

Versatile 801

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Chapter 801: One Escaped

Mo Fan and Mochizuki Chihaya did not touch the Essence Orb again.

However, the Essence Orb seemed to be aware that it was soon going to be taken back to the East Guardian Tower. It started rolling on its own.

There was an opening to the drainage by the road. The Essence Orb was planning to roll into it and escape through the sewage system.

Clearly, the creature's movements were greatly hindered in the form of the orb. It needed to live in other organisms as a parasite to utilize its capabilities.

If it rolled into the drainage and attached itself to a rat, it was possible that it would turn into a terrifying rat beast!

Mo Fan would not allow the thing to bring any harm to the world. He locked his gaze on the orb and used his will to forcibly roll the orb back!

"Telekinesis?" Mochizuki Chihaya was startled. She glanced at Mo Fan with wide eyes.

"What telekinesis? You've imagined it," Mo Fan smiled, trying to cover it up.

Mochizuki Chihaya was still in a trance. She agreed she might have seen it wrong. Mo Fan was only an Advanced Magician, thus it was impossible for him to have so many Elements...

The evil Essence Orb that was rolled back to its initial spot seemed quite furious. It began to vibrate vigorously.

However, none of that mattered, as Mochizuki Ken had finally arrived from the West Guardian Tower.

The old man with a mustache walked up to Mo Fan and Mochizuki Chihaya. His eyes glittered as he stared at the Essence Orb on the ground for a long time!

The Essence Orb seemed to be afraid of Mochizuki Ken. It stayed motionless, as if it was just a normal black orb.

Mochizuki Ken went forward and wrapped a silver piece of cloth around it.

Mochizuki Ken was a reputable Magician in Osaka. He dismissed the police and the City Hunters, before returning to the West Guardian Tower with Mochizuki Chihaya and Mo Fan.

It was obvious that Mochizuki Ken had managed to keep the news under control, to prevent it from being made known to Commander Takagi.

Mochizuki Ken brought Mo Fan and Mochizuki Chihaya to a room with an open ceiling. The light emitted by the moon and the stars sprinkled down upon the room and lit up the place off the decorations hanging on the walls. It felt like they were sitting in a vast, magnificent galaxy, enjoying a bath under the light of the moon and the stars.

Mochizuki Chihaya was on her knees on the wooden floor, her hair dangling to the sides with her head lowered, like a girl who had done something wrong yet was not afraid to be punished.

Mo Fan was sitting on the ground too, observing the decorations on the walls.

Mochizuki Ken was sitting under the light of the moon with his back facing the two. He looked extremely stern.

“Chihaya, I’m very disappointed,” said Mochizuki Ken.

“I’m aware of my mistake.” Mochizuki Chihaya did not dare to raise her voice.

“Even if you found out that Iwata was locked in the East Guardian Tower, you should have investigated the whole incident first. With your reckless move, even if everything is exactly what you assumed to be, it would only make the situation worse,” said Mochizuki Ken.

“I had no idea who to ask, if even the loyal Iwata was now imprisoned in the East Guardian Tower...” said Mochizuki Chihaya while lowering her head further.

“So you chose to believe him?” said Mochizuki Ken.

Mochizuki Chihaya looked at Mo Fan and fell silent.

“I’m an outsider, so there’s no way I’ll allow myself to be caught infighting. That being said, old man Mochizuki, can you explain to us what this evil thing is first? I believe you already knew about its existence...” said Mo Fan.

“Every human has a soul, and the cultivation of Magicians focuses on refining the soul. The stronger the soul is, the stronger the Magician is. However, a human soul isn’t pure. The East Guardian Tower is under the effect of a curse that drains away the souls of the evil Magicians, but it won’t cleanse the hatred, evil, greed, anger, and desires of their soul... and on top of that, the East Guardian Tower also has a dark formation. Such an environment allows evil thoughts to grow, and ends up turning into the orb you saw,” said Mochizuki Ken.

“Japan is indeed a weird place. Vessels have demons inside them, and even a prison can give birth to a demon too!” murmured Mo Fan.

“Luckily, you managed to stop Chihaya in time. Otherwise, a new Red Demon would soon be born in Japan,” said Mochizuki Ken.

“Red Demon?” Mo Fan was confused.

“We call them Red Demons. Their souls are different than those of most creatures; they are dark red. Every organism that is controlled by them will leave a dark red evil mark after their death!” said Mochizuki Ken.

Mochizuki Chihaya nodded too. Her eyes were able to see the souls of the pedestrians when she was attacking them. On top of that, when her plants took control of them, it turned out that their souls were stamped with a dark red seal, as if they had signed a contract with a devil!

A dark red soul mark!

Mo Fan rose from the ground, shivering.

The soul of a living organism, be it a demon creature, a ghost or a devil spirit was either blue or green when they died. There had never been a red soul!

However, Mo Fan clearly remembered that Leng Qing had mentioned the strange dark red mark inside the soul of Lingling's father when he was murdered. The same thing had happened when the vampire Nie Dong was killed!

"Old man, did a Red Demon escape from the East Guardian Tower before?!" asked Mo Fan with a stern face.

Mochizuki Ken shuddered. He turned around in shock and stared at Mo Fan, who had just asked the question suddenly.

Mochizuki Chihaya rose to her feet too. She did not understand why Mo Fan was so agitated.

The expression on the old man's face stiffened. His brown eyes were trembling in fear of the past.

"How...how did you know that?" Mochizuki Ken fixed his gaze on Mo Fan.

The last Red Demon had been a nightmare haunting Mochizuki Ken for his entire life. Even after so many years, Mochizuki Ken would still wake up in cold sweat when he dreamed about what happened that night!

It was true that a Red Demon did escape from the East Guardian Tower many years ago. Until now, the old guardians of the tower had not dared to tell anyone about it!

He never thought a student from China would expose the secret that they had tried to keep for so many years.

Mochizuki Chihaya was startled. She had experienced how terrifying the Red Demon was first hand, and to her surprise, the East Guardian Tower had let something so dangerous and terrifying escape!

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Chapter 802: The First Red Demon

The mountain road on the west mountain forked into a little path that was inaccessible to cars.

Mochizuki Ken led Mo Fan and Mochizuki Chihaya to the path. To their surprise, the little rift valley had a secret memorial tablet. On it was a bouquet of flowers that was still not wilted yet, which clearly implied that someone had paid a visit here recently.

"I was the same as you, young and ruthless, and I didn't consider the consequences before taking actions. The same, boring routine in the East Guardian Tower made us curious toward every little discovery. When he discovered the Essence Orb, he was so excited that he could not wait to bring it out," Mochizuki Ken raised a jar of wine and slowly poured it across the memorial tablet.

Mo Fan went up closer and saw a name carved on the memorial tablet.

"Kazuaki?" Mochizuki Chihaya stared at the memorial tablet. It took her a while to collect her thoughts.

"Yeah, he was your brother Iwata's biological father, and a close friend of mine," said Mochizuki Ken.

"So you two brought the evil Essence Orb out in the past, just like us?" asked Mo Fan.

"It's rather complicated. Chihaya's mum Masako used to be extremely popular among the people in the Twin Guardian Towers... ugh, I guess the people nowadays would describe her as a goddess. Iwata's father managed to stand out among the men and earned her affection, and soon, they gave birth to Iwata..." said Mochizuki Ken.

"Hang on, let's skip the old love story, I just want to know about the last Red Demon," Mo Fan was clearly impatient.

The incident was somehow related to the bizarre death of Lingling's father. Mo Fan was eager to learn about the Red Demon. He had known Lingling for quite some time, and the only reason that the mature little girl looked down all the time was the dark red soul mark. If he could find out the truth, it might serve as the best medicine for Lingling.

In Shanghai, Lingling had always helped him without asking for anything in return. Mo Fan believed that this was the only thing he could do for her.

It was a coincidence that he had discovered the information about the special dark red soul mark. As such, he wanted to find out the truth, just so he could tell Lingling about his discovery.

"It happened like this: Kazuaki and I were the first ones to discover the Essence Orb, and we told Masako and Tegami. Masako suggested we should report it to the clan, but Tegami suggested we should refine the energy in the orb to improve our strength, so we could stand out among the people in the clan. We ended up absorbing the energy in the orb and split it evenly among ourselves. Nothing happened at first, and our cultivation improved significantly. However, Masako, Tegami, and I began to act differently. We were having fun killing demon creatures. Later, we even tortured the prisoners in the East Guardian Tower..." said Mochizuki Ken.

"You have lost your mind to the Essence Orb," said Mo Fan.

"Yes. It got worse, Tegami suggested that we should imprison more criminals in the East Guardian Tower, so the Essence Orb would be able to absorb more energy from their souls, to provide us with more power," Mochizuki Ken seemed reluctant to talk about the past.

He had done lots of things that he was utterly regretful of during the time he had lost control of himself. The cruelty and evil kept growing stronger and rooted deep in their hearts...

"How did you break free from its control?" asked Mo Fan.

It was obvious that the old man had become a lot gentler and kinder after the incident.

“It was Kazuaki, he’s the most rational among us. When he realized that the orb was draining the hatred and evil thoughts of the prisoners from their soul, he began to stop us from cultivating with the Essence Orb... (sigh) but we were simply too lost in our greed,” Mochizuki Ken let out a breath full of remorse and sorrow.

“So you killed him?” said Mo Fan.

“Nonsense!” Mochizuki Chihaya glared at Mo Fan.

“As a matter of fact, we did kill him. The three of us decided to murder Kazuaki who tried to stop us...” Mochizuki Ken’s voice was extremely soft. He did not even dare to look into Mochizuki Chihaya’s eyes.

“What... you killed Iwata’s father? Even my mum agreed?!” Mochizuki Chihaya cried out in shock.

Kazuaki and Mochizuki were still husband and wife back then. From what Mochizuki Chihaya could remember, her mother was the kindest woman in the world. There was no way she would do something so wicked and twisted.

Mochizuki Ken knew it was hard for Mochizuki Chihaya to accept the truth, yet he had no choice but to reveal it, “The truth is, she was the one that suggested it... oh, you shouldn’t blame your mother, she was influenced the greatest by the orb, I believe you already know what that feels like.”

Mochizuki Chihaya recalled how she attacked the civilians. She was indeed not herself.

“How terrifying, knowing that the person sleeping beside you is thinking of killing you...” Mo Fan let out a sigh.

“Luckily, Kazuaki was a clever man, and realized what we were up to. We initially thought he would run away, but he didn’t. He stole the Essence Orb and left with that evil thing. We even tried to hunt him down because we thought he was trying to keep the Essence Orb to himself. We were extremely furious, we even pursued him until he had nowhere to run, but somehow, he vanished. Since then, we have never seen Kazuaki again. As time gradually passed, our minds slowly recovered. Your mum Masako felt extremely guilty for what she had done, and ended up passing away at a young age. Tegami and I did not dare to mention the incident again, but we have no idea how we could ever atone for what we had done to Kazuaki,” said Mochizuki Ken.

It had been so many years, the young man had already grown old, yet it felt like everything had only happened the day before. Mochizuki Ken’s eyes were soaked in tears whenever he recalled it.

“So that’s why you’ve always been loving and kind to Iwata?” said Mochizuki Ken.

The old man nodded and said after taking a deep breath, “Yeah, the only thing we can do is take good care of his son. Unfortunately, it took us some time to recover. We vented all our hatred toward Kazuaki on his son. Iwata suffered greatly when he was young, Masako hated him too... when Masako finally realized the sacrifice Kazuaki had made, Iwata had already grown up. He assumed that our love and care were just putting up an act, and he believed he never needed any of it.”

“Iwata...” Mochizuki Chihaya felt a tingling surge in her nose when she imagined what her brother had gone through.

“I’ll try my best to save Iwata from Commander Takagi. We must not let Commander Takagi know about the Essence Orb. Takagi is a greedy man. He has no idea how terrifying the thing is. If the orb falls into his hand, it will be a great disaster,” said Mochizuki Ken.

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Chapter 803: Escorting the Evil Orb

Mo Fan felt his head aching. In the end, he only knew where the Red Demon came from, but he had no idea where it was, or what it was up to.

If that was the case, how could he possibly help Lingling avenge her dad?

“Mo Fan, I have a favor to ask,” said Mochizuki Ken.

“Old man, I’m a busy man,” Mo Fan rejected straight away.

“The Essence Orb is absolutely evil. To be honest, I don’t think I’m confident enough even if my people are keeping it. I know that your team is heading for Tokyo soon. I hope that you can bring the Essence Orb to an old friend of mine in Tokyo. He’s the only person that can purify the hatred inside the orb,” said Mochizuki Ken.

“Hey hey, I didn’t accept yet, don’t you act like I’ve agreed to do you the favor!” protested Mo Fan.

Commander Takagi had the highest authority in the West Guardian Tower. It would only be a matter of time until he located the Essence Orb. Once he found it, the whole situation would only worsen. Mochizuki Ken was hoping to bring the orb away, as far as possible!

“The Essence Orb does contain incredible energy, and the side effect when it is absorbed by a Summoned Beast is significantly lower. If you’re willing to help us with the favor, you can take a part of the energy in the orb. If I’m not mistaken, you are a Summoner too. I believe you’ll need the energy more than anyone else... ah, if the higher-ups knew I’d given such a useful resource to a representative of the Chinese team, they would surely blame me for it. However, I have no other choice. The Essence Orb is still fresh, its evil thoughts are still not that strong. It’s better to purify it as soon as possible,” said Mochizuki Ken.

Mo Fan hesitated after hearing the offer from the old man.

The advancement of the Swift Star Wolf was indeed a problem he was facing. It had been a while since his Summoned Beast was stuck at his current level. At this rate, his Summoned Beast would not be able to handle the upcoming fights.

The Swift Star Wolf had been utterly loyal to him. Mo Fan had no intention to switch him out. Therefore, the only choice was to improve his strength.

However, Mo Fan was hesitant when he recalled how evil the orb was.

“Why don’t you ask someone else?” Somehow, Mo Fan thought the old man had too much trust in him.

“Do you think it’s wise to let more people know about its existence?” asked Mochizuki Ken in return.

It was as Mochizuki Ken had said. Based on what they were told, even lovers would turn against one another under the influence of the orb. It was indeed something that must be handled with extreme caution.

“Master, isn’t it a bit too risky asking him to escort the orb...” said Mochizuki Chihaya.

“Mo Fan is just like Kazuaki, who still managed to keep a clear mind despite the influence of the Essence Orb. I won’t tell anyone that you have the Essence Orb, and it’s better if you don’t mention it to your teammates, either. The Essence Orb is just an ordinary orb as long as it’s wrapped inside the silver cloth. Once you arrive in Tokyo, hand it to my old friend, and you’ll be given a high-quality soul to upgrade your Summoned Beast,” said Mochizuki Ken.

“It sounds like a plan, but I’m more interested in learning more about the previous Red Demon. My Hunter partner has been looking for a dark red soul mark like this, and it turns out that it’s something that escaped from your East Guardian Tower, so I hope that you’ll tell me everything you know,” said Mo Fan sternly.

“That’s more the reason you should bring the orb to my old friend,” said Mochizuki Ken.

“And why is that?”

“He used to be the warden for the East Guardian Tower before Commander Takagi took over. I believe he’s the only person that knows where the Red Demon is. He’s the only one that’s still trying to hunt the Red Demon down,” said Mochizuki Ken.

“If that’s the case... fine, I’ll bring the orb to him,” Mo Fan nodded.

“Chihaya will go with you,” said Mochizuki Ken.

“Me?” Mochizuki Chihaya was startled.

wasn’t it weird for a Japanese inspector to follow the Chinese national team to Tokyo? What reason and identity would she use to convince them to let her tag along?

“Leave Iwata to me, focus on delivering the orb. I believe Iwata will soon recover; Takagi has no reason to lock him up further,” said Mochizuki Ken.

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A lot of things had happened that night, yet to those who were deeply asleep, it was a perfectly calm night.

Back in his room, Mo Fan was holding the orb wrapped inside a silver cloth in his hand. He could feel the evil energy flowing out from it. It made him shiver when the energy penetrated his skin.

“Mo Fan, Mo Fan, wake up!” Zhao Manyan yelled outside the door.

Mo Fan opened the door. He was still energetic. A Magician’s mental toughness was stronger than ordinary people after all. It would not matter if he did not have any sleep for a few days.

“What is it?” asked Mo Fan with a confused look.

“That brainless woman with huge breasts who dueled with you, Mochizuki Chihaya, is coming to Tokyo with us!” exclaimed Zhao Manyan in a slightly excited tone.

“Oh,” answered Mo Fan.

“Oh? That’s not the reaction I expect from you! Yes I know that woman is harsh with her words, but her body is absolutely marvelous. The journey to Tokyo is a long one, you should make use of the chance to push her down!” Zhao Manyan immediately displayed his pervertedness.

{TL Note: ‘push down’ here is a Chinese modern slang, like pushing someone down on a bed.}

“I’m not that kind of a person.”

“Of course, considering the kind of person you are, you’re not just going to push her down, there’s going to be whipping, candles, handcuffs, racks... tsk tsk tsk,” Zhao Manyan kept going, his mind already full of imaginations.

“You’re a retard.”

“Hey, hey, why so serious? Don’t you know a man’s hormones are the strongest in the morning? Can’t I enjoy some lewd thoughts? I’ve not touched a woman since the training started. At this rate, I’m definitely going nuts!” grumbled Zhao Manyan.

“Anything else? If not, I’m heading back to sleep. I’m tired,” said Mo Fan impatiently.

“Tired? Didn’t you sleep last night?”

“I was caught in some trouble,” Mo Fan was still unclear about the Essence Orb. He had no intention to drag Zhao Manyan into the mess.

The thing was extremely dangerous. Even a Senior Hunter like Lingling’s father had died because of it. Mo Fan believed it was unwise to tell anyone about it unless he was sure that it would not pose any threat to them.

“Actually, I’ve come here to discuss something with you. I’ve been having this weird dream lately... hey, I’m discussing a serious matter with you, why are you shoving me outside,” said Zhao Manyan.

“We’ll talk later, let me take a nap first.”

—

“Asshole, he must have done something lewd last night...”

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Chapter 804: The Truth About the Island

By the afternoon, the national team was on its way to Tokyo.

The rules were the same. Their identities were still frozen, and since they could only buy train tickets with valid identities, they ended up taking the railway to the outskirts of Osaka in the east before taking a bus there.

Mochizuki Chihaya did follow the team on their journey. Many were still confused about why she was traveling with the team.

Mochizuki Chihaya was too lazy to explain herself. She knew that this bunch of Chinese representatives did not like her in the first place. Her job was to look after Mo Fan, making sure that he was delivering the orb to the right place.

On the bus, Mo Fan was leaning against the window, yet he was not in the mood to enjoy the scenery along the way. Zhao Manyan was sitting beside him mumbling non-stop. The guy would always grumble a lot if he had not touched a woman for a certain period. He had totally lost the imperious manner expected of a tyrannical CEO that a son of the Zhao Group should have, and was behaving like the autistic child of some close relatives in an old village.

“Did you hear what I said in the morning?” Zhao Manyan nudged Mo Fan.

Mo Fan was feeling sleepy. The nudge did wake him up, but it also annoyed him.

“As if it’s something important, can you stop talking about it?” snapped Mo Fan.

“Something really feels strange, I first dreamed about the shadow we saw under the ship when we were traveling on the ocean. After that, I dreamed about a gigantic creature in the sea where the Twin Guardian Towers watch over. The creature was making a sound that can travel a long distance, similar to the sound of a dolphin,” said Zhao Manyan.

“Can you please spend some money in Tokyo and find an AV actress to satisfy your needs...” Mo Fan was just about to scold Zhao Manyan when he realized that something was not right. He immediately blurted out, “What did you just say?”

“I said I dreamed about the shadow in the Pacific Ocean when we were flying in the sky!” said Zhao Manyan.

“The sentence after that.”

“There was a gigantic creature in the sea where the Twin Guardian Towers watch over.”

“Give me a second,” Mo Fan rose to his feet and went to the back of the bus.

The person sitting in the last row was none other than Mochizuki Chihaya. She had a confused look when she saw Mo Fan approaching her.

“Is the orb showing some reaction?” asked Mochizuki Chihaya alertedly.

“It’s not about the orb, did you guys tell anyone about the creature in the ocean when the alarm went off last night?” asked Mo Fan in a serious tone.

“No. The truth is, I didn’t know what happened either. The upper floor belongs to the military. Most people aren’t allowed to go there, and we would never tell anyone the information that the upper floor has collected,” answered Mochizuki Chihaya.

“Then how did Zhao Manyan know about the gigantic creature in the sea?” said Mo Fan.

“He knows? That doesn’t make any sense; apart from you, I didn’t hear there was anyone else who trespassed on the upper floor,” said Mochizuki Chihaya.

Mo Fan went back to Zhao Manyan with a frown.

Zhao Manyan was aware that something happened when he saw Mo Fan’s expression. He immediately got rid of his playfulness.

“Are you sure you were having a dream?” asked Mo Fan.

“Yes,” said Zhao Manyan, nodding sincerely.

“The truth is, there was indeed a gigantic creature in the ocean close to the Twin Guardian Towers last night,” said Mo Fan.

Zhao Manyan opened his mouth. He tried to speak, yet he was lost for words.

“What exactly is going on?” exclaimed Zhao Manyan.

“Do you remember the island that never existed in Xixiong City?” said Mo Fan.

“Are you referring to the island that Miyata said she stayed on for a whole night, but it somehow disappeared the next day?” said Zhao Manyan.

Zhao Manyan had only learned about Miyata and the series of events from Jiang Yu and Ai Jiangtu after he regained consciousness.

Mo Fan nodded. That was the island he was referring to.

At the start, Mo Fan could not understand why Miyata would even tell the lie, an utterly ridiculous tale. However, when he caught a quick glimpse of the island on the train leaving Xixiong City, Mo Fan started to believe her words.

“Ai Jiangtu, do you think Miyata was lying?” Mo Fan stood up and asked Ai Jiangtu, who was sitting a few rows behind him.

Ai Jiangtu was taken by surprise. Why would Mo Fan suddenly ask him the question?

He replied after a slight hesitation, “I think there was no reason for Miyata to lie, and it did not seem like she was lying, either.”

“Are you two referring to the island that did not exist?” Jiang Yu joined the conversation out of curiosity.

“How boring, the island never existed. We even went to the cliff to confirm it. Are you telling me that the island had flown away?” said Mu Tingying.

“Miyata wasn’t lying; she did spend a night on the island,” said Mo Fan sternly.

“Humph, do you take us as three-year-old kids?” mocked Guan Yu.

Mo Fan ignored the sarcastic comment. He recalled the series of events and said in a stern voice, “Zhao Manyan, can you please turn off the Detective Conan’s soundtrack first...”

“Oh, sorry, I couldn’t control myself.”

“What I’m saying is, the island at Xixiong City was f**king real. I could not understand why Miyata was telling the ridiculous lie in the first place, nor could I understand why I saw the island when we were on the train. The truth is, the thing was never an island to begin with,” said Mo Fan.

“Mo Fan, did you forget to take your pills today? What would it be if it wasn’t an island?”

“Miyata did not spend the night on an island. She was on the back of a living creature! The island went missing the next day, because the creature simply swam away!” said Mo Fan confidently.

Mo Fan’s words shocked the whole group.

The bus fell silent. Everyone tried to imagine the scene, yet they immediately felt themselves tensing.

“Mo...Mo Fan, that’s not funny, how is it possible that a creature is as huge as an island? There’s no way Miyata would mistake a living creature for an island, no matter how stupid she was.” Jiang Shaoxu’s voice was trembling slightly as she spoke.

“Yeah, if that island is actually alive, what kind of creature would it be?” said Jiang Yu.

“Do you remember the giant shadow under the water when we were traveling on the Pacific Ocean?” said Mo Fan.

It went without saying that everyone in the group clearly remembered the shocking scene... they were all overwhelmed by fear and the sense of feeling minuscule in that moment.

Now, everyone’s face was full of astonishment when Mo Fan reminded them about it!

“So you’re saying, the island that disappeared was the...the creature we stumbled into on the ocean...” Jiang Yu had trouble speaking fluently. The stammering clearly displayed the shock he was experiencing.

“Mo Fan, why would you mention it all of a sudden?” asked Mu Ningxue curiously.

Mo Fan was mentioning it now even though a few days had already passed after they left Xixiong City. It was obvious that something else had happened.

Mo Fan was grim after hearing Mu Ningxue’s question.

“Last night, there was a gigantic creature in the ocean close to the Twin Guardian Towers, too. You can ask Mochizuki Chihaya about the details... somehow, I believe the creature has been following us!”

Chapter 805: Resources Won’t Be Given to the Substitutes

Mo Fan’s words sounded ridiculous to everyone at the start, but after hearing his explanation, most people started to believe his speculation!

Ai Jiangtu in particular was convinced, as he had entered the illusion together with Mo Fan. They had both witnessed how Miyata had killed herself just to prove that she was innocent. Such a strong-willed woman would never speak such a ridiculous lie, which meant there was something fishy about the island!

“I’m thinking that maybe the night was misty, and the creature was simply too enormous, and so Miyata did not notice it was a living creature. Since she had only moved to Xixiong City quite recently, she wouldn’t think it was strange that there was an island there, so she went onto it... Although I don’t know why the creature would just sit there, but I think the only explanation as to why I saw the island was because it had reappeared in the same spot.”

“What exactly is it? How did it manage to sneak past into the safe zone with such ease, not to mention that it was big enough to disguise itself as an island...” Jiang Shaoxu was now utterly convinced that Mo Fan was speaking the truth.

If they had not seen the shadow in the Pacific Ocean, they would never have believed that there existed a creature huge enough to be mistaken as an island. Mo Fan’s speculation was indeed the only viable explanation for Miyata’s statement!

It was not an island, but a living creature, one that could enter human territory freely, a gigantic sea creature that was either harmless to humans, or believed that humans were simply unworthy of its attention!

“So the alarm at the Twin Guardian Towers last night went off because they detected the creature?” said Jiang Yu.

“Even though I have no clue what you all are talking about, there was indeed a gigantic creature present last night. It left soon after we detected its presence. It’s obvious that the creature did not wish to fight us,” Mochizuki Chihaya confirmed.

“But why is the creature following us? Osaka is around the middle of Japan; are you telling me that it had traveled half of Japan just to stalk us?” asked Nanyu.

None of it made any sense. If it was trying to harm them, it would have done so in the Pacific Ocean.

If it was harmless, there was simply no reason for it to be following them. If it weren’t for the tight security at the Twin Guardian Towers, it was likely that Mo Fan and his team would still be unaware that the creature was following them.

“I’m starting to feel uneasy; a creature of that level can easily swallow a river, destroy a mountain, and overturn the lakes and seas,” said Jiang Yu.

“What should we do now?” asked Jiang Shaoxu.

“We’ll proceed with caution. Maybe I was just oversensitive; it’s only a mere speculation. After all, we still haven’t seen the creature yet,” said Mo Fan.

“Mmm, it’s good enough that we are aware of its existence, it’s not like worrying about it will make any difference,” said Ai Jiangtu.

Mo Fan had made the whole group uneasy.

Luckily, they were currently inland, quite a distance away from the coast. There was no reason for them to panic now.

Not long after, the bus pulled onto a highway. They could see houses along the way, implying that they had entered a safe zone under protection.

The journey was rather tiring. After all, it took them some time to travel from Osaka to Tokyo by bus, even though they were taking the highway...

"I'll bring everyone to somewhere fun when we arrive in Tokyo," promised Jiang Shaoxu when she saw that everyone was low in spirits.

Ai Jiangtu immediately poured a bucket of cold water on her. "Jiang Shaoxu, we'll be heading straight to the maritime battlefield after we arrive in Tokyo."

"Why the rush? It wouldn't matter if we are a day late," Jiang Shaoxu wheedled in a seductive tone.

Ai Jiangtu would not fall for her tricks. He proceeded to explain to the team, "The maritime battlefield is our main destination in Japan. It's also the place for our first training. Just to remind you, each country will hand in resources to the Magic Association, and these resources will be distributed to the national teams during their training. The resources are allocated based on our contributions during the training."

"Even so, there's no need to be so enthusiastic," whined Jiang Shaoxu in a sloppy tone.

"I believe many among us are still not Advanced Magicians yet. The training here in Japan serves as a great opportunity for you to level up to the Advanced Level. If you don't want to, feel free to enjoy yourself in Tokyo," replied Ai Jiangtu without giving face.

"An opportunity to level up to the Advanced Level... that's some incredible resource! What exactly would it be?" said Zhao Manyan with glittering eyes.

"Mr. Zhao, you shouldn't be looking forward to it. Resources will never be allocated to you since you're a substitute. Of course, that also includes Mu Ningxue and Mo Fan," Mu Tingying said with a smile.

Zhao Manyan immediately asked Ai Jiangtu for confirmation in an unpleasant tone.

Ai Jiangtu nodded and replied, "It's true that the resources aren't allocated to the substitutes."

"F**k me, that's unfair!"

"You should be grateful that someone like you was given a chance to train with the team. You have no talent, no outstanding cultivation, no high-level Soul Seed..." mocked Guan Yu at the perfect time.

"Damn it, you're acting like you're already an Advanced Magician, yet you're still an Intermediate Level scum just like me!" cursed Zhao Manyan, pointing at Guan Yu.

"There are still quite a lot of Intermediate Magicians in this team," said Jiang Yu, coughing deliberately.

"Oh, I'm sorry," said Zhao Manyan in an awkward tone.

There was no reason for Ai Jiangtu to lie to his teammates. Resources were not supposed to be distributed to the substitutes. The decision was already made when the national team was formed.

As a matter of fact, if Mo Fan, Zhao Manyan and Mu Ningxue underperformed during the training in Japan, they would be replaced by others with outstanding performance who were defending China's National Training Hall.

After all, they were only substitutes for the team. Their treatment was a lot different than the official members.

It was unlikely that Mo Fan would be replaced, since he was already an Advanced Magician. Some of the official members were not even Advanced Magicians yet. On the other hand, Mu Ningxue and Zhao Manyan were in danger of being replaced.

Although Mu Ningxue's strength was remarkable, she had yet to break through to the Advanced Level.

On top of that, she only had access to limited resources. The Mu Clan supporting her had simply stopped providing her with resources after Mu He was exposed as the Black Vatican's Great Deacon. They had focused on developing Mu Tingying instead.

Mu Tingying was most likely extremely close to breaking through to the Advanced Level. It was only a matter of time as long as she was given enough resources.

Meanwhile, Mu Ningxue's cultivation was stuck at the limit of the Intermediate Level. Her cultivation had not improved for some time. She was actually starting to feel worried, even though she looked calm on the surface.

With her strength, she had a chance to compete for the resources granted to the national team. Unfortunately, the substitutes were not meant to be allocated any of the resources, placing her in a difficult position.

When the trip to Japan came to an end, one of them would surely be replaced!

It was either her or Zhao Manyan!

Zhao Manyan had a wealthy financial group supporting him. They would simply use lots of money to help him break through to the Advanced Level if needed. As such, she had the highest chance of being replaced!

Chapter 806: The Flying Pillar!

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After learning that the team would receive resources to help them break through to the Advanced Level, nobody stopped in the city after arriving in Tokyo. They immediately departed the town for the maritime battlefield.

The fortresses at maritime battlefields were a special kind of wartime culture. The East Maritime Fortress in Tokyo had been popular for a long time. The battle between humans and sea monsters on the Pacific Ocean drawn with fresh blood and limbs had been going on for hundreds of years!

Between the ocean and Tokyo, a huge fortress was constructed by the shore. This was the East Maritime Fortress!

Looking down from the sky, the East Maritime Fortress was built in the shape of a crescent. The steel walls were no longer considered walls, but a magnificent dam protecting the modern city of Tokyo. Not only was it protecting Tokyo from the rolling waves, it was also stopping the armies of sea monsters from invading. It was called the Shield of Tokyo by the locals.

The Shield of Tokyo had two different layers. The height of the dam in the first layer was slightly lower, thus its defense was not as efficient.

The dam behind was extremely high. Even a sea creature over a hundred meters tall would have trouble crossing that line of defense.

The two dams were shaped like inward-curving arcs. The ends gradually combined, giving the fortress its crescent shape.

“This East Maritime Fortress looks rather new,” said Jiang Yu.

“Mmm, apart from the materials used for construction, it doesn’t look very different from the other cities. The streets were like squares, too,” said Jiang Shaoxu.

“This is one of the four biggest maritime fortresses in the world, but it doesn’t look like there’s anything special about it. It’s just very close to the ocean,” observed Mu Tingying.

“Let’s report in first.” Nanyu walked ahead of them. She seemed to be familiar with the place.

The East Maritime Fortress was basically gray-white. There were streets, marketplaces, residential structures, tall buildings, and shops. The place did not have corpses of sea monsters scattered everywhere, as they had imagined. Instead, most of the buildings and streets looked relatively new. It was more or less a town built as a part of sea reclamation, with exactly the same style for most of the buildings. They almost thought they had come to the wrong place when they saw the huge crowds on the streets.

However, they discovered most of the people on the streets were Magicians. It was rare to see an ordinary person, as even the vendors of the stalls along the streets were Magicians. They were selling materials like the skins, claws, and organs of sea monsters, suitable for being forged into defensive equipment.

Mo Fan did not stay with the team. He already left with Mochizuki Chihaya as soon as they arrived in Tokyo. After all, he still had a terrifying orb in his hands. It was necessary to get rid of it as soon as possible.

Zhao Manyan and Mu Ningxue were only substitutes for the team. They would not receive any resources regardless of their performance, but they still chose to follow the team to get the training. After all, they could still improve that way. Training was even more important when Magicians felt like their cultivation had reached a bottleneck. Different experiences, continuous battles, the desire to grow stronger, and the determination to surpass their own limits were all provided through training!

“Nanyu, have you been here before?” asked Ai Jiangtu when he discovered that Nanyu was familiar with the area.

“Mm, I came here with a general a few years ago. It was my first time seeing such a huge-scale battle between humans and demon creatures. We’re in luck, the tide hasn’t risen,” said Nanyu.

The others were gathering their focus to listen to Nanyu about her past experience here when a loud noise suddenly came from ahead.

The ground began to shake vigorously at to the voice. Even their heads felt dizzy all of a sudden.

Everyone subconsciously covered their ears. Ai Jiangtu and Nanyu were the closest to the front. They both glanced ahead and saw a pillar torn from one of the buildings flying at them!

“Holy shit!” Zhao Manyan was taken by surprise. He almost forgot to cast his spell.

The others did not expect the sudden accident either. The pillar was at least a meter wide and over ten meters long. It knocked all the lamp poles on both sides of the road down as it flew at the team.

“Dodge it!” a man with orange hair at the side of the road screamed at them.

The man was quite the hero. He realized Mu Ningxue was standing the closest to him, so he quickly cast Wind Track and pounced at her, trying to push her away.

The pillar was flying at the team at a remarkable speed. It was already in front of them. If they were only a bunch of Basic Magicians, the force of the pillar could easily smash them into minced meat!

“Telekinesis!” Ai Jiangtu glowed silver. His gaze sharpened as he faced the pillar. His aura underwent a remarkable change, as if there was nothing he could not control!

The wind produced by the pillar swept at the others, yet the enormous pillar shuddered when it was less than two meters away from the team and came to a sudden stop in the air, not able to move forward any further!

Ai Jiangtu’s eyes were emitting a silver glow as he fixed his gaze on the pillar. As he slowly shifted his gaze down, the pillar was slowly placed on the ground in a strange manner.

“That’s... Space... the Space Element!” The man with orange hair was stunned. His eyes were filled with excitement.

“Let go!” Mu Ningxue’s icy voice snapped.

The man immediately collected his thoughts and apologized to her.

He was in a panic to save Mu Ningxue, thus he had one hand on her shoulder and the other on her back. He was going to drag Mu Ningxue to the side of the road.

Mu Ningxue was not fussed about it, knowing that the man was only trying to save her.

“That scared the shit out of me, I thought the pillar was going to smash you all to death,” said the man with orange hair.

“You do know who to save though,” mocked Jiang Shaoxu.

Mu Ningxue definitely had the highest rate of second glances when she was on the street. Her silver hair dangled behind her like a waterfall. It was particularly attractive to a two-dimensional kingdom like Japan. It was likely that the man had been stalking her, and immediately came to the rescue when the accident happened.

The man did take hold of the opportunity when happiness came all of a sudden. To his surprise, Ai Jiangtu had managed to stop the flying object with a single gaze. Most importantly, Mu Ningxue was also casting a spell, but she was suddenly shoved aside by a stranger.

“She was the closest to me, just that,” the man tried to explain awkwardly. He quickly changed the topic and said, “I’m Hirose, nice to meet you...”

“No one wants to be your friend,” said Zhao Manyan unpleasantly. Where the heck did this guy come from? He was almost scared to death by the man’s scream even though it was only a pillar flying at them; speaking of making a big fuss over a small matter!

“Why would a pillar fly toward us... holy crap, guys, look!” Jiang Yu was in the middle of asking the question when an astonishing scene took place on the street ahead!

Sea monsters!

Their skin was darker than the usual azure blue. They were standing on the street around a hundred meters away. One of the sea monsters had sharp gills like fans under its head that were higher than the roof nearby. They had descended upon the residential area like demons, staring down at the minuscule humans like livestock waiting to be butchered!

“Holy shit, right in the middle of the day...”

“I’m really impressed by the public order of Japan’s town. One, two, there are two of them, both over ten meters tall!”

“What kind of a shitty fortress is this? The sea monsters are able to break into the place just like that!” cursed Zhao Manyan.

While the team was dazzled by the scene before them, an announcement in English suddenly echoed in the air!

“All personnel, sea monsters have appeared in the nineteenth street. Those who are non-combatants should leave or hide in the shelters at once!

“All personnel, sea monsters have appeared in the nineteenth street. It has been confirmed that the sea monsters are two Commander-level Blue Valley Ferocious Beasts. Combatants are advised to eliminate them as soon as possible!”

The announcement repeated for a long time. Everyone was able to hear it clearly.

The crowd on the street was still in good order at the start of the incident. However, when the announcement mentioned the Blue Valley Ferocious Beasts, they began to flee in panic.

“The monsters are Commander-level! Run, run for your lives!”

“This way, the shelter is this way!” The man with orange hair seemed to be an enthusiast. He quickly pointed the direction to safety for those fleeing for their lives.

“Two Commander-level sea monsters have already shown up before the tide has risen. People might die if the Advanced Magicians do not make it in time!” A Wind Magician stayed back, knowing he could outrun the creatures with his speed. He was curious enough to take a closer look at the two Commander-level sea monsters.

“What are you doing here, hurry up to the shelter... hey, hey, what are you all waiting for? Didn't you hear the announcement? Those creatures are Commander-level!” a middle-aged man yelled at Ai Jiangtu and his crew.

As a matter of fact, the national team who had just arrived in the East Maritime Fortress was still lost in their thoughts.

If it weren't for the fact that the two ferocious beasts were only less than a hundred meters away, they would never believe that sea monsters were reckless enough to show up in human territory like this!

“The East Maritime Fortress is basically a battlefield. It's common for the sea monsters to invade the town just like that,” Nanyu said to the others.

“Let's stop them. Otherwise, these Commander-level monsters will surely result in lots of casualties,” suggested Ai Jiangtu fearlessly.

“I'll pass. Those two are Commander-level, after all...” said Jiang Yu.

“We'll see how it goes first,” said Ai Jiangtu after second thought. There was indeed no reason to put the team at risk, not to mention that most members on the team were still in the Intermediate Level. Even those who had achieved the Advanced Level were unable to cast Advanced Spells fluidly. The Commander-level creatures would kill them in an instant!

The Blue Valley Ferocious Beasts had muscular upper limbs, and their bodies were covered in glowing, icy scales. On top of that, the scales had sharp spikes between them, especially on their four arms, which were as thick as hammers. Their arms were covered by spikes. If the creatures hit them with their arms, they would most likely be impaled on them!

Their lower bodies were like giant shrimp, covered in blue armor that glimmering like jewels. The legs of a shrimp were thin and long, like whiskers, but the legs of the Blue Valley Ferocious Beasts were sharp and long. They looked more like the legs of a gigantic mantis instead...

A shrimp was usually considered a gentle creature, yet these Blue Valley Ferocious Beasts were giving off a ferocious aura. Even without their spiked arms, it felt like their legs could easily stab through anything. They looked extremely dangerous and menacing!

Obviously, creatures like these were considered were exceedingly dangerous in the East Maritime Fortress. After the announcement and alarm went off, the people who initially thought they were only some small sea monsters immediately fled to the shelters in panic.

Luckily, the people in the town were quite used to emergencies like this. Most of the people were Magicians, so the Blue Valley Ferocious Beasts had yet to kill anyone. They were venting their frustrations on the buildings!

“Not all buildings in the East Maritime Fortress are occupied. Some are built just to distract the sea monsters,” Nanyu informed them.

“That’s good to hear. Otherwise, it’s difficult to tell how many would die if the buildings were full of residents.”

The two Blue Valley Ferocious Beasts were extremely hot-tempered. They simply grabbed onto a building and dragged it off of its foundation, before lifting it above their heads.

Unfortunately, the sea monsters happened to be tossing the building in the direction of the team. Ai Jiangtu realized the approaching danger and immediately unleashed his will to slow down the building flying at them.

“The building is too big, I can’t stop it completely!” Ai Jiangtu told the others behind him.

“Don’t worry, we can handle ourselves!”

“Such violent sea monsters!”

Lifting a building and tossing it at them; it clearly showed the terrifying strength of the creatures!

Luckily, the members of the national team had simultaneously cast defensive spells. A huge Sacred Shield: Rampart and Rock Barrier immediately appeared in front of the team and protected them.

The gray-white building smashed into pieces after colliding with the Sacred Shield: Rampart. It totally collapsed as it hit the Rock Barrier, sweeping the dust into the air across the street.

“They discovered our presence, back off!” Jiang Shaoxu was a Psychic Magician. She immediately sensed the anger of the two ferocious beasts.

The team immediately withdrew. They were almost at the end of the street when one of the Blue Valley Ferocious Beasts caught up to them.

The creature had smashed its way through the debris. It stood on the wreckage of the building as its third eye poked out and glared at the members of the national team through the dust scattered in the air.

“Run, run, run!”

“Go right!”

“Why not left?”

“What’s with the nonsense!”

It was difficult to come to a consensus when there were too many people. Li Kaifeng, Guan Yu, Jiang Shaoxu, and Zu Jiming were initially heading left before they realized Zhou Xu, Zhao Manyan, Nan

Rongni, Mu Ningxue, Ai Jiangtu, and the rest had gone right instead. They quickly turned around to regroup with the team.

The speed of Commander-level creatures was rather shocking. Since the Blue Valley Ferocious Beasts were smaller in size than other Commander-level creatures, it usually implied that they either had impressive speed or were able to cast powerful spells.

The Blue Valley Ferocious Beast lunged out from the debris. The long legs on both sides of its body were moving rapidly as it caught up to Jiang Shaoxu and Zu Jiming in mere seconds!

[Versatile Mage](#)

Chapter 807: Blue Valley Ferocious Beast

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Chapter 808: The Weakness of the Monsters

Jiang Shaoxu had short legs and no movement spells. The Psychic Magician would surely be left behind when the team was running.

Zu Jiming was beside her, and totally lacked the demeanor of a gentleman. He was running away with Earth Wave, yet he did not even bother helping Jiang Shaoxu with the same spell. Soon, Jiang Shaoxu was left behind on her own.

“Assholes, you bunch of assholes! Come back here and save me!” cursed Jiang Shaoxu, running for her life.

She quickly summoned her Magic Boots, yet the magic equipment could barely outrun a Warrior-level creature. It was nowhere enough to help her run away from the Commander-level Blue Valley Ferocious Beasts.

A giant shadow loomed over Jiang Shaoxu. She could already smell the briny stench of the creature behind her.

“Jiang Shaoxu, behind you!” yelled Nanyu.

“Only one of them is following us?” asked Ai Jiangtu.

“Yeah, just one.”

“Prepare for battle!” Ai Jiangtu was quite the reckless type, too. He stopped running when he realized only one Blue Valley Ferocious Beast was chasing after them.

Ai Jiangtu turned around. A silver Star Constellation had already appeared under his feet.

His speed at channeling Advanced Spells was a lot more fluent and faster than a dabbler like Mo Fan. Ai Jiangtu vanished as soon as he finished constructing the Star Constellation.

The next moment, Ai Jiangtu was at the back of the team, right beside Jiang Shaoxu.

Jiang Shaoxu was hugging her boobs, which were bouncing wildly as she was running. She was surprised when she saw a man appearing beside her out of nowhere...

The Blue Valley Ferocious Beast did not swing its spiked arms. It lifted one of its pointy legs with a hint of disdain, before slashing it down like a sharp knife, trying to nail Jiang Shaoxu with its leg!

“Telekinesis!” Ai Jiangtu lifted his ferocious gaze and fearlessly stared at the creature’s leg, which was powerful enough to penetrate the concrete.

His stare applied a great resistance to the Blue Valley Ferocious Beast’s leg. The limb halted halfway in the air, as if the creature was having trouble pushing it down any further.

“Does the captain have to be so reckless!?”

The team turned around and saw Ai Jiangtu standing before the creature. His relatively minuscule figure was firm and imperious, as if he was having a showdown with the Commander-level creature!

Jiang Shaoxu knew she was not ideal to fight in close-quarters combat. She immediately ran to the middle of the team without hesitation.

The others immediately switched into battle mode when they saw their captain engaging, especially when they remembered that Ai Jiangtu was the one allocating the resources among the team members. They quickly turned around and fought the Blue Valley Ferocious Beast.

The brilliance of a dozen Star Patterns combined as spells of different Elements poured down on the creature, including burning pillars, ice chains, lightning strikes, tornado gusts, and demon vines...

Teamwork was incredibly important when a team was fighting a demon creature. By combining spells of different Elements on the same target, the effects were outstanding. Most demon creatures would find their heads spinning when being blasted by spells from all directions!

That being said, it was not easy to inflict damage on the Blue Valley Ferocious Beast. Even though all the spells had landed on the creature, they merely knocked it back without dealing much damage. The spells mostly left some dents on the creature’s scales and armor.

“Whoever has the Poison Element, use it to corrode that annoying armor of the creature first, or else we won’t deal any damage to the creature even if we expend all our energy!” yelled Li Kaifeng when he noticed that their spells only had minimal effects.

Zu Jiming was the Poison Magician on the team. He was standing at the back of the team. He opened his hand, revealing the Poison Cavity on his palm. Tiny poisonous wasps flew out of the Poison Cavity like smoke.

The movement of the poisonous wasps was rather slow. They finally reached the Blue Valley Ferocious Beast, but the creature was extremely alert. It opened its mouth and roared.

The roar produced a strong and humid gust with a high level of humidity. It immediately shattered the dark cloud of poisonous wasps.

“That thing is quite intelligent; it’s very experienced with fights against Magicians,” noted Zu Jiming.

Most creatures would simply ignore the tiny wasps, allowing the Poison Element to take down its target by surprise. To their surprise, the Blue Valley Ferocious Beast did not bother dodging the Intermediate Spells, yet it immediately shattered the swarm of poisonous wasps when it came close. It was obvious that someone had used the same trick on the creature before, so it realized that the Poison Element was able to penetrate its sturdy scales!

“It’s charging toward us, back off!”

Ai Jiangtu had reached his limit. He quickly blinked away when he saw the Blue Valley Ferocious Beast lunging once again.

Ai Jiangtu blinked to the roof of a building that was around twenty meters high. He was able to get a clear view of Blue Valley Ferocious Beast from this angle...

He did not notice it at first, but on second thought, he realized that the Commander-level creature was fully covered in thick armor, except for its head, which was fully exposed!

A weak point!

Ai Jiangtu was overwhelmed with joy. He did not expect to discover the Blue Valley Ferocious Beast’s weakness when he moved to a higher spot...

“Its head is not covered by scales!” Ai Jiangtu immediately relayed the information to the rest of the team.

The Blue Valley Ferocious Beast was smashing its way forward. The others immediately escaped to the narrow alleyways nearby. The layout of the buildings in the East Maritime Fortress looked simple on the surface, but actually favored the Magicians. The huge buildings and the alleyways between them prevented the creatures from easily pursuing Magicians, and provided great cover for those that were not suitable for close-distance combat.

“Brother, none of us can fly, it doesn’t make any difference even if we know where its weakness is, there’s no way we can attack its head!” Jiang Yu yelled at Ai Jiangtu from where he was taking cover in one of the alleyways.

However, as soon as he finished the sentence, the Blue Valley Ferocious Beast blocked off the entrance of the alleyway. Its eyestalk was looking right down the narrow path.

The creature completely blocked off the light coming into the alleyway where Jiang Yu had entered. The man was soaked in cold sweat and no longer dared to stay around any longer.

In the creature’s eyes, Jiang Yu was like a little mouse who had escaped into a tiny gap. Luckily, the buildings were rather solid. Even a Commander-level creature would need some time to destroy them!

The Blue Valley Ferocious Beast was losing its temper. It slammed its four arms into the building, trying to force its way down the narrow path. Jiang Yu immediately took off and ran toward the other end of the alleyway.

“Damn, such remarkable design!” Jiang Yu was impressed by the Japanese’s intelligence when he saw that the Blue Valley Ferocious Beast was greatly hindered by the buildings!

“Jiang Yu, Jiang Yu, not that way!” Jiang Yu heard someone scream amid the loud noises produced by the collapsing buildings.

“Are you telling me to run into the creature’s mouth? I will if I don’t run this way!” cursed Jiang Yu, who was obviously in a panic.

Versatile Mage

Chapter 809: Fighting the Sea Monsters in the Maritime Fortress

Jiang Yu had just arrived in the middle of the alleyway when a sharp leg appeared and hovered in the air at the other end he was running towards...

Jiang Yu was startled. He turned around and saw the Blue Valley Ferocious Beast still chasing after him. The creature was only a few dozen meters away. The creature would have eaten him by now if it weren't for the buildings slowing it down.

Jiang Yu finally realized why the person was warning him not to run toward the other end!

Damn it, the two Blue Valley Ferocious Beasts were cutting him off at both ends of the alley!

Jiang Yu felt the urge to cry. What did he do wrong? Why were the two Commander-level Blue Valley Ferocious Beasts giving him special treatment when there were so many people on the streets? Where could he possibly run to now?

Jiang Yu's face turned pale as the other Blue Valley Ferocious Beast was smashing the buildings apart to force its way through.

"Jiang Yu, up here!"

A voice suddenly appeared. Jiang Yu raised his head and saw Mu Ningxue on the roof. She was controlling an ice chain and lowering it down before Jiang Yu.

Jiang Yu did not hesitate. He immediately grabbed the ice chain and made his way up along the walls of the buildings.

The ice chain pulled Jiang Yu onto the roof. The top of the buildings was mostly flat, designed to allow Magicians to move freely while fighting the sea monsters.

The two Blue Valley Ferocious Beasts were incredibly hot-tempered. They waved their arms wildly and tore the buildings in their way down when they saw the little mouse trapped in the gap had escaped them!

"Let's leave at once!" Mu Ningxue exclaimed.

The building below them was on the verge of collapsing. The two did not dare to stay any longer. They quickly ran away from the two creatures and jumped a gap of ten meters to land on the roof of the next building.

"They...they are coming!" Jiang Yu turned his head around and saw the two Blue Valley Ferocious Beasts still chasing after them by smashing their way through the buildings.

The structures made of seemingly new concrete collapsed consecutively, sweeping dust into the air while crashing loudly. Despite that, the Blue Valley Ferocious Beasts were unstoppable. They were still chasing after Jiang Yu and Mu Ningxue stubbornly.

“Luckily the sea monsters don’t have much jumping ability... they can’t jump onto the roof!” Jiang Yu gasped in relief when he saw the Blue Valley Ferocious Beasts were gradually left behind.

“Look out!” Mu Ningxue was alert at all times. She quickly used the ice chain to set up a layer of defense in front of her when she sensed something flying toward them at high speed!

Before Jiang Yu could react, he saw dark blue spikes pouring down at them like rain. The spikes punched through the sturdy buildings that were providing them cover easily!

Mu Ningxue quickly backed off while summoning more ice chains. However, the spikes were incredibly powerful. The ice chains soon broke into pieces and fell to the ground.

“Go down!” Mu Ningxue realized that the ice chains had no chance against the Commander-level creatures’ magic. She quickly summoned a gust of wind to carry Jiang Yu and her away as they glided down.

“This way!” Nan Rongni’s voice appeared to the back of the street.

Mu Ningxue grabbed Jiang Yu and sprinted across the street to regroup with Nan Rongni, Zhou Xu, and Nan Yu.

“Are you injured?” asked Nan Rongni.

“Just some bruises, I think Mu Ningxue was hit by the spikes!” gasped Jiang Yu.

Jiang Yu glanced at Mu Ningxue and saw red stains on her arm. He was utterly respectful and grateful toward her for risking her life to save him. Without her help, his life might be over after he was cornered by the two Commander-level creatures!

Nan Rongni quickly summoned two Healing Spirits; one for Jiang Yu, one for Mu Ningxue.

The Healing Spirits were able to locate wounds and heal them. They mainly focused on injuries dealt to the skin, muscles, blood vessels, meridians, etc. However, if the inner organs, bones, mind, or soul were damaged, the Healing Spirits would have minimal effects. They would need a Healer to cast the Basic Spell Healing Light to slowly heal the injured part...

Mu Ningxue’s arm was soon healed. The bleeding stopped in no time, before the wound closed under the effects of the Healing Spirit.

“They seemed to be affected by captain’s Curse,” Zhou Xu noticed.

“Mmm, these creatures are stronger than the Scarlet Rending Demon. Our attacks are basically useless against them. We can only split up and fight them in skirmishes, yet it’s risky for us, too. We would be dead if we got separated from the team and the others could not provide assistance in time,” said Nanyu.

“Yeah, the only ones that can cast Advanced Spells are captain and Mo Fan, but that idiot had already run off with the Japanese woman. We won’t be able to defeat the creatures if we can’t find a way to penetrate their scales,” said Jiang Yu.

It went without saying that Mo Fan's combination of Fire and Lightning was incredibly destructive. With him on the team, they could have easily broken through the Commander-level creatures' defense.

Nanyu gave Jiang Yu a death stare. Jiang Yu immediately realized Mu Ningxue was standing right beside him. His expression stiffened as he quickly explained in an awkward manner, "Just... forget what I said."

Mu Ningxue had an unpleasant look. That asshole who ran away with the Japanese woman had nothing to do with her. A man like him who stuck to the Japanese woman just because she was hot, it was better if he never showed up again!

—

One of the Blue Valley Ferocious Beasts was in great pain because of the Demon Torture cast upon it. It was screeching like metals being scratched.

The other Blue Valley Ferocious Beast found Ai Jiangtu hiding on the roof of a building and channeling the Curse Spell. The cunning creature simply ignored the cries of its companion and sneaked around to the back of the building!

Four spiked arms rose high into the air before slamming down on the roof Ai Jiangtu was standing on.

Ai Jiangtu immediately stopped the channeling and blinked away.

The Blink was successful, but the tunnel also transferred the force exerted by the Blue Valley Ferocious Beast. When Ai Jiangtu blinked down to where Nan Rongni, Mu Ningxue, Jiang Yu, and the others were gathered, they saw him being knocked flying and crashing into a shuttered shop...

"Was...was that captain?" said Jiang Yu softly.

"I wasn't able to get a clear look..." answered Zhou Xu.

Ai Jiangtu was blinking over to his teammates. As soon as he came out from the other dimension, he was propelled like a missile before anyone could react. In the end, the kind-hearted Nan Rongni quickly went into the shop and treated Ai Jiangtu's injuries with a Healing Spirit.

[Versatile Mage](#)

Chapter 810: On The Precipice of Death

Ai Jiangtu climbed to his feet with his face covered in dust. His body was covered with bruises, and even his clothes were torn and tattered.

At the back of his waist was a large contusion. It seemed like the impact had caught him in the back as he was blinking away. It was impressive that he could still stand in his condition.

"Don't move, your hip is fractured," said Nan Rongni when she learned Ai Jiangtu's condition from the Healing Spirit.

Ai Jiangtu let out a deep breath. It was full of dust. "Are the others alright?" he asked.

He was the only person that could take on a Commander-level creature on the team. Without him, the others would be in great danger.

“Don’t worry, they all have their own specialties, since they were handpicked to represent the national team. They can’t defeat the two Blue Valley Ferocious Beasts, but they shouldn’t have any problem protecting themselves,” Nan Rongni assured him.

Ai Jiangtu did not force himself after hearing the words. He patiently waited as his wounds were being treated.

The densely-packed buildings and streets in the East Maritime Fortress indeed provided Magicians with lots of cover. The Blue Valley Ferocious Beasts were huge, and so were constantly blocked by the sturdy buildings. Once their targets escaped into the buildings, it was difficult for them to chase any further.

It was like two ferocious lions chasing after a nest of mice. The buildings were like tall mounds in their eyes. They could easily raze them to the ground, but the Magicians were able to move nimbly between them. They would show up in front of or behind the creatures as they wished, or vanish completely. It was troublesome to hunt them down!

The efficient layout of the buildings and the streets in the East Maritime Fortress was being put on full display!

On top of that, the reason why the streets and buildings looked relatively new... was because they were destroyed regularly...

The destroyed buildings were rebuilt fairly quickly. The professional builders were Magicians with the Earth Element. They could rebuild the modular, square-shaped buildings in no time!

The Blue Valley Ferocious Beasts vented their frustration at not being able to kill Ai Jiangtu and losing track of him on the buildings nearby. The thirty-meter structures were smashed into debris across the place, and their remains tossed around wildly. The pillar that took the team by surprise was obviously their doing.

“Where is everyone?” Nanyu asked the members that were split over their communication device.

“We’ve reached the shelter,” replied Zhao Manyan promptly.

“Asshole!” cursed Jiang Yu.

“Was anyone left alone?” asked Nanyu.

“I am,” Jiang Shaoxu’s voice came in.

“Hey hey, aren’t I right beside you!?” said Zu Jiming.

“A useless man like you doesn’t count!” said Jiang Shaoxu.

“What do you mean? Fine, take the left, and I’ll head right. Do you think I have the time to look after a short-legged woman like you?” Zu Jiming started arguing with Jiang Shaoxu.

Thud thud thud!

“What’s that sound?”

“Crap, they are heading toward us!”

The range of the microphone was quite limited, with noise cancellation implemented to improve the sound quality. However, everyone could hear a loud rumble coming from the communication device, as if something was happening right beside someone’s microphone.

“Who’s close to the creatures!? Start running, quick!” Nanyu yelled into the communication device when she realized that something was not right.

“They are here...Zu Jiming, Zu Jiming, you asshole!” Jiang Shaoxu started screaming, yet the scream was soon covered by the loud rumble.

“Zu Jiming, go back there and save her!” Nanyu’s voice sank as she spoke in a commanding manner.

Zu Jiming did not respond. The display indicated that the guy had switched off his device.

“Jiang Shaoxu, hide in the alleyways and send us your location, we’ll provide backup as soon as we can,” said Nanyu.

“Save me, please help me, I’m stuck between them. My armor can’t last any longer, hurry up!” Jiang Shaoxu’s voice was filled with a hint of terror. It was obvious that her situation was even more dangerous than the one she was in before.

Jiang Yu was trapped in an alleyway, but luckily, he was relatively close captain Ai Jiangtu and Mu Ningxue, who both had extraordinary fighting capacity. Meanwhile, Jiang Shaoxu was with Zu Jiming, whose primary Element was Poison, and secondary Element was Earth. He was a full support-class Magician, and immediately fled for his life!

Jiang Shaoxu was bitterly disappointed when she saw Zu Jiming taking off without the slightest hesitation.

Jiang Shaoxu was only a Psychic Magician. Against two Commander-level creatures that were immune to her Pacify, there was simply nothing she could do. On top of that, she did not have any movement spells either, and her Magic Boots were still on cooldown. She was in a life-threatening situation!

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“She’s on our twelve...” Nanyu quickly found Jiang Shaoxu’s location through her SOS signal.

Mu Ningxue quickly summoned a gust of wind and propelled herself up to the roof. She sprinted along the roof with Wind Track in the direction that Nanyu mentioned.

Frost was condensing around her and quickly turning into ice chains. Soon, eight ice chains like silver ribbons spread out across the roof within thirty meters of her. The chains were alive, and would preemptively build a bridge for her whenever the gap between two buildings was too wide for her to cross!

“There!”

Mu Ningxue finally saw the Blue Valley Ferocious Beasts. Half of their bodies were concealed by three connected buildings. Jiang Shaoxu must be hiding inside the buildings. However, the buildings could at most provide some cover. There was no way they could defend her from the creatures, especially Commander-level ones. They could easily destroy the thirty-meter buildings with a few swings of their arms!

One of the Blue Valley Ferocious Beasts raised its sharp leg and thrust it down at the buildings continuously, as if it was desperately trying to kill Jiang Shaoxu as quickly as possible. Huge holes were left in the three buildings...

Mu Ningxue frowned, not knowing how to approach the situation at first.

If there was only a Commander-level creature, she could easily lure it away and retreat to a safe spot to buy Jiang Shaoxu some time.

However, the two Commander-level creatures were determined to kill Jiang Shaoxu. Mu Ningxue could at most attract the attention of one creature, but the other would soon force her out of the buildings.

“Phew~!” Mu Ningxue took a deep breath. “Jiang Shaoxu, you better put on your armor,” she said to Jiang Shaoxu, who was screaming for help through the communication device.

Jiang Shaoxu was annoyed since she was already on the precipice of death. She immediately snapped, “That goes without saying!”

—

A chilly breeze started blowing. Mu Ningxue’s silver hair drifted in the wind as a circular aura spread rapidly around her. The buildings nearby were covered in frost within a second!

Her eyes like silver snow under the azure blue sky, Mu Ningxue turned sideways and held her hands up. She held her left arm forward as if grasping something, while curling the index finger on her right hand as if she was pulling a string back!