the battle. As such, it was likely that none of them had earned lots of points from it.

Gu Jian had a gloomy look. He initially thought since his teammates were all in the top twenty in their Element School, they would be somewhat reliable. To his surprise, even though they were fairly strong in one-on-one duels, they were slow when fighting in a team, nothing but burdens to him.

He could easily suppress their opponents with a huge Lightning Spell. If they were any good, they would not have lost the battle.

Gu Jian felt rather hopeless when he recalled that he still needed to fight another two battles in the same team.

"Mo Fan, what's wrong with you? Why did you try to trap them with the Forest of Kun? That guy had the Shadow Element, how could you possibly trap him?" scolded Gu Jian.

Ai Tutu lowered her head, not daring to say a word.

She did bear a huge responsibility for the team's loss. If she had managed to trap the Water Magician with her Forest of Kun and prevented him from casting Rolling Wave, it would not have shattered their formation.

However, Ai Tutu cast it on a Shadow Magician...

The Plant Element was almost useless against the Shadow Element. A simple Fleeing Shadow was enough to dodge the Spell.

"Besides, I never know we also had a girl called Mo Fan in our school," said Liu Xing with a weird look.

"Are you talking about that Mo Fan who is said to be a provisional candidate? Hehe, I don't think the guy has anything to offer apart from being lucky. I'm glad he's not in our team... well, this girl Mo Fan... isn't any good either!" Li Jie showed no mercy either.

"Alright, that's enough. Just make sure there won't be any mistakes in the next battle," said Gu Jian.

The others did not comment on anything.

Ai Tutu also promised that she would not make any mistakes in the next battle.

Ai Tutu returned to the apartment in a bad mood. Her mouth did not stop murmuring.

She admitted that she was not strong. Her strength was still a certain distance away from the top twenty in every school, yet they could not simply blame it all on her!

"I'll surprise them tomorrow!" said Ai Tutu.

"Surprise who?" asked Mo Fan, walking in from the balcony with a chicken rib in his mouth.

He had only taken a single bite of the chicken rib, but the Flame Belle who had smelled it immediately ran into the room. Mo Fan tried to take another bite, but all he got was air. The Flame Belle had already taken the chicken rib away. She crouched in a little corner and began munching it, sounding like a little mouse biting its food.

"No... nothing, you must have heard it wrong, haha!" Ai Tutu did not dare tell Mo Fan the truth.

"You're acting strange. By the way, I heard that the Nomination Preliminaries have already started. When is my turn?"

"Oh, oh, your number is fairly behind," said Ai Tutu.

Mo Fan stared at Ai Tutu. Somehow, he felt like the girl was hiding something from him, yet she had always been strange since day one, so it was meaningless to ask any further.

The following day, Ai Tutu woke up fairly early.

Time had been running short. As a result, the institute had arranged two battles to take place simultaneously. As a result, the team had two battles in the morning, with almost no interval in between.

Similarly, their opponents would be fighting their battles consecutively, too. As such, the team would have to decide if they were going to go all out in the first battle, or preserving some energy to handle the second battle.

Ai Tutu purposely asked her family to prepare a Deathstrike Magic Equipment for her, so she could perform well today...

Mo Fan had woken up just as Ai Tutu left the apartment. From his room, he happened to see Ai Tutu leaving in her shoes. It was rare to see her not wearing her heels.

"It's obvious that she's prepared for a fight..." Mo Fan began to ponder with his jaw in his hand.

After a slight hesitation, Mo Fan decided to take a look. The woman had been acting too strange lately...

Mo Fan followed behind Ai Tutu, but somehow lost her on the way. The school was so huge that he had no clue where to look for her.

Most importantly, he had spent almost two years in Pearl Institute, yet he suddenly realized that he had lost his sense of direction. He was running in circles for quite some time, yet he still could not find his way.

Trees, paths, classrooms, laboratories, training grounds...where the Hell was he now?

"Ah, that's the library. I finally found a landmark," Mo Fan finally recognized a familiar structure after passing a small wood plot.

As Mo Fan arrived at the entrance of the library, he coincidentally stumbled into a woman whose black smooth hair had lots of little crystals dangling on it. She was holding a stack of books in her chest...

"Mo Fan?" the woman blurted out in confusion when she saw him.

"Ding Yumian, you're always at the library..." Mo Fan let out an awkward smile.

"Don't you have a duel today?" said Ding Yumian, blinking her eyes.

"Do I? Is it in the afternoon or at night?" asked Mo Fan, raising his brows.

Ding Yumian shook her head. She raised her head to take a glance at the clock on the wall and said, "It's happening now, oh, it already started ten minutes ago."

"..." Mo Fan smacked his lips. He was suddenly at a loss for words.

Ai Tutu!

That bitch!

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Chapter 534: A Torrent of Abuse!

Ding Yumian was rather impressed by Mo Fan...

As a student of Pearl Institute, he had spent almost two years here, either in the outer campus or the main campus, but he had still managed to get lost!

Most importantly, the participants of the Nomination Preliminaries would take a shower and offer some incense sticks ahead of time to prepare for the duels, but Mo Fan did not even know he had a match today!

When she led the guy with a poor sense of direction to the dueling ground, the match had almost come to an end.

"Your team is fighting the duel with only three people. They must have a huge grudge against you now," Ding Yumian entered the stadium with Mo Fan.

However, as Ding Yumian glanced at the dueling ground, she was left speechless instantly.

Four people!

There were four people on the dueling ground, not one was missing!

However, Mo Fan was standing right beside her. Who was the person replacing him in the battle?

Mo Fan's face had fallen dark. He could feel millions of copies of the word 'f**k' galloping through his heart.

"Did she impersonate you to participate in the battle?" Ding Yumian found herself a comfortable seat. She seemed fairly intrigued. Her charming eyes were gleaming, as she waited to see how the situation would develop.

Mo Fan's expression could not turn any worse, but the match was still ongoing. He could not simply jump into the battle and drag Ai Tutu out of it to smack her ass. He could only watch the battle miserably, hoping that Ai Tutu would not mess it up too much.

As he thought, nothing good came out of it when he asked the woman to help him with something. He had underestimated the size of the hole in her brain. God must have knocked over the cup containing wisdom when He was creating her, and gave her large breasts to compensate her for her loss...

"They are in a pinch," Ding Yumian calmly commented as she watched the battle.

"Mm, it's very obvious," Mo Fan nodded.

On the dueling ground, Gu Jian's expression was extremely gloomy. He was seriously suspecting the girl called Mo Fan had simply come here to act cute!

Was the Plant Element seriously her primary Element? She pretty much had zero accuracy when using the Magic Vine. Their opponents could easily dodge her spell without relying on Wind Track or Earth Wave.

"Brilliant Light: Blind!"

Ai Tutu was aware that she was unable to use her Plant Element effectively, hence she stopped relying on it. When she saw Gu Jian was trapped between enemies, she immediately thought of using the Light Spell to blind the enemy, allowing Gu Jian to escape.

However, the Brilliant Light: Blind was unable to distinguish friend from foe. Not only would it blind the enemy, it would also blind her allies, too. It required the Light Magician to have good control of the distance and angle to work as they intended...

Gu Jian's wrist was glowing with a Lightning Strike. He was planning to paralyze one of his opponents with the Spell, and use his Boots Equipment to escape from their flanking him. To his shock, Ai Tutu's Brilliant Light suddenly blinded him. He totally lost sight of his target.

While Gu Jian was blinded, a thick ice chain slapped him fiercely. His eyes were still burning in pain, so there was no chance for him to dodge the attack. The chain struck his abdomen with great force and sent him flying...

He was wearing magic armor, which was also his last line of defense.

After Gu Jian was injured, their team no longer had enough firepower. They were defeated rather quickly.

The outcome was decided. They had lost the battle again.

“Team sixteen, win!”

Following the declaration by the referee, the students from team sixteen immediately burst out in smiles.

Their captain Bai Yulang burst out laughing, as if he were mocking Gu Jian. He kept on making some weird noises.

Gu Jian did not get along well with Bai Yulang. The defeat totally detonated the fury in his chest.

“Are you out of your mind!? Didn’t you know that the Brilliant Light would blind me too?”

“Did you make it to the top twenty by climbing into your opponents’ bed?”

“Dumb like pig, I don’t want to see you again!”

Gu Jian pointed at Ai Tutu and vented his anger through a torrent of curses. He could not care less after he was overwhelmed by anger.

He had lost two of the three most important matches in the Nomination Preliminaries. He was getting further away from securing the nomination, and it was all thanks to this dumb woman!

The first loss, he put up with. The second loss, he could not bear it any longer, even when the crowd was looking and the person he was scolding was a girl!

Annoying, so damn annoying!

Gu Jian’s voice was echoing throughout the dueling ground as he fully expressed the thoughts in his mind.

The place was not too crowded, yet everyone clearly heard what he said.

His teammates, Li Jie and Liu Xing were stunned. They were feeling angry too, yet they would not scold the girl straightaway, right in front of the crowd.

The truth was, the girl did perform better in the second battle. The Brilliant Light in the end was only because Gu Jian was in a pinch...

The whole place fell deady quiet at Gu Jian’s sudden roar.

Soon, the sound of crying broke the silence.

Ai Tutu was stunned for a few seconds, before she buried her face in her hands and burst into tears.

Gu Jian’s words were extremely unpleasant to the ears, basically stabbing her right in the heart. Even Ai Tutu, who was always fooling around, completely broke down in front of the crowd.

She knew that she was treating it as something fun to do when she decided to impersonate their teammate.

However, when she saw their depressed expressions after losing the first battle, she no longer treated it as a joke. She was very serious in the second battle, and even had her family spend a fortune to prepare a Deathstrike Magic Equipment for her.

The Deathstrike Magic Equipment did come in handy, but their opponents were stronger than the team in the last match. Their team's overall strength was weaker.

As they lost the battle, she initially thought Gu Jian would try and comfort her since her performance today was a lot better, yet to her surprise, all she got was a scolding. As the sound pierced through her heart, tears burst out from her eyes.

"What the hell are you crying for? Piss off! Don't let me see you again!" snapped Gu Jian.

He had already assumed the girl would be a burden when he first saw her. He never thought she would be even more useless than he had thought.

"Gu Jian...forget it..."

"Yeah, we still have the third match coming up. She was just trying to help you out," advised Li Jie.

"What's the point of fighting the third match when this woman is on our team!?" Gu Jian was still consumed by anger.

Ai Tutu could no longer picture that the man condemning her so loudly was someone that her family was fond of. Her only thought now was to leave the place.

Holding her face, Ai Tutu ran toward the exit in disappointment and bumped into someone's chest...

The chest was not wide, yet it felt very sturdy. She was about to walk around when the person spread his arms and hugged her.

Ai Tutu raised her head and realized that the person was Mo Fan.

She felt like she was being electrocuted...

When she recalled how Mo Fan had witnessed the scolding and her foolish act of impersonating him, she suddenly felt too ashamed to show her face.

Gu Jian was just someone that her family was fond of. She could simply ignore him by hardening her heart, but Mo Fan was her friend, her housemate, and she was scared that Mo Fan would scold her, too...

After all, because of her, he had now lost two important battles!

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Chapter 535: You're the One Who's Hopeless

"I'm sorry, I'm sorry...I didn't mean it..." Ai Tutu was like a hurt little stray cat, no longer showing her usual playfulness as she apologized to Mo Fan with red eyes.

She would not apologize to Gu Jian. She had never treated someone like him seriously, but it was not the same for Mo Fan. He was her friend!

Glancing at the hurt Ai Tutu, Mo Fan patted on her head. He had no intention of blaming her.

They had known each other for quite some time. Mo Fan was extremely familiar with Ai Tutu's personality, thus even when she foolishly impersonated him in the battles, he would simply feel speechless and would only give her a fair warning...

But she was a woman, after all. Even if she had done something wrong, she did not deserve to be scolded in front of the crowd like Gu Jian had!

Mo Fan would never do that to Ai Tutu, even if the girl had screwed up all three of the matches. He would never use foul language on her. Him being close to Ai Tutu was only part of the reason, but most importantly, a man should never behave like scum to a woman!

"Don't cry, it's ok," Mo Fan sighed.

"You...you don't blame me?" Ai Tutu raised her head. Her red eyes stared at Mo Fan in disbelief.

"You did cross the line this time, but it's not the end of the world... besides, did you forget, I'm already a provisional candidate. There's a chance I wouldn't even be here for the Nomination Preliminaries if you hadn't suggested it," Mo Fan smiled.

Ai Tutu glanced at the man. At such a close distance, she suddenly discovered that the Demon King was as warm as the sun when he was smiling, very handsome, shining warmth into her heart...

"But, I still have to apologize to you. Sorry, I'll try to make up for it," Ai Tutu said firmly.

"Alright, I accept that, but..." Mo Fan turned his head slightly, locking his gaze onto Gu Jian who was still cursing at his teammates, "But, I'll even the score first, and we'll talk about how you'll make up for it."

Mo Fan let go of the stray cat Ai Tutu and had her sit down to take a rest.

Ding Yumian sat in her seat quietly. She handed Ai Tutu a bottle of water, having her calm down first. She then switched her focus back to Mo Fan, who was walking toward Gu Jian.

She was curious to see what Mo Fan had in mind. She was a Psychic Magician, hence she was able to sense the anger in Mo Fan's calm black eyes, hidden under his indifferent expression.

"You're Gu Jian?" Mo Fan walked up to Gu Jian and asked calmly.

"What do you want? Are you here for that woman?" Gu Jian was not blind. He clearly saw Ai Tutu falling into the man's arms, but his eyes were full of disdain.

It was most likely that the girl had used her body to climb into the top twenty. It was reasonable some man would step forward to protect her.

"Nothing much, I just want to tell you that if you start crawling to her from where I am, and give yourself three loud slaps to the face and apologize to her, I'll forgive what you've said to her! On top of that, I would like to say, go f**k yourself!" Mo Fan stood in front of Gu Jian. He purposely emphasized the last few words, enough for the entire crowd to hear it clearly!

Gu Jian's face fell dark immediately.

He was still overwhelmed by anger. He pointed at Mo Fan and snapped, "Who the f**k do you think you are? You better piss off as far as you can before I have the urge to cripple someone!"

"It's clear that you can't win the battle yourself, yet you still blamed it on a girl... the difference between you and a dog is, at least a dog is born through regular intercourse, yet a cross breed like you... must be something your mum farted out after she turned pregnant from eating some shit!" replied Mo Fan.

The cursing popped the eyes of Ding Yumian and Ai Tutu wide open.

First, they could not understand the logic of the statement. Second, they were astonished by Mo Fan's skill at cursing.

Everyone at the scene was a Magician, a student of an Institute that was a pillar of the nation, yet the man said something so wild, unpleasant, and illogical when cursing someone... but why did it feel rather pleasant to their ears?

The whole place fell quiet all of a sudden, the filthy words still echoing in their ears. Some of the girls were utterly confused by what he had said, and turned to the wicked boys nearby to get an explanation.

"You...you..." Gu Jian had used up all the foul language in his vocabulary. He was at a loss for words to return the favor. He could feel blood rising in his throat from the grudge in his chest.

Mo Fan was raised by common people. A person like Gu Jian was no match for him.

"Getting cocky when you only know how to scold someone, come face me in a duel instead. I'll make you regret insulting me today!" swore Gu Jian, his finger pointing at Mo Fan as he finally collected his thoughts.

"You do know that scolding a person isn't something to be proud of, but weren't you the one feeling good when you were scolding my friend Ai Tutu?" said Mo Fan with a smirk.

Gu Jian felt like he had simply dropped the rock he was carrying onto his feet. His expression fell dark when he saw the crowd laughing at him.

However, he would never admit his wrong, "Was I wrong? It's true that her strength isn't worthy to take part in the Nomination Preliminaries. Why can't I scold a let-down like her?"

"You lost because you're bad, you never stood a chance against them!" said Mo Fan.

"Hehe, so you think you're good? I'll make this clear, if it weren't the rules that prohibit the students to duel against one another outside of the assigned matches during the Nomination Preliminaries, I would have smashed you into a coma by now. You should be glad that the rules have protected you this time, since I don't want to destroy my future because of a trash like you! There's no way we could win as long as that stupid woman is on our team!" said Gu Jian.

Mo Fan was aware how much of a scum this Gu Jian was, yet the referees were still watching them. They would simply interfere and stop the fight if he tried to beat this scum up, and it was obvious that Gu Jian would simply stay close to the referees.

He uttered a hollow laugh and said to Gu Jian, "You've said it yourself, dare to make a bet with me?"

"I don't mind saying it again, everyone here can testify it, this woman is the reason we lost... what's the bet for?" Gu Jian was obviously trying to protect his image.

"I'll fight the third battle in your place with the same teammates, those two guys and her... if I win, you'll f**king do what I say, crawl to where she is, slap yourself three times in the face and apologize to her!" Mo Fan was extremely disgusted by the scum.

What an asshole! If the referees weren't around, he would have beaten the crap out of the guy.

Gu Jian was stunned...

Gu Jian glanced at his surroundings and saw that everyone was looking at him. He could not decline the man's dare, as he would simply be denying his own words.

"Alright, but if you lose... oh, I remember that there's a lawn in front of my apartment. Lots of annoying people would walk their dogs there, so there are dog poops everywhere. You can split them with that stupid woman and eat them all," snapped Gu Jian.

"Gu Jian, your condition is even more unreasonable." His teammate Li Jie could not stand him any further.

Gu Jian glared back at him.

Mo Fan did not care, since he would simply accept any condition given to him... A few months ago, Mo Fan would not have acted so recklessly, but he was feeling very confident now that the Flame Belle had reached her Youth Stage!

"Very well... referees, please help to testify to this bet, too," Mo Fan turned around and said to the referees.

The three referees were actually some young teachers of the Institute. Although they were pretending to feel helpless when the students were quarreling, they were actually looking forward to it in their hearts... damn, it was much more exciting to be the referee for fights like this!

Speaking of which, this student who came in after the fight... He was a real man!

That being said, they could not simply ignore the rules. One of the referees spoke up, "It's something personal between you, and fine as long as you both accept it, but we won't be giving you high points for your performance. We'll still follow the standard when judging your opponents. If you're fine with that, we won't mind."

"That's fine by me, since we won't be able to fight the third match even without this mess," said Li Jie.

Liu Xing nodded too, implying that he would rather fight the last battle with the wild man on his team than forfeiting it. Besides, for some reason, the fellow looked rather familiar to him...

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Chapter 536: Strange Movemen

"Mo Fan, are you sure about that?" Ai Tutu asked timidly.

"Don't worry," said Mo Fan, thumping his chest confidently.

Even though Ai Tutu wanted to give Mo Fan full marks on his pretentious act, she knew that every student in the top twenty was not easy to deal with after taking part in the two battles. It would be difficult to win with her on the team.

Either way, the matches were still continuing. Not long after, their new opponents appeared before them.

It was obvious that they had just arrived at the place, completely unaware of the situation. A man whose hair was dyed blue with his hands in the pockets walked up to Gu Jian and clapped his shoulder with a smile. "Brother, I will not show any mercy today. Consider yourself unlucky since your opponents are assigned through drawing."

Gu Jian's eyes glistened when he saw the man. He said, "So you're my opponent in the third match... but I'm not the unlucky one." Gu Jian sent a hostile look at Mo Fan and Ai Tutu.

Li Jie and Liu Xing's faces turned pale when they saw the man with blue hair.

"This is bad; it's Xu Mingcong, that guy is stronger than Bai Yulang!" blurted out Li Jie.

"Shit, this is over, losing three matches in a row...even though I wasn't hoping to secure a nomination among all the experts, I don't want to lose like this. I can't explain myself if the result is this bad!" Liu Xing was wearing a gloomy expression too.

"Don't give up yet, let's work together!" Mo Fan reassured him.

"You might not know, but that Xu Mingcong is in the top five of the Wind School. His Wind Element will simply stop all our Spells from touching him. He's unbeatable; how are we going to win?" said Liu Xing.

"You'll never know if you don't try."

Meanwhile, Xu Mingcong had learned the situation from Gu Jian. He was staring at Mo Fan with a disdainful grin.

"Kid, I've seen lots of wild-mannered people in Pearl Institute, but I've not seen anyone like you. Oh, you don't need to tell me your name, I don't have time to remember the names of little shrimps and prawns," said Xu Mingcong, digging into his ear with his pinky finger. He did not even bother looking at Mo Fan as he spoke.

"You might be a retard if you can't even remember the guys who beat the crap out of you."

"HAHAHA, only a few..."

"Only a few students in the entire Pearl Institute would dare to say that to you? Enough with the bullshit, can't you say something else?" interrupted Mo Fan.

Xu Mingcong was stunned for a moment. Damn, this kid isn't following the script!

He was indeed trying to say that line, yet Mo Fan had beaten him to it. He had no choice but to snap with a dark expression, "Humph, I can't wait to see you lick the lawn clean!"

Xu Mingcong's teammates were experts from other Element Schools too, and fairly close with him. They too were uttering hollow laughs when they saw how arrogant Mo Fan was.

The group of four went to their position on the stage. Judging from their formation, Xu Mingcong was their forward. It was difficult to tell what Elements the other two Magicians had, but the slightly plump woman at the back must be the support of their team.

Mo Fan led his team onto the stage. He suddenly recalled something as he was about to go into the formation. He quickly turned around and asked Liu Xing and Li Jie, "By the way, what Elements are you two?"

Liu Xing and Li Jie palmed their faces, as if they were trying to say 'Why the hell are you only asking now?'

"My Primary is Water, and my Secondary is Ice," said Li Jie.

"My Primary is Wind, secondary is Fire," said Liu Xing.

Ai Tutu simply stood there without telling Mo Fan her Elements, since he already knew what she had.

"Mine is Fire and Lightning," said Mo Fan to his teammates.

"Oh, oh, very similar to Gu Jian."

"You two, fire at will when the battle starts; Ai Tutu, try and use your Light Spells to protect us. Our defense is fairly weak," said Mo Fan.

Ai Tutu nodded. For the very first time, she was extremely obedient.

The three referees had finished their preparations. They declared the start of the battle once the participants were in position.

Xu Mingcong was extremely full of himself. Even after the battle had started, he still had his hands in the pockets, not showing any respect to his opponents.

Liu Xing was the first to complete a Fire Element Star Orbit. A Fire Burst appeared on his palm, which he threw right at Xu Mingcong, who was standing closest to him.

Liu Xing's fundamentals were solid, and he was able to cast the Fire Burst slightly faster than Mo Fan. Those ranked in the top twenty were not to be underestimated, indeed! The guy was able to complete the Star Orbit so quickly, even though Fire was his second Element...

The Fire Burst in the form of a fireball swept an arc across the air and landed accurately on Xu Mingcong.

Xu Mingcong did not raise his head, nor did he pull his hands out of the pockets, yet his figure suddenly became blurry. As the Fire Burst exploded at where he was standing, the guy had already moved ten meters away. The flames were only devouring the afterimage he left behind.

A grin slowly surfaced on Xu Mingcong's face. It felt like he was simply standing there, asking to be attacked. Liu Xing who assumed it was mere luck cast the Fire Burst: Rupture once again, but the outcome was the same. Xu Mingcong seemed to be fooling around with Liu Xing, as he only dodged the Spell right at the last second.

"Go on, you should all attack at the same time. Do you really think that slow Basic Spell is going to touch me?" sneered Xu Mingcong scornfully.

Li Jie soon joined the attack. He was planning to use his Ice Spread to hinder Xu Mingcong's movements, before using Ice Lock to deal a critical blow to him...

However, Xu Mingcong was able to dodge that with ease too. Even after Li Jie had cast an Intermediate Ice Spell, he was able to weave among the Spells easily with another Basic Spell, Fleeing Shadow.

The combination of Shadow Element and Wind Track made his movements totally unpredictable.

Liu Xing and Li Jie had started using their Intermediate Spells, yet Xu Mingcong continued to challenge them with his Fleeing Shadow and Wind Track. His hands remained in his pockets throughout the battle, some girls were cheering for him because of how cool he looked.

"That guy's movement is almost on par with Zhang Xiaohou's," murmured Mo Fan.

However, Mo Fan had already come up with an evil idea. His eyes flickered, cunning as a fox.

A burst of flame ignited on Mo Fan's palm. He did not draw a Star Pattern, as its aura was too obvious, which would easily attract his opponents' attention.

He was also using Fire Burst. Mo Fan threw the spell forward, secretly blending it with Liu Xing and Li Jie's attacks.

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Chapter 537: The Unexpected Fire Burs

White frost began to cover the dueling ground. As such, it was very easy to see the bright fireballs flying across the place.

Xu Mingcong had already noticed the fireball being used as a sneak attack on him. He quickly determined how he would dodge the fireball easily while being surrounded by the Ice Lock...

The Fire Burst was cast at the perfect time, right between the gap he was backing into as the Ice Lock came from both sides...

Other Magicians would most likely summon their defensive equipment, but Xucong was no ordinary Magician. He would still remain confident in the midst of the attacks raining down!

"I'll give you a Water Barrier," said the plump woman at the back of the team.

"No, it's fine," replied Xu Mingcong, as he dodged the attacks.

Ice Lock flew wildly through the lingering frost, like two thick, sturdy chains. A single hit was strong enough to break a few bones.

Xu Mingcong smartly used the Wind Track to lean forward slightly, like he was going to dodge the attacks by dashing forward. Li Jie saw his direction change, and quickly manipulated the Ice Lock's target area.

To his surprise, Xu Mingcong immediately changed the direction of Wind Track, or more precisely, he had already set up another Wind Track beforehand. He suddenly changed direction and slid backward nimbly with the help of the wind.

His hands were still in the pockets. His movement of sliding across the ground was elegant, like a Prince of the Wind, urging the girls among the spectators to scream at the top of their lungs!

"That's not the end yet..." Xu Mingcong enjoyed the limelight and the screams. His face was wearing a confident smile.

He slid backward to dodge the Ice Lock, before slanting to his right all of a sudden.

A Fire Burst had descended from above him, as if it had long been waiting for him.

"I've already told you, this Basic Spell is useless..."

Xu Mingcong was good at changing the direction of his movements. He quickly moved in another direction to escape from the Fire Burst's area of effect.

There was a loud explosion, the seemingly ordinary Fire Burst exploding as it landed on the ground, producing a large cloud of flames!

The fiery tongues in the cloud extended ten meters into its surroundings, like giant flaming serpents wriggling their tails.

The shockwave from the explosion was shocking, too! Even the two ice chains were knocked slightly away.

Xu Mingcong was confident that he was right outside of the Fire Burst's coverage, but he never thought that the Fire Burst was not just the ordinary kind. Its area of effect surprised him, surpassing twenty meters!

An ordinary Fire Burst, even with a Soul Seed, would only cover a diameter of ten meters!

Xu Mingcong was around twelve meters away from the explosion. Not only was he safe from the Fire Burst, planning to let his hair dance elegantly to the gusts produced by the explosion.

However, the flames did not stop at a distance of ten meters. They knocked him into the air and slammed him into the ground, burning with flames!

His blue hair was disheveled, and now slightly burnt too.

As his hands were in his pockets, he did not have the time to draw them out, and ended up falling to the ground face down, giving the ground a kiss. He could feel the blood burst out from his nose.

"F**k...f**k me!"

Xu Mingcong did not suffer a serious injury, yet the fall totally took away the handsome image he was establishing right from the beginning. He almost went crazy when he rose to his feet, his face covered in ash.

"I was just wondering why that guy looked so familiar! I think he's the Demon King from the Fire School, Mo Fan, the guy who leveled up his Basic Spells to the fourth-tier!" said the plump woman.

"And you're telling me now!?" yelled Xu Mingcong.

For f**k's sake, he had never seen any Basic Spell as powerful as that Fire Burst! It was almost comparable to an Intermediate Spell! Xu Mingcong had faced countless opponents in the past, yet he never met anyone who would simply waste their money on Basic Spells!

"His Fire is the Rose Flame, multiplying the power of his Fire Spells by two and a half times! The fourth-tier of the Fire Burst increases the power further, too! As a result, his Fire Burst should be five times stronger than an ordinary Fire Burst! It's pretty much half an Intermediate Spell," the woman informed them.

"Guess I misjudged it. I've been attracting their attention for so long, don't tell me none of you did anything!" said Xu Mingcong.

"No way, didn't you see that my Ice Lock is already... hehehe," the Battlemaga wearing bright red lipstick giggled.

"I'll leave that infamous Mo Fan to you. Rumors have described him as a destruction machine. We'll focus on the others," said the muscular Earth Element student.

When Xu Mingcong learned that his teammates were already making their moves, he quickly cast the thought of him being embarrassed in front of the crowd away.

He could still feel the pain from the fall, yet it was nothing significant. He had decided to fight seriously, since his previous indifferent attitude would not earn him lots of points from the referees...

"So what if he's stacked with destructive Spells, I can easily take him down still!" Xu Mingcong tried to rebuild his confidence. A black aura flowed between his fingers as he and slowly turned into something sharp!

"Giant Shadow Spike: Shadow Rose Thorns!"

Xu Mingcong spread his fingers apart. The black auras materialized into black spikes, which he was holding between his fingers...

There were three spikes in total. Xu Mingcong threw the spikes out, and they disappeared into the air, waiting to strike on his command.

Unlike the first-tier and second-tier Giant Shadow Spike, the third-tier Giant Shadow Spike was even more unpredictable. The three spikes were able to hide in the shadows for a certain period. Once they were set up, a single thought could easily fire one of the spikes at a target...

The first spike would stop the target's movement, the second spike would seal off the target's thoughts, and the third would seal off the soul...

Basically, anyone who was hit by the first Giant Shadow Spike would no longer be able to move.

If the second spike landed it would seal off the target's thoughts, preventing the target from casting any Spells.

The third spike was the deadliest. It would penetrate one's soul, inflicting serious damage to the target, who would suffer great pain. If the injury was not treated in time, allowing the force to corrode the soul, it would be the same as diminishing the target's life span, something irreversible!

Mo Fan was unable to level up his Shadow Element Intermediate Spell to the third tier yet, but he was more familiar with its terrifying effects than anyone else.

Currently, the Giant Shadow Spikes were hidden somewhere nearby. Mo Fan would have to be on the alert for quite some time, since he had no idea when the Giant Shadow Spikes would attack.

That being said, the Giant Shadow Spikes were unable to move around freely. They had to rely on the shadows to hide their presence. Firing them under a bright light would significantly reduce their power!

"Don't worry about giving me Light Protection... that Xu Mingcong isn't stupid enough to use his Giant Shadow Spikes right away. Protect them instead," Mo Fan quickly stopped Ai Tutu when he saw her about to cast Light Protection on him.

The duration of Light Protection: Sacred Shield was shorter than the Giant Shadow Spikes. Xu Mingcong could simply wait until the protection wore off before making his move. Ai Tutu would simply waste the precious defensive Spell on him.

Ai Tutu nodded and placed her focus on Liu Xing and Li Jie instead.

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Chapter 538: I've Always Hated the Summoning Elemen

...

"Hey, I have just arrived, but I saw that girl crying; do you mind telling me what happened?"

Ding Yumian was focused on the match when a polite yet deep voice spoke up behind her. Ding Yumian initially thought it was someone trying to start a conversation with her using the topic. She always found

herself in similar situations, yet when she turned around, she did not see any hint of what she had assumed from the person's eyes, so she proceeded to tell him what had gone on.

Ding Yumian knew if a man was trying to pick her up, yet the man talking to her had a weird gaze... it had a determination and coldness that did not belong to someone of his age.

"I see, thanks." The man fell silent after listening to Ding Yumian's rough explanation.

As he placed his attention on the match, Ding Yumian no longer felt his existence, as if he had turned into a black statue.

Ding Yumian ignored him and focused on the match.

Mo Fan was still facing a problem, which was the Giant Shadow Spikes hiding somewhere in the dueling ground...

The Giant Shadow Spike could be deadly. It was the strongest imprisoning Spell among all Intermediate Spells, but it was tricky to land the attack accurately. Many experienced people would avoid the places covered in shadows, giving them enough time to dodge the Giant Shadow Spikes when they showed up.

However, Ding Yumian was clearly aware that a true expert would not rely on the Giant Shadow Spike to overwhelm their opponent, but would use it more to pin them down...

Now!

Mo Fan was surrounded by flickers of lightning; the sound they made was enough to send a chill down his opponent's spine.

Since he wielded the Lightning Seed Qianjun, if Mo Fan was given a chance to cast the third-tier Thunderbolt, Wild Strikes, Xu Mingcong's team would suffer severe damage, as on top of defensive Spells, they would be forced to use their defensive equipment too!

After all, the Spell was the strongest destructive Spell in the Intermediate Level; no one would dare to underestimate its power.

However, as Mo Fan was close to finishing the Star Pattern under his teammates' cover, a sharp spike burst out from the shadow under the frost and flew right at him!

"The Water Barrier won't be able to stop it, watch out!" said Li Jie to Mo Fan.

Mo Fan knew Ai Tutu had already used Light Protection on Liu Xing to protect her from the Ice Lock. He seemed well prepared for the attack, who instantly withdrawing the half-completed Star Pattern and hopping back nimbly, dodging the rather obvious Giant Shadow Spike.

"Running out of patience already?" Mo Fan asked with a mocking smile.

A Giant Shadow Spike was different than other Spells. It was not readily available after completing the Star Pattern. Therefore, once he dodged all three of the spikes, the threat that Xu Mingcong posed to him would be cut in half.

"It's not a waste if it stopped your Lightning Star Pattern!" Xu Mingcong burst into laughter too. However, the smile on his face did not seem relaxed; he had just discovered that Mo Fan's attack was a level higher than Gu Jian!

Following that thought, Xu Mingcong's eyes glittered in the middle of his words!

The second spike was fired as soon as Mo Fan dodged the first one.

Even though the Giant Shadow Spike was effective when used to pin down an enemy, it would basically put an end to the battle if he managed to land it. Xu Mingcong was hoping to defeat Mo Fan as soon as possible.

Unfortunately, Mo Fan was already keeping an eye out for the second spike, while Xu Mingcong thought he had fired at the perfect time. Mo Fan had described his opponent as impatient not because he was in a rush to disrupt his Lightning Star Pattern, but for the fact that he was expending two of the spikes in a row!

As a Shadow Magician, Mo Fan's familiarity with using the shadows around him was not any weaker than Xu Mingcong. He knew that his opponent was not only trying to interrupt his channeling...

A burst of flame ignited on Mo Fan's palm, which he threw straight into the air.

The light from the fire quickly exposed the shadow spike that was flying at him rapidly, significantly weakening its power

Once Mo Fan was able to see its path, it was fairly easy to dodge it. He simply stepped aside and let the second spike fly past him!

"You've got your final spike left. Do use it wisely... of course, I'll be quite speechless if you use it to disrupt my next Spell," Mo Fan backed off slightly, allowing Li Jie to cover him with both Water and Ice Elements.

New stars began to appear around Mo Fan's figure, which began to glow in the color of the moon with a presence that did not originate from this world.

The stars were aligned rapidly, tearing the space apart...

"That guy is trying to Summon!" said the slightly plump woman.

"Crap, I totally forgot his Double Innate Elements!" cursed Xu Mingcong.

After learning that their opponent was Mo Fan, they were not too surprised by his Double Innate Elements, yet when they actually fought against him, they were extremely irritated by it.

Xu Mingcong only had the last shadow spike left. Using it to interrupt the channeling of a Basic Spell would be overkilling it, yet even if he succeeded, Mo Fan could simply cast the Spell again, since it was only a Basic Spell!

Despite the Spell being only at the Basic Level, Mo Fan had Summoned the Swift Star Wolf, a Summoned Beast whose strength was just below an average Warrior-level creature!

Close combat had always been most Magicians' weakness. The Swift Star Wolf was not strong enough to dominate among Warrior-level creatures, yet he was more than enough to keep a student in the top twenty busy!

"My Swift Star Wolf is proud of his speed, too! You can have some fun with him," Mo Fan said from in the middle of the team. He fondled the Swift Star Wolf's hair with a smile.

The Swift Star Wolf was very excited. As long as he was not Summoned to fight the Flame Belle, he was still his usual ferocious self.

The Swift Star Wolf had spent a long time with Mo Fan, so he had also become as cunning as a fox. He knew that his master was fighting against strong opponents, and each had the ability to face a Warrior-level creature on their own, so he did not make a move impatiently. He ran to the side with his outstanding speed, waiting to strike when his targets lowered their guard!

Just a moment ago, Xu Mingcong's Giant Shadow Spike was targeting Mo Fan's team in the dark, forcing them to be alert at all times.

Now, the tables had turned. Duels usually consisted of nullifying the Spells between opponents, yet a Warrior-level creature had suddenly joined the battle. His presence was a lot more intimidating than a Giant Shadow Spike. As soon as their defense crumbled, or they lowered their guard slightly, the Swift Star Wolf would lunge at them instantly!

"I've always hated the Summoning Element!" swore the muscular student with the Earth Element.

Not only was the guy's Basic Spell half as powerful as an Intermediate Spell, and he possessed the destructive Lightning Element, he had even Summoned a wolf out to secure the upper hand by abusing their numbers!

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Chapter 539: Don't Let Him Cast The Spells!

"I totally forgot you still had the Summoning Element..."

"Nice, well done!"

Liu Xing and Li Jie immediately smiled.

The Summon gave them the upper hand. One of their opponents would have to deal with the Swift Star Wolf, allowing Mo Fan's team to cast any Spell they wanted.

The clash between the Basic Spells was simply trying to earn themselves a chance to cast their Intermediate Spells. As soon as the Swift Star Wolf was Summoned, they immediately drew their Star Patterns.

"Rolling Wave!"

Li Jie was a fairly big guy. His aura when roaring was somewhat intimidating.

As he raised his hands up, a surging river appeared behind him out of nowhere. The water of came from both sides and merged into a surging tide in front of him.

Water splashed across the place as the force of the wave surged forward. The Rolling Wave swept across the dueling ground like a water serpent, crashing down right onto where Xu Mingcong and his team were standing.

"Rock Barrier!"

The muscular student reacted fairly quickly. He immediately stood in front of the team and summoned a layer of stone like a small hill to block the wave.

The wave struck the rock and sprayed ten meters high into the sky.

"Humph, is that all you got?" the muscular student standing behind the Rock Barrier held his hands up high.

"Watch out for the wolf!" screamed the student with red lips.

The muscular man turned to his side and saw the Swift Star Wolf charging in his direction as the water rained down from the air. The fangs in his mouth suddenly enlarged by at least ten times...

The wolf bit down fiercely, shattering the Rock Barrier into pieces. The muscular student was left with a pale face. He panicked and summoned his Armor Equipment to protect himself.

Using the Armor Equipment meant he had revealed his trump card.

The Swift Star Wolf was rather smart. As soon as he saw his target summoning the Armor Equipment, he stopped pressuring him and withdrew temporarily.

A few ice chains came forward, almost catching the Swift Star Wolf off guard. Luckily, the Swift Star Wolf had fled decisively, to avoid being flanked by other Magicians.

"That son of a bitch!" cursed the maga with red lips.

The Swift Star Wolf was too fast for the Ice Lock. She had finally completed her Star Pattern, yet the Spell was only able to stop the creature from attacking for the moment. Most importantly, the muscular guy had already summoned his Armor Equipment...

And... after their attention was attracted by the Swift Star Wolf, their opponents would have already completed a few Star Patterns!

"F**k me, didn't I ask you to look out for Mo Fan!?" screamed Xu Mingcong suddenly.

Everyone was focused on the Swift Star Wolf. By the time they collected their thoughts, Mo Fan had already completed the terrifying Lightning Star Pattern.

Mo Fan's figure was covered in flickering purple lightning. He looked like a devil as the lightning danced wildly around him.

His lips curled up. A Magician who had mastered the power of lightning displayed an imperious aura. Once he completed the Star Pattern, the outcome of the battle against someone in the same level would be half-decided.

"Qianjun: Thunderbolt..."

"Don't you dare!" yelled Xu Mingcong furiously. He curled his finger and fired the last shadow spike.

"I got this: Brilliant Light!" Ai Tutu intervened in the nick of time.

A white glow blossomed above Mo Fan. The blinding rays shone down on him and completely illuminated Mo Fan's area, so brightly that it was impossible to see anything clearly!

The strong light immediately revealed the shadow thorn flying at him. Its speed quickly decreased, and it was melted away by the light mere inches away from Mo Fan!

Gu Jian, who was almost blinded by the light, almost jumped out from his seat...

What the heck, that woman couldn't even control her Brilliant Light in the last match. After teaming up with Mo Fan, she was smart enough to use the Brilliant Light to create a light zone around Mo Fan, nullifying the last Thorn of the Shadow Rose!

The Brilliant Light came at the perfect time, as if she had long predicted its timing.

"Crap!"

"This is bad!"

"Equipment, use your equipment!"

The moment the shadow spike disappeared, the faces of Xu Mingcong's team turned pale white.

The strongest Intermediate Spell was definitely not something they could simply ignore!

"Enjoy the wrath of lightning..."

Mo Fan stood still as he focused on controlling the storm cloud appearing above the dueling grounds.

He pointed his finger at the sky, his eyes glittering, and a lightning strike landed in between Xu Mingcong's team. The blast immediately shattered the stage and knocked the pieces into the air!

"Again!"

Mo Fan uttered, calling down another purple-black lightning strike to land on the dueling ground, right on Xu Mingcong's head.

Xu Mingcong was hoping to dodge it with his impressive agility, but as two other lightning strikes descended, he was left with no room to escape.

He finally activated his Armor Equipment, yet even though it managed to resist the outstanding power of the lightning, he felt like his bones were almost collapsing from the space-trembling effect.

The space-trembling effect of the Lightning Seed Qianjun was still not very obvious when it was applied to the first and second-tier Thunderbolt. However, the effect was a lot more terrifying when applied to the third-tier Thunderbolt, Wild Strikes...

A single lightning strike was enough to make the space nearby tremble. As more lightning strikes descended, the effect would stack up continuously. Even if the target's Armor managed to resist most of the damage from the lightning strikes, the remaining space-trembling effect was troublesome to deal with, too. Xu Mingcong and his team were no longer able to stand properly after being struck by the lightning!

The slightly plump woman was in a better position. Her defense was better than the others too, plus she was standing relatively far away from the rest of the team, hence she was not directly struck by the deadly lightning.

Meanwhile, the rest of her team had basically used all their Shields and Armor Equipment to protect themselves.

Armor Equipment was generally more costly, and not everyone could afford good armor, hence they were forced to use their Shields, too...

"Rose Flame, Fiery Fist: Nine Halls!"

However, the scary voice appeared once again.

When Mo Fan started to attack, no matter how many people were there, or how many layers of defense they had, they had no choice but to flee like rats!

After the lightning came fierce flames jetting out from pillars of fire, which were definitely more than enough to leave a great impression on those caught within!

[Versatile Mage](#)

Chapter 540: Three Slaps!

Fiery Fist: Nine Halls!

When the nine fire pillars burst out from the ground, Xu Mingcong and his team were completely roasted by the flames.

They had already expended their Shield Equipment and Armor Equipment to protect themselves from the lightning strikes. The Nine Halls broke down their remaining defense.

The shocking destructive force destroyed almost the entire dueling ground. Even the safety barrier at the edge began to shake as the fire tongues fire between the pillars continued to dance wildly...

The watching Gu Jian was stunned. He also had the Lightning and Fire Elements, thus making him a full-offensive Magician. However, he was dumbfounded by the formidable power of the same Spells of his two Elements when Mo Fan was the caster!

Soul Seeds!

Gu Jian realized that the difference between their Soul Seeds had resulted in the tremendous difference in their strength!

Mo Fan's Rose Flame was simple yet violent, multiplying the power of any Fire Spell by 2.5 times. Meanwhile, the Fiery Fist: Nine Halls was simple and violent, too. Hence, it was the best Spell to utilize the boost in power from the Rose Flame.

Meanwhile, the strength of Mo Fan's Thunderbolt: Wild Strikes was somewhat similar to Gu Jian's, yet the space-trembling effect had left its targets in a miserable state despite the protection of their defensive equipment.

The slight difference between their Soul Seeds had resulted in an unexpected outcome. It felt like the battle had already ended after the Lightning and Fire.

Their opponents had basically used all their defensive equipment, while Mo Fan's team was still holding onto theirs. It was impossible for Mo Fan's team to lose when their opponents could barely stand up after being blasted by the two destructive Spells.

As the situation cleared up, Gu Jian's expression turned unpleasant.

"Did we actually win?" Li Jie and Liu Xing stared at Mo Fan in disbelief.

"HAHA, we won, Mo Fan, you're so cool!" Ai Tutu jumped into the air and gave Mo Fan a kiss on his face.

Ai Tutu literally had a young face with enormous breasts. As she went forward to kiss Mo Fan on the cheek, her pair of giant rabbits was pressing Mo Fan's chest hard. The shocking bounce almost resulted in blood jetting out from his nose.

{TL Note: Giant rabbits = boobs.}

That was f**king exciting!

Ai Tutu was aware that she had overdone it. Even though she was blushing, she managed to gather herself and said sternly, "I was just overwhelmed with joy. It doesn't mean anything, don't you think too much!"

Mo Fan wore an evil grin without saying anything.

The three referees soon declared the outcome. Xu Mingcong's team basically stood no chance after Mo Fan's two consecutive third-tier Intermediate Spells. The battle had become one-sided.

As a matter of fact, Liu Xing, Li Jie, and Ai Tutu were not weak. Once Mo Fan got the upper hand using his overwhelming power, Xu Mingcong and his team basically had no chance to fight back. Besides, Ai

Tutu's Deathstrike Magic Equipment was insanely powerful, even comparable to Mo Fan's Intermediate Spell at full power.

"Xu Mingcong, why the hell did you lose the battle?" Gu Jian had almost gone crazy, and yelled at Xu Mingcong.

"Humph, you'd lose too if you were in it!" Xu Mingcong was already in a bad mood after losing the match, yet Gu Jian still yelled at him.

What could Xu Mingcong possibly do?

He only had the Wind and Shadow Elements. He could at most pin his opponents down and harass them!

Meanwhile, the guy they were facing had Lightning and Fire Elements, the two most violent Elements one could possibly hope for, and was also able to summon a Swift Star Wolf! How could they possibly stand a chance!?

This Mo Fan's strength was indeed outstanding, as expected of someone in the top ten of the Fire School.

"A mere battle is nowhere enough to prove yourself, just you wait!" said Xu Mingcong, pointing his finger at Ming Cong.

In contrast to how Xu Mingcong looked when he first entered the dueling ground, his face was covered in ash and his clothes were ragged. His hair resembled that of a beggar, and he could no longer be described as handsome. The girls who screamed previously could not believe he was the same handsome, cool dude who had nonchalantly kept his hands in his pockets.

Xu Mingcong did not want to embarrass himself any further. He turned and left the place.

As he left, Gu Jian's mind went blank.

Meanwhile, Ai Tutu totally turned into an immature kid, hurrying to the seat she was sitting in before. She twisted her waist slightly and sat down in a perfectly upright posture!

Now that they had won the match, it implied that she was not the sole reason they lost the previous match. Gu Jian might be good at one-on-one duels, but he insisted on doing everything his way in a team battle, a great contrast to Mo Fan, who knew how to utilize everyone's Elements efficiently!

In Ai Tutu's opinion, Mo Fan was shockingly strong, yet besides the advantage of having the combination of Fire and Lightning, he knew how to communicate with his team...

How to deal with their opponents, how to nullify their attacks, when to withdraw strategically, when to counterattack! In terms of fighting capacity, Mo Fan was a lot stronger than Gu Jian, who only knew how to scold people!

Ai Tutu let out a smile and glanced at Gu Jian, her eyes squinting. She would not show any mercy to Gu Jian. He would do what he was supposed to, and that was what he deserved for scolding her!

"What are you waiting for, crawl to her," said Mo Fan, whose dictionary never had the word 'mercy' in it.

Gu Jian almost broke his teeth from clenching them too hard.

What the heck was happening, isn't Xu Mingcong stronger than Bai Yulang, how could they possibly lose the match!?

With everyone watching Gu Jian, he did not dare to go back on his word. He knelt on the ground with a dark face...

He crawled forward and immediately felt a great humiliation strike him like a rolling wave. He had a great urge to rise to his feet and duel Mo Fan to death.

In the end, Gu Jian chose to continue crawling forward, his eyes full of hatred.

The distance was not far, yet the crawl was more tortuous than crawling toward the Yellow Springs. When he finally made it to where that bitch was sitting, he saw her smiling at him proudly.

Ai Tutu had no reason to go soft on Gu Jian, and gave him a loud slap to the face.

Gu Jian could feel his face burning. He never thought he would actually be slapped by the girl for scolding her before the day was even over!

"This slap is to stop you scum from barking at people again! I'm still a virgin!" Ai Tutu gave him another slap with the back of her hand, completely showing her evilness. The crowd subconsciously took a deep breath when they saw this.

You should never infuriate a woman! The man's handsome face was already swelling after the two slaps. Since when had the arrogant Gu Jian ever suffered such humiliation in his entire life?

"As for this final slap..."

Ai Tutu raised her hand, and was about to use all her might to slap the man to his death.

However, as her hand reached the highest point, a tanned hand suddenly grabbed her wrist like a pair of pincers, not allowing her to fling it.

Gu Jian had already closed his eyes, already thinking of a way to avenge himself in the future. However, his wretched heart was suddenly filled with a hint of joy.