

W. Secret 531

Chapter 531: Casting Components in Hand

Merlin was operating the Aurora Ship alone. He flew at top speed across the pitch-black Void Zone. On Merlin's shoulder, the black cat Didimoss was crouching lazily like he was sleeping.

Merlin looked at the black cat Didimoss, and could not help but ask, "Didimoss, you've really transformed into a living being?"

The black cat Didimoss opened its eyes blearily and nodded. This transformation was truly hard to grasp. A spirit turning into a living being was like a stone-cold rock suddenly having a breath of life. It was unbelievable.

"Didimoss, earlier, you've swallowed the Rock Giant. Are you okay?"

Merlin looked at the black cat Didimoss with concern. Right now, Didimoss obviously looked a lot fatter, and was supporting his protruding belly with a sluggish demeanor. Merlin wondered if swallowing the Rock Giant was causing Didimoss any discomfort.

The black cat Didimoss shook his head and said, "Don't worry, I'm fine. When I awoke, I felt that I have a special ability, which was to swallow up things. I can swallow up everything, including spells. As long as it's a tangible object, I can swallow it. This ability is probably derived from the Runic Magic Circle arranged by the Great Wizard Fidel.

"I'm originally the spirit of a Runic Magic Circle. Back then, the most unique characteristic of the Runic Magic Circle that protected the Dark Magic Region was its ability to swallow the power of spells. As long as any spell attacks the big runic circle, more than half of its power would be swallowed by the big runic circle so that the spell would not threaten the Dark Magic Region. Now that I've become a living being, this special ability must've been based upon my original ability to swallow spells. Now, I've progressed one step further and have grown to the point that I can swallow everything."

Merlin heard the explanation and nodded silently. Back then, Wizard Yatho also mentioned that once a spirit had transformed into a living being, it would possess a unique ability.

The black cat Didimoss' ability was derived from the Runic Magic Circle, so now it could swallow all kinds of things. An ability like this was indeed impressive. Furthermore, the black cat Didimoss could rely on his swallowing ability to slowly increase his powers. Although the process would be time-consuming, to be able to strengthen himself just by swallowing others was as good as it gets.

Therefore, swallowing the Rock Giant in a single gulp was not harmful to the black cat Didimoss. Instead, it would help strengthen his powers a tad more.

After flying through the endless Void Zone for a few months, Merlin and the others finally returned to Arcane City. It was only upon arrival in Arcane City that the strongest team of six could heave a long sigh of relief.

This time, they had sustained heavy losses. Out of the six strongest prodigy Wizards in the same batch, four of them were gravely injured. Only Merlin and Saturn were unharmed but Saturn had to use his precious life-preserving trump card to save both of them.

This mission could be considered as using up all their nine cat lives. If not for Didimoss finally awakening and possessing powers comparable to a Legend, they would not have been able to return.

“Let's quickly submit the mission. This is a matter that cannot be delayed.”

Saturn and the others also knew the importance of this matter. If the Rock Tribe had successfully transformed the dimension, even the Ultimate Arcane Wizards would not be able to do anything.

Hence, they had to quickly submit their mission, and report their findings.

So, despite their extreme fatigue, the six of them rushed toward the Mission Tower. Along the way, many looks were directed at them. After all, quite a number of them were in a bad condition but the most unique sight of all was the black cat perched on Merlin's shoulder. The cat had a regal, arrogant look, which attracted a lot of attention.

In that regard, Merlin was also quite helpless. How could he tell others that this was not a normal cat but a Legendary cat?

After thinking about it, Merlin shook his head. The black cat Didimoss had quite a temper, so he better not stir up trouble and focus on submitting the mission first.

When they had entered the Mission Tower, Saturn found the Great Legend that had allowed them to receive the mission. When the Legend saw some of Saturn's records and understood the danger faced by the Seely Dimension, his expression turned abnormally grave.

"Everyone gets two thousand five hundred Adventure points. You've all done very well. Don't worry, since the Rock Tribe hasn't transformed the Seely Dimension, they'll just have to dream on. Arcane City will handle this matter."

The Great Legend said with a sneer. He had no fondness for the Rock Tribe. Back then, before the ceasefire between the Rock Tribe and the Spell Casters, there were several small-scale battles. Although they did not lose any Legends, many Great Wizards were lost.

After submitting the mission, Saturn turned to look at Merlin and the others. With a smile, he said, "Great, the mission has been submitted. I believe Arcane City will handle the problem in the Seely Dimension properly. We almost ran out of our nine cat lives, but at least it's not for naught. Everyone gets two thousand five hundred Adventure points, enough to do a lot of things in Arcane City."

"Yeah, two thousand five hundred Adventure points is a lot. Even Potential Wizards who had been in Arcane City for tens of years may not have accumulated so many Adventure points."

Upon mentioning the two thousand five hundred Adventure points, a smile appeared on everyone's face. They had risked their lives and traveled to the faraway Seely Dimension to investigate the conspiracy of the Rock Tribe, all for these Adventure points.

This much Adventure points would be highly useful in Arcane City. If they were used to redeem casting tools, then it would be enough to redeem some of the most sophisticated casting tools. Even if they wanted some life-preserving item, it should not be a problem.

If the points were used to enter the Mind Tower, every attempt only required one hundred Adventure points, so there would be enough points to enter the Mind Tower a total of fifteen times. This would allow one's Mind Power to improve significantly.

In short, with so many Adventure points, Merlin and the others would be able to live comfortably in Arcane City for a very long time.

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“You really want to purchase the four casting components of the God-Binding Disc?”

Looking at this unassuming young Potential Wizard before him, the Great Legend guarding the treasure vault could not help but frown. It was such a humongous sum to spend two thousand Adventure points in one go that even he felt heavy-hearted.

The God-Binding Disc was merely a famous item, and its condition was quite shabby. Moreover, with only four casting components, they would only combine to become an ordinary peak-level casting tool.

Spending two thousand Adventure points to redeem these four casting components of the God-Binding Disc was truly too wasteful.

“I’ve made my decision. I’ll redeem the four casting components of the God-Binding Disc!”

Merlin did not hesitate and declared firmly. Hearing the resolution in Merlin’s tone, the Legendary Wizard did not offer any further advice and directly retrieved the four quaint-looking casting components.

The four casting components had not been combined, and looked like they were broken in some places. There was not a trace of powerful aura on them. They did not resemble the renowned God-Binding Disc that managed to suppress the gods.

Merlin received the God-Binding Disc with a serious expression. He did not examine the casting components of the God-Binding Disc, but quickly kept it inside his spatial ring and left in a hurry.

...

“Hum.”

Merlin returned to his room. At this time, he quickly took out the four casting components of the God-Binding Disc which had cost him two thousand Adventure points.

Earlier in the treasure vault, the reason that Merlin did not examine them was that he was afraid of revealing some clues. In reality, upon receiving these four casting components, he could sense a strong vibration from the Bell Space in front of his chest.

This was a phenomenon that would occur upon approaching similar types of casting components. This also proved that the Bell Space was indeed a component of the God-Binding Disc.

The God-Binding Disc had a total of nine components, and Merlin's Bell Space was already a combination of three casting components. Added with the four newly-redeemed casting components, Merlin would have seven components of the God-Binding Disc.

Once the seven components of the God-Binding Disc were combined, even with some damage, it would still hold at least half the original power of the God-Binding Disc. Considering the original power of the God-Binding Disc, just half of that formidable power would far exceed any peak-level casting tools.

After all, the God-Binding Disc was able to suppress the gods, and the gods were comparable to the Great Legendary Wizards. With such a powerful God-Binding Disc, even half its power was enough to combat the Great Wizards.

This was also why Merlin was so fervent to redeem the four casting components of the God-Binding Disc. Despite the steep price, they were highly suitable for Merlin, so any price would still be worth it.

Merlin gradually calmed down his excited emotions. He removed the Bell Space from the front of his chest and began trying to combine it with the four casting components that he redeemed.

Assembled casting tools were very easy to assemble. As long as two casting components were close to one another, they would automatically combine with one another.

Merlin took out a casting component and put it with the Bell Space. In an instant, there was a burst of light, and the casting component had rapidly combined with the Bell Space.

“Boom!”

The Bell Space swiftly began to vibrate. Its space began to widen, and it was no longer filled with darkness. There was a faint hint of “life”.

“Combine again!”

Seeing the changes occurring in the Bell Space, Merlin could not wait any longer. He put the three remaining casting components next to the Bell Space. Instantly, countless beams of light glowed and intertwined together, gradually encapsulating these few casting components.

The process of combining took a long time. The different beams of light gradually merged together, finally converging into a pale white ray. Merlin reached out and grabbed the newly combined Bell Space in his hands.

At this moment, the Bell Space had vaguely formed a small round disc. However, the small round disc seemed to be missing two corners. It was incomplete, probably lacking the last two casting components. Only with all nine casting components assembled together, it would form the whole God-Binding Disc.

However, on the round disc, the words “God-Binding” could already be seen, proving that it was indeed the legendary God-Binding Disc.

“God-Binding Disc, it truly is the God-Binding Disc! I wonder how the God-Binding Disc which only lacks two casting components look like?”

Merlin was looking forward to seeing the changes in the Bell Space, so he directly mobilized his Mind Power. He extended his Mind Power inside the God-Binding Disc and began to explore the space inside it.

Chapter 532: The Bloodshed Universe

When Merlin’s Mind Power had entered the space inside the God-Binding Disc, he discovered that there was a substantive difference compared to the former Bell Space. Now, it was no longer pitch-black darkness but a stark white space. Although it was space, it was now immensely large and endless. In addition, there was also a clear sense of the concept of time and space.

In other words, this was a more perfect space that could be occupied by living beings. Even Merlin, if faced with any danger in the future, could hide inside the God-Binding Disc.

The Defensive power of the God-Binding Disc was relatively strong, at least far exceeding an ordinary peak-level casting tool. It could be classified as an extraordinary casting tool. Extraordinary casting tools were those which could only be transfigured by a Great Legend or even an Honored Legend who had achieved the highest understanding in alchemy.

Even Bell, who had achieved an extraordinary understanding of alchemy, was only able to transfigure one God-Binding Disc. This was a testament to how difficult it was to transfigure an extraordinary casting tool.

Instead of the defensive powers of the God-Binding Disc, Merlin was more concerned about its binding powers.

The most important component of the God-Binding Disc was the “binding” component. Back then, the God-Binding Disc had been able to bind several natural gods consecutively. Naturally, it contained some form of uniqueness. Deep inside the God-Binding Disc, Merlin could feel a terrifying force raging. As the owner of the God-Binding Disc, he could distinctly sense that if all its powers were released, even a Great Wizard would not be able to resist it.

“This is truly the God-Binding Disc. Right now, I can even bind an average Great Wizard inside the God-Binding Disc. If I can find the remaining two components and complete all nine casting components, we might even witness the absolute supremacy of the God-Binding Disc.”

Merlin muttered in a low voice. The last two casting components of the God-Binding Disc were especially important because they would determine whether the God-Binding Disc would be able to restore its past glory.

However, even Arcane City only had four casting components of the God-Binding Disc, so finding the last two components would certainly be difficult. Perhaps, the final two casting components had already been destroyed.

Fortunately, Merlin was able to own the God-Binding Disc assembled from seven casting components. He was very satisfied to own an extraordinary casting tool as even many Great Legends would not get the chance to own it.

Merlin kept the God-Binding Disc carefully. This was one of his trump cards so it should not be easily revealed. Just like the black cat Didimoss, who should not be used simply.

“Whether it’s the God-Binding Disc or the black cat Didimoss, these are all external powers, not my own powers. I still have to quickly improve my own abilities!”

Merlin also felt some pressure. In Arcane City, the Potential Wizards were improving themselves, almost every moment of the day. Especially Saturn and the others who had also received two thousand five hundred Adventure points, they would definitely use the points to improve their abilities.

In the outside world, Merlin was a prodigy among the prodigies. Even in Arcane City, he was considered a demonic genius. However, he did not slack and instead felt pressured because his own abilities were not stronger than Vic or Saturn. Therefore, he still had to work hard to improve his abilities.

At present, Merlin had not yet made up his mind to construct Sixth-level spells. His Mind Heart had achieved the limit of a Seventh-level Mind Heart. After receiving the instructions from the ninth floor of the Mind Tower and training his Mind Power, he would now have to integrate his Mind Power with his instincts.

Currently, Merlin’s Mind Power was still far from being integrated into his instincts. Even if he was to enter the Mind Tower, it would be useless as he would not be able to break through to the Eighth-level Mind Heart yet.

Even so, Merlin’s Mind Power was generally sufficient for him to construct all the Sixth-level spells. Although he had enough Mind Power, deriving new Sixth-level spells would require huge amounts of Maxim.

Compared to Fifth-level spells, the Sixth-level spells would require consuming even more of the Maxim. Right now, Merlin had only constructed Immense Thunder and Endless Flame. If he was to construct the four remaining spells, he was afraid that he would have to completely deplete the Thunder Maxim to derive them.

The disadvantage of using the Matrix to derive spells was that it required the consumption of precious Maxim power. If it was someone else, who was unable to obtain a single Maxim, what then could be used to derive spells?

Nevertheless, right now, Merlin had reached the same predicament. Even if he managed to derive all the Sixth-level spells now, then for him to become a Seventh-level Spell Caster in the future would not be as simple anymore.

After considering for a long time, Merlin decided to temporarily delay the spell derivation. Especially since he was in Arcane City, there were many more ways to improve his abilities. For now, Merlin had two options at least.

The first option was to deep-dive into researching spell fusion. If he could fuse three or four types of spells together, then his abilities would instantly be increased several folds. However, this was a difficult process, which might take a very long time.

So, he should tackle spell fusion slowly, without rushing into it.

The second option was to level-up Darkness Eye, especially the fifth form of Darkness Eye. For a long time, Merlin's Darkness Eye only had the fourth form, which was cultivated by Wizard Leo. However, Wizard Leo had failed to suppress the fourth form of Darkness Eye and died from its backlash.

Merlin, on the other hand, was different. He was a Mind Power Master and had an extraordinarily large Mind Power. His formidable Seventh-level Mind Heart now contained Mind Power which was comparable to some of the powerful Ninth-level Spell Casters.

Therefore, Merlin could easily suppress the fourth form of Darkness Eye. Even the fifth form of Darkness Eye, Merlin should be able to suppress it, albeit with some effort. Once Merlin had successfully achieved the Eighth-level Mind Heart in the future, then it would be easier for him to suppress the fifth form of Darkness Eye.

Merlin's current plan was to cultivate the fifth form of Darkness Eye in order to improve his abilities.

Although Darkness Eye was already very powerful, once he had cultivated the fifth form of Darkness Eye, he would have a much easier time fighting against a Ninth-level Spell Caster. Even pitted against the peak Ninth-level Spell Casters, Merlin would be able to triumph by relying on Darkness Eye.

"Darkness Eye needs negative emotions, and in large amounts. Only endless bloodshed can produce enough negative emotions to level-up Darkness Eye!"

Merlin knew clearly the way to level-up Darkness Eye, which was both simple and complicated at the same time. It would require large amounts of negative emotions. Bloodshed would give rise to a lot of negative emotions, so it was the best way to cultivate Darkness Eye.

Incidentally in Arcane City, there was exactly a place filled with bloodshed called the Bloodshed Universe. The place had been specially prepared for some unusual Spell Casters. Each entry only required two hundred Adventure points, and one could only stay for ten days.

Ten days later, the Bloodshed Universe would automatically send the person back into Arcane City.

Right now, the place that Merlin was headed was Bloodshed Universe. The Bloodshed Universe was the most suitable place to cultivate Darkness Eye.

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There was a tall tower in Arcane City which was usually deserted. At most, there would be two or three people walking by. Compared to other places, this place was a lot less frequented.

However, every Spell Caster who came to this place was fierce and bloodthirsty, and their bodies exuded a thick stench of blood. This was the most dangerous place in Arcane City – the Bloodshed Universe with never-ending bloodshed!

When Merlin arrived, he saw two black-robed Spell Casters. Their auras were somewhat undetectable and well-hidden, so it was difficult to gauge them. Merlin had guessed that they were no less than Ninth-level Spell Casters, so they must be Potential Wizards who had been in Arcane City for a long time.

Generally, for Potential Wizards who were new to Arcane City, unless they have previously cultivated some special Pandora Demon Ability which required bloodshed to level-up, they typically would not choose to enter the Bloodshed Universe.

After all, the Bloodshed Universe was dangerous. Anyone who entered the Bloodshed Universe without a strong ability might find themselves killed by their targets instead.

Merlin walked up to the Great Legend who was guarding the entrance to the Bloodshed Universe. There were many Legendary Wizards in Arcane City who stood guard over the important places. Whether it was the Mind Tower, the force fields or the Bloodshed Universe, all of them were guarded by a Legendary Wizard. Thus, if anything was to happen, the Legendary Wizard would be able to deal with it immediately.

The abundance of Legendary Wizards had indirectly demonstrated the deep-rooted foundations of Arcane City. The number of Legendary Wizards here far exceeded any other forces.

“Honorable Great Legend, I wish to enter the Bloodshed Universe.”

Merlin came to the Legendary Wizard and requested respectfully.

“Show your identity card.”

When the Great Legend took Merlin’s identity card, a strange look appeared in his eyes. Most probably, he saw from Merlin’s identity card that Merlin had just entered Arcane City a few months ago.

“The foreign tribes in Bloodshed Universe are vicious and savage. Although it may help mold a Spell Caster, if your abilities aren’t strong enough, you’ll risk being killed by those savage foreign tribes. You should think twice.”

“Honorable Great Legend, I’ve decided to enter the Bloodshed Universe!”

Seeing Merlin’s insistence, the Legendary Wizard did not continue to dissuade him. He deducted two hundred Adventure points from Merlin and told him calmly, “You only have ten days. After ten days, you’ll be sent back to Arcane City! Of course, if you would like to come back earlier, you only have to recite it in your heart and the Bloodshed Universe will send you back.”

Merlin nodded. He took a deep breath and stepped into the brightly glowing entrance.

“Whoosh.”

An unknown period of time later, Merlin opened his eyes. Passing through the passage earlier, he felt as if time was stretched abnormally long.

Thereafter, when he opened his eyes, he discovered that he was already inside an unfamiliar world. The sun was shining in the sky, and across a vast field, lush green grass was swaying gently to the breeze. On the plains, there was even a herd of elk. The scenery was extraordinarily mesmerizing, lulling any observer into relaxation.

“This is a complete dimension?”

Merlin was a little taken aback. He had never come to the Bloodshed Universe before, so naturally, he did not know how it looked like. Right now, after stepping into the Bloodshed Universe, Merlin was shocked to discover that the Bloodshed Universe was a completely foreign dimension.

“Is this your first time to the Bloodshed Universe?”

Suddenly, an icy voice resounded in Merlin’s ear.

Chapter 533: The Dora Demon Tribe

Merlin turned his head and discovered that following behind him was a black-robed Spell Caster from Arcane City. This black-robed Spell Caster’s face was deathly pale, and his figure was gaunt but his eyes were vividly alert. There was an aura of blood-spill surrounding his body, so obviously it was not his first visit to the Bloodshed Universe.

“Yeah, it’s my first time to the Bloodshed Universe.”

Merlin answered truthfully. In the Bloodshed Universe, Spell Casters were forbidden from killing one another, therefore, Merlin did not have to fear the other Wizard’s intentions.

“The Bloodshed Universe is riddled with dangers. Many Wizards who enter the Bloodshed Universe end up not killing the foreign tribe but instead be killed by them. You must be a Potential Wizard who has just arrived in Arcane City. Follow behind me, you can pick some of the weaker foreign tribe to kill.

Both the tone and expression of this black-robed Wizard was ice-cold, but judging from his words, he was not a heartless Spell Caster.

Merlin's heart thumped. He was indeed unfamiliar with the Bloodshed Universe. Therefore, having a Spell Caster who was well-versed with the Bloodshed Universe beside him would help him to adapt to the Bloodshed Universe, and understand some happenings here. Hence, he did not hesitate. He nodded in agreement.

"How do I address you?"

Merlin asked with a smile.

"Midnight!"

The black-robed Wizard replied coldly.

It was such a peculiar name. Merlin had some doubts but looking at Wizard Midnight's stony expression, Merlin suppressed his own questions and did not open his mouth. Quietly, he followed behind Wizard Midnight.

Along the way, Wizard Midnight was taciturn, and almost did not speak at all. Since Merlin did not know Wizard Midnight's propensity, he did not simply ask questions. The two of them began to fly in silence for a long while.

The Bloodshed Universe was immensely vast. Below them were rolling fields that sprawled endlessly, their boundaries could not even be seen. The scenery was picturesque, evoking a sense of joy and admiration in its beholders. It appeared to be completely disconnected with any semblance of bloodshed.

Even Merlin began to wonder – were they really in the Bloodshed Universe?

"Danger lurks underneath the calmest waters."

Before him, Wizard Midnight suddenly halted his steps. Casting an unfathomable gaze at the fields below, he uttered those words out of the blue. Merlin was still trying to decipher the meaning of Wizard Midnight's words when the very next moment, the happenings in front of his eyes immediately gave him a deep understanding of Wizard Midnight's words.

“Hurricane, burn!”

“Boom!”

Looking at the endless fields, Wizard Midnight suddenly pointed toward the herd of elk. Instantly, green flames shot up into the air and formed a pillar of flames unlike any other. The flames rapidly spread toward the direction of the herd of elk.

The green flames burned like a hurricane, exploding in an instant. The speed was also incredibly fast as it surged across the fields. Wherever the green flames passed by, the lush green grass was burned into ashes.

Merlin’s eyes widened slightly. This green flame was not a type of spell but a fusion of Wind-type and Fire-type spells. However, this was different from Merlin’s spell fusion because Wizard Midnight’s spell stemmed from the combination of Spell Models. In other words, Wizard Midnight was already half a step into becoming a Great Wizard.

Generally, when Spell Casters reached the Ninth-level, their test was to attempt spell fusion. Once they had successfully combined all their Spell Models into one, they would level-up to become a Great Wizard. Nonetheless, this process was extremely challenging. It was also the step that had the highest rate of casualties.

In the process of spell fusion, many Ninth-level Spell Casters experienced a direct collapse of their Spell Models. So, when their Magic Power exploded, the Spell Casters were blown into smithereens, leading to a high death rate. Therefore, without absolute confidence, a Ninth-level Spell Caster usually would not attempt to combine their Spell Models.

Otherwise, it was those Spell Casters who had reached their limits but still desperately wanted to try to become a Great Wizard. However, for this type of Spell Casters, the success rate is relatively minuscule.

Wizard Midnight in front of him had already successfully fused Wind-type and Fire-type spells, so he could be considered a quasi-Great Wizard.

The raging flames burned wildly, and the temperature of the entire grass field soared. Merlin was curious as Wizard Midnight’s actions were so flamboyantly aggressive. Was it just to slaughter these elks?

Soon enough, Merlin realized his big mistake. The creatures which he had initially perceived to be normal elks, upon sensing the green flames raging toward them, began to screech loudly. Then, these elks swiftly transformed into big, burly, single-horned, vicious-looking creatures.

“Foreign tribe! These elks are actually the foreign tribe?”

Merlin was stunned that the foreign tribe was disguised as elks as he had not discovered it at all. The ability of this foreign tribe to conceal their auras was truly startling. Only seasoned Wizards who had visited the Bloodshed Universe before, such as Wizard Midnight, knew the true colors of this foreign tribe.

“It’s another abominable Spell Caster. Kill, kill, kill these abominable Spell Casters!

“Despicable Spell Casters, enclosing us in this dimension to provide training for your prodigy Wizards. We, the Dora Demon Tribe, curse you eternally. One day, you’ll suffer a fate ten thousand times worse than us!”

Amidst the green sea of flames, the bodies of these foreign tribe members emitted faint glimmers of light that tried to resist the burning of the flames. However, this was Wizard Midnight’s fused spell. The spell fusion of a powerful peak Ninth-level Spell Caster far outstripped the force of an average spell, and could not be withstood by the foreign tribe. Wherever the flames spread, the curses also ended abruptly as they turned to ashes.

Soon, hundreds of foreign tribe members were turned into ashes, and peace was restored onto the field. Wizard Midnight’s expression was very calm. Only the Darkness Elements on his body were looming in and out of sight as if they were trying to perceive something.

Any Spell Caster who could enter the Bloodshed Universe would not shy away from bloodshed, and instead, use it to enhance their abilities. Merlin’s objective was to cultivate Darkness Eye whereas Wizard Midnight’s objective seemed to be to gain an understanding of Darkness-type spells.

Wizard Midnight was also a rare Darkness-type Wizard.

“Hum.”

Merlin also did not stand around idly. He immediately wielded Darkness Eye, and a huge ghostly face appeared above his head. At the same time, faint traces of cold air began to seep into Darkness Eye in his palm.

These were all negative emotions that were absorbed by Darkness Eye. Merlin could even sense the “excitement” of Darkness Eye.

“The negative emotions are really strong. The grudges held by the foreign tribe are so strong that even after their death, it can excite Darkness Eye to this extent.”

Merlin felt the negative emotions left behind by the foreign tribe after their death. It was so vicious that it made Darkness Eye “excited”, which was not a simple feat. Earlier, Wizard Midnight’s attack had provoked such an unparalleled degree of grudge from the foreign tribe that it could not have accumulated overnight. This amount of grudge must have accumulated over countless years.

Merlin was very unfamiliar with this Bloodshed Universe. All he knew that there was a foreign tribe called the Dora Demon Tribe. Besides that, Merlin knew nothing else.

“Wizard Midnight, how much do you know about the Dora Demon Tribe in the Bloodshed Universe?”

Seeing Wizard Midnight opening his eyes, Merlin immediately asked.

“The Dora Demon Tribe was discovered over two thousand years ago in the Dora Dimension. They were then controlled by the Spell Casters, who even imparted some knowledge to the Dora Demons. Of course, due to their natural disposition, the Dora Demons were unable to construct spells. However, based on the knowledge imparted to them, the Dora Demon Tribe created a set of cultivation system that was suitable for them.

“It was only later when the Spell Casters fought against another civilization that the Dora Demon Tribe revealed their cruel and vicious side. They betrayed the Spell Caster civilization, and helped another foreign civilization to vanquish hundreds and thousands of powerful Wizards. In that war, the Spell Casters suffered massive losses. Thereafter, the enraged Ultimate Arcane Wizards got directly involved and defeated the foreign civilization. Originally, they were about to wipe out the entire Dora Demon Tribe but then, a Legendary Wizard suggested to create a Bloodshed Universe dimension and make the Dora Demon Tribe the training targets of Spell Casters. So, the Dora Demon Tribe cannot leave the Bloodshed Universe forever, until this tribe completely disappears.

“Hehe, but the Dora Demon Tribe is also incredible. Their reproduction rate is extremely fast. Although two thousand years have passed, and Spell Casters have been killing them in succession, the Dora Demon Tribe is yet to be exterminated. In fact, their numbers are growing steadily. In any case, this is good because the Bloodshed Universe is very helpful to some Spell Casters.”

Merlin digested this information in silence. He did not expect that the Dora Demon Tribe in the Bloodshed Dimension had such a tragic history. If even the Ultimate Arcane Wizards were enraged, then the damage suffered by the Spell Casters must have been catastrophic.

This was also the cruelest punishment for the Dora Demon Tribe!

“Does this mean that access to the Bloodshed Dimension isn’t restricted to Spell Casters from Arcane City only?”

Merlin had heard another meaning in Wizard Midnight’s explanation. It sounded like the Bloodshed Universe was not owned by Arcane City.

“Of course. The Bloodshed Universe can be connected to hundreds and thousands of Spell Caster dimensions throughout the Void Zone. However, because there’s no time and space in the Void Zone, the special techniques of the Ultimate Arcane Wizards are needed to bridge to the Bloodshed Universe. It’s very simple to enter the Bloodshed Universe from Arcane City but if you want to enter the Bloodshed Universe from another place, it will cost you dearly. A Great Legend will have to diminish some Maxim to be able to send a Spell Caster here.”

Merlin nodded. It seemed like in this Bloodshed Universe, he might meet with Spell Casters from other dimensions. Moreover, any Spell Caster who could persuade a Great Legend to diminish some of his Maxim’s power in order to send him into the Bloodshed Universe would surely be the pride and joy of their respective Spell Caster dimensions. Merlin could not help but hoped that he would encounter some Spell Casters from other dimensions.

“Alright, let’s continue walking.”

Wizard Midnight straightened himself. He appeared to have gained some understanding. Thus, he led Merlin to continue to wander around the vast Bloodshed Universe.

Chapter 534: The Grand Alliance Wizards I

On a sprawling field, there were a group of young men and women dressed in Spell Caster attire. About a dozen of them were currently surrounded by the Dora Demon Tribe.

The Dora Demons were large in number and possessed relatively strong abilities. Each Dora Demon possessed powerful abilities that were at least the Fourth-level and above. The strongest Dora Demon was dark red, and there was a long, sharp horn protruding from his head. He was the Greater Demon among the Dora Demon Tribe. Judging by the length of his single horn, this Greater Demon's ability would be at least comparable to a peak Ninth-level Spell Caster.

At this moment, this Greater Demon was commanding the powerful Dora Demon Tribe to attack the young Spell Casters in the middle. All the Dora Demons appeared to be almost demented with a blood-red glint in their eyes.

"Dora Warriors, go, rip these abominable Spell Casters to shreds. They're the ones who had caused us to be homeless. They're the ones who had caused us to be trapped in this huge bullpen forever. Go on, release your wrath, and tear them into shreds..."

The completely dark-red Dora Demon with a golden horn on his head shouted provokingly. Instantly, the tightly packed Dora Demons in the surroundings became even more demented. It seemed that they could not be killed, looking at their immensely durable bodies and incredible speeds.

Fortunately, the dozen or so young Spell Casters also had their own arsenal of techniques. Basically, they consisted of Sixth- to Seventh-level Spell Casters, so they would be able to withstand for a moment at least.

However, it would be just for a moment. The number of Dora Demons was truly too many. Battling against the continuous attack made them extremely exhausted. If their Magic Power ran out or their Runic Magic Circle was broken, then their situation would turn precarious.

Additionally, the most terrifying Greater Demon had yet to attack. Once he had attacked, even all of them combined would not be a strong enough opponent against the Greater Demon.

"Damn it, how is it that we encountered a Greater Demon? Isn't this the outer realm of Bloodshed Universe? If we continue this way, sooner or later we would be torn into shreds by these demented Dora Demons."

“The Galaxy Grand Alliance’s competition is jointly organized by the various Great Legends from tens of dimensions once every hundred years in order to select the most outstanding young Wizard in the Grand Alliance. We’ve undergone many selection rounds and finally entered the final round. For this reason, we’re sent into the Bloodshed Universe to complete our last challenge. Who would have thought that we would be so unlucky? Upon entering the Bloodshed Universe, we’ve immediately encountered this bloodthirsty Greater Demon. Since it hasn’t been ten days, we’re unable to leave.”

“Even more despicable is that Hugo. He’s completely indifferent and doesn’t intend to help us at all!”

“Damn that Hugo. Doesn’t he know that after we die, he’d have to face this group of Dora Demons by himself?”

Regardless of the curses strewn by this group of young Wizards, another young Spell Caster dressed in sky-blue Wizard robes nearby was staring at this group of Dora Demons with indifference.

Although the dozen or so young Spell Casters were in grave danger, he had no intention of extending a helping hand. Instead, he was silently staring at the Greater Demon behind the demented Dora Demons.

According to the Galaxy Grand Alliance’s competition rules, killing a Greater Demon was almost equivalent to killing a thousand ordinary Dora Demons. If Hugo wanted to perform well in this Grand Alliance’s competition and fight for first place, then he would have to hunt and kill that Greater Demon.

However, the Greater Demon was also not an easy target that could be easily killed. Hugo was merely a Five-Elemental Spell Caster, so killing a Greater Demon would be quite difficult. Therefore, he would have to preserve his energy until there was an opportunity for him to make his killing shot.

As for the other young Wizards in the same Grand Alliance’s competition as him, Wizard Hugo was completely uncaring. Whether they were dead or alive did not affect him. His only concern was whether he would be able to shine in this competition and rank at the top ten.

“Even the top ten isn’t reassuring enough. Only the first-place winner would be recommended by the Great Legend into Arcane City. As for the remaining nine Spell Casters, they’ll only be recommended by the Grand Alliance to Arcane City. It’ll then be up to Arcane City whether to

invite these Spell Casters in. Therefore, the safest way to enter Arcane City is still to emerge first place!”

Hugo’s heart burned with fervor. He wanted to emerge at first place in order to prove to the Grand Alliance that he was the real number one prodigy among the Alliance. Only he deserved to enter Arcane City.

Hugo was waiting patiently. He did not know why the Greater Demon had not issued any commands to attack him. Perhaps, the Greater Demon was slightly cautious of him. That would be even better because then, Hugo was more confident that once he found a suitable opportunity, he would be able to kill this Greater Demon.

The Greater Demon in a distance had of course, discovered Hugo. This young-looking Spell Caster gave off a very threatening aura, so his abilities must be quite strong.

Nevertheless, the Greater Demon was not afraid. The more talented the Spell Caster was, the higher the sense of accomplishment he would feel upon killing him. The entire Dora Demon Tribe held high esteem of anyone who managed to kill a powerful Spell Caster, so he would be respected by all the Dora Demons.

Before that, however, the Greater Demon wanted to kill most of the other Spell Casters first. Thereafter, he would direct all his strength to attack this young but threatening Spell Caster. Although the Greater Demon did not understand why Hugo did not step forward to rescue the others, he was obviously delighted with Hugo’s indifference.

“Foolish Spell Casters. You’re atrocious, selfish, and pathetic. I really don’t know how you managed to step out of your dimension and entered the Void Zone as well as conquered hundreds and thousands of dimensions?”

Seeing the indifference displayed by Hugo, he snickered in his heart. He focused his attention on the large number of young Spell Casters. The reason he had not attacked them was to guard against Hugo.

Nonetheless, even without his interference, the resistance of this group of Spell Casters was already beginning to shake under the continuous attack from hundreds and thousands of Dora Demons. Not too much longer, they would be ripped into shreds by countless Dora Demons.

Numerous golden glowing runes began to shift about, their lights flashing as if they would soon be destroyed.

“We’re done for. The Runic Magic Circle can’t hold up anymore.”

“We’re all going to die here... Damn that Hugo. If we somehow survive this, we must spread the word about his despicable character all over the entire Galaxy Grand Alliance. I didn’t expect that he would be so heartless.”

“We won’t be able to hold on any longer. How unfortunate, we’ve waded through so many hardships, and multiple layers of competition until we reached the final round that will be observed by the Grand Alliance, but we’re going to die at the hands of a foreign tribe...”

Among this group of Spell Casters, there were anger, frustration, and various manifestations. All these emotions reflected the turmoil inside their hearts. Following the destruction of the Runic Magic Circle, they were in a dire situation.

“Crash.”

Another Dora Demon slammed viciously onto the Runic Magic Circle. The next instant, the Runic Magic Circle was smashed into smithereens like a piece of fragile glass.

“Dora Warriors, their Runic Magic Circle has collapsed. Go on. Rip all these abominable Spell Casters into shreds...”

A smile appeared on the Greater Demon’s face as he ordered the countless Dora Demons to charge dementedly at the dozen Spell Casters.

“Escape, everyone, wield your escape techniques. Even if only one can escape, you’ll be the lucky one...”

Once the Runic Magic Circle had collapsed, the Spell Casters could no longer resist the attacks. The leader of the Spell Casters asked everyone to escape but judging by the dense formation of Dora Demon enclosing them, escaping was simply impossible!

“Swish swish.”

Suddenly, from a distance away, two rays of light flew toward them at lightning speed.

From within the light, two figures emerged, dressed in Spell Caster attire. Immediately, a look of joy appeared on the faces of the Spell Casters who were trapped, and facing imminent death.

“Sir Wizards, please save us. We’re Spell Casters from the Galaxy Grand Alliance...”

These Spell Casters immediately asked for help from the two strangers. Although they did not know whether their pleas would be useful, they were desperate, and this was their last remaining hope.

“The Galaxy Grand Alliance? Sounds like a huge faction from far away.”

The more stoic-looking, middle-aged man frowned as he spoke. Just as he was about to step forward, the younger black-robed Wizard beside him stretched out a hand to stop him.

The young Wizard smiled slightly. “Wizard Midnight, you’ve just killed a Greater Demon. This time, you should let me try. After all, I’ve been in the Bloodshed Universe for three days and gained a sufficient understanding of these Dora Demons.”

These two Wizards were coincidentally Midnight and Merlin who had been wandering around the Bloodshed Universe. The two of them did not have a clear destination or direction, and simply wandered around aimlessly. Whenever they encountered any Dora Demons, the ruthless bloodshed began.

Of course, it was Wizard Midnight who had done most of the attacking. They had also encountered a Greater Demon before but he too, was killed by Wizard Midnight. Wizard Midnight’s secret abilities had astounded Merlin. Most probably, Wizard Midnight was already infinitely close to becoming a Great Wizard.

This time, they bumped into the Dora Demons swarming around some Spell Casters in the Bloodshed Universe. This was a fresh situation for Merlin. Moreover, in the past three days, he had gained an understanding of the Dora Demon Tribe. Even without activating the God-Binding Disc, his abilities should be comparable to an average Greater Demon.

Therefore, this time, he was ready to make a move.

Wizard Midnight hesitated for a moment. He glanced at Merlin. Then, he nodded faintly and took a step backward. When he first met Merlin, he only thought of Merlin as an average Potential Wizard. Since they had both come from Arcane City, he decided to give Merlin a leg-up and help familiarize him with the Bloodshed Universe.

Up to this point, Merlin should be relatively familiar with the Bloodshed Universe. Furthermore, Wizard Midnight also wanted to see Merlin's abilities.

Merlin took a deep breath, and swept his gaze across the demented Dora Demons in front of them. Numbers, to him, meant nothing.

"Hoo..."

A cool breeze wheezed by. Merlin stood motionless in the same place but his entire body was emitting an invisible, harrowing fluctuation...

Chapter 535: The Grand Alliance Wizards II

"Nine Hit Strike!"

The unseen force was, in fact, Merlin's Mind Power fluctuations. Lately, he had been focused on fusing Mind Power with his instincts. Therefore, no matter what situation he faced, he was ready to unleash his Occult Mind Spell at any time.

Moreover, Mind Power had no shape nor shadow, and was very fast, far beyond anything a spell could match. Thus, when dealing with a sudden, unexpected occurrence, casting an Occult Mind Spell was of utmost suitability.

Wave after wave of Mind Power attacked without sound or shadow. The rest only saw that the dense crowd of Dora Demons shrieked in a blood-curdling manner, following which their bodies seemed to be crushed by an extremely terrifying force, exploding into mists of blood instantly.

Merlin's Occult Mind Spell was now cultivated to Four Hit Strike, which was a fatal threat to most Ninth-level Spell Casters. As a result, these ordinary Dora Demons could not even withstand one blow.

Everyone was ineffably stunned as they watched the sweep of Dora Demons died with barely a whimper. When they looked back at Merlin, their eyes were filled with a trace of fear.

“Phew...”

Merlin let out a long sigh. He had cast his Occult Mind Spell only once, and the majority of the huddled group of Dora Demons had been wiped out. The remaining ones had scattered in all directions out of terror, disappearing without a trace in the blink of an eye.

Merlin was profiting greatly as well. Darkness Eye in his palm was absorbing more and more of that cold force, and a colossal burst of energy seemed to faintly struggle against the seal.

This was the characteristic of Darkness Eye when it was almost cultivated to its fifth form. As long as it absorbed another great amount of negative energy, the fifth form of Darkness Eye would be cultivated.

“What a powerful Spell Caster. We’re saved.”

“Impressive, he clearly has the Elemental fluctuations of a Fifth-level Spell Caster, yet he barely broke a sweat in slaying so many Dora Demons. He really is too powerful! However, what he had cast earlier was not a spell. It was a soundless, traceless attack with such formidable might. Could he be an extremely rare Mind Power Master?”

“There’s a chance that he’s a formidable Mind Power Master. Most Mind Power Masters become one because their Spell Caster level could not advance, and their spells aren’t that great. Come to think of it, this Wizard must be a mighty Mind Power Master.”

This group of young Wizards who had been entrapped for a long time was able to vaguely surmise Merlin’s identity when they saw him kill so many Dora Demons in one blow with such a peculiar attack.

Still, they merely guessed one part of it but Wizard Midnight, who stood at a distance, knew very clearly that Spell Casters who were able to enter Arcane City must be prodigious Wizards with extremely high potential and capabilities.

Merlin's powers as a Mind Power Master might be something he had simply cultivated by himself. Merlin's spells must be even stronger.

"I had thought that he was a Potential Wizard with relatively weaker abilities. I wanted to shield him for some time so that he won't be killed by the foreign tribe in the Bloodshed Universe. To think that I was wrong in my judgment. Even if his powers are no match for mine, he'll be quite safe in the Bloodshed Universe."

A bright look flashed across Wizard Midnight's eyes. He had only taken the initiative to help Merlin in view of how they were both Potential Wizards from Arcane City.

However, it now looked like Merlin did not need his assistance at all. To be able to enter the Bloodshed Universe, Merlin would naturally have such abilities.

"D*mn you, despicable Spell Caster. You dare to kill the brave warriors of my Dora Demon Tribe. I'll swallow you alive."

The Greater Demon which was dark red all over unleashed a roar as he turned into a beam of dark red light, instantly rushing toward Merlin. His speed could not even be discerned by ordinary eyes, and one had to use Mind Power to detect him.

Wizard Midnight perceived the force of this dark red Greater Demon along with the single horn on his forehead, and Wizard Midnight's expression gradually turned grave. He was certain that he could kill this Greater Demon but he was unsure whether Merlin could contend against it.

Therefore, Wizard Midnight secretly prepared himself. If Merlin showed any signs that he could not hold on any longer, Wizard Midnight would step in and eliminate the Greater Demon.

"Be careful!"

The Greater Demon's attack was sudden and fast. The ten or so young Wizards warned Merlin in a panic, but with such speed, it would be rather hard for Merlin to evade.

"Humph, just what I wanted!"

Naturally, Merlin had sensed the Greater Demon coming. Now, he was using an opponent who was evenly matched with him to hone his own Mind Power. It was best if he could, under this pressure, completely fuse his Mind Power into his instincts. In this manner, his Mind Heart would break through to the Eighth-level.

With this in mind, Merlin mobilized his thoughts, and wielded his Occult Mind Spell instantly. Invisible fluctuations wildly surged like a tide toward the Greater Demon.

Currently, Merlin had only cultivated Nine Hit Strike up until Four Hit Strike, but a Mind Power attack had no sound nor shape, and its speed was beyond comparison with any spells. The consecutive attacks were able to reduce the Greater Demon's speed by a little.

By the fourth strike, the dark red Greater Demon could not help but reveal his figure. He no longer rushed forward stubbornly for Merlin's Occult Mind Spell was able to cause him harm.

"Berserk!"

The Greater Demon was filled with endless wrath, and unleashed a deep howl. His entire body turned an even darker shade of red as his body swelled up rapidly. At the same time, the force of his body became even stronger.

"Whoosh."

The Greater Demon bounded toward Merlin once again. This time, whether in terms of speed or strength, he was clearly on another level from before. Merlin's Four Hit Strike only had a limited influence on this Greater Demon, unable to easily prevent him from approaching Merlin.

"A technique unique to the Dora Demon Tribe, Berserk! Their strength would increase many times over instantly. This Greater Demon is now at least on par with the peak attainable by the fusing of two spells, second only to powerful Wizards who had fused three spells!"

Merlin felt a sense of threat. If he had been able to rely on his Occult Mind Spell to contend against his opponent before this, now, his Occult Mind Spell was presently not of much use against a Dora Demon who had used Berserk.

Everyone became anxious. After the Greater Demon became Berserk, Merlin was immediately at a disadvantage, caught in a situation of imminent danger. However, just when Wizard Midnight had

decided to step in, Merlin's speed increased somewhat, and his Mind Power began to fluctuate violently. Everyone could feel each wave of fluctuations.

“Haha, I've finally grasped it. My Mind Power is fused with my instincts, and my Occult Mind Spell can be unleashed anytime, anywhere, faster than any spell.”

Merlin was wild with joy because earlier, under the threat of the Berserk Greater Demon, Merlin had used Occult Mind Spell to its peak.

At last, the pressure had reached the critical point, and his Mind Power had finally, naturally, fused with his instincts. Thereafter, Mind Power would accompany his every single movement. No matter how swift and sudden the danger was, Merlin's Occult Mind Spell could be cast immediately.

Furthermore, his Mind Heart, which had originally reached the limits of the Seventh-level, had finally advanced to an Eighth-level Mind Heart in a natural and inevitable manner.

“An upgrade in Mind Power? What a cunning little Spell Caster. Hehe, but of what use is that? I'll swallow you in one bite, haha...”

The savage nature of the dark red Greater Demon flared up as he cast aside all concerns, and locked his terrifying momentum onto Merlin. He instantly turned into a dark red light beam, appearing before Merlin in a flash.

Merlin did not dodge, and a cold glint shone in his eyes. Following that, balls of flames and thunder, suppressed to the maximum, appeared in his hands without warning.

“Buzz.”

The flames and thunder fused in an instant. Pushing with both hands, Merlin commanded softly, “Explode!”

“Boom!”

In that instant, the flames and thunder wreaked havoc in a frenzied manner. The petrifying shockwaves spread at a visible pace like ripples on water, stretching out to all directions in widening rings.

Chapter 536: Tagging Along

Merlin's spell fusion, particularly the fusion of Sixth-level spells, contained terrifying might. Compared to the initial fusion of Fifth-level spells, its power was further augmented, on par with most Ninth-level Spell Casters who had fused two Spell Models.

After the smoke and dust had dispersed completely, the Greater Demon's figure was revealed. At the moment, he had completely crashed down from his Berserk state. The Dora Demon Tribe was a very peculiar civilization. They were able to become Berserk, after which their strength would increase many times over. Once Berserk had faded, they would resume their initial appearance.

This Greater Demon, with Berserk, was at most equivalent to a Spell Caster who had combined two Spell Models. His defensive capabilities were formidable indeed, able to withstand Merlin's spell fusion, only his Berserk state was now nullified.

"Swish."

A smile tugged at the corner of Merlin's mouth once again. His use of spell fusion was not just a one-time thing. He was able to use it ten times.

Thus, he pushed with both hands, and another spell fusion whistled as it flew toward the Greater Demon.

"Boom!"

The insane explosive strength engulfed the Greater Demon in an instant, following which the life force of the Greater Demon vanished quickly. The disappearance of his force meant that this Greater Demon had been thoroughly exterminated.

"Phew..."

Merlin unleashed a long sigh of relief. He was still rather pressured when faced with a Greater Demon.

Following the Greater Demon's death, the remaining ordinary Dora Demons quickly made their escape, scattering in all directions. Merlin's Darkness Eye also absorbed a large supply of powerful negative energy. This was left behind by the Greater Demon which Merlin had killed. The stronger the demon was, the greater the negative energy they had left behind.

Merlin was even already able to vaguely sense that Darkness Eye was not far from its fifth form.

At the moment, the ten or so young Wizards wore surprised expressions, and were even slightly stupefied. The abilities which Merlin had displayed far exceeded their imaginations.

It turned out that Merlin's identity as a Mind Power Master was only secondary. It did not mean that Merlin's Occult Mind Spell was stronger. In fact, his stronger technique was his spell. Moreover, being able to fuse spells at the stage of a Fifth-level Spell Caster was something that could only be accomplished by those genius freaks of the legends.

After a moment, these Wizards all came before Merlin to express their gratitude.

"We thank you both Wizards for coming to our rescue. We're Spell Casters who are taking part in the Galaxy Grand Alliance's competition. Yet, we didn't expect that the minute we entered the Bloodshed Universe, we would encounter this group of Dora Demons and fall into peril."

One of the Spell Casters who was wearing a gray robe stood out and introduced the group to Merlin.

Merlin furrowed his brows. "The Galaxy Grand Alliance? I've never heard of it. It must be rather far away."

"The Galaxy Grand Alliance is a great distance away, of course, separated from Arcane City by an unknown number of dimensions. With a casting tool of average speed, one might need more than a few years to reach there. However, the Galaxy Grand Alliance can be considered a relatively large faction, comprising nearly twenty dimensions controlled by ten or so individuals, forming a colossal faction."

The one who spoke was Wizard Midnight. He had a certain understanding of the Galaxy Grand Alliance.

Nonetheless, Wizard Midnight's words had revealed something. The ten or so young Wizards were not dumb. They immediately grasped the meaning of Wizard Midnight's words.

"You're... You're both Wizards from Arcane City?"

At the mention of "Arcane City", the ten or so young Wizards became solemn even in their breathing. It was not just these ten or so Spell Casters, but even Wizard Hugo at the side, who had been indifferent to the peril of the other Spell Casters, quickly shifted his gaze to Merlin and Midnight.

In the eyes of any Spell Caster, Arcane City was an unsurpassed sacred place. Every single Spell Caster who came from Arcane City was a fearsome genius Wizard.

Even Wizard Hugo had joined the competition of the Galaxy Grand Alliance because of his wholehearted desire to enter Arcane City.

Merlin nodded. "That's right, we came from Arcane City to the Bloodshed Universe to gain experience."

"It's really Arcane City! Haha, to think that we'll meet the genius Wizards of Arcane City in the Bloodshed Universe. In the past, there were merely rumors that one would encounter the genius Wizards of Arcane City in the Bloodshed Universe if one was lucky. I didn't think we'll actually encounter them..."

"The prodigious Wizards of Arcane City are impressive indeed, able to wipe out this group of Dora Demons so casually. Even the Greater Demon was killed. Unlike some Wizards, who wish so badly to join Arcane City, thinking that they're some genius, when in fact, they aren't even worth mentioning in comparison with the genius Spell Casters of Arcane City."

These Wizards were, of course, talking about Hugo, and Wizard Hugo's face turned gloomy. He clenched his fist tightly and said nothing. Instead, he flew off, leaving all of a sudden.

"That's right – back when you were all trapped by these Dora Demons, why didn't you leave the Bloodshed Universe?"

Merlin asked, puzzled. Before he came to the Bloodshed Universe, he was informed that if he was in danger and overpowered by his enemies, all he had to do was to wish for it, and he would

immediately leave the Bloodshed Universe and return to Arcane City. There was no need for him to stay on for a full ten days.

“How can we leave so conveniently? Accessing the passage to the Bloodshed Universe alone took up a great amount of energy of the Great Legends in the Grand Alliance. How can they bring us away so easily? Perhaps only the Ultimate Arcane Wizards of the myths are able to pull off such techniques.”

These Wizards looked admiringly at Merlin. Arcane City was different indeed. Even if one encountered danger, one could leave at any time.

Merlin gradually understood as well. This was a protective measure for the Spell Casters of Arcane City. After all, the Potential Wizards of Arcane City could be considered the future of the Spell Caster civilization among the countless dimensions.

Therefore, every single Potential Wizard was very valuable. They would not let a Potential Wizard die in the Bloodshed Universe so easily.

“O’ Wizards, I wonder if we can follow you both up until the ten days are up before leaving this place? We’ve thought about it carefully, and realized the Bloodshed Universe is far too dangerous, not something we can handle at all. We don’t hope to gain anything else from this competition, only to leave the Bloodshed Universe in one piece.”

The ten or so young Wizards shot hopeful looks at Merlin.

Merlin furrowed his brows and looked toward Wizard Midnight, who said calmly, “We’ve already been in the Bloodshed Universe for three days, and will return to Arcane City in seven days.”

“That’s alright, you can return after the seven days. We’ll tough it out for the remaining three days, and should be able to hold on that long.”

After coming to the Bloodshed Universe and encountering the Dora Demon Tribe, these Spell Casters had completely given up on the competition, only wishing to return to the Galaxy Grand Alliance. Following behind two Arcane City Wizards like Merlin and Midnight would provide them with utmost security.

“In that case, all of you can tag along.”

Wizard Midnight nodded, following which he, along with Merlin, led the ten or so young Wizards to continue their wanderings in the vast Bloodshed Universe.

Chapter 537: A Shift in Mindset

“Crackle.”

The thunderbolt and flames in Merlin’s hands combined in an instant. However, when he tried fusing the Wind-type spell, his spell fusion became unstable immediately, on the verge of collapse.

Merlin shook his head helplessly. It looked like he was still unable to find the critical point, and thus unable to fuse three spells for a long while now. If he was able to do so, the might of his spell fusion would rapidly flourish. At that point, even those peak Ninth-level Spell Casters who had fused two Spell Models would be no match for Merlin.

It was just that fusing three types of spells was too challenging. Merlin had even decisively used the Wind-type spell as the third spell to be fused. Wind-type spells would not clash with Fire-type and Thunder-type spells. Even so, it was of utmost difficulty to merge a Wind-type spell with the existing spell fusion.

If this was the case for Wind-type spells, Merlin could forget about the other types of spells, which would be even harder to fuse.

“Wizard Merlin, could it be that in Arcane City, there are many like you who fuse spells?”

On their journey, the ten or so young Wizards seemed curious about Merlin and Wizard Midnight but the latter wore such a cold expression that they dared not ask him anything. Conversely, Merlin who also appeared aloof would still answer their questions. Therefore, once they had any inquiries, they would put it to Merlin.

Merlin shook his head. “There aren’t many.”

Merlin was telling the truth. Spell fusion was difficult. How could it be possibly achieved by everyone? Even if it was in Arcane City, those who could fuse spells were rare indeed.

These Spell Casters admired Merlin's spell fusion very much. Naturally, they heard that one could still fuse spells even without becoming a Ninth-level Spell Caster. Moreover, one's strength would become formidable after spell fusion.

It was just that none of them had seen any Spell Caster below the Ninth-level who could fuse spells. Now, they had finally met a Wizard like Merlin who was able to fuse spells as a Fifth-level Spell Caster. Naturally, they were excited, and their gazes revealed their rapt admiration.

At last, the Spell Caster at the lead could not help but ask Merlin, "Wizard Merlin, is there a trick to spell fusion?"

"Trick? What, you wish to learn it?"

Merlin replied with a question, laughing. In fact, there was no big secret to spell fusion but its difficulty lay in putting it into practice. Even if one had grasped its theoretical basis, it did not matter.

Merlin, for instance, knew very well that he would have to find the critical point in order to fuse the spells successfully. However, he had tried with his Wind-type spell for a very long time yet was still incapable of doing so. This was because he was unable to find the critical point.

The most important aspect of spell fusion was to practice it. It must be fate that had brought these Spell Casters to Merlin, and he did not mind sharing some knowledge with them. After all, spell fusion was not some great secret.

If it was something else like Occult Mind Spells, Merlin naturally would not pass it on. That was secretive to its core, and even if he wanted to teach it to others, he must obtain Wizard Ossais' permission.

"Is Wizard Merlin really willing to teach us the trick to spell fusion?"

In that instant, these Spell Casters were bubbling with excitement. This was spell fusion – how precious was that? Merlin was willing to teach them just like that?

Merlin smiled and said freely, "It's nothing more than a few tips. If you're able to fuse spells because of that, then it's just your luck. Furthermore, these aren't great secrets, and in fact, many Spell Casters know of them."

As soon as they heard that Merlin was going to explain the trick to spell fusion, all at once the ten or so Spell Casters focused their attention onto Merlin. They made not one sound, silently, and attentively listening to Merlin's explanation.

Merlin was not stingy with his knowledge in the slightest, narrating in detail all the methods he had picked up during spell fusion. He would even expound in greater detail when some of the Spell Casters asked questions.

As for Wizard Midnight, he said not a word, sitting quietly at a distance as he watched Merlin teach them the trick to spell fusion. Of course, Wizard Midnight was familiar with these tips for spell fusion, and had attempted it before. Nonetheless, it was far too challenging with a great degree of risk, so he had given it up.

Now, he was already a lofty Ninth-level Spell Caster at the peak, already starting to fuse Spell Models. There was no need for him to fuse spells.

Still, as he watched Merlin explain so generously, he could not help himself from nodding along wordlessly.

Soon enough, more than half of the day had gone by but daylight did not fade. The Bloodshed Universe was different from ordinary dimensions. In here, there was no day or night. The Ultimate Arcane Wizards, in order to punish the Dora Demon Tribe, had placed the Bloodshed Universe in eternal daylight.

"Phew..."

Merlin had finally finished his explanation. He saw that the ten or so young Wizards were in deep thoughts, and some were even making an honest attempt at spell fusion, searching for the critical point that Merlin had mentioned.

Nevertheless, Merlin had warned them that they must be careful. After all, their Spell Models were not that stable, and they did not possess the excellent physical attributes which Merlin had back then. If the spells exploded, their lives might be in danger.

"Wizard Merlin!"

Wizard Midnight, upon seeing that Merlin was finished, called out with a smile.

“Wizard Midnight.”

Merlin flew directly to Midnight’s side, asking with concern, “Wizard Midnight, what’s the matter?”

Wizard Midnight smiled and eyed the ten or so young Wizards behind Merlin, then said serenely, “Wizard Merlin, you’re generous indeed to pass on your own experiences to them. Although everyone knows the general facts of spell fusion, what you’ve explained belongs to your own understanding, to your individual experience of success. Even I have benefitted greatly from listening to you. Ah, I’m afraid they don’t know what a precious opportunity this was!”

Merlin wore a calm expression. He knew that what Wizard Midnight said was true. It might be that the general facts of spell fusion were known to all, especially to some Great Legends and Great Wizards. After all, they had slowly leveled up from Ninth-level Spell Casters. Fusing Spell Models and fusing spells, in fact, differed only in a few aspects and shared many similarities.

However, what Merlin had just told them was his personal understanding and experience which had led to success. This could be called something precious indeed.

“Wizard Midnight, fate had brought these Wizards to us in the Bloodshed Universe. All that I’ve said was nothing more than what I’ve learned and understood. If they were able to benefit from that, of course, that’s a good thing. The might of the Spell Caster civilization would be strengthened by just that much. In addition, this isn’t anything to hide. In fact, I hope that my experiences and insights would spread throughout the myriad of dimensions through their words.”

Merlin was rather carefree about this. The trick to spell fusion was not a secret. The theory was merely the introductory step to help them ascertain the right direction. What was truly important was practice, to search for the critical point within a Spell Caster’s own spells.

If he was able to spread his knowledge, resulting in an occasional Wizard or two succeeding in spell fusion and augmenting their abilities, Merlin would be glad. This was something meaningful to the entire Spell Caster civilization.

In truth, before he had arrived in Arcane City or even before he had come into contact with the Rock Tribe in the Seely Dimension, Merlin would not have such a mindset. Previously, he had been

like most Spell Casters, being relatively “selfish”. Naturally, he would keep the good stuff and good tips to himself instead of sharing them so freely.

However, in the Seely Dimension, he had witnessed how the Seely people did not hold their own fates in their hands. The Seely people could only seek survival between the gap of the Rock Tribe and the Spell Caster civilization. If the Spell Caster civilization and the Rock Tribe waged an open war one day, as long as contenders at the level of Great Honored Legends were sent forth, the entire Seely Dimension would be wiped out easily.

In the vast boundless Void Zone, there were countless tribes and civilizations. The Spell Caster civilization, under the leadership of the three Ultimate Arcane Wizards and many powerful Honored Legends, had occupied tens of thousands of dimensions and was considered to be a comparatively powerful civilization.

However, it was merely a comparatively powerful civilization and was far from being at the top. At the very least, the Spell Caster civilization was now unable to deal with the Rock Tribe.

In the Void Zone, the Spell Caster civilization was occasionally in unfavorable situations. Every day, there were battles with foreign tribes, and every day, countless Spell Casters would die.

From this, Merlin had discerned a source of “urgency”, having come from the Kingdom of Blackmoon to the Void Zone. Before this, the widespread Spell Caster civilization was his most solid foundation. He had thought that in the entire world, Spell Casters were supreme, able to exile even the powerful natural gods.

Nonetheless, after gaining a true understanding of the situation of the Spell Caster civilization, some changes had occurred in Merlin’s heart.

Therefore, if this was Merlin of the past, he would not tell these Spell Casters so many things. He might even choose to act like Hugo when he first saw them caught in danger, indifferent and unmoved, only concerned with self-preservation. However, the higher he stood, the further he could see, and subtle transformations had taken place in his heart, shifting Merlin’s mentality and behavior in certain ways.

This act of teaching the trick of spell fusion, done in passing, might be seeds of a sort. Perhaps these seeds would take root and sprout in these Spell Casters, and it would not threaten Merlin anyway. Presently, Merlin would not mind doing more of such deeds.

After a long moment, Wizard Midnight drew in a deep breath and spoke leisurely, “It looks like Wizard Merlin has understood the general situation of the entire Spell Caster civilization. Back when I was weak, I thought that standing at the top of a kingdom was the most powerful I can be. Thereafter, I discovered that there was a vast continent beyond the kingdom, and beyond the continent were the endless dimensions. At last, I came to Arcane City and went through a few battles with foreign tribes. Only then did I learn, on a profound level, how much the Spell Caster civilization is struggling.

“Generally, among the entire Spell Caster civilization, only a few Great Wizards and Great Legends, and people like us from Arcane City, would know of these circumstances. This is due to our privileged positions. The stability in the depths of the Spell Caster civilization is built upon the bedrock of battles between countless Great Wizards and Great Legends against foreign tribes.

“In truth, I’ve already fused four types of spells. The final type left is Darkness-type. I came to the Bloodshed Universe in order to understand the Essence of Darkness through the act of slaughtering. Once I succeed and achieve Five-Elemental spell fusion, I’ll instantly become one of the top Great Wizards. At that point, I’ll choose to leave Arcane City to the very edges of the Spell Caster civilization. I’ll choose a place where we’re fighting foreign tribes. There, I’ll complete the process of condensing a Maxim or become one of the millions of Wizards who die in battle...”

Wizard Midnight’s voice hinted at the adversities of his past. Merlin could dimly sense that Wizard Midnight must surely have a history which he was unwilling to speak about...

“Rumble rumble.”

Suddenly, the sky erupted in bursts of deafening thunderclaps. Beams of lightning, each as thick as an arm, streaked across the sky. The Thunder Element in the air seemed to be agitated, appearing to be unusually active.

“What a great commotion. Someone is casting a powerful spell up ahead. Shall we go and see what’s happening?”

Wizard Midnight’s expression steadied as he stood up promptly.

Merlin roused the ten or so Spell Casters. Together with Wizard Midnight, they quickly flew toward the area with the most intense Elemental fluctuations.

Chapter 538: Royal Demon Blood

In the open space, the lush and verdant grass had been burned to ashes.

In the black smoke which pervaded the air, a young Spell Caster in a white robe was clashing with a Greater Demon, his body surrounded by fearsome lightning.

However, the white-robed Wizard was now clearly in a situation that did not bode well. He was at a disadvantage as the Greater Demon closed in step by step.

“It’s Lebeta. He’s a genius Wizard who has the greatest chance of coming in first in this competition of the Galaxy Grand Alliance!”

The ten or so Spell Casters beside Merlin recognized at a glance this young Wizard who was well versed in Thunder-type spells, his body surrounded by fearsome thunder and lightning. He was the foremost genius in the Galaxy Grand Alliance, and would very possibly be recommended by a Legendary Wizard to enter Arcane City directly in the future.

Although Lebeta was losing ground, he would not have any trouble handling most Ninth-level Spell Casters, and he was only a Seventh-level Spell Caster. He was merely inferior to Vic by a shade and was truly qualified to enter Arcane City.

Nevertheless, when faced with a Greater Demon, one which was even stronger than the Greater Demon Merlin had previously encountered, Lebeta was evidently unable to hold on much longer and was at risk.

“Wizard Merlin, Wizard Midnight, please save Wizard Lebeta. Although he’s constantly the center of attention in the Galaxy Grand Alliance, and known to be the foremost prodigy there, he isn’t arrogant, completely unlike Hugo. His teacher is even a Great Legend but he didn’t ask his teacher to recommend him to enter Arcane City. Instead, he joined this competition in hopes of getting first place in an honorable and honest manner, entering Arcane City in that way.”

One could see that this Lebeta was highly influential in the Galaxy Grand Alliance. Even these Spell Casters who were not that well acquainted with Lebeta was asking Merlin and Midnight to rescue him.

Merlin looked at that Greater Demon, and was about to strike when Wizard Midnight stopped him. Wizard Midnight looked at his surroundings, then said in a low voice, “Something’s not right. There

are oddities all around us. Let me attack and settle this Greater Demon as fast as possible, following which we'll leave this place immediately."

Wizard Midnight stretched out his hand and traces of Elemental fluctuations began to appear over his body.

"Whoosh..."

A blanket of crimson light descended suddenly, immediately trapping Merlin and the rest.

"Haha, what a big fish I've caught. So many Spell Casters – I'll have myself a good meal this time."

After the voice appeared, it was followed by a creature with a frail frame, only its body was blood red all over, and there was a faint golden horn in its forehead, which was especially eye-catching.

"It's a Grand Demon!"

Wizard Midnight's voice lowered as his body immediately tensed in vigilance. Upon hearing the words "Grand Demon", Merlin was slightly shocked as well. Naturally, he knew what this meant.

The Grand Demons of the Dora Demon Tribe were beings comparable to Great Wizards.

"Merlin, this is a Grand Demon. It'd be fine if this was just an average Grand Demon, but look at how he's blood red all over, and his single horn is very long. He's different from other Grand Demons. If my guess isn't wrong, this is a Grand Demon with Royal Demon blood, comparable to some powerful Great Wizards."

"Royal Demon blood!"

Ever since Merlin had come to the Bloodshed Universe, he had been listening to Wizard Midnight explaining some general knowledge of the Bloodshed Universe. The Dora Demons themselves had comparatively powerful abilities, and the Royal Demons were the strongest among them.

The Royal Demons were equivalent to the Spell Casters' Honored Legends and could be considered very formidable. At the height of the Dora Demon Tribe, they had nine Royal Demons. Any Dora

Demon who had Royal Demon blood would hold a high position, and their natural abilities were powerful. In the Dora Demon Tribe, the purer the Royal Demon blood, the greater their strength and potential.

It was just that after the Dora Demon Tribe betrayed the Spell Caster civilization, the Ultimate Arcane Wizard, in a fit of rage, struck out to vanquish the nine Royal Demons of the Dora Demon Tribe before finally imprisoning all of the Dora Demon Tribe in the Bloodshed Universe.

The Bloodshed Universe was in fact just a gigantic dimension cage, confining a powerful tribe. The hatred between the Dora Demon Tribe and the Spell Caster civilization became deeper and deeper, unable to be resolved.

Now, they had bumped into a Grand Demon with Royal Demon blood. This was rather troublesome. Merlin was even preparing to use the God-Binding Disc. If that was still not enough, he could only rouse the black cat Didimoss.

The black cat Didimoss had currently transformed into a living state, and in fact, had always been on Merlin's shoulder. However, he had used some unknown method so that besides Merlin, he was seen by no one.

The black cat Didimoss sprawled across Merlin's shoulder and narrowed his eyes in an expression of languor as if completely unconcerned about what was happening in the world outside.

"Merlin, I'll handle this Grand Demon. You go on ahead and kill that Greater Demon."

Wizard Midnight drew in a deep breath as he gazed at the Grand Demon, and in fact, wore a look of excitement.

Merlin frowned and said, "Wizard Midnight, can you hold him off?"

It was not that Merlin was doubtful of Wizard Midnight's abilities but a Grand Demon with Royal Demon blood was very terrifying, far beyond the abilities of most Great Wizards.

Wizard Midnight smiled in response. "I've already fused four types of spells, and most Great Wizards are no match for me. Now that I'm faced with a Grand Demon with Royal Demon blood, there's certainly a degree of pressure. However, with my current state, this intense pressure is just what I need. I've been in the Bloodshed Universe for so long, and my comprehension is basically

sufficient. Now, I require some pressure to completely fuse the Darkness-type spell. With five types combined into one, I'll become a Great Wizard at the peak at last!"

After a pause, Wizard Midnight continued saying, "In addition, even if I don't succeed, I can exit the Bloodshed Universe at any time. Don't forget that we're Potential Wizards of Arcane City. As long as we wish to leave, there's nothing in the Bloodshed Universe which could kill us... However, if I really choose to leave, you'd better leave quickly too. You won't be able to save them just by yourself..."

Merlin nodded. It was true that he and Wizard Midnight could leave at anytime but Lebeta and the rest had no choice but to face the frightening Grand Demon. If so, there was only one ending for them.

Still, if it came to that, Merlin had decided that he would save these Wizards even if he had to wake Didimoss up. Nonetheless, it was not at that point yet.

"Haha, a Grand Demon with Royal Demon blood – it's my first-time meeting one! Nevertheless, your Dora Demon Tribe is pitiful indeed. Forget about those who merely have Royal Demon blood, even your nine Royal Demons are dead. In the Bloodshed Universe, you're nothing more than slaves reared in a pen..."

Wizard Midnight laughed uproariously as he spoke. In an instant, the Grand Demon who had been calm immediately changed his tune. His murderous intent overflowed and filled the air like a vicious storm. Even though Merlin was a good distance away, he felt a faint sense of suffocation.

Seeing that Wizard Midnight had gone to stop the Grand Demon, Merlin glanced at Lebeta, and noticed that he was gradually unable to hold on any longer. Therefore, without further delay, he cast his Wind-type spell and promptly rushed at the Greater Demon.

"Nine Hit Strike!"

Merlin immediately wielded the invisible and shapeless Occult Mind Spell. Wave after wave of Mind Power attacks finally halted the Greater Demon.

The Greater Demon turned around and fixed his blood red eyes upon Merlin, laughing coldly. "Another one with a death wish. That's good, I'll eat your first, then eat all of the rest. Hehe!"

A sinister force was exuding from the Greater Demon, and Darkness Eye in Merlin's palm also became excited. Merlin was thinking to himself that after killing this Greater Demon and absorbing his negative energy, Darkness Eye might really undergo a significant boost.

Thus, in the midst of his flight, Merlin promptly fused the wisps of flame and thunderbolt flickering in his hands, before flinging it viciously at the Greater Demon.

“Go!”

The spell fused from flames and thunder quickly sped towards the Greater Demon.

“Boom!”

The spell exploded and the fearsome shockwaves immediately sent the Greater Demon flying backward, before he crashed heavily onto the ground.

“D*mn you, wretched Spell Caster. I'll swallow you alive!”

The Greater Demon unleashed a great roar as his body enlarged rapidly. The stench of blood around his body grew thicker, and Merlin immediately perceived a sense of intense threat.

“Berserk?”

Merlin's heart trembled. This Greater Demon, after becoming Berserk, was even more terrifying than the Greater Demon he had killed previously. No matter in terms of strength, defense or speed, he was much more powerful.

“Bang bang bang.”

The Greater Demon was able to forcibly withstand Merlin's spell fusion. Each time the spell exploded, it was able to halt the forward momentum of the Greater Demon but that was all it could do. It was incapable of nullifying the Berserk state of the Greater Demon. Once this Greater Demon had come before Merlin, he would be in an extremely dangerous situation.

“Hahahaha, see how this tastes. This is the first time I'll unleash my spell fusion at full force – go!”

In the distance, Wizard Midnight suddenly broke out into laughter as wisps of intense Wind Element, Fire Element, Ice Element, and Earth Element emerged around his body.

The flames grew fiercer, yet the Ice Element and Fire Element were coexisting in harmony. Following that, under the snarling of the Wind Element, the flames raged more and more, and its forces became increasingly fearsome.

Wizard Midnight had perfectly fused Wind-type spell, Fire-type spell, Earth-type spell, and Ice-type spell. Now, he was only missing Darkness-type spell to completely combine everything, leveling up to become a top-notch Great Wizard.

In comparison to the pandemonium caused by Wizard Midnight and the Grand Demon, Merlin's current battle could not be considered much of a disturbance. However, faced with the Greater Demon, Merlin was forced back step by step. Merlin even considered utilizing the God-Binding Disc. Otherwise, he had no way of dealing with this terrible Greater Demon.

However, the fusion spell that Wizard Midnight had displayed earlier had helped resolve a problem which had been lingering in Merlin's mind for a long time. Sometimes, epiphanies were just that simple.

"Wind reinforces fire... So, the critical point that I've searched for so painstakingly is something so simple!"

Everything suddenly became clear to Merlin. Locating the critical point meant locating a point of similarity. The common point between thunder and flames were obvious enough. As for the common point between wind and flames, it was more obscure. Wind could support fire – that was the critical point.

"It looks like I won't have to use the God-Binding Disc..."

A smile tugged at the corner of Merlin's mouth as he stared at the approaching Greater Demon. His body was gradually surrounded by fluctuations of Wind Element, Fire Element, and Thunder Element.

All at once, three different types of Elements surrounded Merlin, adding a mystical force to him.

Chapter 539: A Preeminent Great Wizard

“Go!”

Merlin pushed with both hands. The wind howled, and anyone could clearly see that the flames and thunder were in the storm, gradually fusing together.

The three types of spells were finally fused into one!

“Boom!”

The colossal shockwaves immediately sent the Greater Demon flying but this time, he had no way of standing up again. His entire body was fragmented in the blast, and torrents of blood flowed out, and the soil on the ground was stained a deep red.

Merlin appeared abnormally calm. He shut his eyes lightly, still carefully recollecting how it had felt when he had fused three spells earlier. He wanted to hold on to this feeling. It was key to fusing three types of spells.

The fusion of three spells instantly boosted the might of spell fusion. Initially, spell fusion could only handle an average Ninth-level Spell Caster who was slightly stronger. However, with three spells, it was directly able to threaten those Spell Casters who had fused two Spell Models.

Merlin’s palm absorbed a cold force once again. He opened his eyes, and discovered that the Greater Demon on the ground no longer had a life force. It was merely one blow from the fusion of three spells, yet it was already able to kill this powerful Greater Demon.

The current Merlin, without having to utilize the God-Binding Disc, was completely on par with those Ninth-level Spell Casters at their peak who had fused two Spell Models.

“Bang.”

Just then, a resounding thud sounded. At the same time, a figure crashed into the ground in a straight trajectory, not far from Merlin. It was Wizard Midnight.

Wizard Midnight presently appeared to be in a mess. The robe he was wearing had been torn to tatters. He had just been knocked to the ground by a blow from the Grand Demon but based on his appearance, it was just a physical impact. The spell surrounding his body still had not vanished, meaning that he was not injured.

“Wizard Midnight, how are you doing?”

Merlin asked hurriedly. After all, the disparity between Wizard Midnight and that Grand Demon was too vast. Wizard Midnight might not be afraid of most Great Wizards, for he was a genius of Arcane City, and fighting above his level was something he was used to.

However, the Grand Demon before them was not an average Grand Demon, but one bolstered by Royal Demon blood, whose power could be compared to those Spell Casters at the peak of Great Wizard. The fact that Wizard Midnight was able to hold on until now without being critically injured was already rather impressive.

Still, if he went on like this, Wizard Midnight would no longer be so fortunate.

“Haha, good strike, good strike!”

Wizard Midnight leaped up. If Merlin had not perceived that Wizard Midnight’s current Mind Power was extremely lively, meaning that he was not hurt at all, Merlin might have thought that something had gone wrong with Wizard Midnight.

“Whoosh.”

Wizard Midnight rushed toward the Grand Demon once more, and the Darkness Element of his body became increasingly intense, seeming to contain faint traces of other spell fusions.

“Could Wizard Midnight be preparing to exploit the enormous pressure exerted by the Grand Demon in battle to forcibly fuse the Spell Models?”

This thought occurred to Merlin. This was a very risky method. Once there was any slight loss of control, the Spell Model would collapse, bringing down the other Spell Models as well. If that happened, the Grand Demon would not even need to attack for Wizard Midnight to instantly die from the backlash of the spells.

“What insanity...”

It was the first time Merlin witnessed Wizard Midnight’s insanity. A prodigious Wizard like Wizard Midnight could have peacefully and steadily stayed on in Arcane City for more than a hundred years. By then, no matter how difficult it was to fuse the spells, with Wizard Midnight’s talents, he would be able to slowly achieve this over a long period.

He did not have to take such risks to forcibly fuse the spells as he was doing now. Nonetheless, this was Wizard Midnight – as long as there was a sliver of hope, he would advance boldly, no matter how dangerous it was.

Perhaps this was the reason why Wizard Midnight was able to come from a tiny kingdom and advance as the foremost genius of the kingdom, then the continent, then the dimension, finally arriving at Arcane City.

With capabilities like Wizard Midnight’s, there would be a place for him even in Arcane City.

Merlin witnessed a dedication that was hard to put into words!

“Bang!”

In the end, when Wizard Midnight had been battered to the ground by the Grand Demon many times over. Merlin could feel that Wizard Midnight’s force was slightly weaker. The Grand Demon’s immense strength was not something he could withstand.

If this went on, Wizard Midnight would really die!

“Despicable Spell Caster, it looks like you’re quite stubborn. However, no matter how stubborn you are, it’s useless. This is your final chance!”

The Grand Demon appeared to be rather enraged. The numerous reckless attacks from Wizard Midnight did not cause the Grand Demon any injury but they still caused a certain amount of trouble for him.

Therefore, the Grand Demon had lost his patience, and a trace of the Berserk force began to emerge around him.

“Hum hum hum.”

When a Grand Demon with Royal Demon blood became Berserk, his force would be augmented to a terrifying extreme. The air itself was suppressed, and even Merlin could not help but take a few steps back.

The force itself was already so fearsome. Wizard Midnight would surely be unable to withstand it this time!

“Wizard Midnight, hurry back to Arcane City. I have a way of dealing with this Grand Demon!”

Merlin’s entire body was silently on guard. The Berserk force of the Grand Demon before him had caused Merlin to lose faith in the God-Binding Disc. He was ready at any moment to awaken the black cat Didimoss.

Wizard Midnight slowly stood up. At this moment, his face was unusually cold and detached. Wisps of Darkness Element surrounded his body, blanketing his entire person.

“The final step is finally completed!”

Wizard Midnight’s voice sounded very calm but the words were like a clap of thunder in Merlin’s ears, causing him endless astonishment.

“Completed? All the Spell Models have been fused into one?”

Merlin was somewhat incredulous. Even though he admired Wizard Midnight’s dedication, having dedication was one thing. Whether one would accomplish one’s goal due to that dedication was another thing.

He found it hard to believe that Wizard Midnight was able to fuse all his Spell Models into one under such challenging circumstances.

“Fuse!”

After Wizard Midnight gave a low cry, the dense apparitions of Spell Models appeared over his head. As a Five-Elemental Spell Caster, Wizard Midnight possessed up to fifty spells from Zero-level spells to Ninth-level spells. Anyone could see how difficult it was to fuse such a great number of Spell Models.

The more Spell Models there were, the harder it was to fuse everything thoroughly. If Merlin was to fuse Spell Models in the future, he would have sixty Spell Models in total. That could be said to be even more frightening, and the degree of difficulty in becoming a Great Wizard was difficult to imagine.

Although one could see that the densely packed Spell Models above Wizard Midnight’s head consisted of fifty Spell Model apparitions, in fact, Wizard Midnight was only left with the ten Spell Models of Darkness-type spells. The other types of Spell Models had been fused together long ago, and now transformed into a white ball of light.

“Boom!”

As soon as Wizard Midnight spoke, the ten Darkness-type Spell Models were inserted into the white ball of light. These final ten Spell Models were fused into the rest, and the white light shone with blinding rays.

At the same time, Wizard Midnight’s force expanded more and more, rising constantly until it broke through a bottleneck. As a Five-Elemental Spell Caster, Wizard Midnight would certainly rise among the preeminent Great Wizards in one move as soon as he became a Great Wizard.

Now, his force kept growing incessantly, rapidly reaching a point that Merlin had never seen before.

“He has really succeeded!”

Merlin’s gaze trembled. The force on Wizard Midnight’s body had finally stopped growing but Merlin was able to feel a force from Wizard Midnight that was different from any other Great Wizards.

To be accurate, Merlin had never felt such a powerful force from a Great Wizard. In the past, Merlin had met many Great Wizards before but none who was as fearsome as the force coming from Wizard Midnight.

It was rather rare for a Five-Elemental Spell Caster to become a Great Wizard. Most dimensions would seldom witness such a Spell Caster. Only Arcane City would see this happening but it was still very rare.

Merlin was able to personally witness a Five-Elemental Spell Caster fusing all his Spell Models to become a Great Wizard. This was of great benefit to him. At the very least, when he fused spells in the future, he would have a point of reference.

“Great Wizard?”

The Grand Demon, who had always been calm, was now undergoing a change in his manner. He even awakened from his Berserk state for he knew very well how powerful a Great Wizard was.

“That’s right. Now that I’ve become a Great Wizard, you shall be my first blood sacrifice!”

Wizard Midnight’s tone was icy, revealing a limitless murderous intent as if he was filled with detest toward foreign tribes.

“Buzz.”

A ball of light gradually formed in Wizard Midnight’s hand. This light emitted brilliant rays, and one could faintly sense the Wind Element, Fire Element, Ice Element, Earth Element, and Darkness Element within. This was five spells fused into one, a spell unique to Great Wizards, and it appeared strangely beautiful.

However, the more beautiful something was, the more dangerous it was.

“Go!”

After Wizard Midnight pointed with a finger, the ball of light promptly sped toward the Grand Demon. Throughout its flight, the light swelled and expanded rapidly, becoming incomparably

gigantic in a flash. Everything within the range of a few hundred meters was engulfed, including the Grand Demon who became Berserk once more.

“Hiss hiss hiss.”

With the light swallowing everything, there was no earth-shattering explosion, only bursts of soft hissing noise. Nonetheless, the Grand Demon who was trapped in the light seemed to be experiencing a tremendous amount of pain, and started to howl wildly.

When the Grand Demon was Berserk, his body grew incomparably hard all over, with astounding defensive capabilities. It was on par with Great Wizards at their peak. However, faced with Wizard Midnight who had just become a Great Wizard, there was nothing those defensive capabilities could do.

The Grand Demon’s hands were covered in flames, his legs covered and bound by heavy black earth. Moreover, his body was thoroughly frozen...

A Great Wizard’s spell comprised all the spells fused together. The might which was displayed was difficult to imagine. Wizard Midnight, who had reached the level of a Great Wizard with Five-Elemental spells, instantly became one of the most formidable Great Wizards. Even the Grand Demon who possessed Royal Demon blood was slowly reduced to ashes in the midst of pitiful wails.

“He’s dead?”

Merlin’s heart leaped. In his palm, Darkness Eye was so excited that it seemed about to break free from his palm. A colossal gush of cold force surged frantically into Darkness Eye.

Merlin instantly understood that this was the endless negative energy left behind after the Grand Demon died. It was all absorbed by Darkness Eye. Upon taking in such a large amount of negative energy all at once, Darkness Eye, which had been on the brink of evolving long ago, finally began to evolve.

Chapter 540: Options

The thick strands of Darkness Element above Merlin's head finally condensed into a gigantic apparition of a ghostly face. The current ghostly face was much more distinct, and it even wore an eerie smile on its lips.

The immense surge of negative emotions was like a flood which rushed into Merlin's mind turbulently, disturbing his emotions.

"Humph, suppress!"

Merlin had been expecting the fifth form of Darkness Eye would surely cause a backlash, so he was already prepared for it. His Mind Heart had broken through to the Eighth-level, so his Mind Power was tremendous, far beyond anything the average Ninth-level Spell Caster could compare to, even approaching the peak of the Ninth-level.

In general, the Mind Power of a Mind Power Master was very frightening. Relying on his massive Mind Power, Merlin suppressed the huge surge of negative emotions totally. The fifth form of Darkness Eye now had no effect on Merlin at all.

Although the fifth form of Darkness Eye did not influence Merlin much, to the Spell Casters beside him, as they stared at the ghostly face above his head, a sense of dread welled up from the depths of their hearts.

The first form of Darkness Eye was delude, followed by exterminate, dispel, and control.

In particular, the fourth form, control, was able to strip away a Spell Caster's link to the Elements, causing them to be incapable of even casting a spell. Thus, it was able to easily suppress Eighth-level Spell Casters at their peak.

Nevertheless, the fourth form of Darkness Eye had its limits, and it had no way of threatening Ninth-level Spell Caster.

Now, the fifth form of Darkness Eye could transform the illusory into reality. Its ability was the combination of the previous four forms. Once the fifth form was wielded, Merlin's opponents would involuntarily fall into an illusion, robbed of their control over the Elements.

Moreover, it could directly bind them or attack them!

In short, the fifth form of Darkness Eye was even more powerful, on par with Ninth-level Spell Casters at the peak. Merlin's Darkness Eye could even forcibly contend against those who had already fused three or even four types of spells.

As for a Five-Elemental spell fusion such as Wizard Midnight's, only a real-life battle could determine whether Darkness Eye would hold up. Darkness Eye had seven forms, and the subsequent sixth and seventh forms would be able to deal with Great Wizards and Great Legends. Cultivating the sixth form of Darkness Eye was not only exceedingly difficult but the force of its backlash was also rather scary. Merlin would not consider further cultivating Darkness Eye, at least for now.

Soon enough, Merlin withdrew Darkness Eye. He had already achieved his goal in coming to the Bloodshed Universe and had even gained something unexpected. His Mind Power had broken through to an Eighth-level Mind Heart, and his Mind Power had been merged with his instincts. When he returned to Arcane City, Merlin could attempt the Mind Tower once again.

"Haha, it looks like Wizard Merlin had profited rather handsomely as well."

Wizard Midnight chortled as he flew toward Merlin. At present, his face was filled with glee. It was extremely challenging to achieve Five-Elemental spell fusion. There were some Five-Elemental Spell Casters in Arcane City too, but the probability of fusing the spells successfully and becoming a top Great Wizard was quite low. Roughly, only thirty to forty percent of Five-Elemental Wizards had succeeded in the end.

Thirty to forty percent might seem very high but Arcane City was a place which gathered first-rate geniuses of the entire Spell Caster civilization. All those who had entered Arcane City were demonic geniuses, and even they only had a thirty to forty percent chance of success, to say nothing of the Spell Casters among the myriad of dimensions, whose chances would be much lower.

Conversely, Spell Casters with only three Elements would find it a little easier to become a Great Wizard. However, such Great Wizards did not have much potential. Even if they became a Great Wizard, they were the most ordinary Great Wizards with the weakest abilities. For instance, even if Wizard Midnight had been a Ninth-level Spell Caster, and even if he had only fused two or three types of spells, he would be able to handle these common Great Wizards.

In order to become a preeminent Great Wizard, one would need to construct enough spells. However, too many spells meant that becoming a Great Wizard in the future would be even

difficult. If one was supported by a comprehensive inheritance of resources, one would consider this factor even when one first started to construct Zero-level spells.

Merlin, for example, had not known back then how one would attain the level of a Great Wizard, and constructed spells at random, ending up as a Six-Elemental Spell Caster. He did not know if this was a blessing or a curse.

Even if his capabilities were increased, the level of difficulty for a Six-Elemental Spell Caster to become a Great Wizard was nearly inconceivable.

“Wizard Midnight, congratulations. You’ve achieved your wish in becoming a top Great Wizard!”

Merlin was sincerely happy for Wizard Midnight. Ever since he had arrived at the Bloodshed Universe and gotten to know Wizard Midnight, Wizard Midnight had assisted him plenty. Moreover, Wizard Midnight was, in fact, warm-hearted, though he might not have the looks for it. His demeanor was aloof but he was willing to help others.

“For the remaining few days, I won’t wander around anymore. I’ll just stay here, and slowly learn about the complexities of being a Great Wizard.”

Although Wizard Midnight said that it was for the sake of understanding the complexities of a Great Wizard, in truth, he was waiting for the full ten days to pass before he left, so that these ten or so young Wizards would not fall into peril. Thus, he would fulfill his previous promise.

Merlin nodded. His Mind Power had broken through by now, and Darkness Eye was cultivated to its fifth form. He no longer needed to slaughter in the Bloodshed Universe, so along with Midnight, he silently watched over the group of young Wizards.

The prodigious Wizard Lebeta expressed his thanks to Merlin and Wizard Midnight. With abilities like his, he was certain to make it to Arcane City in the future. Merlin was very courteous as well, and only after they exchanged a few words did Lebeta take his leave. After all, he still had to compete. He still had to fight for the number one spot.

...

Time hurried by, and soon enough, Merlin and Wizard Midnight had been in the Bloodshed Universe for ten days. During this period, the group of young Wizards had asked for Merlin’s

guidance on many matters. Merlin gave detailed explanations of everything and was almost like a teacher himself.

After all, Merlin had been in Arcane City for a while now. His experiences were something the young Wizards could not match up to. Their biggest reward in coming to the Bloodshed Universe this time had been to encounter Merlin.

“Wizard Merlin, if you have a chance in the future, you must come to the Galaxy Grand Alliance...”

These Spell Casters seemed reluctant to part ways. Merlin bobbed his head. “If fates allowed, we’ll surely meet again.”

“Zap.”

As soon as Merlin spoke, a white beam of light immediately enfolded Merlin and Wizard Midnight. They had disappeared in a flash and were back in Arcane City.

“Ten days have passed...”

When they had returned to Arcane City, the Great Legend who watched over the Bloodshed Universe cast a surprised look at Wizard Midnight. Naturally, he was able to see that Wizard Midnight had successfully fused all his spells and become a preeminent Great Wizard.

“Congratulations. You’re the six thousand, three hundred and fifty-sixth Wizard in Arcane City to have fused your spells in the Bloodshed Universe, and successfully become a top Great Wizard.”

The Great Legend’s words amazed Merlin and Wizard Midnight. They did not expect that in Arcane City, there were so many who had successfully become a Great Wizard in the Bloodshed Universe as well.

“Wizard Midnight, now that you’re a Great Wizard, what are your plans now?”

Merlin fell into silent contemplation for a moment, then asked Wizard Midnight.

“My plans? According to the rules of Arcane City, I have a few options after becoming a Great Wizard. One is to choose to stay in Arcane City though it would be difficult to earn more Adventure points. In addition, staying here is not going to help in consolidating a Maxim. The second option is this – I can be appointed outside, sent by Arcane City to some special dimensions to assist the Great Legends in management. Once the time is up, I’ll be able to return to Arcane City and obtain many Adventure points.

“The third option would be to voluntarily head to the frontlines of our battles against foreign tribes. This way, each member of the foreign tribe I kill would earn me a great sum of Adventure points, and I’ll be able to return to Arcane City at any time. I’ve made my decision long ago – I’ll voluntarily apply to go to a dimension where the frontlines are.”

Arcane City had provided three options, each with its own pros and cons. Still, after hearing that Wizard Midnight was going to willingly apply to the frontlines, Merlin furrowed his brows and said softly, “Wizard Midnight, although fighting against foreign tribes will garner you great sums of Adventure points, it’s very dangerous. The deaths of preeminent Great Wizards are common. Why don’t you choose the second option? In a hundred years’ time, once you’ve assisted a Great Legend in managing a dimension, you’ll obtain plenty of Adventure points as well.”

The third option was far too risky, and one could die at any time. Furthermore, if the conflict spread, not even Great Legends would be able to guarantee one’s security.

Wizard Midnight shook his head lightly, his eyes filled with a determined glint. He said gruffly, “I’ve made up my mind about this long ago. Once I’ve become a Great Wizard, I’ll head to the frontlines! In addition, only in a state of constant battle will I be able to locate the Essence of Elements and gradually condense a Maxim to become a Great Legend. That’s enough. This is my choice and I’ve made up my mind. Wizard Merlin, I know you’re a Six-Elemental Spell Caster with boundless potential, but fusing Spell Models is far too difficult. It’s not something you should rush.

“If you ever come to the Dark Blue Dimension in the future, this rune would immediately react. If I’m not dead by then, I’ll immediately sense you, and will come to meet you.”

Wizard Midnight waved a hand, and a rune immediately imprinted itself onto Merlin’s arm before fading without a trace. It was a type of Reactive Rune. As long as they were in the same dimension, it would react.

“The Dark Blue Dimension. I’ve memorized it!”

Merlin drew in a deep breath, knowing that Wizard Midnight's mind was made up and would not be easily swayed. He could only wordlessly keep the Dark Blue Dimension in mind. It was a dimension at the foremost frontlines where the battle against the foreign tribe was most violent. Spell Casters died there at every moment.

“Very well, I'll leave Arcane City soon enough. You don't have to send me off, haha...”

Wizard Midnight was frank and turned to leave after he said what he had to say. He quickly disappeared from Merlin's vision.

Merlin let out a long sigh. He knew that Wizard Midnight's determination to battle against the foreign tribe at the frontlines must be due to some secret of his past or something to do with the foreign tribe.

“Everyone has their options...”

Merlin silently wished Wizard Midnight well in his heart, following which he turned to leave too. This time, he was ready to attempt the Mind Tower once more.