

W. Secret 1011

Chapter 1011: The King's Decision

“D*mn it, Shadow King, it’s up to you now. My skills aren’t really useful here!”

The Phantom King roared furiously. When he saw the remaining half of the Sacred Lion Beast’s head, he immediately seized it which let the Shadow King stop Merlin.

“Hehe, leave it to me! If I wish to leave, who can stop me?” The Shadow King stated confidently.

“I’m afraid you won’t be going anywhere today!”

Merlin’s gaze sharpened. He could not handle the Candora Magic Mirror that could travel through space. Was he really unable to deal with the Shadow King and the rest as well? Currently, Merlin was at his peak form. Even if he encountered Doomsday, he would not fear the Soul of Light because he could tangibly perceive the Almighty Beast World’s will. Even the strongest Soul of Light would be unable to baffle the present Merlin.

“Swoosh.”

After the Phantom King grabbed half of the Sacred Lion Beast’s head, the Shadow King instantly exhibited his Supreme Talent that blanketed the Phantom King and the Liberator, turning them into a large stretch of shadow.

This shadow was just like anyone’s shadow, indistinct and faint within the dim secret chamber. It was impossible to guard against. Just as the Shadow King had said, there was truly no one who could stop him if he wanted to leave.

In terms of self-preservation, the Shadow King’s ability was the most formidable.

Nonetheless, Merlin was a different person after he had successively consumed the flesh of the Nine-lives Werewolf and Doomsday. He could detect the Almighty Beast World’s will, so naturally, he was able to detect even more subtle things. Therefore, in this world, there was almost nothing that could escape Merlin’s senses.

“Gotcha.”

Merlin’s colossal body immediately bore down upon a stretch of shadow.

“Boom.”

The fearsome force nearly destroyed the secret chamber. Merlin’s huge foot had stomped on a subtle shadow. Even after close observation, one would not see anything. However, after Merlin’s stomp, this shadow exuded water-like ripples that shuddered outwards in numerous rings.

“Swoosh.”

A few figures came out from the shadow and appeared miserable within the secret chamber. It was the Liberator, the Phantom King, and the Shadow King.

Currently, the Shadow King’s face was incomparably downcast while he glared furiously at Merlin as if he could not believe this.

“How did you discover me? Even Farron could not possibly notice me. If I wish to leave, who can stop me?”

The Shadow King was proudest of all, but Merlin still ended up seeing through him. He was astounded in the depths of his heart.

“It’s child’s play!”

Merlin’s eyes flashed with a piercing gleam and his massive bulk leaped forward without warning, galloping straight towards the Shadow King. The Shadow King knew of Merlin’s prowess and instantly turned himself into a shadow.

Nonetheless, Merlin could still see every movement Shadow King made and casually smacked a shadow on the ground. The Shadow King immediately let out a cry of pain and was forced to

reveal himself. The Shadow King was injured from Merlin's attack at that point after he discovered him once again.

By now, the Shadow King truly believed that Merlin could sense him. He roared in fury as his Supreme Talent unleashed to its maximum. The entire secret chamber was engulfed in an enormous layer of shadow.

"Bang bang bang."

Sounds of attacks suddenly erupted within the shadows. One black tentacle after another burst from the shadows, viciously pounding on Merlin's body. Even so, this bit of attack was unable to stir Merlin at all.

"Too weak, far too weak!"

Merlin shook his head slightly. He shook himself all over. He could neutralize these attacks through just his strength. Following that, he exploded with all his energy. The entire sweep of shadow seemed unable to withstand Merlin's power and rapidly disintegrated.

"Come on out."

Merlin reached out and grabbed, seizing a fistful of shadow firmly in his hand. After that, the shadow gradually transformed into the Shadow King's actual appearance, but he was unable to free himself from Merlin's grasp. Currently, Merlin did not even know how strong he was.

"Leon, let the Shadow King go."

Suddenly, a familiar voice rang out beside Merlin's ear. Merlin carefully looked over and saw that it was the Princess Royal. However, the current Princess Royal wore a slack expression. Clearly, she was being controlled.

"Marquis Leon, let go of the Shadow King quickly."

Other than the Princess Royal, the king was being manipulated as well.

Merlin's eyes turned icy and instantly knew who was behind this.

"Phantom King!"

"Haha, not bad, it's me indeed. Leon, if you don't let go of the Shadow King, I'm afraid that the Princess Royal and the king will die because of you." The Phantom King threatened.

The Shadow King might be the best at self-preservation, but the strangest, most slippery one was actually the Phantom King. He had a myriad of transformations and was difficult to capture. Just like at that moment, he had controlled the king and the Princess Royal which caused one to hold back to prevent the harming of innocents.

To deal with the Phantom King, it was crucial to locate his real body. Only then could one directly deliver a fatal strike. Otherwise, the Phantom King would be very troublesome to deal with; with a myriad of transformations. He was the scariest too. He could wipe out the Holy Dragon City by himself.

Merlin breathed in deeply. He did not care about the king, but the Princess Royal being held hostage was indeed forcing Merlin to hold back from attacking. He could only loosen his grip and toss the Shadow King to one side.

"Swoosh."

The Shadow King instantly turned into a shadow. He vanished from the secret chamber and brought the Phantom King and the rest with him. Merlin knew that they had left the room, and the king and the Princess Royal recovered their senses after being controlled.

As they stared at the underground chamber that was in ruins, the king and the Princess Royal were blank with bewilderment.

"Leon, where's the Shadow King and the rest?" The Princess Royal asked anxiously.

"Both of you were controlled by the Phantom King and taken as hostages to threaten me, so I let them go," Merlin answered honestly. In truth, they did not take much with them. What he needed was the Candora Magic Mirror. It was just a shame that the Magic Mirror had the ability to travel through space, so even Merlin had no way of seizing it by force.

As for the Shadow King and the rest, Merlin did not care.

The king wore a look of sorrow as he stared at the barren secret chamber while he mumbled in an anguished voice, “It’s gone, the Sacred Lion Beast’s head is gone. The royal family’s foundation of a thousand years is going to collapse. I am truly a failure of a king.”

Having lost the Sacred Lion Beast’s head was the biggest blow to the royal family. This was because, like the Candora Magic Mirror, the Sacred Lion Beast’s head was the core of the royal family, but now they had lost even this core.

“Your Majesty, this time, it’s good enough that we could protect the royal family. As for the Sacred Lion Beast’s head – the royal family had studied it for so long, but what has come of it? Plus, the most significant blood of the Sacred Lion Beast was gone long ago. It’s merely a symbol of the royal family.”

Farron came to the king’s side. Upon seeing the king’s desolate manner, Farron could only pacify him. Farron knew that this king had always harbored lofty ambitions deep in his heart. Now that the royal family had fallen to this point, the king’s heart was naturally filled with remorse and self-blame.

“King Father, the royal family would come to such a point not just because of your actions alone. The whole royal family is responsible.”

The Princess Royal breathed deeply. The royal family was nearly annihilated. Now, the Princess Royal finally understood that the royal family as a whole. Even her greatest aspirations would amount to nothing if the royal family was gone. Some of her previous thoughts and behavior seemed like a joke from the current perspective.

The king glanced at the Princess Royal, then looked towards Merlin who was behind her, and suddenly let out a long sigh. A bitter smile crossed his face. “Maybe, Lisa, it’s best if you act as king. You have more drive than your father!”

After the king spoke, he slowly closed his eyes, as if he had come to a decision in his heart, a decision that would change the fate of the whole Holy Dragon Empire...

Chapter 1012: Real or Fake

Currently, the most important figures of the empire were gathered in the palace of the faraway Candora Empire. They were waiting to see if they obtained the Sacred Lion Beast's head from the Holy Dragon Empire.

Although it was only half, it was enough to make the upper brass of the Candora Empire mad. The Holy Dragon Empire had established the foundation of a millennium because of this Sacred Lion Beast head.

"Haha, Trio-Lords, you've done well. You've made great contributions to obtain the Sacred Lion Beast's head!"

The Candora King, who was sitting on the throne, saluted the Candora Trio-Lords. These Trio-Lords looked identical and had become ultimate contenders. It was basically a miracle.

However, they did not have any thoughts of competing with the King, and instead became the most powerful sword of the Candora Empire. The Trio-Lords, together with the Magic Mirror, had few rivals. This time, if not for the sudden appearance of the abnormality, Leon, they would have brought back the entire head of the Sacred Lion Beast.

"Your Majesty, we are really ashamed that we failed to bring back the complete Sacred Lion Beast's head," the Candora Trio-Lords said regretfully.

The Candora Trio-Lords did not know about Merlin at all but after returning to the Candora Empire, they learned that even Doomsday had died long ago by Merlin's hands. They knew that the Holy Dragon Empire would not be destroyed as long as Merlin existed. Merlin's name was destined to resound throughout the continent.

“The Holy Dragon Empire has stood for millennia, so it naturally won’t fall that easily. It’s already very good that you were able to bring back half of the Sacred Lion Beast’s head. Now, let’s take a look at this Sacred Lion Beast’s head.”

The King was also full of curiosity. The Sacred Lion Beast’s head was the greatest secret of the Holy Dragon Empire. If not for the civil strife in the Holy Dragon Empire, it would be impossible to obtain the Sacred Lion Beast’s head by relying on the Candora Trio-Lords alone.

“Bring it here.”

The Candora Trio-Lords clapped and called for people to bring the Sacred Lion Beast’s head in. The huge head was immediately displayed in front of everyone. Even though it was only half, anyone who saw this head would be shocked.

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

Many core figures of the Candora Empire, including some ultimate contenders, all stared at the Sacred Lion Beast’s head with intense eyes, as if wanting to see the secrets of the Sacred Beast.

When one became an ultimate contender, there was almost no difference in their boundary although there were still high and low points in strength.

No one was at a higher level.

Countless ultimate contenders had one common point of view after a long period of analysis, and that was that ultimate contenders had already developed the power of the bloodline to the limit. It was similar to the terrifying peak almighty beasts back in the ancient era.

If they wanted to go further, it would be the realm of a Sacred Beast. The next step for an ultimate contender was Sacred Beasts. However, no one had ever seen what a Sacred Beast looked like, much less how terrifying its power was.

That was because Sacred Beasts had been extinct for a long time, and no one had ever seen a Sacred Beast before. There was only a small trace of a Sacred Beast's will in the Candora Magic Mirror and was not useful at all. Even so, the Candora Magic Mirror had the terrifying ability to teleport through space, which served to show how frightening a Sacred Beast was.

Perhaps the next step for an ultimate contender was not a Sacred Beast, or perhaps if an ultimate contender could take a step further, they would really step into the realm of almighty beasts. No one knew the truth. This was all speculation among the ultimate contenders.

Therefore, the Sacred Lion Beast's head was incredibly precious because it was the real corpse of a Sacred Beast.

"There doesn't seem to be anything special about this Sacred Lion Beast's head besides its huge size. Perhaps that unique aura is different from regular almighty beasts, but has anyone else noticed that that unique aura is rapidly disappearing," an ultimate existence said after realizing something while frowning.

"An aura?"

The Candora Trio-Lords sensed carefully. Indeed, in the beginning, they sensed an aura that was completely different from an ordinary almighty beast. The domineering and vastness of the aura made them feel their insignificance.

That was why they believed that this was truly the Sacred Lion Beast's head. However, thinking about it now, how vast was the aura that they felt in the Holy Dragon City's secret chamber? It was not like this one, where it seemed like it would disappear at any moment.

"This..."

While the Candora Trio-Lords were puzzled, the unique aura on the Sacred Lion Beast's head completely disappeared and could no longer be sensed.

"Crack."

At the same time, the Sacred Lion Beast's head began to crack, and the crack spread, just like a spider web, across the head in the blink of an eye.

"Boom."

Finally, the huge Sacred Lion Beast's head crumbled with a loud noise, turning into debris and scattered all over the ground. A blanket of smoke filled the entire hall.

The next moment, the hall fell into a deathly silence.

“No... the Holy Dragon Empire, the Holy Dragon royal family, they outwitted us this time!”

At that moment, the Candora Trio-Lords finally realized that the Sacred Lion Beast's head was fake, and had been fake since the beginning. Perhaps the King was telling the truth, but the Sacred Lion Beast's head was fake. No one knew when the royal family switched out the Sacred Lion Beast's head.

The Candora Trio-Lords knelt on the ground and said lowly, “Please punish us, Your Majesty.”

Not only did they end up empty-handed this time, they even used the power of the Candora Magic Mirror. Even if there was an almighty beast will, traveling through space was not a power that ordinary people could grasp. Each time the Candora Magic Mirror was activated, it cost an unimaginably huge price.

The King's eyes were cold. He looked in the direction of the Holy Dragon Empire in the distance and sneered. “The Holy Dragon Empire is indeed an ancient empire with millennia of history. This time, we'll admit defeat!”

The King also knew that with ‘Leon’s’ appearance, the Candora Empire could not do anything even if they were furious.

Meanwhile, besides the Candora Empire, Shadow King and the others also realized that their half of the Sacred Lion Beast's head was fake. Although they were furious, they did not dare to go to the Holy Dragon Empire again.

Out of the five rebel leaders, only three remained, while the three elders of the royal family were only injured. The situation of the entire empire had changed quietly.

Perhaps, what was next were painful days for the rebel.

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At the same time, there was a jubilant atmosphere at the Princess Royal's main hall in the Holy Dragon City. That was because the next day was the day when the Princess Royal would be crowned King.

The King had been disheartened and voluntarily abdicated and passed the throne to the Princess Royal. The Princess Royal had also deployed a force that resulted in almost all the ministers to support her ascension to the throne.

Therefore, the next day was bound to be a day that caught everyone's attention. Similarly, perhaps the entire Holy Dragon Empire would change and grow with new vitality with her ascension.

The Princess Royal wore a hastily made crown full of precious stones on her head. Under the dim light, it looked incomparably beautiful.

Soon, there was a burst of concentrated footsteps outside the palace, and Merlin marched in. No one dared to stop him. Everyone knew that Merlin was the Princess Royal's closest confidant.

Merlin walked into the palace, his eyes tightly fixed on the Princess Royal. Suddenly, he said slowly, "Lisa, I just received news from Phantom's Intelligence Team that the Sacred Lion Beast's head taken by the Candora Empire and Shadow King is fake. Did you already know?"

Although Merlin's tone was calm, everyone could feel the coldness in his voice.

Chapter 1013: The Truth of the Sacred Beast's Head

"Fake?"

Adorned with a crown, the Princess Royal looked dignified and noble. She was about to become king. Her long-cherished wish for many years would finally be realized.

Looking at Merlin's cold eyes, Lisa shook her head and said, "How can that be? Leon, you saw King Father. When he saw how the Sacred Lion Beast's head ended up, he was heartbroken and even passed the throne to me. Did he look like he was faking it?"

Merlin thought carefully for a moment. Indeed, the King's heartbroken expression was impossible to fake. In other words, the King truly believed that the Sacred Lion Beast's head had been taken away.

If the King did not know, how did the Princess Royal know?

"Lisa, since you don't know that the Sacred Lion Beast's head is fake, what does this mean? Who has the ability to replace the Sacred Lion Beast's head?"

Merlin frowned. The Sacred Lion Beast's head would not be easily replaced. First of all, it was not easy to enter the secret chamber where the Sacred Lion Beast's head was located. One had to be a descendant of the royal family with very strong blood ties.

Besides the King and the Princess Royal, who else had this ability?

“Leon, the truth is, our royal family has a fourth elder!”

“A fourth elder?”

Merlin was shocked. In the tense situation earlier, only three elders appeared. Merlin thought that there had only been three ultimate contenders in the royal family.

Moreover, those three ultimate contenders were seriously injured.

Unexpectedly, the royal family still had a fourth ultimate contender. However, why did the fourth elder not appear earlier? The royal family had almost collapsed!

Lisa continued, “That’s right, a fourth elder. That elder never shows up no matter the danger, because he represents the last hope of the royal family. Besides guarding the royal family’s Sacred Lion Beast’s head, he also guards the most precious royal family treasure vault. Treasures collected over a thousand years are stored there. Even if the royal family is overthrown and the Holy Dragon Empire collapses, the royal family can survive and even rise again one day as long as we have these treasures and that ultimate contender!”

The Princess Royal’s expression was also a little complicated. The King had told this to Lisa, who was about to become king. She had to know about this.

Merlin took a deep breath. This was the practice of the royal family for a millennia. Even if the royal family was overthrown, it was necessary to retain its strength. As for the lives and deaths of other people, it was not important at all.

After a long while, Merlin asked in a deep voice, “In other words, it was the fourth elder who replaced the Sacred Lion Beast’s head?”

“We’ll find out if it was the fourth elder as soon as we ask.”

There was a sly smile on the Princess Royal’s face. Now, the Princess Royal seemed to be calm and collected no matter what happened.

Merlin nodded. He also wanted to meet the fourth elder of the royal family. Furthermore, he had coveted the almighty beasts’ will in the royal family’s treasure vault from the beginning. If he could get to it, he could probably improve again.

Therefore, Merlin followed the Princess Royal and walked deep into the palace without any royal guards.

The whole royal palace was very large and there are many hidden areas. After all, the royal family had ruled the Holy Dragon Empire for more than a thousand years. If it was not for the time when Domsday collaborated with the Candora Empire, the Sacred Lion Beast’s head would not have been taken away.

The Princess Royal arrived at an ordinary palace. There was a mechanism on the wall, and a little press made a secret passage appear on the ground.

After entering the dark passage, Merlin could feel that the passage was all the way underground. After walking for a while, a faint light appeared before them as if they had reached the end.

Soon, Lisa and Merlin arrived at a secret chamber. Inside, there was an old man with white hair and a youthful face. He looked energetic and healthy. At that time, his eyes were shut and he did not seem to notice Merlin or the Princess Royal.

“Elder.”

Lisa gently saluted the old man. After all, the old man is also an elder of the royal family and the guardian of the treasure vault.

Merlin frowned and looked around. Behind the old man was a thick stone gate with many strange patterns. Presumably, behind the stone gate was the treasure vault where the royal family had stored their treasures in for a thousand years.

“Princess Royal, or should I say, Your Highness. As for the person beside you, you should be Marquis Leon, the one who prevailed over the Candora Trio-Lords and Doomsday.”

The elder who had his eyes closed suddenly opened his eyes. There was a sharp color in his eyes, but it soon softened.

Although the elder had always stayed in the secret chamber to guard the treasure vault, he knew what had happened to the royal family.

“Ancestor, we’re here to ask you something,” the Princess Royal said calmly.

“Oh? What is it?”

The elder’s eyes had always been fixed on Merlin as if he wanted to see how Merlin defeated the Candora Trio-Lords and Doomsday. The royal family had been saved by the hands of a single person.

“Elder, it’s about the Sacred Lion Beast’s head. You should also know that the Sacred Lion Beast’s head was taken away by the Candora Trio-Lords and Shadow King and other rebels in the last revolt, but now it is said that the Sacred Lion Beast’s head they had was fake. We’ve come to ask the elder if the Sacred Lion Beast’s head was replaced by you.”

After the Princess Royal finished speaking, she stared at the elder closely. Merlin also paid attention to the elder and carefully observed every change of his expression.

However, hearing the Princess Royal’s question, the elder merely sighed for a long time and closed his eyes. He shook his head slightly and said, “Who could have replaced the Sacred Lion Beast’s head. It has always been there.”

“That’s impossible. Our scouts have already found out that the Sacred Lion Beast’s head obtained by the Candora Empire and Shadow King was obviously fake,” Lisa said firmly.

“Of course it’s fake. That’s because the Sacred Lion Beast’s head disappeared long ago,” the elder said with a wry smile.

“What? Disappeared long ago?”

Both Merlin and the Princess Royal were shocked by the elder's words. The Sacred Lion Beast's head had disappeared long ago. In other words, the Sacred Lion Beast's head in the underground secret chamber had always been fake?

“That's right, the Sacred Lion Beast's head was defeated. About a hundred years ago, the Sacred Lion Beast's head seemed to have reached its limit. It began to break up bit by bit and finally turned into a pile of dust. We don't know the reason, and it's said that the body of a Sacred Beast would never decay, but the fact is that the Sacred Lion Beast's head really disappeared. That's why, in the past hundred years, the descendants of the royal family had become weaker and weaker, and they couldn't even become full shifters. It was because the Sacred Lion Beast's head had disappeared.”

“The Sacred Lion Beast's head is the foundation of the royal family. Its disappearance represents the decline of the royal family. Of course, this news cannot be known to the outside world. Therefore, after consulting with the king at that time, several elders finally used special methods to put the fake Sacred Lion Beast's head into the secret chamber and then sealed some of the Sacred Lion Beast's head unique aura into the body of the fake head, so as to achieve the situation of falsification. Unexpectedly, the royal family ended up this way...”

Merlin and the Princess Royal looked at each other. Surprisingly, the Candora Trio-Lords and Shadow King were fighting for the Sacred Lion Beast's head, but it was actually fake.

Chapter 1014: Royal Family's Treasure Vault

“Fake...”

Merlin was speechless. It turned out that everything was fake. The so-called 'Sacred Lion Beast's head' they guarded was just a joke.

After a long while, the Princess Royal slowly opened her mouth and asked, “Elder, can I enter this treasure vault for a while?”

The Princess Royal knew that Merlin had done a lot to deal with the Candora Trio-Lords and Doomsday, but she had not given him any benefits.

Titles and territory were worth nothing to Merlin. However, there had to be something in the treasure vault that would satisfy Merlin.

Merlin's heart moved as he immediately understood the Princess Royal's meaning. What was most valuable to Merlin were the almighty beasts' will in the treasure vault. After all, the accumulation of the royal family for a thousand years must be unimaginable.

The elder looked at the Princess Royal and stepped aside before he calmly said, "The Princess Royal is about to become the King and naturally can enter the treasure vault. However, Marquis Leon must stay outside."

This was the royal family's treasure vault. No matter how close the relationship with the royal family, an outsider would not be allowed to enter. Even Farron had never entered the treasure vault before.

Merlin nodded and watched the Princess Royal enter the treasure vault behind the elder. Then, the gate to the treasure vault closed and the secret chamber fell into silence.

"Marquis Leon, I heard you fought against the tide and killed the Nine-lives Werewolf as well as Domsday. You even forced the Candora Trio-Lords to run away by using the Candora Magic Mirror."

The elder's eyes twinkled spiritedly. Such a major event naturally could not be concealed.

Thus, Merlin nodded his head and said, "It's just a fluke."

"It's not a fluke..."

Merlin took a deep breath and suddenly asked, "Elder, you may have been in the royal family for a long time and should have encountered the real Sacred Lion Beast's head. What's so special about the Sacred Lion Beast's head?"

Merlin suddenly understood why he did not have any other reaction when he saw the Sacred Lion Beast's head. It turned out that it was just a fake. Only some of the Sacred Lion Beast's aura was sealed in it.

It was precisely because of that that it deceived a lot of people. Even the Candora Trio-Lords and Shadow King spent a lot of energy to get to the Holy Dragon City but ultimately failed.

“The sacred beast...”

The elder thought about it and closed his eyes slightly as if he was recalling it. After a long time, the elder said slowly, “The biggest difference between the sacred beast and other almighty beasts is the will in their bodies. In the beginning, although there was only the head left, there was still a vast will. It was as if it represented the whole world, and was stable. With that will, the sacred beast became eminent and distant, and it was hard to even approach it. However, for some reason, the will gradually weakened and then disappeared completely. The head of the Sacred Lion Beast gradually decayed and disappeared.”

Thinking about the will in the Sacred Lion Beast’s head, the elder appeared excited, as if he could not forget it after feeling it once.

“Will?”

Merlin suddenly looked up above the secret chamber, like he had seen through the secret chamber and saw the sky directly. If he guessed well, the sacred beast’s will was a part of the Almighty Beast World’s will.

It was a pity that the Sacred Lion Beast’s head had disappeared. Otherwise, being able to feel that will or even merging with it would have an unimaginable improvement on Merlin’s strength.

“It seems I’ll have to make preparations to visit the Candora Empire.”

Merlin thought of the sacred beast will sealed in the Candora Magic Mirror. Merlin did not covet the Candora Magic Mirror, but the sacred beast will that had been sealed in it was irresistible to Merlin and he was determined to get it.

“Marquis Leon, I hear you’re a Host?” The elder hesitated but asked anyway. His bright eyes were still fixed on Merlin.

“That’s right, I’m a Host!”

Merlin did not hide it. It was something that could not be concealed at all. His Supreme Talent was incredibly poor and no ultimate contender had such a weak Supreme Talent. That only proved that Merlin was a Host because only Hosts were different from regular ultimate contenders.

Still, even the elder had not seen a Host that could rival an ultimate contender. The most he had seen were full-shifters.

“Hosts really are amazing. It’s said that the most powerful Host is only as strong as a full-shifter, and is far from rivaling an ultimate contender. However, Marquis Leon is an exception. You have few rivals now. You even defeated the Candora Trio-Lords. I’m afraid you are the strongest Host ever! In fact, Marquis Leon, you have created a living legend!”

The most powerful Host in history, this was not an exaggeration; Merlin truly deserved the title. In the crisis earlier, he defeated the Candora Trio-Lords and killed the Nine-lives Werewolf as well as Doomsday. This valiant accomplishment was enough to push Merlin to the top.

Merlin’s achievements had not spread to the surrounding areas yet, but with the passage of time and the word of mouth from other contenders, Merlin would probably set off a storm in the whole continent as the strongest Host ever!

“A Host. Who would have thought that a Host would be so powerful? Perhaps for you Hosts, the final step is to become a sacred beast,” the elder said emotionally. He had lived for a long time and had seen too many prodigies. He had seen the sacred beast’s head and felt its will before.

He knows that the will alone was far from what an ordinary ultimate contender could imagine. It was like one was heaven and the other was earth, and could not be compared with at all.

It was too difficult for an ordinary ultimate contender to take the last step and become a sacred beast. There was no direction at all. In these years, where had there ever been a great existence that had reached the level of a sacred beast?

Ordinary ultimate contenders did not have such a capability, but the strongest Host in history had emerged. Maybe Merlin had the chance to take the last step.

The two continued to chat. About three hours later, the door of the treasure vault opened and the Princess Royal exited.

“Did you find it?” Merlin asked eagerly. The almighty beasts’ will were what Merlin was most concerned about.

There was a mysterious smile on the corner of the Princess Royal’s mouth, but she did not answer directly. Instead, she said goodbye to the elder who guarded the treasure vault, “Elder, we’ll leave first. Please continue to protect the royal family’s treasure vault.”

“Haha, don’t worry, Princess Royal. As long as I’m alive, the treasure vault will be safe.”

The treasure vault was the most important place. It was originally the only important place besides the Sacred Lion Beast’s head, but now that it was discovered that the Sacred Lion Beast’s head had long disappeared, the treasure vault had become the most important place for the royal family.

It was no wonder that this elder had always been guarding the treasure vault and did not stop the Candora Trio-Lord and the others from stealing the Sacred Lion Beast’s head in the secret chamber. He knew that the Sacred Lion Beast’s head had already disappeared. Now, the most important thing to the royal family was the treasure vault.

Merlin looked at Lisa. Although she had not answered his question, her expression actually revealed a little information.

After they left the secret chamber and returned to the palace, Merlin continued to ask, “Lisa, have you found the almighty beasts’ will?”

Almighty beasts’ will were very important to Merlin.

There was a charming smile on the Princess Royal’s face as she said, “Not only did I find it, there’s also... You’ll be shocked!”

Chapter 1015: Chance

“Shocked?”

Merlin’s eyes brightened. Did the Princess Royal encounter something great?

“You’ll know after seeing.”

After saying that, the Princess Royal took out a jade bead from her bosom. It looked round and beautiful but it was very big, around the size of a baby’s fist.

“This is?”

Merlin took the jade bead and immediately felt the surging almighty beasts’ will inside the jade bead. Even if they were not strong there were many almighty beasts’ will in the jade bead.

Delighted, Merlin hurriedly extended his consciousness into the jade bead and suddenly saw a sea of almighty beasts’ will. There were too many of them to count. At a glance, there seemed to be thousands of almighty beasts’ will.

There were thousands of almighty beasts’ will, it was almost unimaginably powerful. If an ordinary person immersed their consciousness into it, they would be shocked to death by these wild almighty beasts’ will.

However, Merlin was very happy. It was just a pity that these almighty beasts’ will were low-tier.

“Not bad. Although they’re all low-tier almighty beasts’ will, there is a considerable number of them.”

Merlin was extremely satisfied. He did not know how far his almighty beast’s body would be pushed after fusing so many almighty beasts’ will. Would he come close to a sacred beast? Or perhaps he could actually become a sacred beast.

This was something that even Merlin could not predict.

The Princess Royal smiled mysteriously, and a jade bead suddenly appeared in her hand again. She said with a smile, “Leon, look again, what else is inside?”

“There’s more?”

When Merlin took the jade bead in the Princess Royal's hand, his expression suddenly changed as he was stunned. He was truly shocked because there were at least two hundred mid-tier almighty beasts' will in the jade bead.

Each of the almighty beasts' will represented an almighty beast, so two hundred mid-tier almighty beasts' represented two hundred mid-tier almighty beasts. That was extremely terrifying. The era of ancient almighty beasts had been over long ago, so it was hard to imagine that so many mid-tier almighty beasts were collected.

It was no wonder that the Princess Royal called it 'shocking.' It was truly astonishing.

"Haha, Lisa, this is a great help!" Merlin laughed happily. This was the greatest benefit he had received since coming to this world.

However, the Princess Royal shook her head and smiled mysteriously. "What is this much? Leon, how simple do you think the treasures that our royal family had accumulated for a thousand years are? There's another jade bead here that might be even more useful to you!"

The Princess Royal took out another jade bead from her bosom. However, this jade bead looked a little strange. It was different from the first two jade beads. There were beautiful designs on it and it looked very unique.

Merlin's consciousness extended into it.

"Boom."

Merlin experienced the terrifying roars immediately after entering. Twenty-six extremely powerful almighty beasts' will charged madly towards Merlin's consciousness.

These twenty-six almighty beasts' will were all high-tier. Merlin had only encountered a few high-tier almighty beasts before.

"Twenty-six high-tier almighty beasts' will..."

A smile appeared on Merlin's face. The Princess Royal indeed gave him a big present. It was a gift more precious than anything else.

The Princess Royal asked with a charming smile, "How is it? Are you satisfied with this gift? If you are, stay and satisfy me as well..."

Looking at the charming and affectionate Princess Royal, Merlin did not stand on ceremony. He immediately embraced the Princess Royal and entered the inner chamber. For a while, the entire hall was quiet, left with only resounding moans...

...

In the Holy Dragon City's castle, Merlin spent some time with his two wives and dealt with some family affairs. However, what worried the two beautiful wives was that there had not been any changes with their stomachs. Perhaps it was because Merlin's body was too strong, which made it hard for them to have children.

After a period of no results, Merlin could only put this aside for now. He had more important matters to deal with like absorbing the 'gift' from the Princess Royal.

Merlin entered the underground secret chamber after telling the housekeeper that no one was allowed to disturb him. Although no one could hurt him with his current strength, Merlin still wanted to be fully prepared. He sighed in relief after the basement was completely sealed.

The reason why Merlin was so serious and cautious this time was because he was going to do something very important. He believed that this was a key step for him to take, and was likely to restore the Illusory World.

With a flick of his hands, the three jade beads appeared in his palm. The value of these three jade beads was priceless in Merlin's heart. At that moment, Merlin, as a Host, combined with his identity as a Mind Power Master, had devoured and integrated almighty beasts' will; which paved an unusual path.

However, Merlin still could not feel the limit. His goal was to restore the Illusory World, or even turn illusion into reality. His Illusory World was suppressed by this world so strongly that it was rendered completely useless.

“Titus, are you ready? Keep an eye on the Illusory World’s changes,” Merlin said to Titus in the Illusory World.

“Don’t worry, Merlin. I’ll pay attention to any changes in the Illusory World. I’m really looking forward to it. In this Almighty Beast World, your misfortune might have been a blessing which let you find the true essence of materializing using the Illusory World,” Titus said with emotion.

Merlin took a deep breath, then took out the first jade bead which had thousands of low-tier almighty beasts’ will sealed inside.

When Merlin’s consciousness entered the jade bead, he felt the countless roars again.

“Fusion!”

Merlin roared. Suddenly, his consciousness became a whirlpool as he began to absorb and devour the almighty beasts’ will. A stream of low-tier almighty beasts’ will was swallowed and integrated by Merlin.

Although all of them were low-tier almighty beasts’ will which may not bring any changes to Merlin, his almighty beast body gradually started to change as the number increased.

First, his body became even larger and expanded at a speed visible to the naked eye. His blood rushed as his terrifying aura spread in all directions.

Merlin felt that the Almighty Beast World had become clearer. This was a gradual process that required a lot of almighty beasts’ will.

His body was constantly growing stronger and even Merlin did not know how powerful he had become. At that time, the thousands of almighty beasts’ will were completely swallowed up.

“Next!”

Merlin then started to merge the mid-tier almighty beasts’ will in the second jade bead.

“Boom boom boom.”

This time, the Illusory World in Merlin’s consciousness finally changed and grew stronger along with his body. The barriers of his Illusory World also strengthened to an unimaginable point. Even if he did not cultivate his Mind Power anymore, his Illusory World still continued to expand slowly.

Moreover, the world’s core natural order was also condensing little by little. Although it was very slow, it was still a great change. Merlin would never have even dreamt of this in the past. Now, the Illusory World could recover slowly.

“Limit. I need to reach the limit!”

Merlin’s heart raced as he devoured the two hundred mid-tier almighty beasts’ will. His body had grown to a size too large to imagine and he seemed to be able to touch the faint but powerful will.

“The Almighty Beast World’s will?”

Merlin murmured. He opened his eyes and began to devour the almighty beasts’ will in the third jade bead without hesitation, which were the twenty-six high-tier almighty beasts’ will.

“Fusion!”

Merlin instantly devoured the twenty-six almighty beasts’ will, and the Illusory World expanded again. These twenty-six high-tier almighty beasts’ will naturally were no threat to Merlin.

“Boom.”

Finally, Merlin could feel the omnipresent tyrannical will. The Almighty Beast World’s will was within his reach.

However, Merlin reached the limit at that moment. He knew that no matter the number of almighty beasts’ will, they would not have any effect on him anymore. He needed a sacred beast will!

“It’s amazing, Merlin. Do you feel it? It’s incredible. The Illusory World is recovering at an unimaginable speed...”

Titus’s voice sounded. The Illusory World seemed to be recovering rapidly because Merlin formed a special will. However, the world’s natural order, which was the core, was forming very slowly.

Merlin’s heart was calm and he said in a low voice, “I already know that the Illusory World did not form a natural order. It’s very difficult to recover the power from the Void Zone, let alone fight against the Almighty Beast World. I need a sacred beast’s will. Only by devouring a sacred beast’s will would I understand the mystery of this world. The natural order would also form quickly. By then, it would be able to recover to its state back in the Void Zone, and hopefully even materialize illusions into reality!”

This was what Merlin came to understand after devouring and merging so many almighty beasts’ will. No one knew more about the Illusory World than him.

The swiftness of the Illusory World’s recovery let Merlin think of a way, which was will. The world’s will!

All the almighty beasts in the Almighty Beast World was part of the Almighty Beast World’s will, but they were very weak. Yet, sacred beasts truly represented a part of the huge Almighty Beast World’s will.

The Illusory World itself was a world. Although it was an imaginary world, it could become a perfect world that could materialize illusion into reality. Devouring the world’s will was impossible in the Void Zone because the Void Zone’s will was a complete entity.

However, in the Almighty Beast World, the world’s will was scattered in various places, and the sacred beast from the ancient era occupied a large part of the world’s will.

This was Merlin’s chance to restore the Illusory World!

Chapter 1016: Clean Up I

“Merlin, is there really a chance for the Illusory World to recover?” Titus asked excitedly. He had despaired ever since Merlin came to the Almighty Beast World. The will of this world is strong and oppressive and it would be destroyed if only a little force was leaked from the Illusory World.

Moreover, there was no way to cultivate Mind Power, which made Merlin lose confidence in restoring the Illusory World.

However, his body had truly reached its limit with the integration of a large number of almighty beast worlds. Besides sacred beasts, Merlin was almost invincible now. There was no ultimate contender strong enough to threaten him. Despite that, he was still one step short, and that was a sacred beast will or the world’s will.

The Almighty Beast World’s will was scattered and incomplete. This was Merlin’s chance to restore the Illusory World!

“Titus, perhaps we’ll be able to leave the Almighty Beast World soon.”

There was a smile at the corner of Merlin’s mouth. It was the first time he felt hope in leaving. Of course, Merlin wanted to be able to use the Illusory World to materialize illusions into reality.

Only in that way could he become a Latitude traveler like Aruba and experience Latitude Cosmos after Latitude Cosmos.

“Haha, in that case, I’ll wait for your good news, Merlin...”

Titus disappeared into the Illusory World again and Merlin slowly resumed his normal appearance. Now, his physical quality had reached a new level. Even if he did not shapeshift, he possessed terrifying strength that was not inferior to his power from before.

Merlin had been in the secret chamber for a few months but he had not felt the passage of time. Yet, the outside world had been turned upside down.

After he left the secret chamber and returned to the castle, Merlin listened to the direct report from Shiya of Phantom's Intelligence Team. Since Merlin defeated the Candora Trio-Lords and the others, the King abdicated, and Farron also disappeared. It was assumed that he wanted to retire and did not want to interfere in the affairs of the Holy Dragon Empire anymore.

Therefore, Merlin took over Phantom's Intelligence Team, and naturally, no one had any objections.

"Sir Minister, many things have happened in the Holy Dragon Empire. Since Her Majesty became King, she had begun to use the power of Phantom's Intelligence Team to organize several armies and use the royal family's financial resources as support to start an all-round attack on the rebels. Now, except for the three rebel leaders, all the other rebels are in a state of collapse. Half of the Holy Dragon Empire's cities are already in the hands of the empire. To be precise, they're in the hands of the royal family. The royal family did not confer any new aristocrats and lords."

Shiya slowly reported the changes of the Holy Dragon Empire in recent months. Since the Princess Royal became king, she has made large moves. The rebel forces greatly declined since two of the five rebel leaders died. As a result, Lisa launched an attack immediately, bringing half of the territory of the Holy Dragon Empire into her hands.

Moreover, there were no new lords and aristocrats, which meant that these cities would be directly controlled by the royal family. On the surface, it seemed like the Holy Dragon Empire was controlled by the royal family alone, but the truth was that it was actually ruled by both the royal family and the aristocrats. Some powerful lords and nobles could even compete with the royal family.

However, at the start when catastrophe swept over the whole of the Holy Dragon Empire, almost all lords and nobles disappeared, except the royal family, and their territories fell to the hands of the rebels; in turn, it created the best conditions for the royal family. After the royal family regained the city from the rebels, they managed it once more.

Moreover, there would not be any aristocrats in the Holy Dragon Empire in the future, according to Lisa's plan. She had built a powerful empire that was completely controlled by the royal family!

Lisa had talked about these things in detail with Merlin but he was not interested at all. If he wanted to, he could seize any empire as his own, no matter how large it was. Not even Lisa knew how terrifying Merlin was at that point.

"Lisa didn't encounter any problems?" Merlin suddenly asked suspiciously as he raised his head.

"Not for the time being. The royal family's hidden power is still very powerful. Moreover, the Candora Empire has not intervened yet. They seem to be worried about the Minister," Shiya's eyes flashed as she said that. Originally, Phantom's Intelligence Team paid close attention to the Candora Empire. The Candora Empire also took advantage of the Holy Dragon Empire's chaos to bring its army in and cause mayhem. However, the Candora Empire had no intention of intervening at that moment and the royal family gradually gained control over the Holy Dragon Empire.

How powerful was Phantom's Intelligence Team? Naturally, Shiya knew that in the first battle, Merlin defeated the Candora Empire and he had even killed two rebel ultimate contenders. Merlin's name now resounded throughout the entire continent as the number one contender.

Therefore, the reason why the Candora Empire changed its mind was that they were too wary about Merlin. Just Merlin himself caused a huge empire to worry. It was inconceivable for Shiya to imagine. After all, Merlin had just become a full-shifter not long ago.

"Still, I'm afraid Her Majesty will encounter some difficulties. The three rebel leaders have joined forces. It seems they're ready for a decisive battle."

If the three rebel leaders really decided to fight to the death, the three elders of the royal family might not be a match for the three rebel leaders even if they recovered without the Sacred Lion Beast's head's aura to slightly suppress these ultimate contenders.

Furthermore, situations change rapidly on the battlefield and no one could say clearly what would happen in the end. It would be hard for Lisa to make a firm resolution without the guarantee of victory.

"It seems that it's time for me to enter the palace."

Merlin stood up. He knew that Lisa must be very distressed at this time.

"By the way, collect all information about the Candora Magic Mirror. Remember, I want the most detailed information. It can even be exposed to the intelligence personnel of the Candora Empire. Do anything it takes!"

Merlin ordered Shiya before leaving the castle. He got into a carriage and headed towards the royal family.

...

At this time in the palace, the Princess Royal, who was now Her Majesty, was frowning. As soon as she ascended the throne, she made big advances and attacked the rebels.

However, the effect was obvious after the series of attacks. The royal family recovered half of all cities, but when they pushed against the three rebel leaders' forces, they could not advance any further. That was because the three rebel leaders had joined forces and were getting ready for a decisive battle against the Holy Dragon royal family.

The three rebel leaders could fight to the death, but the queen could not. Therefore, the queen was in distress. The three elders of the royal family had not recovered yet, and even if they had, they would not leave the Holy Dragon City. Their duty was only to protect the royal family. As for the expansion of the royal family or recapturing the empire's cities, the three ancestors would not pay any heed.

"Your Majesty, Marquis Leon requests an audience with you."

"Leon?"

The Queen was slightly shocked but soon became ecstatic. Ever since Merlin went into isolation, she had sent several people to 'invite' Merlin, but there had not been any news. The Queen even thought that Merlin was not willing to interfere in the affairs of the Holy Dragon Empire.

She did not expect Merlin to come here now.

“Quick, quick, invite Marquis Leon in,” the Queen said with delight.

Before long, Merlin came to the hall and saw Lisa, who was full of energy and carried a dignified aura. He called out calmly, “Lisa, I heard you seem to be in some trouble?”

The Queen did not mind Merlin’s casual address. What was a mere title worth in Merlin’s position? He was able to help the Queen quickly pacify the entire Holy Dragon Empire.

“Leon, you’re just in time. I went to your castle a few times to look for you, but I was stopped by your housekeeper, saying that you were in isolation and no one was allowed to disturb you.”

“It’s thanks to your gift. I heard that you were in trouble immediately after exiting isolation.”

Lisa frowned and sighed. “It’s true that I’ve encountered some problems. They’re problems that were handed down. The Shadow King, Phantom King, and the Liberator have completely united. They want to fight me to the death, but I’m not inclined to do the same. I’m afraid we will be defeated if we fight it out with them.”

The Queen knew very well that she did not have the determination to fight to the death. Once a real war started, she would probably be defeated. That was why she was in distress.

Merlin smiled and said calmly, “Last time, I let the Shadow King escape. Why don’t you let me go this time? Take it as my repayment for your gift. After I finish this, I’ll help you stabilize the Holy Dragon Empire. However, I’m afraid I’ll be leaving after that.”

“Ah? You’re leaving?”

“Yes, I need the Candora Magic Mirror. It might help me make the final step!”

Lisa fell silent. Of course, she knew what Merlin meant by the last step. It was the dream of all ultimate contenders to reach the realm of the legendary sacred beast.

However, for a thousand years, no one had been able to take this step. No matter how amazing the person was, they all fell in front of this last step. Now that Merlin had made his mind up, Lisa knew that she could not stop him.

“Alright, Leon, as long as you can get rid of the Shadow King and the others, there’ll be no power in the Holy Dragon Empire that can compete with the royal family.

Merlin nodded. “I want to advance as soon as possible.”

“I’ll arrange everything!”

After a momentary lapse of sadness, Lisa became shrewd and capable again. She was always ambitious and full of the desire for power. Perhaps, unifying the Holy Dragon Empire was just the first step for her but Merlin would not help her realize her ambition anymore. He still needed to find the last step to find a way to restore the Illusory World.

Merlin did not stay back in the palace. After leaving the palace, he soared in the sky and flew to the place where the Shadow King and the others were.

Chapter 1017: Clean Up II

The Captain frowned tightly in the military base situated at the front line. As a full-shifter Captain, he clearly knew the importance of the city in front.

It was not the city itself that was particularly precious, but the people who were within it. This was where the three main rebel army leaders were currently situated. Only by defeating the top three rebel army leaders, would it be possible to completely eradicate all the rebel armies within the Holy Dragon Empire and restore unity.

However, defeating these top three rebel army leaders was not as easy as it sounded. All of them were ultimate contenders, which meant that, other than another ultimate contender, no one else could inflict any harm on them.

“Hold on, who is this person whom Her Majesty the Queen asked us to wait for?”

The Captain was getting slightly irritated. He recently received an order to wait for somebody’s arrival. Allegedly, this person could help them defeat the three rebel army leaders.

Such an order made the Captain want to roll his eyes. Since when did the royal family have a candidate who could stand one against three and defeat three ultimate contenders?

Nevertheless, the Captain could not disobey an order from Her Majesty the Queen. Currently in the Holy Dragon Empire, the Queen had unparalleled status and influence. She had also

received the support of the entire military. A mere Captain like him would not dare to disobey the Queen's order.

At that moment, a soldier came to report. "Captain, a man suddenly descended from the sky and is asking to see you."

"Descended from the sky? He must be a full-shifter contender at least. Is this the person sent by Her Majesty the Queen?"

The Captain was stunned. According to Her Majesty the Queen, this person might be the key determinant of the Holy Dragon Empire's victory.

Hence, the Captain hurriedly walked out. From afar, he saw an almost-unbelievably young man. However, despite the man's youthful looks, his eyes portrayed a ferocity that seemed almost bewitching, which caused people to heighten their guards around him.

Naturally arriving at the military base was Merlin, who had rushed all the way from Holy Dragon City. Seeing the doubtful look the Captain casted at him, Merlin merely smiled. It seemed like, his victory over the Candora Trio-Lords and the killing of two rebel army leaders was only known by the core higher authorities. This Captain did not know of Merlin's 'battle-score'.

"My name is Leon. I was sent by Her Majesty the Queen to get rid of the three rebel army leaders," Merlin stated his purpose outright.

"I see, it's Sir Leon."

The Captain appeared to be polite, although his heart was suspicious. This Merlin did not look particularly extraordinary, how could he possibly get rid of three ultimate contenders?

Thinking along these lines, the Captain felt doubtful, but he did not say anything. Since Her Majesty the Queen had sent this man here, he must have had some skills.

“Captain, tell me about the problems you’ve encountered so far,” Merlin said without further ado. He did not want to waste too much time there.

“Problems? There are indeed a few. The biggest problem is not the rebel armies, but the three rebel army leaders. All three of them are ultimate contenders. I’m sure Sir Leon knows all about ultimate contenders. As long as those three rebel army leaders are around, we are powerless against them. We dare not act recklessly against them.”

The Captain’s biggest headache was the three rebel army leaders. Regardless of how many thousands of troops and horses the military had, they did not dare to act recklessly. This was because a single ultimate contender was enough to dominate the entire battlefield.

“As long as I get rid of the three rebel army leaders, are you confident in defeating the rebel armies?” Merlin asked calmly.

“Of course, as long as those three rebel army leaders are annihilated, I’m confident that we can defeat all the rebel armies. However, all three rebel army leaders are ultimate contenders, how can they be defeated so easily? I’m afraid that we’ll have to convince Her Majesty the Queen to send a real ultimate contender here to control the situation.”

The Captain glanced at Merlin. This man did not seem like an ultimate contender, so the Captain wondered why the Queen sent him? Was it in order to gauge the situation?

However, they could have relied on Phantom Intelligence Department if it was merely to gauge the situation. The Captain was very familiar with Phantom Intelligence Department. This Department was very formidable; nothing was able to escape its surveillance.

“Since Captain is confident, then it will be done. I’ll go and get rid of the three rebel army leaders.”

A faint smile appeared on Merlin’s lips. Despite Merlin’s calm demeanor, the Captain’s eyes were wide open as he stared at Merlin without blinking.

“But... Those three are ultimate contenders. Sir Leon, you’re...”

“I’m the person the Queen sent to resolve the problem. It won’t take long, you can order your troops to get ready.”

Merlin did not explain in detail. Instead, he flew into the sky and soon disappeared from the military camp. Looking at his direction, he was heading towards the rebel armies’ city in front.

The Captain seemed undecided, before finally ordering in a gruff voice, “Go, order everyone to get ready, and observe what is happening within the city in front.”

At this point, the Captain no longer thought that Merlin was joking. After all, no one would dare to risk a joke on their own lives. Nevertheless, he still did not have much faith in Merlin. Was it possible to kill three ultimate contenders?

...

Despite the large military presence stationed outside, the rebel armies in the city were obviously relaxed. The large troop outside would not dare to attack them, because three of their powerful leaders had gathered together.

However, inside an ancient castle, the three rebel army leaders wore grave looks. The recent developments had caught them by surprise.

“I didn’t expect the royal family to still hold such a tremendous force. They’ve conquered half of the Holy Dragon Empire. Perhaps, only by combining our forces, we’ll be able to hold on for a while,” the Shadow King said glumly. His expression was unpleasant. The situation had developed far beyond his expectations.

Beside him was the Phantom King and the Liberator. Both ultimate contenders spotted the same grave looks like the Shadow King. Ever since they found out that the head of the Sacred Lion Beast which they obtained was fake, their moods had plummeted. Moreover, the current outlook seemed very bleak for them.

“The three ancestors of the royal family probably haven’t recovered, but we should be worried about that Leon...”

Upon the Phantom King’s mention of Merlin, the three of them fell silent. They were not the least afraid of the three royal family ancestors, but they were quite fearful of Merlin.

Not only was Merlin able to fend off the Candora Trio-Lords, he also killed Doomsday and the Nine-Lives Werewolf. Such a battle-score was practically unheard of, so much so Merlin could be said to be the number one contender throughout the entire land. This was because they were usually quite impaired while disparities existed between ultimate contenders. Other than a siege, it was very difficult for an ultimate contender to kill another ultimate contender.

Merlin, on the other hand, singlehandedly killed two ultimate contenders.

“Leon is protecting the royal family inside the palace. He won’t come out so easily. Even if he does, surely we can compete against him with our combined forces?”

The Liberator sneered. Perhaps Merlin was indeed powerful, but with the combined force of three ultimate contenders; they were also an immense powerhouse. It would not be easy for Merlin to defeat them.

“That’s right, the three of us must combine forces. During this period of time, we shouldn’t act alone. Then, even if Leon comes, he won’t be able to defeat us.”

The Shadow King nodded. The three of them combined together was still a considerable force.

“Is that so?”

Just then, a familiar voice resonated inside the castle. Following that, without any warning, a figure walked through the front door.

“Swoosh.”

The Shadow King and the others were immediately on alert. Upon seeing this figure, their faces revealed a look of horror. “Leon? You’ve left Holy Dragon City?”

Seeing Leon, the Shadow King and the others could not help but turn cautious. They were just discussing how to handle Merlin, but he had already silently left Holy Dragon City and came to their castle.

For Merlin to come to this castle at this time, the meaning was unquestionable. The royal family was turning on them!

“I’m just leaving the royal family for a while to deal with you. When you escaped from Holy Dragon City and lived for a few extra days, you should have known that this day will eventually come.”

Merlin’s tone sounded unperturbed, but his body gave off a chilling murderous vibe!

Chapter 1018: Clearing the Obstacles

“Shadow Fort.”

Without warning, the Shadow King unleashed his Supreme Talent. He did not even join forces with the other two. Instead, he transformed into a shadow and immediately tried to escape. All that talk about being able to defeat Merlin as long as the three of them combined their strengths was naught but a joke. At the moment of truth, the Shadow King fled faster than anyone else.

“Shadow King!”

The Liberator and the Phantom King’s faces contorted horribly. They were furious. They did not expect that the Shadow King had no intention of joining forces with them. Instead, he was the first to escape.

“Hmph, trying to escape?”

Merlin immediately sensed the Shadow King. With his current strength, even Doomsday’s Soul of Light could no longer trap him, what more the Shadow King?

Merlin stomped a foot forward. He did not even have to wield his almighty beast form.

“Boom.”

The entire city seemed to quake. With a single step, Merlin shook the Shadow King out of the shadows. At the same time, the humiliated Shadow King reappeared with a stunned expression.

His shadow avatar was unable to escape Merlin’s detection, so naturally, he could not escape. Stunned, the Shadow King no longer preserved his dignity. He yelled at the Liberator and the Phantom King, “Two of you, Leon has grown more powerful. The matter between us can be deferred until Leon is taken care of. Otherwise, none of us will be able to leave today.”

The Shadow King knew that he was grasping at straws but currently, all of them faced a common threat. Other than a temporary pact, none of them would be able to escape.

“Hmph.”

The Liberator seemed very disgruntled. He stretched out a hand and Merlin felt as though the entire world was filled with a gigantic hand that continued to grow. It was as if his entire person would be snatched up by this hand.

“Illusion? Mind Power?”

A snigger appeared between Merlin’s lips. The Liberator possessed Hallucinating spell power. Moreover, it was even more realistic than Doomsday’s Soul of Light.

“Roar...”

Merlin instantly shapeshifted into a ferocious almighty beast. His behemoth body was filled with oppressiveness as he smashed against his opponent. A look of horror appeared on the Liberator’s face. Merlin was completely unaffected by his power.

“How is this possible?”

The Liberator seemed to be witnessing the most unfathomable scene in the world but there was no use. Merlin's huge body and oppressive aura had crushed him mercilessly.

"Bang."

A loud noise echoed. The Liberator's body turned into a bloody mist that wafted into the air. The entire castle was reduced to ruins and a thick stench of blood filled the air.

The Liberator was dead in a single blow!

The Phantom King and the Shadow King exchanged a look. In this situation, the Phantom King's advantage could not be unleashed at all, so he was only equivalent to an ordinary ultimate contender. However, such ultimate contenders were helpless before Merlin as Merlin would eventually kill them all.

At this point, the Shadow King was at least self-aware. He knew that this person before him had far exceeded the realm of ordinary ultimate contenders and had achieved an unimaginable level. They were completely defenseless against Merlin. Hence, the Shadow King shouted at Merlin, "Leon, we're willing to submit to the royal family!"

The Phantom King nodded. "We're willing to submit!"

"Submit?"

Merlin paused momentarily. Unexpectedly, at the brink of life-and-death, they would still sense fear. Although they were ultimate contenders, upon realizing that they were defenseless, why would they continue to fight? Would that not be a dead end?

Therefore, they were now begging for mercy and were willing to submit. This seemed to be the best possible outcome. Nevertheless, Merlin merely hesitated for a split second. After all, these were ultimate contenders. Currently, they would submit due to pressure but once Merlin left or was away, the royal family would not be able to suppress these two ultimate contenders.

Hence, Merlin would not leave the royal family with any trouble.

“Too late!”

Merlin sneered. He stretched out his hands and like two big mountains, pressed against the Phantom King and the Shadow King. No matter how much they struggled, it was useless. They could only howl in rage as they watched Merlin’s palms press down on them.

“Boom”.

The force had killed the Shadow King and the Phantom King. They were turned into a bloody mist that hung in the air. Both their auras had vanished completely.

By this time, many people had been watching the battle from afar. Most of them consisted of rebel armies. They saw that their once-invincible leaders were easily vanquished by Merlin. Fear arose in their hearts. They were afraid that Merlin would also attack them.

If Merlin wanted to, he could easily destroy the entire city. However, this was unnecessary that the three rebel army leaders were dead. These rebel army forces were inconsequential. It was simply a matter of time before peace was restored in the Holy Dragon Empire.

“Done!”

Merlin knew that the Holy Dragon Empire’s army outside would immediately know that the battle had ended. His promise to Lisa had been fulfilled. It was time for him to return to Holy Dragon City and bid his farewells.

“Swish.”

Merlin’s huge almighty beast body gradually receded into his original form. Then, in the blink of an eye, he flew into the air and vanished without a trace. As for the military’s subsequent moves, they were none of Merlin’s concern.

...

Soon, Merlin returned to the palace and reported to Lisa. When she heard that the Shadow King, the Phantom King, and the other rebel army leaders were dead, her brows finally relaxed. The preceding worries disappeared altogether.

“Haha, Leon, I knew that you’d help me out. Now that the three rebel army leaders are dead, there’s no power in the Holy Dragon Empire that can stop me now.”

Lisa was very excited. She knew what this signified. The chaos in the Holy Dragon Empire would finally be over. As the first Queen of the Holy Dragon Empire, she had achieved a feat that her father did not manage to achieve. She had reunified the Holy Dragon Empire and ended the chaotic situation.

With this accomplishment, Lisa would earn great respect in the Holy Dragon Empire. So, when she implemented her policies in the future, there would not be too much resistance. For example, she would not appoint new aristocratic rulers. Perhaps, there would be some challenges but with her highly-respected status, Lisa would be able to do it.

She had accomplished all these with Merlin’s help. Previously, Lisa did not hold back and gave Merlin every “treasure” because she hoped that Merlin would be able to be like Farron and support her. Now, it seemed like Merlin had far surpassed Farron. He had almost single handedly helped Lisa become Queen and cleared all the obstacles in her way.

“Lisa, there should be no force in the Holy Dragon Empire that can cause you any trouble anymore. Therefore, I’m leaving!”

Merlin looked at Lisa and said calmly.

Lisa’s excitement gradually recovered. She took a deep breath and gazed at Merlin contemplatively. She knew that once Merlin left, he might not return to the Holy Dragon Empire for a very long time as he would be pursuing his dream.

“Leon, what will happen to your wives when you leave?”

Merlin’s two wives had not borne any sons. This was also Merlin’s source of headache and helplessness.

“Maybe I won’t have any sons. I trust that Lisa, you’ll help take care of my clan and my castle.”

Merlin said with a smile. Under Queen Lisa's guardianship, at least in Holy Dragon City, Merlin's clan would not be affected. The only two people he owed were his two wives.

After a long pause, Lisa sighed and said, "Go home and spend a few more days with them..."

Chapter 1019: Intrusion

In the blink of an eye, one month had passed. Throughout this month, Merlin spent most of his time with his two wives and gave them a month's worth of happy memories.

Only a tiny portion of time was used to manage Phantom Intelligence Department. This was somewhat related to Merlin's subsequent move. He had mobilized Phantom Intelligence Department to investigate more about the Candora Magic Mirror.

Finally, Merlin obtained some information about the Candora Magic Mirror. This Magic Mirror had the mind-blowing ability to rip through space and teleport. At the same time, it also possessed the ability to bind its opponents. In short, it was truly formidable. It was also the Candora Empire's most precious treasure, so it was incredibly difficult to attain.

Merlin, however, might be an exception. With his current abilities, he could obtain it by force. Nevertheless, if someone from the Candora Empire were to rip through space with the Magic Mirror, then Merlin would not be able to get it.

Perhaps, the only point worth mentioning was that using the Magic Mirror to rip through space and teleport came with a very steep price. Not only did it require the bloodline of a high-tier almighty beast but the blood must be of the highest quality. Otherwise, it was completely impossible to activate the Magic Mirror.

Previously, when the Candora Trio-Lords had mobilized the Magic Mirror's power to teleport, they had harmed their cores. If they were to use it a few more times, even their lives might be in danger.

It was not surprising that this incredible mirror was known as the "Magic Mirror". It was truly magical yet horrifying.

"Although the Candora Magic Mirror's activation conditions are very harsh and require a huge sacrifice, I'm still not confident that I'll be able to forcibly seize the Candor Magic Mirror."

Merlin contemplated in his heart. While he was considered invincible now, seizing the Candora Magic Mirror by force still seemed a little far-fetched. Therefore, he could not seize it by force. The Magic Mirror was currently in the hands of the Candara Empire royal family, so he had to use other methods.

A myriad of ideas flashed across Merlin's mind. In short, no matter which method he employed, ultimately, he must get his hands on the Candora Magic Mirror. Regardless, Merlin wanted the sacred beast's will in the Magic Mirror!

"Alright. As for Phantom Intelligence Department, I'll leave it to Her Majesty the Queen. Shiya, after this, you don't have to report to me anymore. Just report directly to Her Majesty the Queen."

Merlin said to Shiya offhandedly. Shiya was now the team leader of the Phantom Intelligence Department's Investigation Team. Therefore, she immediately understood the implications of Merlin's words. Dismayed, she asked, "Minister, you... You're leaving Phantom Intelligence Department?"

"Yes, it's time to leave..."

Merlin looked toward the sky and gently waved his hand. Under Shiya's watchful gaze, he gradually turned to leave.

Merlin accompanied his family for more than a month but the bellies of both his wives remained unchanged. Most probably, due to Merlin's extreme body condition, it was difficult for him to produce an offspring. Nonetheless, he could not stay in Holy Dragon City any longer.

After making all the necessary arrangements and bidding farewell to the Queen, Merlin rose into the air and flew toward the Candora Empire.

...

Recently, the Candora Empire had not been peaceful. Although they were not prepared to invade the Holy Dragon Empire, they were watching the situation in the Holy Dragon Empire very closely. Seeing that the Holy Dragon Empire had managed to clear the situation in just a short time and also reunified the entire empire, it seemed like the Holy Dragon Empire would once again pose a threat to the Candora Empire in the future.

At this moment, the Candora Trio-Lords and other high-level figures gathered in the main hall. They were discussing the Holy Dragon Empire or more accurately, about Merlin.

The Candora Empire had been watching Merlin closely. Recently, they discovered that Merlin had left the Holy Dragon Empire and his tracks had disappeared. No one knew where he went. Thus, the Candora Empire's higher authorities were immediately anxious. Merlin could be deemed to be the number one contender throughout the entire mainland and was infinitely close to the legendary sacred beast. No matter where Merlin showed up, he would be a deadly threat.

"Everyone, Leon has once tried to seize the Candora Magic Mirror. Now that he had disappeared without a trace, we must be very careful."

"Yes, moreover, many people in the empire had inquired about the Candora Magic Mirror recently. I wonder if the Holy Dragon Empire is investigating it?"

"Regardless, the Candora Magic Mirror is our Empire's foundation. We mustn't not lose it at any cost!"

The King of the Candora Empire listened to the discussion carefully. In the end, he still shifted his gaze toward the Candora Trio-Lords. "Three brothers, how strong do you perceive Leon to be? If he tries to snatch the Candora Magic Mirror, what should we do?"

The Candora Trio-Lords were the pillars of the Candora Empire. They possessed unparalleled influence throughout the Candora Empire. Therefore, even the King had great respect for the Candora Trio-Lords.

In contrast with the Holy Dragon Empire's royal family, the Candora Trio-Lords did not "hide". Instead, they were visibly involved in the Empire's matters. Therefore, the Candora Trio-Lords held great influence on numerous matters.

After some time, the Candora Trio-Lords spoke slowly, "Leon's ability is too powerful. Not just the three of us but even if all of us were to join forces, it might still not be enough to defeat him. Nevertheless, it'll be difficult for him to seize the Candora Magic Mirror by force as he knows the Candora Magic Mirror can rip through space, which he cannot stop. Therefore, if he wants to obtain the Magic Mirror, I'm afraid he might use other means to force us to hand the Candora Magic Mirror to him."

Thinking along these lines, everyone's heart sunk slightly. True, Merlin might not be able to seize the Candora Magic Mirror by force since he was unable to prevent it from teleporting. However, Merlin could use other methods to force them to surrender the Magic Mirror.

Immediately, the entire great hall plunged into a tense atmosphere.

"Well, we don't have to be so pessimistic. Maybe Leon won't even come here..."

Someone muttered. At this exact moment, a guard rushed in from the outside. Kneeling on the floor, he reported panickily, "Your Majesty, someone came in from the outside. We've exhausted every means but couldn't stop him from entering the city. He's now rushing directly for the palace."

"Swish."

The Candora Trio-Lords shifted their gaze outside the great hall. They could sense a familiar aura looming.

"Leon..."

The Candora Trio-Lords were sporting ugly looks. No one expected that Merlin would arrive so quickly.

"Crash."

The door was broken apart. Slowly, a figure walked in. Even without wielding his almighty beast form, the newcomer exuded extremely powerful oppression that seemed to suffocate everyone in the room.

"How dare you!"

Many people stood on their feet, obviously enraged as someone dared to intrude into the palace. After so many years, this was the first time they had witnessed such brazen insolence.

However, whether it was the Candora Trio-Lords, the other ultimate contenders or even the King, their expressions turned ashen upon seeing this intruder.

“Candora Trio-Lords, we meet again!”

“Leon! In the end, you came...”

The Candora Trio-Lords stared at the intruder with shock. Previously, although they had only fought with Merlin briefly, they recognized Merlin’s aura and knew his abilities.

This time, however, even before Merlin wielded his almighty beast form, the oppressive feeling was already incredibly powerful. The Candora Trio-Lords felt somewhat suffocated. How could they not know that Merlin had grown stronger in such a short time?

At their level, even the slightest improvement was immensely difficult to achieve. Merlin, on the other hand, could improve his abilities continuously. Their previous assessment of Merlin was no longer applicable.

Right now, Merlin had arrived. The entire great hall was filled with the absolute core figures of the Candora Empire, all of whom were now under Merlin’s direct threat!

Chapter 1020: Magic Mirror

Merlin’s gaze swept across everybody in the room. Previously, the Candora Trio-Lords’ aura posed a slight threat to Merlin. Now, he could not sense any iota of danger from them. This meant that Merlin had grown a few times stronger in his most recent enhancement. He was now unquestionably the number one contender!

“Leon, what do you want?”

Finally, the King of the Candora Empire could no longer hold it in. Under everyone’s watchful stares, Merlin appeared too calm. Ironically, the calmness Merlin projected caused the people of the Candora Empire to feel deeply insulted.

“What do I want? Simple. Hand over the Candora Magic Mirror!”

Merlin replied evenly.

“As predicted!”

“Leon came for the Candora Magic Mirror.”

Everyone turned to look at the Candora Trio-Lords. The Candora Magic Mirror was kept by the three of them. However, this was the Candora Empire’s most prized possession. How could they simply give it away?

“What a distasteful joke. That’s the Candora Empire’s most prized national treasure. Why would we give it to you just like that?”

The King replied mockingly. Although he could see that Merlin’s ability was extraordinary and most probably was undefeatable in a one-on-one fight, this place was still the most important location in the Candora Empire where numerous ultimate contenders gathered. Furthermore, they also had the Candora Magic Mirror. Why would they fear this lone Merlin?

Until now, the Candora Empire had not made any move. Their collective opinion was to avoid an attack as much as possible. The best-case scenario was for Merlin to retreat.

Nevertheless, how could it be easy to convince Merlin to retreat?

“I want the Candora Magic Mirror! What about we exchange it for some other item?”

A smile appeared between Merlin’s lips.

“Exchange? What item can you possibly exchange for the Candora Empire’s national treasure?”

The King sneered in derision. Perhaps, if the Holy Dragon Empire had used the Sacred Lion Beast’s head as currency, they might briefly considered the offer. Besides that, what else could tempt the Candora Empire?

However, Merlin’s eyes revealed a meaningful glint. He said in a low voice, “How about we exchange the entire Candora Empire with the Candora Magic Mirror?”

“You...”

At this moment, the King and the Candora Trio-Lords appeared slightly angered.

“You don’t believe me?”

Merlin could not be bothered to waste his time dithering. With a flash, he flew toward the Candora Trio-Lords.

“Scram!”

Seeing the Candora Trio-Lords assume their almighty beast forms, Merlin swung his fist at them. Immediately, a tremendous pressure descended upon the Candora Trio-Lords. The horrifying pressure shocked the Candora Trio-Lords to the core. They could sense that they were completely unable to withstand this punch.

“How terrifying, retreat now!”

The Candora Trio-Lords’ minds were interconnected. Naturally, they retreated instantly. However, Merlin’s speed was even faster. His body seemed to transform into countless punches which rained down brutally upon the Candora Trio-Lords like a torrential downpour.

“Divine Realm!”

The Candora Trio-Lords chanted in unison. Instantly, the entire great hall was swathed in a layer of white light. The Candora Trio-Lords, in particular, were tightly enfolded in its core.

This was the Candora Trio-Lords’ Supreme Talent. Not only were they identical triplet brothers but all three of them were also ultimate contenders, and miraculously, had the same Supreme Talent.

The Supreme Talent of each of the Candora Trio-Lords was the Divine Realm. This Supreme Talent could even be compounded to detonate an unparalleled force. As a result, the Candora Trio-Lords were greatly respected among the ultimate contenders due to their immense power.

However, today, they were pitted against Merlin, who had devoured hundreds and thousands of almighty beasts' will and possessed powers infinitely close to the sacred beasts.

In terms of pure strength, Merlin was not at all inferior compared to the sacred beasts. All he lacked right now was the will of the Almighty Beast World.

Merlin extended his palm. Suddenly, it seemed that the great hall was filled with the apparition of Merlin's palm. Then, the palm pressed down into the void.

“Boom.”

With just one press, the entire great hall seemed to be on the verge of collapse. An overwhelming surge sent the Candora Trio-Lords into the air and out of the hall. Their bodies gradually cracked and fell heavily onto the ground.

Even then, Merlin had been merciful. He did not want to antagonize the Candora Empire but merely wanted to use the most direct method to make them understand that based on the situation, they should just voluntarily hand over the Candora Magic Mirror.

“You...”

At this moment, the arrogant King's eyes slanted, a massive storm rippling through his heart. Even the most powerful Candora Trio-Lords were not able to withstand the first hit.

If Merlin so wished, everyone in this place would not be able to escape alive. Merlin's words about exchanging the Candora Empire for the Magic Mirror were a threat. Merlin possessed the ability to single handedly destroy the huge Candora Empire!

“I just want the Candora Magic Mirror!”

Merlin said steely, his tone willed with brutishness which allowed no protests.

The King's expression flashed hesitantly. He was still weighing the pros and cons if he refused to give Merlin the Candora Magic Mirror. Merlin would not be able to obtain it by force since the Candora Magic Mirror had the supernatural power of teleportation.

However, if Merlin did not get the Candora Magic Mirror, the Candora Empire might cease to exist. This was a distinct possibility. The King of the Candora Empire found himself between a rock and a hard place.

"Your Majesty, you should acquiesce to him!"

Finally, with the help of others, the Candora Trio-Lords slowly stood up. Their gazes at Merlin were now filled with a trace of fear.

"Your Majesty, the Candora Magic Mirror is only used to stabilize the royal family's rule over the empire. If the empire no longer exists, what use will the Candora Magic Mirror be?"

Indeed, the Candora Magic Mirror was just a powerful treasure at best. The only benefit it presented to the royal family was to strengthen their rule over the empire.

Therefore, if one were to choose between those two options, unquestionably, the royal family would choose to keep the Candora Empire.

However, to the Candora Empire, it was downright humiliating to surrender their national treasure under Merlin's threat. Regardless, due to the apparent gap in power, they had no other choice.

Merlin's lips quirked into a tiny smile. This was much better than snatching it by force. Right now, Merlin already represented an unparalleled "force". Even just by himself, he was much more formidable than any force.

Therefore, he was not worried that the Candora Empire would not surrender the Candora Magic Mirror.

Soon, the Candora Trio-Lords retrieved a mirror from their laps. The moment Merlin saw the mirror, he knew that this was the Candora Magic Mirror because he could sense the will of the sacred beast from within.

“Haha, yes, it’s indeed the Candora Magic Mirror. Don’t worry, since I’ve gotten the Candora Magic Mirror, I won’t bother the Candora Empire any longer.”

With that, Merlin reached out and took the Candora Magic Mirror. Then, in a flash, his figure disappeared along with the Candora Magic Mirror. Only the Candora Empire’s royal family were left in the room, gaping at one another.

“I guess it’s alright for you to leave, Candora Magic Mirror. You’ve resolved a crisis for us. This is also your contribution...”

Although the King was somewhat reluctant to part with this national treasure, he also knew that saving the empire was the most important priority.

...

“Swish.”

Merlin left the Candora Empire’s capital as soon as possible and headed to a small town some distance away. He could not wait to find a quiet spot to examine the Candora Magic Mirror.

The Candora Magic Mirror was only the size of a palm, so it was not big. The outer layer was constructed of a strange black material whereas the mirror was exceptionally shiny. The bizarre thing was that it was impossible to see one’s reflection on it. Instead, the surface was fuzzy, which looked completely mysterious.

This was the Candora Magic Mirror. Only the blood of an almighty beast bloodline could activate it. Moreover, depending on the viscosity and inherent strength of the bloodline, it could unleash some of its powers.

To fully unleash all its powers, the price required was the blood of an ultimate contender’s almighty beast. Only then, the Candora Magic Mirror could unleash its most potent binding ability.

Regardless, the Candora Magic Mirror had now fallen into Merlin's hands. Merlin was not at all interested in its fabled teleportation ability or binding ability. His real focus was the sacred beast's will in the Candora Magic Mirror.

Perhaps, the sacred beast's will was very weak since it was just a thin, inconspicuous strand. Most probably, it would not improve Merlin's abilities substantially but it allowed Merlin to decipher the secret of the sacred beasts and feel the essence of this world.

"Merlin, are you going to absorb and merge this will?"

Titus' voice rang out in Merlin's mind. Titus, who was in the Illusory World, certainly knew what Merlin intended to do.

"Yes, this is the only way that will allow me to understand the essence of the Almighty Beast World. Perhaps, this is also the only way for me to restore the Illusory World."

Merlin knew that it was an arduous task to restore the Illusory World. Even he did not have the confidence to do so. This strand of sacred beast's will was his only hope.

Titus stewed in silence. Finally, he nodded. "You must be careful. The sacred beast's will might contain a sliver of the will of the Almighty Beast World. If you fail to merge it and the Illusory World is discovered, we'll be in trouble. If the partially-recovered Illusory World is targeted by the will of the Almighty Beast World, the Illusory World won't be able to withstand the Almighty Beast World."

Titus' words could not have been clearer. If the sacred beast's will truly contained the will of the Almighty Beast World and Merlin failed to merge it, his true identity would be discovered by the will of the Almighty Beast World. In that case, Merlin would be in grave danger.

Therefore, this was an extremely risky move.

Nonetheless, Merlin had already made up his mind. Titus' words merely prompted Merlin to be more careful. It could not shake his steely determination.

"Come on, let's check out the real secret of the sacred beasts!"

A glint flashed across Merlin's eyes. Subsequently, he pulled mightily with his hands. The Magic Mirror cracked. On the mirror's surface, web-like streaks began to appear...