

W. Secret 1001

Chapter 1001: Candora Trio-Lords!

Doomsday City, despite its name and Doomsday's presence, did not contain any aura of bloodshed. On the contrary, it was a peaceful city with bustling trade.

Currently, the biggest castle in Doomsday City had a tense environment. Here, there was not a single guard in place. The entire castle seemed almost deserted.

There were five strange men in the castle. Anyone familiar with Holy Dragon Empire's rebel army forces would be astonished because these five were the strongest rebel army leaders.

Among them, Doomsday was seated at the top. Below him were the Phantom King, the Shadow King, the Liberator, and the Nine-lives Werewolf. These top five rebel army leaders controlled most of the rebel forces. Their combined force was immensely powerful and posed the most prominent threat to the Holy Dragon royal family.

Moreover, all of them were top-level full-shifter existences. Their Supreme Talents had been honed to the utmost limit. Each of them was evenly matched with Farron.

Seeing that these five people had gathered in Doomsday City, they must be discussing a major issue.

Doomsday was the first to speak. "Everyone, I'm honored that you came here today. Now, the time has come. We've conquered the entire Holy Dragon Empire, some small territories notwithstanding. Only Holy Dragon City hasn't been conquered. Holy Dragon City is the essence of the Holy Dragon royal family. Just one or two of us wouldn't be able to conquer Holy Dragon City. Therefore, only by joining forces and working together, we'll have hopes of conquering Holy Dragon City. If we succeed, everyone will get what they wish for. Furthermore, the Holy Dragon Empire will be divided into five sections. For the next hundred years, there mustn't be any conflict between us. What do you think?"

Doomsday voiced out his proposal. The reason he had gathered the five main rebel army leaders was to discuss the final battle. As long as they could conquer Holy Dragon City, the Holy Dragon Empire would be their dominion in the future.

Thinking of the prospect, the five rebel army leaders were somewhat excited. This was because as long as Holy Dragon City remained standing, it was a potential threat to them. All of them knew that the Holy Dragon royal family was not as weak as they seemed on the surface.

Nevertheless, the five main rebel army leaders knew the royal family's true strength. Hence, the glamorous-looking and androgynous-sounding Phantom King spoke shrilly, "Doomsday, hehe, who doesn't know that the Holy Dragon royal family is hiding the head of the Sacred Lion Beast? Tsk, there are also those old folks who are kept under wraps by the royal family – none of them are half-assed opponents. If we're not careful, we might even be in danger."

Although the Shadow King was not well-liked, his words were on-point. The royal family had never been docile. All of them knew the royal family's prowess. It appeared that the royal family, too, had been amassing their strength. As soon as they had sufficient strength, they would possess utterly crushing abilities.

"Gentlemen, the royal family is indeed difficult to deal with but to be fair, we don't know what the royal family is up to. We only know that the royal family seems to be amassing their strength. If we wait for them to finish amassing their strength, it could be potentially disastrous for us. Moreover, this attack won't just be comprised by the five of us."

When Doomsday finished speaking, everyone had a look of surprise. Among the rebel armies in the Holy Dragon Empire, only the five of them had reached the same level. As for the ordinary full-shifters, regardless of number, their presence was inconsequential.

"Three of you, please come out."

As soon as Doomsday spoke, three men in long golden robes emerged from behind the main hall. However, if one were to look closely, they would be baffled to discover that all three of them looked the same.

These three identical men exuded an imposing aura that, even without saying a word, inspired foreboding in the hearts of those present.

"Candora Trio-Lords? I didn't expect that even the Candora Empire would intervene!"

The white-robed Liberator, who had not spoken previously, gazed sharply, almost as if there was a tinge of resentment and dissatisfaction.

The men known as Candora Trio-Lords smiled. “Liberator, you also originated from the Candora Empire but there were some unfortunate mishaps. The royal family expresses our regrets.”

The Liberator came from the Candora Empire. Most probably, there was some conflict between him and the Candora royal family.

“Hehe, Candora Trio-Lords, if the Candora Empire is intervening, then we’ll have to be more careful.”

The Shadow King replied acerbically. The rebel army leaders were not very fond of the Candora Empire. After all, during the Holy Dragon Empire’s most glorious era, its power was almost enough to dominate the Candora Empire. Many conflicts had erupted between the two empires and there was even a “blood grudge” between them.

This time, the Holy Dragon Empire was strife with internal conflict. The empire was severely fractured and was currently at its weakest state. For the Candora Empire to intervene now meant that they were trying to infiltrate the Holy Dragon Empire amid the chaos. So, even if the rebel army leaders succeeded in conquering Holy Dragon City, they might have to face the Candora Empire’s army next.

Hence, these rebel army leaders were unhappy about the Candora Empire’s participation.

“The Candora Empire only wants the head of the Sacred Lion Beast! We will not touch the rest of the bounty such as the royal family treasure chest. Moreover, we promise that we won’t invade the Holy Dragon Empire within a hundred years. How about that?”

The man who appeared to be the leader of the Candora Trio-Lords spoke.

“The Candora Empire truly has an enormous appetite. Right at the beginning, you’ve already demanded the head of the Sacred Lion Beast. Of all the empires on the mainland, only the Holy Dragon Empire has the head of the Sacred Lion Beast! You’re snatching the most precious treasure just like that. How can that be?”

The Liberator was the first to object, followed by nods of agreement from the other rebel army leaders. All of them coveted the head of the Sacred Lion Beast. After all, the head of the Sacred Lion Beast would allow them to level-up and decipher the secrets of the sacred beasts.

At their level, the only valuable reference material to help level-up was the legendary sacred beasts. Even though the Holy Dragon royal family had not been able to decipher the secret of the sacred beast despite possessing it for so many years, and the chance was only one in a million, these rebel army leaders would not give up.

The Candora Trio-Lords furrowed their brows. They had already expected that it would not be easy.

“Since all of you disagree, then we’ll do it this way. First, we conquer Holy Dragon City and wipe out the Holy Dragon royal family. Then, we’ll each rely on our skills to determine who gets the head of the Sacred Lion Beast. How about that?”

The Candora Trio-Lords seemed extremely confident to suggest such a proposal. After all, the five rebel army leaders held an advantage in terms of numbers.

Doomsday finally said, “Gentlemen, I think this is a good proposal. With the addition of the Candora Trio-Lords, we’ll have eight ultimate contenders in total. Even if Holy Dragon City has those old folks under wraps, they won’t be able to do much. Holy Dragon City must fall!”

Doomsday categorized all the contenders at their level as ultimate contenders because they no longer had any room to move forward. Each of them had reached their ultimate limits. The only competition was in terms of Supreme Talents.

Doomsday’s statement enticed the rebel army leaders. All of them were very confident in their abilities and were convinced that they would not lose. As long as they got rid of the ultimate contenders from the Holy Dragon royal family, the entire Holy Dragon Empire would collapse in an instant. Then, they would each cut-up a territory and establish five smaller kingdoms.

Perhaps, if they were lucky, they could even get their hands on the head of the Sacred Lion Beast to be studied further. Then, like the ancestors of the Holy Dragon royal family, they could use the head of the Sacred Lion Beast to dominate the entire Holy Dragon Empire!

Seeing the fiery heat in the eyes of those present, Doomsday and the Candora Trio-Lords smiled. They knew that no one could resist the temptation...

Chapter 1002: Prelude

In the Holy Dragon City palace, anxiety plastered across the King's face as he read Farron's updates. His brows furrowed deeper.

"Farron, have Doomsday disappeared along with Shadow King, Liberator, Phantom King, and Nine-Lives Werewolf? All of them disappeared at the same time. What are they trying to do?"

The King's tone turned slightly frosty.

"They're going to go berserk..."

"Berserk?"

The King's face darkened. He knew that these five people were the strongest forces among the rebel armies in the Holy Dragon Empire. The five of them practically represented all the rebel armies.

"Just the five of them? They're too reckless. The Holy Dragon Empire has been passed down for a thousand years. Would it be so easy?"

The King scoffed. These five were too reckless. True, the Holy Dragon Empire had not been stable in recent years. Although the number of strong contenders achieving the "ultimate limit" continued to grow, most of them had become rebels.

Meanwhile, in the royal family, other than the old folks who were kept hidden, none of the younger generations had managed to produce an ultimate contender. As time passed, the gradual weakening of the royal family became apparent.

Nevertheless, just because the royal family had weakened, it did not mean that they could be "toppled" by five ultimate contenders.

Looking at the confident glint in the King's eyes, many thoughts flashed across Farron's mind. Even though Farron held the King's absolute trust, he did not know how many old folks the royal family had hidden away, especially those who had achieved the "ultimate".

This so-called ultimate simply meant that they were on par with Farron and had cultivated their Supreme Talents to the utmost limit where it could no longer be further enhanced. Everyone belonged at the same level, so the only comparison hinged on the respective effects and strength of their Supreme Talents.

Such “ultimate” contenders were truly formidable. They were the pillars of an empire. If not for these ultimate contenders, the Holy Dragon Empire would not have been passed down for a thousand years.

“The royal family probably have two, maybe three or even up to four ultimate contenders!”

Farron could only guess. If there were three or more ultimate contenders, plus Farron and Holy Dragon City’s accumulated experience, they had nothing to fear from those five rebel army leaders.

“However, will it be so simple?”

Farron still felt slightly uneasy. Suddenly, a familiar figure flashed across his mind.

“Perhaps, he’ll be a variable...”

Although this person was a potential variable, Farron was no longer able to eliminate him.

...

In the castle on the outskirts of town, Merlin was simulating Farron’s ability repeatedly in his mind. He had run this simulation over ten thousand times and had exhausted all kinds of methods and almost every possibility.

Nevertheless, Merlin still failed to find Farron’s weakness. It was almost as if he was flawless. Merlin did not believe that there was any person in this world without a flaw. The only reason Merlin could not find the flaw was simply because he did not know his opponent well enough.

Particularly regarding Farron’s Mirror Talent, Merlin’s understanding was too lacking. How would it be possible for Merlin to find a flaw with such a limited understanding of the talent? It was completely impossible!

However, this did not mean that Merlin was defeated. His physical form was still the most powerful. Merlin was unafraid of any attack from other ultimate contenders. On the other hand, if Merlin had inadvertently discovered the flaw of an ultimate contender's Supreme Talent, his opponent was doomed. This was Merlin's most terrifying aspect.

Regardless, only a handful of people knew of Merlin's true prowess.

"Honorable Marquis, the Princess Royal has sent someone to summon you."

Suddenly, the butler's voice sounded outside the secret chamber. Previously, Merlin had instructed that no one should disturb him, except for matters of utmost importance. In that circumstance, the butler was allowed to report to him.

"The Princess Royal?"

Merlin took a deep breath. He had a premonition that something big had happened. Otherwise, had the Princess Royal become impatient so soon? Nonetheless, Merlin still had no confidence in defeating Farron at this stage.

Merlin did not continue guessing. He stood up and left the secret chamber. In the hall of the castle, a blond-haired man was standing respectfully. Upon seeing Merlin, he bowed and said, "Honorable Marquis Leon, the Princess Royal has a very important matter to speak to you about."

"Lead the way."

Merlin did not doubt that this blond-haired man was one of the Princess Royal's guards. Merlin had seen him many times before, so he held no suspicion toward the guard. The fact that the Princess Royal had sent this guard to fetch him meant that something serious must have happened.

Soon, Merlin entered the Princess Royal's palace. Currently, the Princess Royal's brows were tightly furrowed as her face expressed worry. When she finally saw Merlin, her expression evened out gradually.

“Leon, sorry for disturbing you and your wives but this matter is truly important. Doomsday and some other rebel armies – a total of five ultimate contenders – are getting ready to attack Holy Dragon City!”

As soon as the Princess Royal saw Merlin, she informed him immediately.

“Doomsday and four other rebel army leaders are coming to Holy Dragon City? Why didn’t I receive any news from Phantom?”

Merlin’s face changed slightly. In the past, he would receive intelligence from Phantom at first instance but in the past few days, there had been no such news forthcoming.

It was impossible that Phantom did not receive the news. As the Holy Dragon royal family’s most powerful Intelligence Department, Phantom was always the first to receive new information. It was infallible. Merlin was well-aware of Phantom’s powerful abilities.

“Leon, the reason you haven’t received any news is probably due to Farron reinforcing control over Phantom!”

The Princess Royal’s reply made Merlin’s heart sink slightly. Indeed, he had underestimated Farron. No matter what, Farron had been the Minister of Phantom for decades. His influence had far surpassed someone like Merlin who had appeared out of nowhere. Perhaps, before this, Farron had deliberately facilitated Merlin’s “smooth journey” in Phantom Intelligence Department but at the most critical moment, Farron could easily regain complete control over Phantom Intelligence Department.

“It looks like I’ve miscalculated Farron’s foundation. Nonetheless, Doomsday and the others’ arrival in Holy Dragon City shouldn’t be our concern but rather the King and Farron’s.”

Merlin knew that the royal family’s foundation was very well-established, especially the old folks of the royal family. There were at least three or more ultimate contenders and each of them was at least as powerful, if not more powerful than Farron!

As long as these old folks of the royal family were still alive, trying to conquer Holy Dragon City was nothing more than a joke.

However, the Princess Royal's expression remained tense. She did not relax the slightest. She did not believe that the five main rebel army leaders would come on a whim. The rebels' knowledge of the royal family was very thorough, so it was impossible for them not to know the royal family's foundations.

"I still feel that it won't be as simple as it seems. Doomsday is usually very meticulous, otherwise, he would've conquered Holy Dragon City a long time ago. Therefore, this time, the five of them must possess some degree of confidence!"

The Princess Royal was still a member of the royal family. If the royal family's rule was toppled by the rebel armies, then her huge ambition would amount to nothing.

Merlin nodded. "I understand. Lisa, what do you want to do?"

The Princess Royal paced back and forth, one possibility after another flashed across her mind. The ambition in her heart grew. Perhaps, this time, the royal family was truly in danger but at the same time, there were hidden opportunities amid the danger.

"Leon, maybe, this will be our chance!"

Looking at the Royal Princess' ambition-fueled gaze, Merlin realized that the situation would become even more complicated. Nonetheless, the Princess Royal had made up her mind.

"Lisa, this will indeed be a chance but it won't be easy to grasp it..."

"We'll only know if we try. Moreover, Leon, I believe in you!"

The two of them smiled at one another. The Princess Royal might be ambitious and longed for power but she had absolute confidence in Merlin. This much was enough for him!

Merlin took a deep breath. He suddenly looked forward to Doomsday and the others' siege into Holy Dragon City. Perhaps, thereafter, a new era would begin...

Chapter 1003: Tempest Stirring I

Holy Dragon City was as its usual calm and quiet. In the morning, it was still shrouded in mist. The sun had just appeared and had not managed to dispel the thick mist but the weather was pleasant.

“Swish.”

No one noticed that a few dark shadows had slipped quietly into Holy Dragon City. No one knew what technique it was either. It seemed like these people merely consisted of shadows.

Yes, shadows. Even if they stood right in front of someone, they would not be seen. All people could see was a dark shadow. This was none other than the Shadow King’s formidable technique.

The Shadow King’s Supreme Talent was forming a shadow that blended perfectly with the surrounding environment and impossible to find.

Therefore, the Shadow King’s stealth attacks were extremely horrifying, even more so than Shadowthorn. With the Shadow King’s help, Doomsday and the others were able to slip into Holy Dragon City without any problem.

“Holy Dragon City, pfft, what’s the big deal about it? We thought that they would’ve some advanced techniques but we’ve managed to slip in quietly and the royal family has yet to find out...”

Amid the darkness, a disdainful voice piped up. No one knew which ultimate contender it was but his tone was certainly scornful.

“By the way, why didn’t the Candora Trio-Lords show up?”

The Shadow King asked gruffly.

“They have their way of entering Holy Dragon City, so they won’t come with us.”

Doomsday replied, unruffled.

“Hehe, more like they’re trying to take advantage of us? The Candora Trio-Lords are certainly not to be trusted.”

These ultimate contenders were all wary of the Candora Trio-Lords.

“Doomsday, you’re most familiar with Holy Dragon City. Where should we go now?”

Doomsday thought deeply. Based on his knowledge of Holy Dragon City as well as his thorough understanding of Farron, Doomsday did not believe that Holy Dragon City did not know anything.

“You’d better not underestimate the royal family. Perhaps, while we were getting ready, the royal family already knew that we’re coming... There might be an ambush but what can they do? Pitted against absolute strength, all their schemes won’t amount to anything. Let’s go directly to the palace. The head of the Sacred Lion Beast is also in there.”

The corners of Doomsday’s mouth gradually morphed into a sinister smile. They had prepared for this for a long time. Doomsday was very knowledgeable about the royal family. Besides, he knew that Phantom Intelligence Department’s intelligence-gathering ability was far beyond the imagination of ordinary people.

Doomsday knew that most likely their whereabouts had been tracked by the royal family, who were currently waiting for them to “spring the trap”.

However, it was difficult to tell who would ultimately have the last laugh.

“Haha, yes, directly to the palace. What kind of shady tricks could stump us? Besides the ultimate contenders, who else can stand against us?”

The Shadow King laughed. Then, he manipulated the shadows and slinked silently toward the palace.

...

In the magnificent palace, the King was seated on a big chair. Currently, he was surrounded by many unfamiliar but powerful contenders. These were the full-shifters in the palace. They were not comparable to the ultimate contenders but could still guarantee the King’s safety for at least a short time.

Standing before the King was Farron. Currently, Farron appeared calm as he reported softly, “Your Majesty, they’ve arrived. For now, we’ve only discovered five people. They’re Doomsday, Phantom King, Shadow King, Liberator, and the Nine-lives Werewolf respectively.”

Upon hearing these names, the King sneered in derision. “Hmph, I see they’re all here. Good, very good since they’re seeking their deaths by coming to Holy Dragon City. Get ready to attack. If all the five main rebel army leaders are dead, it’ll just be a matter of time before we quash the remaining rebel forces.”

The King’s eyes seemed to be glowing with zealousness. Farron was reminded of a scene many years ago when the King had just ascended the throne.

Back then, the King was full of zeal. The Holy Dragon Empire was far from any turmoil and the King planned to bring the Holy Dragon Empire into a more glorious era.

However, it was only after he became King that he realized the Holy Dragon Empire was a dried-up husk. The aristocrats had grown too powerful to be controlled. Many aristocratic rulers disregarded the royal family’s authority. Coupled with the gradual weakening of the royal family’s descendants and the lack of talented individuals, the royal family’s authority began to decline.

Later, the rebellions erupted and quickly spread throughout the entire empire. Although the Holy Dragon Empire was at risk, it also presented an opportunity for the royal family.

The influences of the aristocratic rulers were too widespread. Within their respective territories, the aristocratic rulers’ words had overshadowed the royal family’s orders.

However, after this rebellion, the number of aristocratic rulers had been whittled down ten to one. This was akin to a new beginning. For this reason, the King had given the rebellion some leeway.

Nevertheless, there would always be unexpected developments such as the birth of five ultimate contenders. This caught the royal family by surprise and had complicated the situation.

Right now, these five rebel army leaders even dared to come to Holy Dragon City and attempt to overthrow the Holy Dragon royal family. This made the King maniacally furious.

“Hmph, these ignorant rebels, do they think that the royal family is so weak? Oh well, the empire has been chaotic for quite a long time, so now’s a good time to put an end to it.”

The King’s zealous aura made Farron smile. This was more like the King from his memory!

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Meanwhile, many powerful contenders had gathered in the Princess Royal’s palace. The Princess Royal had recruited these full-shift contenders.

The Princess Royal was wearing a grave expression. Softly, she asked Merlin, “Leon 1, have you investigated the matter about Phantom Intelligence Department? What happened to your subordinates?”

Merlin had already investigated it. Looking poised, he whispered, “Yes, Farron had used some means but it’s alright, they just can’t come out for a while. Once everything is over, I’ll go to Phantom Intelligence Department to resolve the issue.”

Merlin had learned about circumstances surrounding Shiya, Iza, and the others. Indeed, Farron had done something to them. Nonetheless, they were not in danger, which meant that during this critical period, Farron simply wished for Merlin not to create trouble. Farron had not completely severed ties with Merlin yet.

The Princess Royal nodded and did not say anything. Her expression was extremely solemn. Although they no longer had Phantom’s intelligence, the Princess Royal still had other means to know what was happening.

“Swish.”

Suddenly, a black shadow appeared in the main hall. This person was completely wrapped in black silk and wore a mask, so his or her face could not be seen.

“Your Highness Princess Royal, although we still haven’t found any trace of Doomsday and the others, I’m afraid they’ve already entered Holy Dragon City.”

The mysterious black-cloaked person reported.

“Entered Holy Dragon City? How is that possible?”

The Princess Royal was doubtful. Holy Dragon City was under careful surveillance. Anyone who entered Holy Dragon City would be discovered in no time.

After a long moment, Merlin said, “The Shadow King. Allegedly, he can move around undetected. Unless he deliberately shows himself, no one can find him.”

Merlin’s words struck a chord in the Princess Royal. Indeed, she now recalled the intelligence collected on the Shadow King. However, it used to be mere rumors. She did not expect that the Shadow King possessed such an ability.

“It looks like I’ve underestimated the Supreme Talents of the ultimate contenders. It’ll be difficult to predict their abilities based on ordinary logic.”

The Princess Royal took a deep breath. She now knew where her attention should be.

“Go, pay attention to King Father’s palace. Once there’s any movement, report to me immediately!”

Once the Princess Royal finished speaking, the black shadow in the main hall disappeared once again, almost like a ghostly spirit.

Merlin turned his gaze outside the hall. The sun had gradually dispelled the mist in the air. He knew that today was destined to be an extraordinary day...

Chapter 1004: Tempest Stirring II

In the palace, the King was surrounded by many full-shift contenders. It seemed like a great enemy was approaching. All of them were extremely vigilant. Although Farron stood below where the King was, it was still five ultimate contenders they were dealing with. So, even the full-shift contenders dared not let down their guard.

Every ultimate contender possessed some strange and unfathomable talents. Generally, all full-shifters possessed Supreme Talents but compared to the ultimate contenders, their Supreme Talents were almost negligible. They were not as powerful as the full-shift ultimate contenders.

Other than the full-shifters, there were also a few Fourth-form shifter guards. They were the backup. Thus, the entire palace was tightly-packed with people.

“Creak.”

Suddenly, a slit appeared on the palace door as it was pushed open from the outside. Everyone held their breath and stared at the door.

However, when the door opened, they saw that it was only a palace maid carrying a cup of tea. She was coming to freshen the King’s tea.

“Phew...”

Everyone relaxed slightly. The palace maid respectfully brought the teacup to the King. Just as she was changing the teacups, a guard ran in hurriedly.

“What happened?”

The King furrowed his brows.

Perhaps, the guard felt nervous seeing so many powerful contenders. In a trembling voice, he replied, “Your Majesty, the guards in the outer periphery did not find any traces of Doomsday and the others.”

“They did not find them?”

The King did not seem surprised. It would be stranger if they were discovered by the external guards.

“Alright, you may go.”

The King waved his hand and dismissed the guard.

The guard lowered his head. No one noticed that at the moment he stood up, his eyes suddenly became vacant.

“Boom.”

The guard’s body shifted in an instant and turned into a huge black wolf. Before anyone could respond, he darted straight for the king.

This sudden development was unexpected. Most people did not respond in time. Before their eyes, the guard’s huge wolf-form was about to rip the king’s body.

Finally, a few contenders with quicker responses wielded their shapeshift forms. The full-shifters used their bodies to physically block the huge wolf’s attack.

“Chi.”

The wolf’s sharp claws dug into the full-shifter who stood before the king. Fortunately, he was a full-shifter, so his body was immensely tough. The claws only managed to cause a minor injury that healed quickly.

“Die!”

Many other full-shifters also regained their senses and wielded their shapeshift forms. They lunged toward the huge wolf and in an instant, it was easily killed.

The thick stench of blood filled the palace. The atmosphere was very tense and even somewhat awkward because no one dared to say anything. No one knew why this guard would suddenly attempt an assassination.

“Swish.”

Amid this tense atmosphere, the king was completely incensed. He did not notice that the palace maid beside him had pulled out a dagger from her sleeves. Then, she stabbed the king.

“Roar!”

The palace maid’s strength was not great as she was just an ordinary person without any almighty beast bloodline. Upon being stabbed, at the most critical moment, the king had shapeshifted and roared at the palace maid. She was sent flying into the air and shaken to death.

The palace maid’s attempted assassination did not cause any harm to the king but it gave him a flicker of fear. He did not understand why an ordinary palace maid would try to kill him.

“What’s the reason? Why are these people trying to assassinate me?”

The king’s voice was low but contained depths of murderous intent. Two consecutive assassinations without any rhyme or reason were simply preposterous.

“Rumble rumble rumble.”

Suddenly, the Third- and Fourth-form shifters who were hiding in the dark wielded their shapeshift forms and rushed toward the King at the same time. By their looks, they were filled with murderous intent toward one person – the king!

All the full-shifters beside the king wielded their full-shift forms and killed these Third- and Fourth-form guards. The entire palace turned into a bloodbath. Every corner was filled with the pungent stench of death.

“What in the world is happening?”

The king looked around. He was beginning to doubt his surroundings. Even he was suspicious at these full-shift contenders beside him. No one knew who would be the next person to assassinate the king.

“Your Majesty, are these people spies for the rebel armies? Perhaps they’ve deliberately infiltrated the palace just for this opportunity. This time, they’ve received orders from the rebel army leaders to launch an attack on Sire at all cost.”

Some of the full-shifters came to this conclusion after a “careful analysis”.

“Spies? That’s ridiculous. Some of these guards have worked for me for several decades. Back then, the rebel armies haven’t even exist. How can they become spies?”

The king almost snarled. He did not believe that these people were spies. He was not a fool. When he first became king, he had great ambitions. Therefore, he was certain that this incident was not as simple as it appeared.

“Perhaps...”

“Thump.”

Before the king completed his sentence, the previously unmoving Farron stood up and stomped his foot firmly onto the ground. The sound reverberated clearly throughout the now-silent palace.

Everyone turned their eyes to Farron. They knew that Farron was the king’s true confidante and also a powerful ultimate contender.

“Farron, do you know something that I don’t?”

The king squinted. He had absolute trust in Farron.

Farron closed his eyes momentarily. Then, he spoke slowly, “There’s no need to guess anymore. Your Majesty, I know what’s going on. They’ve arrived!”

“Who? Doomsday?”

The king's expression shifted dramatically along with the numerous full-shifters around him. After all, they came prepared to fight Doomsday. The original plan was for Doomsday and the others to spring their trap but now, they did not even realize that the opponents had arrived.

However, after a flurry of panicking, they immediately checked their surroundings. They did not detect any trace of Doomsday or the others. If not for Farron's unmistakable authority and infallible logic, some of them might have been tempted to reproach Farron.

Instead, only the king frowned and said, "Farron, are your senses mistaken? Where's Doomsday?"

Farron did not answer at once. Loudly, he growled into the surrounding. "Doomsday, since you're here, why don't you show yourself? The Phantom King is indeed powerful. You've given us a massive gift right under our noses!"

"The Phantom King?"

At this moment, the king and the others had finally realized that Doomsday's group also included the Phantom King.

It was rumored that the Phantom King had hundreds of thousands of phantom duplicates, which could catch people off guard. However, it was difficult for those who had never confronted the Phantom King to understand his true ability.

Farron's words echoed in the palace. For some time, no one responded.

Just as everyone was feeling overwhelmed and anxious, the corpse of a guard who had just been killed slowly stood up. His empty eye sockets sent chills down everybody's spines.

"Hehe, outstanding as usual, Farron. You've discovered us so soon. Even so, what can you do? As long as you can't find us and can't circumvent the Shadow King's Supreme Talent, get ready to enjoy endless terror! Haha!"

The laughter emitted by the corpse caused goosebumps among those in the palace. This was a dead body yet it could stand up and speak.

Despite knowing that this was the Phantom King's Supreme Talent, it was difficult to suppress the growing terror in their hearts.

Soon, other than this corpse, more corpses on the ground began to stand. Their eyes were hollow and they were emotionless.

Even the full-shifters sucked in a breath of cold air. They did not know what kind of terrifying Supreme Talent this Phantom King had that allowed him to "control" these corpses.

Chapter 1005: Tempest Stirring III

Seeing the corpses becoming "alive" again caused many full-shift contenders to feel their blood run cold. Nevertheless, Farron merely sneered. "Phantom King, foolish trick!"

After Farron huffed contemptuously, he wielded a shapeshifted arm and slammed down. A terrifying aura descended and mashed the corpses into a sludgy flesh mix. This way, no matter how powerful the Phantom King was, it was impossible to manipulate a pile of sludge.

"Hehe, it's indeed Farron. Doomsday, Farron is your old friend, I'll leave him to you."

The Phantom King's silky voice resounded. Following that, a black shadow appeared in the great hall as if "walking out" of the void.

Farron fixed his sight. This was the opponent whom he had battled several times before – the so-called "old friend", Doomsday!

Doomsday was here. Farron looked behind Doomsday. There was no one there but Farron knew that the Shadow King must have concealed himself once again. The Shadow King's strange ability it difficult to track where he was.

"Hehe, leaving already? Since you dare to enter the palace, you'll never leave..."

Suddenly, a taciturn but faintly elderly-sounding voice resounded. An old man with a head full of white hair and bursting with energy emerged from behind the king. A murderous aura flared from the old man.

“Show yourself!”

The old man snarled. His body gave off a white light that shrouded the entire great hall. At the same time, a dark shadow appeared not too far away from the king.

“Found you!”

The old man jeered. This shadow was most likely the Shadow King. He was trying to approach the king but his plan was foiled when the old man revealed his whereabouts.

The old man immediately shapeshifted. His entire being seemed to be shrouded in a layer of holy light. However, this holy light seemed to be burning. The brilliance drove a violent slap at the shadow.

“Crash.”

There was a loud noise as the shadow was broken. Four people appeared in the great hall. They were the Shadow King, the Phantom King, the Liberator, and the Nine-lives Werewolf.

The Shadow King narrowed his eyes. “It’s the old folk hidden away by the royal family. Impressive, truly impressive, he managed to break my Shadow Incarnation!”

The so-called Shadow Incarnation was the Shadow King’s shadow form. No one could detect his tracks so he could lay an ambush or escape unnoticed.

Right now, however, the Shadow King’s Shadow Incarnate had been destroyed by this mysterious old man.

“Hehe, no matter how impressive he may be, it’s four against one. Kill!”

The person who spoke was the Liberator. His most powerful skill was his arm. Even his Supreme Talent was contained in this arm.

“Liberate!” Read more chapter at [vipnovel](#)

The brilliant rays in the air formed a huge arm that could draw people from the deepest abyss. A tremendous pressure immediately descended on the old man.

Each member of the royal family, upon becoming an ultimate contender, was extremely formidable. This was because they possessed a top-tier almighty beast bloodline. Nonetheless, this top-tier almighty beast bloodline was one that was forcefully induced from the the Sacred Lion Beast's head a long time ago.

Compared to other full-shifters, they were almost invincible but compared to the ultimate contenders, the royal family had a fatal disadvantage. Since their bloodline was birthed by force, their Supreme Talents, even at the ultimate limit, were not far superior to ultimate contenders from high-tier almighty beast bloodlines.

Their Supreme Talents might even be a little worse off than some of the ultimate contenders who had a more unique high-tier almighty beast. This was the natural balance of strength and weakness present in all creatures. Prior to becoming the ultimate contenders, the royal family had an absolute advantage over everyone else. However, after becoming ultimate contenders, they no longer gained any edge.

“Bang.”

The Liberator and the old man from the royal family collided violently. For an instant, the entire palace shook as if it would collapse at any time. The collision between ultimate contenders was truly fearsome.

“Haha, old pal, can't hold on anymore? I guess both of us still have to chip in.”

Behind the king, another two old men emerged – both ultimate contenders as well. The auras emanating from these two old men seemed to complement the first old man.

The three ultimate contenders of the royal family was confronting the four rebel army leaders.

“Today, none of you will escape!”

Although the three old men were outnumbered, the auras on their bodies complemented each other. The radiance on their bodies seemed to merge.

“Hum.”

Suddenly, a frightening aura arose in the air. A layer of light shrouded the entire Holy Dragon City. Every person in the city was suppressed, and in the air, an apparition of an enormous head appeared.

“This... This is the Sacred Lion Beast’s head?”

Instantly, all the rebel army leaders’ heart sank. They might have underestimated the Holy Dragon royal family.

...

In the Princess Royal’s palace, following the emergence of a trepidation aura, Merlin jumped to his feet and looked at the enormous head hanging in the sky.

“An apparition of the Sacred Lion Beast’s head? It looks like the battle has begun...”

Merlin mumbled under his breath. He did not know why an apparition of the Sacred Lion Beast’s head would appear but he knew that Doomsday and the others must have arrived.

“So, the rumor is true?”

Seeing the apparition of the Sacred Lion Beast’s head in the air, the Princess Royal appeared shaken to the core.

“Lisa, what rumor is that?”

Merlin also gazed at the Sacred Lion Beast’s head in the air. He could feel a slight suppression.

The Princess Royal pointed at the Sacred Lion Beast's head. Gently, she said, "The Sacred Lion Beast's head is the foundation of the royal family. According to rumors, the royal family has a technique that is mastered exclusively by the ultimate contenders, which are the old folks. They can mobilize a portion of power from the Sacred Lion Beast's head. Originally, I thought that it's merely an exaggeration but surprisingly, it's true."

The Princess Royal stared at the Sacred Lion Beast's head in the sky, obviously astounded.

"The battle must be in full swing now. Lisa, we should go there at once. If we're late, something might happen..."

Merlin squinted his eyes. Most probably, the situation in the Holy Dragon Empire would change drastically from today onward.

The Princess Royal considered for a moment but quickly raised her head. Her eyes were filled with conviction.

"Let's go, Leon. No matter what, I'm first and foremost the Princess Royal of the royal family. So, we should get rid of Doomsday and the others first."

The Princess Royal stared at Merlin with a pair of doe eyes. At this time, the Princess Royal was still able to sort out her priorities. The royal family must remain standing for her to fight for the throne.

If the royal family no longer existed, then her fight was meaningless.

"I understand."

Merlin nodded. Together with Lisa, he strode toward the king's palace.

Chapter 1006: Tempest Stirring IV

Currently, the palace had descended into a chaotic battle. The place collapsed with a loud rumble. The scope of the fighting had widened immensely. Even outside the palace, one could see almighty beasts engaged in a furious battle.

Nonetheless, the current situation was not favorable for Doomsday and the rest. The five of them initially had the advantage of numbers but the three old folks of the royal family had unleashed an unknown technique, summoning an apparition of the Sacred Lion Beast's head. Their powers swelled up and they soon suppressed Doomsday's group.

"It looks like I don't have to lift a finger!"

A smirk flitted over Farron's lips as he stared at the Sacred Lion Beast's head in the sky. He could sense a stifling power and felt extremely stunned.

These were just the three elders of the royal family, who were similarly ultimate contenders. Farron was confident in taking on one or even two of them but when they joined forces, especially within Holy Dragon City, they became too terrifying. Farron knew that even if he joined Doomsday, making up six ultimate contenders, it would be useless. They could not possibly contend against these three elders of the royal family at all.

This was the royal family's trump card which had been passed down over a thousand years. How could it be that simple to overpower the Sacred Lion Beast's head?

"What frightening power. This power is far too formidable!"

"The power of the Sacred Lion Beast... This is the power of the Sacred Lion Beast. We were too careless, way too careless. We forgot that the Holy Dragon royal family had studied the Sacred Lion Beast's head for over a millennium. How could they not have learned something?"

“Doomsday, what do we do now? We’re already trapped here and even the Shadow King has nowhere to run to.”

In terms of fighting capability, Doomsday was undoubtedly the mightiest one among the rebel army leaders. However, in terms of escaping, the Shadow King was unreservedly the number one.

Now, even Doomsday could not flee. This was enough to show that the Sacred Lion Beast’s head had such a great effect on them. With its influence, if they did not think of some other plan, they would die here.

At the thought of death, whether it was the Shadow King or the other ultimate contenders, they felt a shudder deep in their hearts. They had become ultimate contenders with a long life expectancy. Why would they wish to die here?

“The Sacred Lion Beast’s head is controlled by the Holy Dragon royal family. Still, it’s nothing unexpected...”

Doomsday’s mouth slowly twitched into a smirk as if he was not panicking and everything was still within his expectations.

“Doomsday, do you have a plan?”

The Shadow King asked hurriedly. Even though they were now somewhat unhappy with Doomsday, at this point, they still needed him, at least until they survived this crisis.

“A plan – of course, I don’t have one...”

Doomsday’s words caused everyone to widen their eyes. Many of them were starting to get angry. The Phantom King said darkly, “Doomsday, you’re the one who organized our mission this time. If we can’t escape, neither can you!”

Thereafter, the other four even surrounded Doomsday, preventing him to use some trick to escape without bringing them along.

“Hehe, they’re still fighting among themselves in the face of death!”

The king felt smug when he saw this, even excited. The five great rebel army leaders controlled more than eighty percent of the rebel armies. Once they died in this palace, it would be easy to quell the chaos of the Holy Dragon Empire. This was what the king had long dreamed of.

Still, Doomsday did not seem flustered as he watched the apparition of the Sacred Lion Beast’s head slowly pressing down on them. The tremendous pressure had halted their movements, making them sluggish.

At this moment, Doomsday’s expression suddenly hardened as he growled, “Although I can’t deal with this, someone else can!”

With that, Doomsday cast his gaze beyond the door. Currently, everyone noticed the three rays of light speeding directly toward the three ultimate contenders of the royal family. Moreover, these light rays did not seem affected by the Sacred Lion Beast’s head at all.

“Die!”

“Bang bang bang.”

There were loud crashes as the three ultimate contenders of the royal family were sent flying by some powerful energy before falling heavily to the ground. The Sacred Lion Beast’s head in the sky also swiftly dispersed, reduced to mere specks of light.

“This...”

Everyone was stunned silent, not expecting the tide to turn so quickly. The three figures who had arrived so suddenly were three middle-aged men who looked exactly alike.

“The Candora Trio-Lords... Do you have the Candora Magic Mirror? It can eliminate all binding forces because it contains a strand of a sacred beast’s will. I’ve never thought that the Candora Empire would get involved...”

The three elders of the royal family who were grievously injured had lost their strength to retaliate. The Candora Trio-Lords had been planning this for a long time. They would first use Doomsday and the rest to lure out all the elders of the royal family. When everyone else was pinned down, they would unleash a lightning strike.

It could be considered that they had succeeded. No one had thought that there would appear three ultimate contenders who could bypass the suppression of the Sacred Lion Beast’s head. This defeat was practically a fatal one and the royal family was faced with tremendous danger.

“It looks like Candora had decided to get involved with my Holy Dragon Empire?”

The king still forced himself to remain composed at this time. The rebel armies were not the Holy Dragon Empire’s biggest threat because with the royal family’s strength, they would sort out the chaos within the empire sooner or later.

Nonetheless, things were less certain with the Candora Empire next to the Holy Dragon Empire. The current king of Candora was a man with aggressive ambitions, itching to annex the Holy Dragon Empire.

Even so, the previous Holy Dragon Empire was too robust, even stronger than the Candora Empire. Therefore, it could even suppress the Candora Empire, hindering its ability to launch an invasion. Candora even had a constant worry about the Holy Dragon Empire invading them.

However, it was different now. After the internal chaos of the Holy Dragon Empire emerged, their strength had rapidly declined. The Candora Empire had schemed extensively, just waiting to take care of the Holy Dragon royal family for good. Thereafter, everything would be settled.

Of course, the most important thing was the Sacred Lion Beast’s head. Although the Candora Empire had a treasure like the Candora Magic Mirror, how could it compare to the Sacred Lion Beast’s head which increased the royal family’s strength?

Furthermore, some people in the Candora Empire wished to use the Sacred Lion Beast’s head to discover the secret of the sacred beasts so that they were one step closer to becoming mighty sacred beasts!

“Hehe, our Candora Empire had already discussed this with Doomsday and the other overlords. Your Holy Dragon royal family has controlled this empire for far too long. It’s time

for you to die. As long as you hand over the Sacred Lion Beast's head, perhaps a small part of your royal family's bloodline might still survive."

The Candora Trio-Lords looked exactly alike but were all ultimate contenders. They were the Candora Empire's strongest military force. They had even brought the Candora Magic Mirror with them. It was said that this was the treasure that could suppress a nation. It showed how well prepared the Candora Empire was this time, determined to win at all costs.

"Hehe, Candora Trio-Lords, what we've agreed on was that each of us would seize the Sacred Lion Beast's head by any means."

The Shadow King suddenly stepped forward with a cold smile. Furthermore, other than Domsday, the four of them had subtly banded together. This made the Candora Trio-Lords frowned slightly, their eyes flashing with almost imperceptible killing intent.

Nonetheless, the Candora Trio-Lords could still evaluate the situation properly, so they nodded and said calmly, "That's to be expected. First, we need to make the Holy Dragon royal family reveal the location of the Sacred Lion Beast's head."

"You want the Sacred Lion Beast's head? You must be dreaming, haha. You'll never obtain the Sacred Lion Beast's head. As long as we have the Sacred Lion Beast's head, our royal family will never fall!"

The king's eyes were faintly bloodshot and his heart burst with rage. Those were the three elders of the royal family, their strongest force, but now, they were all gravely injured and faced with danger.

No, there was still one royal family elder, who was the strongest of them all! Unless it was a crucial moment of life and death, he would not appear.

“The elder who guards the treasure vault, if you don’t show up, our royal family is surely done for!”

The king’s heart was burning anxiously but he could not speak up. He knew that the elder must be observing them through some means. In terms of these elders, especially the one who guarded the treasure vault, even the three elders who had collapsed on the floor did not know how ancient that elder was. In short, before they had even become ultimate contenders, that old man who guarded the treasure vault was already there.

Of course, no one had seen that elder in action. Naturally, they did not know what his capability was. Nevertheless, that elder was truly the royal family’s last hope.

“You won’t say? No matter. We’ve prepared many things, enough to make you spill the beans obediently. Moreover, we have the Phantom King, hehe...”

At the mention of the Phantom King, the king’s heart leapt in fright. The Phantom King’s eerie abilities had made a deep impression on the king. If he was controlled by the Phantom King, he would have no way to guard his so-called secret.

“What? Still not speaking? Then, we’ll take action ourselves!”

The Candora Trio-Lords snickered coldly as they strode toward the king.

“Swoosh.”

Suddenly, someone appeared before the Candora Trio-Lords, blocking their way.

“Farron? I remember you’re merely the Minister of the Phantom Intelligence Department? Back then, maybe the king had done a favor for you. However, it’s been so many years. You must’ve repaid him. Today, the Holy Dragon royal family is finished. With just you alone, what plan do you have? Can you stop the eight of us?”

Naturally, the Candora Trio-Lords knew of Farron. Even if Farron was powerful, how could he stop eight ultimate contenders?

Farron eyed the Candora Trio-Lords but slightly shook his head, his expression unchanging as he said evenly, “Without His Majesty the King, I won’t be here today. Your Majesty, I’ve said before that you’ve done me three huge favors. I’ve repaid two of them. Today, I’ll pay off the third one, how’s that? After this, whether you live or die, I’ll leave...”

The king’s expression was complex. He had never thought that Farron would still stand out at this time. This was practically suicide. Back then when he had helped Farron, it was merely a simple effort on his part.

“Alright, Farron, after this time, you can leave whenever you wish. You’ll no longer owe me.”

The king drew in a deep breath as he said gruffly.

Farron smiled and his eyes twinkled with an aggressive glint. He said to the Candora Trio-Lords, “Come on then, Candora Trio-Lords. Let me see how wonderful your Magic Mirror really is?”

“Is that so? You’re not qualified to experience the Magic Mirror!”

The Candora Trio-Lords’ bodied flashed with a murderous aura, following which they lunged toward Farron.

“It’s our turn now.”

Doomsday glanced at the Shadow King and the rest. When he noticed their wary looks, he did not say anything else. His body floated and he flew toward the king.

“Quick, let us attack too. Grab the king. I have a way of making him reveal the location of the Sacred Lion Beast’s head.”

The Phantom King said loudly. Instantly, the four of them moved at once, competing against Doomsday as they dashed toward the king at their highest speed.

“King Father!”

Suddenly, in the empty square, the Princess Royal appeared, her expression froze in astonishment.

Currently, the king had been seized by the Phantom King. The four of them were ahead of Doomsday by one step, and they seemed very fearful of Doomsday.

“Hehe, Doomsday, you must’ve gone over to the Candora Empire’s side. However, that doesn’t matter. You won’t have a chance to get the Sacred Lion Beast’s head.”

The Shadow King spoke with an icy laugh.

Doomsday did not say anything and instead, directed his gaze toward the Princess Royal.

“Lisa...”

When the king saw Lisa, his face flashed with a complicated expression. Only at this moment did he seem like a true “King Father”.

“Lisa, run away, as far as you can. Forget about revenge. Empires rise and fall. Our royal family will also have to face this day. Run away...”

The king shook his head powerlessly. Now, he only hoped that the members of the royal family could survive, even if it was just one of them.

The Princess Royal breathed in deeply. At this point, she seemed to be talking to a shadowy figure behind her as her voice steeled by a cold edge.

“I’m currently nothing more than a member of the royal family. Leon, if you can’t handle this, leave. I won’t go, I’ll die in the palace...”

The Princess Royal's eyes revealed her willingness to die. As she saw the eight ultimate contenders, she suddenly felt her hopes turning to dust as she thought of how ridiculous her previous ambitions had been. In the present collapse of the royal family, all it took was one instant for everything to vanish.

The previous struggle now appeared so pale and powerless. Moreover, she knew that the eight ultimate contenders were beyond the range of what anyone could handle. Maybe Merlin could protect her and prevent her death but she did not wish to run away.

“Lisa, have you considered that this is an opportunity? I’ve said before, I’ll help you fulfill your dreams, making you the most powerful woman in this world!”

Suddenly, the shadow behind the Princess Royal spoke in a low, detached voice. In the silent night sky, it sounded incomparably clear...

Chapter 1007: Nine Lives I

From the pitch dark shadows, a tall and slender figure appeared. In the eyes of the many ultimate contenders, this slim figure could not be considered “special”.

Nonetheless, his eyes shone with a tranquil light. Perhaps among everyone present, he was the only one with such a calm gaze.

“Leon, you...”

When the Princess Royal heard what Merlin had said, her face trembled as she looked at Merlin with a complicated expression. The relationship between her and Merlin was one of constant enticements.

The Princess Royal had even exploited her “sex appeal” but was later discovered. Through constant enticement, the “sex appeal” she had given up was not of much use. In a dangerous situation like this, Merlin was more likely to leave right away. After all, that would be the right decision.

However, Merlin stayed on.

“Lisa, don’t worry. What I’ve promised you, naturally, I’ll help you achieve!”

A smirk gently tugged at the corner of Merlin’s lips. Suddenly, he looked toward Farron who was under immense pressure.

Farron took a deep breath and said in a self-mocking tone, “Leon, I’ve never thought that we’ll join forces and fight one day...”

It was true that in Farron’s heart, Merlin was someone he must kill. Reconciliation was nearly impossible for them as they represented different interests.

However, faced with a common threat now, both of them joined forces to hold on until the end.

Merlin swept his gaze over before it finally settled on Doomsday. His expression slowly turned icy. “Doomsday, you once hunted me down. Today, I’ll return the favor.”

“Boom.”

Rows of terrifying spurs swiftly appeared over Merlin's body as his body expanded. An incomparably fearsome almighty beast emerged.

This was no longer the appearance of the Blood-eye Dragon but a monster that was "neither fish nor fowl". The ultimate contenders who had shown up here were all widely knowledgeable. They recognized the appearances of almighty beasts very well. They had certainly never seen a creature like Merlin. It was too strange. Moreover, after Merlin had shapeshifted, that terrifying pressure descended upon everyone.

They were all ultimate contenders. It was rather inconceivable that such a frightening pressure would take hold of them.

"What almighty beast is this? Such a terrifying presence, especially its strength. How could it be so overwhelming in just pure strength?"

These ultimate contenders had relied on their Supreme Talents to become "ultimate contenders" so they found it difficult to imagine that someone like Merlin, who, by relying on his almighty beast body and its tyrannical strength, could compare to ultimate contenders.

"Roar..."

After Merlin had shapeshifted, he unleashed a furious cry, then sped toward Doomsday in huge strides.

However, at this point, the Nine-lives Werewolf among the Shadow King's group suddenly leaped out, his eyes fixed upon Merlin's gigantic bulk. His expression shone as he said

sinisterly, “Heh heh, not bad, not bad. I’ve finally encountered an almighty beast who has such powerful strength upon full-shifting. Leave this guy to me then. I’ve not met such an opponent for a very, very long time...”

The Nine-lives Werewolf’s eyes brightened and he appeared very excited.

The Shadow King frowned. Initially, Merlin had been rushing toward Doomsday, which would cause more trouble for Doomsday. Naturally, they were happy to see that but the Nine-lives Werewolf had gotten worked up over the thrill of the hunt and confronted Merlin himself.

“Alright, this person is on the royal family’s side after all. Since the Nine-lives Werewolf wants to, let him handle the guy. We’ll focus on making the king reveal the whereabouts of the Sacred Lion Beast’s head.”

The Phantom King said softly. Their target was still the Sacred Lion Beast’s head. This was the main factor that had spurred them to come to Holy Dragon City.

“Hehe, come on, come on. I’m too fond of strength-type almighty beasts...”

The Nine-lives Werewolf had shapeshifted too, instantly turning into a colossal black wolf of unparalleled size. It also had a pair of wings, appearing extremely sinister and frightening.

“Bang.”

Force met force and the smile on the Nine-lives Werewolf’s face was frozen at once. He was an almighty beast of immense formidable strength. It was because of this that the Nine-lives Werewolf was delighted upon seeing Merlin.

However, after an instant of collision, he could no longer smile. That earth-shattering, fearsome power had suffocated him. In just one collision through Merlin's swipe, the Nine-lives Werewolf's chest was ripped through and viciously torn. The Nine-lives Werewolf's almighty beast body was ripped into two.

"The Nine-lives Werewolf had died?"

"He's dead so soon?"

"Haha, Nine-lives Werewolf, you've met your match this time."

Merlin stopped in his tracks. The responses from these ultimate contenders seemed odd. No matter what, the Nine-lives Werewolf was their companion. He had died but there was no trace of sorrow nor any looks of shock.

Therefore, Merlin frowned. At this moment, he sensed something was off. The two halves of the Nine-lives Werewolf on the ground were rapidly fusing. Slowly, the flesh was remolded and another Nine-lives Werewolf appeared.

The Nine-lives Werewolf who had just appeared looked just as he did before. The force on his body had not even changed, only his murderous aura had grown intense.

"Good, very good! For so long I've not met such a meaningful opponent that could make me die once. Still, it'll end now!"

The Nine-lives Werewolf roared and lunged toward Merlin, who could instantly sense the frightening pressure. Now, the Nine-lives Werewolf's strength was much greater than before.

Even so, it was insufficient by far for this bit of strength to threaten Merlin!

“Roar!”

Merlin let out a ferocious snarl. The scary soundwaves caused the Nine-lives Werewolf to shudder until he was dizzy. Thereafter, Merlin gripped his claws into a fist and smashed it ruthlessly into the Nine-lives Werewolf's head.

“Bang.”

The Nine-lives Werewolf's fate was the same as the first time. His head exploded under the impact and he died a second time.

This time, everyone in the main foyer fell silent. Everyone was staring at Merlin dreadfully. Someone who could kill the Nine-lives Werewolf twice in a row in a face-to-face attack – a contender like this had not appeared for a long time.

“What terrifying physical attributes and strength. He's more formidable than the Nine-lives Werewolf. Plus, he still hasn't used his Supreme Talent.”

“An ultimate contender... It must be another ultimate contender. I've never thought that the royal family is still hiding an ultimate contender like this. He's just right for restraining the Nine-lives Werewolf!”

“This round, the Nine-lives Werewolf is in trouble! He has nine lives and each time he dies, his strength exhibits explosive growth. Who knows how many times he’ll die before he can overcome this mysterious contender named Leon.”

Doomsday narrowed his eyes slightly. Of course, he could tell that Merlin was different from when he had trapped Merlin. He had grown stronger to the point where even the Nine-lives Werewolf had died twice in a row.

The Nine-lives Werewolf’s greatest power was his strength. In a shapeshifted form, without mobilizing one’s Supreme Talent, almost no one was a match for the Nine-lives Werewolf.

Of course, an ultimate contender’s best asset was their Supreme Talent. The Nine-lives Werewolf had a Supreme Talent too, which was very terrifying. The real reason he was called the Nine-lives Werewolf was that he had nine lives.

His Supreme Talent was having nine lives! If it was just that, the Nine-lives Werewolf could not be called an ultimate contender by far. What was scary about him was that each time he died, the various attributes of his body would increase one time over.

As an example, the Nine-lives Werewolf had now died twice and was resurrected. In that case, his physical attributes were twice improved. He was the strongest in his final form when his physical attributes were enhanced nine times over. This was rather fearsome. No one knew how frightening the Nine-lives Werewolf was when his physique was augmented nine times over because even now, no one had ever forced the Nine-lives Werewolf to such a situation. He had never died more than three times.

This time, the Nine-lives Werewolf knew that he had finally met an opponent who was evenly matched, who could easily kill him twice.

“Buzz.”

The Nine-lives Werewolf with his “exploded head” was resurrected once again. His physical attributes were improved twice over, reaching a horrifying level.

“Kill!”

The Nine-lives Werewolf grew berserk. After coming alive, he did not say anything but immediately lunged at Merlin. His vicious force would directly suffocate anyone.

Twice over – the Nine-lives Werewolf’s strength was boosted twice over. Even Merlin could detect this massive power. Nonetheless, Merlin was never afraid of strength-type almighty beasts.

“Just the thing I need!”

Merlin breathed in deeply. He did not know how strong he was at this point. In the previous test, no matter how Farron attacked, it was useless. Still, this did not mean that Merlin was invincible. After all, in terms of actual strength, Farron could not compare to the Nine-lives Werewolf physically.

Other than the Nine-lives Werewolf, no one could injure Merlin’s almighty beast body. This time, Merlin was also testing his limits.

Merlin roared to the sky and spread his wings, appearing very terrifying. He mobilized his body strength and swung another fist toward the Nine-lives Werewolf.

Likewise, the Nine-lives Werewolf threw a punch, a blow without any tricks. At their level, tricks were no longer of any use.

“Bang.”

The ruthless impact of pure power caused a fearsome force to spread out in all directions. One layer of the ground was viciously stripped off, exposing the soil beneath.

Nonetheless, the result was one that shocked everyone once more. The Nine-lives Werewolf had died without any resistance. In terms of strength, he was not of the same league and was killed violently by Merlin at once.

This scene was extremely astounding. As they witnessed the battle between the Nine-lives Werewolf and Merlin, a chill gradually grew in the hearts of these ultimate contenders.

Chapter 1008: Nine Lives II

One time, two times, three times, four times...

No matter how many times the Nine-lives Werewolf was resurrected and no matter how much his power was amplified, each time, he was killed by Merlin's single blow. He could not withstand a second blow at all.

“Ah ah ah ah, b*stard. What kind of person are you? How are you so strong?”

After dying eight times, the Nine-lives Werewolf was left with just one life. Currently, his physical attributes had been increased to his strongest state – nine times greater than his initial self.

Ninefold of his physical attributes – this was the moment the Nine-lives Werewolf was the strongest. However, now, the Nine-lives Werewolf who had always been so confident was

scared as if the fearsome creature before him was the true freak. How could his physical attributes be so formidable? It was to a point where it was inconceivable.

Doomsday and the rest were stunned as well. Although they were ultimate contenders too, they relied upon their Supreme Talents. In terms of pure destructive power, they would fall short of the Nine-lives Werewolf by far.

As they watched the battle between the Nine-lives Werewolf and Merlin, the destructive power was truly a shock to these ultimate contenders. With the frightening power between both of them, wrecking the entire Holy Dragon City was a piece of cake.

Merlin's eyes were wide with amazement. At this moment, he had become interested in the Nine-lives Werewolf. This was a pure strength-type ultimate contender. In this world, Merlin would not be able to find a second one. If the Blood-eye could devour the Nine-lives Werewolf, Merlin's capability would expand further.

Although Merlin did not know what his limits were, all he could do now was to devour incessantly. Even if there were no almighty beasts' will to swallow, he could consume the powerful almighty beasts' flesh. The Nine-lives Werewolf was an excellent choice.

The Nine-lives Werewolf's body was now twice the size of his initial bulk and was eye-catching as he stood in the empty square. One of his feet was enough to casually destroy a castle while his colossal body gave off a suffocating, horrifying pressure.

Ninefold of his physical attributes had given him unbelievable strength.

"Very well, finally someone has forced me to this stage. Nine times of my physical attributes, nine times of my strength. Not even I had ever experienced such immense power. I had never felt so good!"

The Nine-lives Werewolf's heart was leaping with excitement. He was drunk on this feeling for it was a new experience. His tremendous strength even surprised himself.

Merlin glared coldly at the Nine-lives Werewolf as he said placidly, "This is your last chance. You have no more lives to squander, so let's end it here!"

Merlin observed the Nine-lives Werewolf whose body was larger than his but felt no trace of fear. His gigantic body was immediately mobilized fully. This time, he exploded with all his might.

Not even Merlin himself knew how powerful his strength was but after he exploded at full strength, he felt as if even space itself was mightily compressed, about to shatter at any moment. He knew that in the Almighty Beast World, space was incredibly sturdy and breaking it was nearly impossible.

However, presently, Merlin had such feeling as if he only had to be slightly stronger to shatter space.

“Haha, come on then!”

The Nine-lives Werewolf unleashed a great roar as the muscles all over his body swelled. His body grew by a size and the energy that erupted even caused the air to hiss explosively.

“Boom.”

Both of them clashed at full strength and the petrifying crash resounded in everyone’s heart. Another layer of the ground was stripped off by this fearsome force. Rings of shockwaves swiftly spread out in all directions at a visible pace. All that they touched was crushed into smithereens and for several miles around, the surrounding land was leveled flat.

“It’s over!”

The smoke and dust had dispersed before anyone could glimpse what had happened. They saw the Nine-lives Werewolf wearing an alarmed look. His colossal body was now crushed mercilessly under Merlin’s bulk, without even the possibility of moving a muscle.

“Blood-eye, devour!”

A cold glint shone in Merlin’s eyes, following which the Blood-eye in his forehead projected a crimson beam of light that shrouded the Nine-lives Werewolf. Instantly, the Nine-lives Werewolf who was grievously injured by Merlin without any resistance, felt his blood rapidly surging throughout his body before he finally exploded.

“Bang bang bang.”

Endless fresh blood sprayed out from the Nine-lives Werewolf’s body and was absorbed by Merlin at once, who wildly swallowed everything. The energy contained within the blood of the Nine-lives Werewolf’s body far exceeded Merlin’s expectations.

Fortunately, Merlin’s current body seemed to have no limits. His bulk began to swell at a discernible speed. At the same time, there was something Merlin had never imagined. The barrier of the Illusory World in his body was swiftly fortified. Previously, it was very frail but now, as Merlin’s body grew stronger, the Illusory World’s barrier was subtly heading toward a true strengthened state of this world.

Maybe this was the only benefit the Almighty Beast World would provide to the Illusory World.

Merlin did not take note of the changes in the Illusory World at all. Currently, he only felt his body becoming stronger as if he was about to break free from his shackles. However, at the same time, he sensed a terrifying will stirring in the dark abyss as if it was suppressing him.

“This will? The Almighty Beast World’s will?”

Merlin was greatly shocked. That profound state swiftly vanished and he returned to reality. He saw that the Nine-lives Werewolf’s body had been sucked dry completely. Naturally, the Nine-lives Werewolf had become a withered corpse, breathing his last.

Merlin’s shapeshifted form was even more fearsome now. His body had grown by another size and his strength had increased an unknown number of times. Even Merlin’s tiny gesture contained horrifying power.

“Earlier, I’ve sensed the the Almighty Beast World’s will. Could it be that by constantly increasing my physical strength and reaching a limit, I can also detect the Almighty Beast World’s will? In other words, is this of the ways to become a sacred beast?”

Merlin did not know what happened. Although he used to be a great existence who contended against a Latitude Cosmo, in this unfamiliar world, many laws were different from the Void Zone. Merlin did not understand them well.

Luckily, as his body grew stronger, the Illusory World's rate of recovery was boosted too. When the Illusory World was fully restored, Merlin would not need to fear the Almighty Beast World's will.

No one paid any attention to what Merlin was thinking. Doomsday and the rest were staring unwaveringly at the Nine-lives Werewolf's dried corpse. A proud and mighty ultimate contender had died?

Previously, the Candora Trio-Lords, despite their surprise attack, had merely seriously injured the three elders of the royal family but was unable to kill them. Nonetheless, the Nine-lives Werewolf who had nine lives, who seemed so difficult to kill, had now died at Merlin's hands. Furthermore, it was in a confrontation of strength. This was far from everyone's expectations.

"Swish."

Merlin turned his gaze toward Doomsday. Of course, he still remembered that Doomsday had forced him into a corner back then. If it was not for Farron's arrival, things would not have ended for Merlin.

"Boom."

Merlin did not hesitate in the slightest and immediately lunged toward Doomsday. After his physical attributes were improved, his speed had increased significantly. In the blink of an eye, he was in front of Doomsday.

"Soul of Light!"

Suddenly, Doomsday's voice rang from all directions and the surrounding space started to fluctuate, turning into a blank white expanse as if blanketed in a white fog.

Merlin lightly shut his eyes and opened them again but it was still the same world – no changes. He knew that this was Doomsday's Supreme Talent. Only a similar Supreme Talent could contend against this Soul of Light.

Farron had used his Mirror Talent to oppose Doomsday's Soul of Light but Merlin had no Supreme Talents that were similar. Therefore, for the moment, he was trapped in Doomsday's Soul of Light like the last time.

Chapter 1009: Ripped Apart!

"Soul of Light? How wondrous it is. If I can mobilize my Illusory World, what would this mere Soul of Light count for?"

Merlin felt somewhat powerless. Clearly, he knew that Soul of Light was illusory but he could not locate its flaws, so he had no way to dispel it. It was like Merlin's Illusory World. Once it enveloped his opponents, even if they knew very well that this was illusory, they were powerless. This was the scary part of illusions.

Of course, compared to the Illusory World, Doomsday's Soul of Light was lacking by far. Nonetheless, with Merlin's current state where he could not mobilize his Mind Power let alone the Illusory World, wanting to dispel the Soul of Light was challenging.

Thus, Merlin might as well stand there quietly, shutting his eyes calmly. He was patiently searching for any flaws in the Soul of Light or the place where Doomsday's real body was.

He knew that Doomsday must be nearby, sure to be observing Merlin's movements closely. If only Merlin could figure out Doomsday's actual position, then even if he could not locate the flaws of the Soul of Light, he could still disperse it in one strike.

In other words, Doomsday's real body was the greatest flaw of the Soul of Light!

"Humph, do you think I can't deal with you if you don't move?"

Outside, Doomsday saw that Merlin was not moving a muscle. Thus, he further increased the strength of the Soul of Light and shot out countless piercing arrows.

"Whiz whiz whiz."

These were not an illusion but Doomsday's attack. These crimson-colored sharp arrows were frightening. Even ordinary full-shifting contenders would have to retreat strategically.

Nonetheless, Merlin did not even twitch, allowing the crimson arrows to fly toward him. Instantly, waves of arrow fell upon him like rain.

However, these crimson arrows could not even break past Merlin's most external defenses. Merlin shook his head and said softly, "Too weak, far too weak."

"What?"

Doomsday's face was gripped by shock. He had never thought that his attack could not even get past Merlin's outer defenses. At this point, only Farron was smirking to himself. In the past, he had used up all his methods but even he could not injure Merlin, let alone Doomsday.

Faced with a tyrannical existence like Merlin whose body was tough to an unimaginable extent, it was difficult to cause him harm even if he was trapped.

While Doomsday was unable to harm Merlin, likewise, Merlin was trapped in the Soul of Light with no way of harming Doomsday.

Following that, Doomsday began to wildly unleash various techniques but unsurprisingly, they did not affect Merlin at all. He did not even move and allowed Doomsday to attack. Doomsday still could not injure him.

The only one who could injure Merlin was the Nine-lives Werewolf but he was already devoured by Merlin.

"Let's pay no mind to this monster for now. Go and find out from the king the location of the Sacred Lion Beast's head."

Doomsday's face was gloomy. Not being able to kill Merlin, he felt a sense of embarrassment but under the circumstances, he could only trap Merlin for now.

The Phantom King laughed coldly then wielded his technique. He could manifest countless phantom duplicates that immediately attached themselves to the king. The king's face turned stiff and he was immediately controlled. His eyes became blank and lifeless as well.

"Tell us, where's the Sacred Lion Beast's head?"

The Phantom King asked sinisterly. Nonetheless, the current king had been controlled and could only reply frankly, “The Sacred Lion Beast’s head is in the underground secret chamber in the depths of the palace.”

“Are there any dangers within the secret chamber?”

The Phantom King was cautious too. He knew that most secret chambers like this would likely have some protective forces.

“There are many full-shifting contenders in the secret chamber but if one possessed the concentrated bloodline of the royal family’s descendants, one could neutralize those guards.”

The king spoke without reserve, revealing every detail.

“Haha, then we’ll make the first move!”

When the Candora Trio-Lords heard this, they laughed loudly and flew toward the outside of the palace. Nonetheless, they did not seize the king. As for the bloodline of the royal family’s descendant, they did not wish to lag behind while they were competing for the Sacred Lion Beast’s head. They immediately looked toward the Princess Royal.

“We’ll bring you with us!”

The Candora Trio-Lords flew toward the Princess Royal at once. These three ultimate contenders did not need to spend much effort to capture the Princess Royal, leaving behind the Shadow King, the Phantom King, and the rest who could only watch helplessly.

“Doomsday, you stay here and restrict this monster. We’ll take our leave first, haha!”

The Shadow King and the rest chortled to themselves, then left the foyer, flying toward the secret chamber where the Sacred Lion Beast was. In the entire hall, only Doomsday and Farron were left, along with Merlin who was trapped by Doomsday.

In the foyer, Farron's glare hooked onto Doomsday as he asked coldly, "Doomsday, don't you sense that you're now in great danger?"

"Huh?"

Doomsday looked around at the empty foyer, then looked toward Merlin whom he had trapped in the Soul of Light. At this point, he realized that he had fallen into danger. No one cared whether he lived or died. They had all frantically chased after that Sacred Lion Beast's head.

If there was only Merlin who was trapped, Doomsday did not need to worry. After all, Merlin could not struggle out of the bindings of his Soul of Light.

However, Farron's presence now was making Doomsday very nervous because Farron's Supreme Talent could dispel his Soul of Light. In a one-on-one match, Doomsday was unafraid of Farron as both of their Supreme Talents could be nullified.

Nonetheless, there was Merlin now. Once Farron had dispersed Doomsday's Soul of Light, based on the valiant strength Merlin had displayed, things did not look too good for Doomsday.

"Farron, this monster's existence is a threat to you, right? I still understand some of the matters of your royal family. This monster is on the Princess Royal's side while you're the king's man. Today, if you save him, things won't end too well for you in the future."

Doomsday narrowed his eyes slightly and growled.

Even so, Farron guffawed, then stared at Doomsday, saying with a long sigh, "Doomsday, you still don't understand me. His Majesty's greatest wish is to make the Holy Dragon Empire flourish once more. Perhaps His Majesty is no longer the man for this job but the Princess Royal could do it!"

With that, terrifying energy exploded, shrouding Doomsday's Soul of Light. This was Farron's Mirror Supreme Talent, a power that affected the mind as well.

"Hiss."

Merlin quickly opened his eyes. He sensed that a crack had appeared in Doomsday's Soul of Light.

"Go!"

Merlin did not overthink this. Since he had found a weak spot, he had to seize this chance. Therefore, his colossal body began to move, bringing with it a fearsome strength that smashed directly toward that crack.

"Boom."

The Soul of Light shattered into smithereens in that instant. The foyer resumed its appearance before Merlin's eyes, and there were only Doomsday and Farron beside him.

Countless thoughts flashed across Merlin's mind. Of course, he knew that Farron must have acted to help him escape from Doomsday's Soul of Light, just like the previous time Farron had rescued Merlin.

However, this time, Merlin could kill Doomsday!

"Doomsday, the last time, you couldn't kill me. This time, it's your turn!"

Merlin's stare turned icy as he glared at Doomsday. The terrifying force of his body was like an immense mountain that pushed down upon Doomsday mercilessly.

At this moment, Doomsday understood why the Nine-lives Werewolf had died so soon. He could not resist at all. Without the advantage of the Soul of Light, Doomsday was merely somewhat stronger than most full-shifters. He was much inferior to the Nine-lives Werewolf.

"Die!"

Merlin's gigantic bulk reached Doomsday in one stride. His hands grabbed Doomsday's shapeshifted body and tore it forcefully.

"Rip."

How mighty was Merlin's strength? With one rip, he immediately separated Doomsday's body into two halves. Blood gushed out and the entire foyer was pervaded by the intense stench of blood.

Chapter 1010: Magic Mirror!

He was dead. The mighty ultimate contender – Doomsday – had instantly lost his life force. Farron wore a complex expression as he looked toward the two halves of Doomsday's corpse on the ground. In the past, he had viewed Doomsday as his greatest threat. They had fought each other for so many times but ultimately, no one could defeat the other.

However, Doomsday was now dead. This seemed to indicate that even ultimate contenders like them were, at best, slightly stronger than ordinary people. They would still die in the end.

"Blood-eye!"

The Blood-eye in Merlin's forehead immediately enveloped Doomsday's corpse. The blood which contained the majority of Doomsday's strength was absorbed by Merlin's Blood-eye.

"Crack."

At last, Merlin's body expanded by another size. The overbearing force caused even Farron to feel rather fearful.

"This sensation... It feels like the Almighty Beast World's will?"

Merlin raised his head. After absorbing the energy from the blood of two ultimate contenders successively, Merlin's body had grown to a fearsome extent. Even so, Merlin did not believe that this was the limit. He felt that there was still room to grow.

The most obvious change after his body had undergone transformation was that he could vaguely detect a frightening will pervading the surroundings. Before this will, even the greatest power was utterly negligible. Back then, Merlin had been directly attacked by the Almighty Beast World's will. Naturally, he recognized that this was the same will.

"I can finally sense the Almighty Beast World's will."

Merlin's heart relaxed slightly. Only now was he able to ascertain that the path he walked was the right one because no matter which Latitude Cosmo one was in, when one became a peak existence, one would sense that Latitude Cosmo's will.

If one could not detect the Latitude Cosmo's will, one's ability had not reached the required level. Previously, Merlin had worried that he was not a conventional inheritor of an almighty beast bloodline and he had not taken the path of the Supreme Talent. Would he be forever unable to reach the peak of this world?

However, after sensing the Almighty Beast World's will, Merlin immediately gained confidence that he was on the right path. At this point, he was already much further than many ultimate contenders. Those who could sense the Almighty Beast World's will must be rather uncommon. At least, even Farron was unable to sense the Almighty Beast World's will.

Previously, Merlin had wondered if sacred beasts represented the Almighty Beast World's will? Or maybe a portion of the Almighty Beast World's will was within the sacred beasts, which was how they became sacred beasts.

This was merely Merlin's conjecture but now it looked like he was closer to the truth. As long as Merlin continued strengthening his abilities, the secrets of the sacred beasts would not be so impenetrable.

Following that, Merlin cast a glance at Farron and resumed his ordinary appearance, asking calmly, "Farron, the king and the Princess Royal had been kidnapped to the underground secret chamber that housed the Sacred Lion Beast's head. What are you going to do?"

Farron smiled. He seemed to notice the changes in Merlin's body and said softly, "Marquis Leon, perhaps this time, I'm no longer necessary for you to handle these guys. So many people are after the Sacred Lion Beast's head. How foolish of them. Yet, you've accomplished something..."

After Farron had spoken, he immediately left. Based on where he was heading, he was going to rescue the king.

Merlin had gone to the secret chamber where the Sacred Lion Beast's head was once before so of course, he knew where it was. Nonetheless, the place required a descendant of the royal family. After some thought, he headed toward the other palace. There were some princes or princesses. With their blood, he should be able to access the secret chamber.

He casually grabbed some princes and princesses. Of course, some of them knew Merlin and they yelled and screamed about punishing Merlin. However, at Merlin's level, who could punish him?

Soon, Merlin reached the secret chamber of the Sacred Lion Beast. Farron was already waiting there. When he saw that Merlin had captured some princes and princesses, a wry smile tugged at the corner of his lips. "We have to trouble Your Highnesses. This relates to the fate of the royal family. I humbly request your cooperation."

Merlin was less courteous, immediately sending them forward one by one to drip their blood. Only a descendant whose bloodline was concentrated to a certain degree would be able to open the secret chamber.

After three princes had dripped their blood, there was no effect. Nonetheless, a princess' blood was able to open the chamber, revealing a dark passage that headed downward.

"Swoosh."

Merlin swiftly entered the passage. Following that, with familiar steps, he hurried to the place where the Sacred Lion Beast was. There, he saw a few dim figures which were the Candora Trio-Lords and the Shadow King's group.

However, both sides were now facing off each other. They were both competing for the Sacred Lion Beast's head. Although there were still three left in Shadow King's group, the Candora Trio-Lords controlled the most valuable treasure of the Candora Empire – the Candora Magic Mirror!

With the Candora Magic Mirror, the Shadow King and the rest were at a disadvantage. Currently, the Candora Magic Mirror had already emerged, floating and glowing with a dim light.

"Hmm? The Candora Magic Mirror contains an almighty beast's will? That's not right, it must be a sacred beast's will!"

Merlin's heart leaped. He seemed to sense a will hidden in the Candora Magic Mirror. Although this will was very faint, Merlin, who could detect the Almighty Beast World's will, was able to easily identify it.

Moreover, he even noticed that the will in the Candora Magic Mirror seemed to be connected to the Almighty Beast World's will.

"Farron, do you know of the Candora Magic Mirror's origins?"

Merlin eyed Farron beside him and asked in a low voice.

Naturally, Farron knew more than Merlin and explained in detail, "The Candora Magic Mirror is the most precious treasure of the Candora Empire that could suppress a nation. It can dispel bindings and of course, wield binding powers. It has various mystical abilities. As for why it's so wondrous, it's because the Candora Magic Mirror contains a strand of a sacred beast's will."

"A sacred beast's will?"

Merlin was shocked but then, he looked toward the Candora Magic Mirror again, feeling an unparalleled fervor. He had merged many almighty beasts' will but the only one he had not merged was a sacred beast's will.

To evolve and progress one step forward, this sacred beast's will was indispensable. With this in mind, Merlin came to a decision. Since he had encountered the Candora Magic Mirror, he was determined to obtain it.

"What, you want the Magic Mirror?" Read more chapter on vipnovel.com

When he saw that Merlin's gaze was fixed constantly upon the Candora Magic Mirror, Farron asked in a flabbergasted voice. Although Merlin did not affirm nor deny this, his attitude had undoubtedly made his intentions clear.

Farron shook his head powerlessly. "The Candora Magic Mirror isn't so easily obtained. The Candora Empire is willing to let the Candora Trio-Lords bring the Candora Magic Mirror out because they know that no one will snatch the Candora Magic Mirror as it can travel through space!"

“What, travel through space?”

After Merlin came to the Almighty Beast World, he knew that space here was extremely solid to an inconceivable stage. He had never seen any power that was able to break the space, much less travel through it.

“Could it be the sacred beast’s will?”

Merlin suddenly recalled the sacred beast’s will in the Candora Magic Mirror. Sacred beasts were named so because they had various unimaginable powers.

Based on Merlin’s conjecture, if sacred beasts represented a trace of the Almighty Beast World’s will, traveling through space would not be a difficult task. The Almighty Beast World’s will controlled the entire Almighty Beast World. Traveling through space – what could it count for?

At this thought, Merlin was even more curious about the sacred beast’s will. As a peak existence of this world, sacred beasts were the best way for Merlin to understand the Almighty Beast World.

“Regardless of whether the Candora Magic Mirror is truly that mystical, I must give it a try! I’ll handle the Candora Trio-Lords!”

Merlin drew in a deep breath and shapeshifted instantly. His fearsome force swiftly pervaded the entire chamber.

“Boom.”

In great strides, Merlin rushed wildly toward the Candora Trio-Lords. With Merlin’s present capability, just his force alone was equipped with a suppressive advantage, causing the arrogant Candora Trio-Lords to feel immense pressure.

“How is he so strong? He seemed even more formidable!”

The Candora Trio-Lords' expressions changed and they no longer cared about the Shadow King's group. They aimed the Candora Magic Mirror at Merlin at once.

"Magic Mirror, Binding Force!"

"Hum."

As soon as the Candora Trio-Lords spoke, the Candora Magic Mirror trembled slightly. Rings of light were emitted and an invisible restrictive power enveloped Merlin.

"Hmm?"

Merlin felt his entire body stiffened. He was unable to move forward. The unseen Binding Force had restrained him. With Merlin's current formidable strength, a power that could bind him, even if only for a moment, was rare indeed.

"I'm afraid this bit of Binding Force isn't enough!"

Merlin laughed coldly, following which his body swelled again. His overwhelming strength struggled ferociously and the merged almighty beasts' will in his Awareness snarled wildly too as if unhappy about being restricted.

"Buzz buzz buzz."

As Merlin struggled, the Candora Magic Mirror started to quiver as if it would split apart at any time. This was the first time this had happened to the Candora Magic Mirror while facing an opponent.

"Oh no, even the Candora Magic Mirror can't restrain him. How's this possible? How frightening is he?"

As the Candora Trio-Lords stared at the Candora Magic Mirror which constantly quivered, their faces turned deathly white. Even the Candora Magic Mirror could not hold Merlin back. What else could the three of them do?

After all, not everyone had a Supreme Talent like Doomsday's Soul of Light which was just right to subdue Merlin. Furthermore, with Merlin's increased strength now, even Doomsday would be unable to restrict him.

"We must take the Sacred Lion Beast's head with us. Even if we can't bring the entire thing, we must take a part of it! Cut!"

The Candora Trio-Lords yelled as one and produced a flattened hand in the air, slicing the Sacred Lion Beast's head into two halves. Thereafter, the Candora Trio-Lords cried out at the Candora Magic Mirror, "Teleport!"

"Crack."

There was the sound of breaking glass. Merlin distinctly saw that space was shattered and the Candora Magic Mirror glowed with a dusky light that swiftly engulfed the Candora Trio-Lords. In a flash, they flew into pitch-black space.

Traveling through space – the Candora Magic Mirror was indeed able to travel through space!

"Humph! As for you guys, you won't be so lucky..."

When Merlin saw that the Candora Magic Mirror had left through teleportation, his face instantly darkened. As he stared at the Shadow King and the rest, his body exuded an icy, murderous aura.