

W. Secret 671

Chapter 671: Alchemy Puppet Kallius!

In the distant sky, surrounded by a storm so horrible that even space seemed to be distorted, a deity-like man leisurely treaded on air as he made his way toward them.

The Great Wizards who were initially planning to rely on their numerous numbers to put up a semblance of resistance, fell silent once they felt the suffocating power.

Just this aura alone made them feel that this battle was a lost cause. Kleis came to them brazenly with an unstoppable force!

“Kleis!”

Wizard Ian snarled loudly. A wild gale appeared in the sky and collided with the storm surrounding Kleis. Both forces met head-on, each frantically trying to smother the other.

“Good, everyone is here!”

The storm gradually dissipated, and Kleis remarked with a calm expression. Although he had come alone, the threat on the fifteen Great Wizards did not alleviate at all.

On the contrary, with Kleis standing before them right now, they seemed to realize that their previous assumptions had been incredibly naïve... Fortunately, they had Fog City’s alchemy puppet!

With this thought in mind, everyone shifted their gazes toward Wizard Ian from Fog City.

Wizard Ian smirked. “Kleis, back then, if not for the help of the Seven Major Spell Caster organizations in the northern Spell Caster world, would Ozmu have grown to what it is today? Your greed will be your downfall, as with Ozmu!”

Regardless of the harsh gazes from Wizard Ian and a dozen Great Wizards, Kleis' expression remained completely calm.

“Fire!”

With a cruel glint in his eyes, Kleis gently extended his hand. Instantly, the surrounding temperature soared, and violent flames began to burn.

The fire elements in their surrounding seemed to be completely controlled by Kleis. The terrifying flame spell was immediately upped to an unimaginable level.

This was the power of a preeminent Great Wizard!

“This is bad. A preeminent Great Wizard is too powerful, he's not someone we can stand against... Wizard Ian, act quickly, otherwise, it would be too late. The entire Fog City will be destroyed!”

Even though there were a total of fifteen Great Wizards, these fifteen Great Wizards had come to realize that they were utterly defenseless against Kleis. In fact, they were unable to counter even a random spell wielded by Kleis. Right now, they could only pin their hopes on the mysterious and powerful alchemy puppet that belonged to Fog City.

“Wake up now, Kallius!”

Wizard Ian took a deep breath, and swiftly entered a bunch of complex runes into the large square.

“Rumble rumble.”

Suddenly, the entire Fog City seemed to be quaking. On the large square, a huge crack appeared. Through the crack, an immensely huge, pitch-black alchemy puppet could be seen.

“Kallius? In the Molta language, it means ‘invincible’. Is this the final trump card of the Seven Major Spell Caster organizations in the northern Spell Caster world?”

Despite seeing this menacing alchemy puppet, Kleis still appeared unruffled, almost as if he had already expected it.

“That’s right. Do you think Ozmu truly knows the foundation of Seven Major Spell Caster world? Invincible Kallius, kill the enemy before you!”

Following Wizard Ian’s command, the gigantic alchemy puppet Kallius flew out of the crack vehemently, and stood in the air.

In the Molta language, Kallius indeed meant “invincible”. The fact that this alchemy puppet was bestowed such a name spoke volumes of its might back in the day.

“Boom.”

In reality, Kallius was truly powerful. Its punch released an unimaginable burst of strength. This violently oppressive force exerted such a strong pressure around Kleis, that the elemental fluctuations surrounding him were completely crushed.

Kleis was a Five-Elemental Spell Caster 1 who leveled up to become a Great Wizard, so he was at least the most preeminent Great Wizard. Since this alchemy puppet was able to crush a preeminent Great Wizard’s elemental fluctuations, it had demonstrated the extent of its might.

“Good, truly worthy of being the trump card of the Seven Major Spell Caster organization. Now it’s more interesting!”

Finally, a more serious look appeared on Kleis’ face. With a gentle wave of his hand, the flames instantaneously transformed into a large shield in the air.

“Crack.”

However, the spell that Kleis so painstakingly cast was smashed by the alchemy puppet with just a single punch. Moreover, its aftershocks were still whistling straight at Kleis.

“This alchemy puppet is truly impressive, even more powerful than the alchemy puppet Ozmu had obtained!”

Kleis retreated one step after another as he consecutively released several spells. Finally, he was able to withstand the alchemy puppet's punch. Nonetheless, this was merely the first punch.

Subsequently, the alchemy puppet Kallius turned incomparably ruthless. Its gigantic body was like a dark shadow that constantly shrouded Kleis. It had suppressed the area surrounding Kleis, exerting massive pressure on him.

Kleis could only resist desperately, completely at a disadvantage. However, the strange thing was that there was not a trace of worry on his face. Instead, he appeared to be quite relaxed.

"Kleis is suppressed? Haha, looks like the Seven Major Spell Caster organization will win hands down!"

"Bravo. Kleis is quite impressive too. He's unequivocally the most preeminent Great Wizard. If not for this alchemy puppet of Fog City, then the entire northern Spell Caster world might have been ruled by Ozmu."

Many of the Great Wizards could clearly see that Kleis was at a disadvantage. It seemed like a complete defeat was imminent. Perhaps, the alchemy puppet could even leverage on some opportunity to kill Kleis.

In that case, not only would it crush Ozmu but they might be able to occupy the southern Spell Caster world, turning a risky situation into an opportunity.

Nevertheless, only Wizard Ian remained uneasy.

"This seems too easy?"

Wizard Ian knew of Kleis' prowess as well as his reputation. Despite having confidence in Fog City's alchemy puppet, he did not think that it would proceed so smoothly.

"What am I missing?"

Wizard Ian stared unblinkingly at the battlefield. As a result of the face-off between the alchemy puppet and Kleis, Fog City's surroundings had almost been completely leveled.

"Bang."

There was another hard collision. This time, Kleis was sent flying by the alchemy puppet.

"Whoosh."

Suddenly, Kleis, who was sent flying, no longer rushed forward. On the contrary, a smirk appeared on the corner of his mouth as he slashed with his hand.

"Chi."

Space shattered. A gaping black hole appeared in the sky.

An epiphany flashed across Wizard Ian's mind. He was jolted awake as a look of shock appeared on his face. He finally realized what he was worried about.

"Spatial Demon Ability. Kleis' Spatial Demon Ability!"

A distance away, Kleis pointed two fingers with a cold expression. Immediately, an invisible force ripped through space and flew toward the alchemy puppet...

Chapter 672: Kleis' Spatial Demon Ability

Spatial Demon Ability. As everyone knew, the famous Kleis was a rare Spatial Wizard with an unparalleled mighty Spatial Demon Ability.

However, since no one had seen it before, they gradually forgot about Kleis' Spatial Demon Ability!

Even without the Spatial Demon Ability, per his identity as a Five-Elemental Spell Caster 1 , Kleis was already a most preeminent Great Wizard. So, if he were to wield his Spatial Demon Ability, how much more powerful would he be?

At the very least, Wizard Ian felt his blood ran cold, and his mind blanked white.

“Chi chi.”

Spatial energy, like an incomparably sharp knife, lightly ripped space apart. Streaks of black gashes appeared in the sky.

These gashes expanded rapidly, and eventually shrouded the gigantic alchemy puppet Kallius.

The black rays on Kallius’ body flashed continuously, seemingly cognizant of the substantial threat. Then, it stopped and tried to resist Kleis’ Spatial Demon Ability.

At this time, the alchemy puppet Kallius, who was capable of vanquishing preeminent Great Wizards, appeared to be defenseless. The black rays on its body gradually dimmed and disappeared altogether.

“Crack.”

At last, cracks began to surface on Kallius’ body. The cracks grew bigger and deeper, until finally, it shattered into smithereens.

“How could this be? Even the alchemy puppet is unable to defeat Kallius?”

The fifteen Great Wizards who were gathered in Fog City stared at the shattered mess on the ground, utterly stunned. After all, they had witnessed with their own eyes, the formidability of the alchemy puppet Kallius. It was undeniably comparable to a preeminent Great Wizard.

In the beginning, the alchemy puppet did not disappoint. It was able to keep Kleis subjugated up until the moment he wielded the Spatial Demon Ability. Subsequently, the odds were completely reversed, and the alchemy puppet was unable to withstand even a single strike.

Equipped with the special Spatial Demon Ability, Kleis had far surpassed the likes of a preeminent Great Wizard.

“Everyone, if you have any other tactics, please feel free to wield them now. Otherwise, you won’t have another chance!”

Kleis’ tone remained calm as though his act of defeating the alchemy puppet was simply a negligible event. All around him, space was distorted and crushed, clearly establishing his dominance as a Spatial Wizard.

“Wizard Ian, quickly think of something! This is your Fog City!”

“Wizard Ian, let’s hurry into Fog City. With Fog City’s thousand-year foundation, I’m sure we’ll be able to resist Kleis and Ozmu!”

All the Great Wizards appeared to be in favor of retreating. Kleis before them was so powerful that they all felt despair.

“Retreat into Fog City. Use the Runic Magic Circle to hold on for a while!”

Wizard Ian gritted his teeth. Right now, he had no other choice. The other Spell Casters might be able to escape but his Fog City was right here. There was nowhere for him to escape to, unless he abandoned this thousand-year legacy. Otherwise, he had no choice but to rely on Fog City’s Runic Magic Circle and some other defensive tactics to put up a semblance of resistance.

“Swish swish swish.”

One after another, the Great Wizards flew into Fog City. The Runic Magic Circle emitted white light, and rapidly covered the entire Fog City.

Besides this, Fog City also had several powerful alchemy puppets that could be dispatched to face a powerful enemy. Nevertheless, Kleis’ Spatial Demon Ability was too formidable. No matter how many alchemy puppets they send would be futile. Therefore, Wizard Ian could only defend to his death.

Of course, defending to his death would also be useless. His only hope was to seek assistance from the other large spell casters' organizations.

Thus, Wizard Ian spoke to the dozen or so Great Wizards. "Everyone, my Fog City is now in jeopardy. If we fail to protect Fog City, which other spell casters' organization in the northern Spell Caster world can stand against Kleis? I know that all of you still have some hidden forces that are guarding your respective organizations. It's no use hiding them anymore. It's time for us to lay out everything we have, and wage a final battle against Kleis. There's no escape. Else, we'll end up the same way as the southern Spell Caster world!"

Wizard Ian's words were not to be taken lightly. Earlier, these Great Wizards had witnessed Kleis' might for themselves. Any single spell casters' organization would not be able to resist Kleis.

Perhaps, it was like Wizard Ian had warned. The final battle was upon them!

"Wizard Ian, please be rest assured. We're well aware that if Fog City is destroyed, it would not be beneficial to the Seven Major Spell Caster organizations. With Kleis being so powerful, only by combining our forces that we may have a tiny hope of resisting him. We'll inform our respective spell casters' organizations immediately..."

Before one of the Great Wizards could even finish speaking, the entire Fog City quaked dreadfully. At the same time, everyone snapped their heads up toward the sky.

In the sky above Fog City, there was a large gash as deep as an abyss, rapidly spiraling down upon Fog City.

"Rumble."

A huge impact befell. At this moment, the Runic Magic Circle was completely shattered. The space around them was filled with spiderweb-like cracks.

Kleis stood high up in the air, casting an indifferent gaze at Fog City below. The outcome of his first battle in the northern Spell Caster world seemed predetermined. Soon, he would achieve his grandiose dreams of ruling over the entire Spell Caster world.

"Slash!"

Kleis' invisible Spatial Strength swiftly slashed down onto Fog City. The immense city was cut into blocks by Spatial Strength. The terrifying Spatial Slash was not a force that could be blocked even by the Great Wizards.

Kleis looked at the struggling masses beneath him. Once upon a time, he was also a weak Spell Caster who had infiltrated the Dark Magic Region, a small spell casters' organization. Upon obtaining the Runic Magic Circle that could help him cultivate the Spatial Demon Ability and remove the final curse, he was at last able to cultivate this Spatial Demon Ability.

Thereafter, he slowly climbed through the ranks in Ozmu. He advanced step by step to achieve his current accomplishment, which was almost undefeatable!

"Only that one time. That was the only time I've lost... Anyway, soon, I'll get rid of the northern Spell Caster world. Merlin, I'll seek you out personally. That battle doesn't mean anything!"

Unbidden thoughts flashed past Kleis' mind. The scene of him losing to Merlin's Darkness Eye seemed to replay in his mind.

That was the most humiliating defeat Kleis had suffered after cultivating the Spatial Demon Ability!

"Let's fight to the end! Kleis isn't sparing any of us, he's trying to kill us as soon as possible. Fight!"

"Fog City is already destroyed. Even if we temporarily pledge allegiance to Ozmu, have you seen what happened to the Ninth-level Spell Casters from the southern Spell Caster world who had pledged their allegiances to Ozmu? All of them were wiped out. There are fifteen of us Great Wizards. If we join forces, perhaps there might be a chance!"

None of the Great Wizards were willing to pledge allegiance to Ozmu. If it was the former Ozmu which was focused on attracting talents, they would absorb some of the powerful Spell Casters.

However, since Kleis became the First Elder and took control of Ozmu, it became unusually bloodthirsty and cruel. Any Wizard from the southern Spell Caster world who had previously pledged their allegiance to Ozmu were all wiped out.

Therefore, learning from the past mistakes of the southern Spell Caster world, the Wizards of the northern Spell Caster world knew that pledging their allegiance to Ozmu would not amount to any good. Thus, they might as well fight to their last breath.

“Swish swish swish.”

Fifteen Great Wizards flew forward to confront Kleis with murderous glints in their eyes. Faced with the insane Kleis, they could only fight this battle to their last breath!

“That’s great. All of you cannot be trusted, so everyone must die!”

Kleis’ eyes turned bloodshot and his body exuded a bloodcurdling vibe.

Consequently, increasingly frightening Spatial elements appeared around Kleis. Wisps of spine-tingling power descended upon all the Great Wizards, making them aware of the unreachable gap between Kleis and them.

It appeared that Kleis would win this final battle without any doubt!

“First Elder!”

Suddenly, behind Kleis, two familiar figures flew toward him at top speed.

“Swish swish.”

The two figures came to a stop near Kleis.

“Wizard Tamo? Wizard Gilles? Why are you here? I thought you’ve gone to confront Merlin in the southern Spell Caster world?”

Seeing these two figures appear, a look of suspicion appeared on Kleis' face.

Wizard Tamo and Wizard Gilles exchanged a look and winced. "First Elder, the reason we rushed here was to tell you a piece of unfortunate news. Out of the five Great Wizards who went to confront Merlin, there's only the two of us left!"

"Five Great Wizards and only two of you are left? All of you couldn't kill Merlin?"

There was a hint of veiled anger in Kleis' voice.

"First Elder, we've all been deceived by Merlin or miscalculated his abilities. We thought that he was only able to annihilate our strongholds successively because of the three-headed dragon. However, after this battle with Merlin, we finally know how painfully wrong we were. The three-headed dragon might be strong but it's not a worthwhile threat to Ozmu. It's Merlin who's the real threat to Ozmu!

Wizard Tamo said gloomily. Along the way, this thought had been playing in his head. Initially, he was not entirely sure but upon seeing that even the northern Spell Caster world was unable to resist Kleis, Great Wizard Tamo became more steadfast in his conviction.

The northern Spell Caster world was not the real concern. On the contrary, Merlin was quite possibly Ozmu's biggest enemy!

"Merlin? Although I've predicted that he won't be easy to handle, I didn't think that he would grow this much... Anyway, that's good too. I'll kill him personally. Right now, however, I have to get rid of the Seven Major Spell Caster organizations!"

Kleis turned his head sharply. His steely gaze stared at the fifteen Great Wizards before him. The invisible space-cutting Spatial Strength immediately whizzed towards the fifteen Great Wizard from all directions.

"Haha, Kleis, even you have a foe you cannot handle?"

Apparently, Wizard Ian overheard the conversation between Kleis and Great Wizard Tamo, and he smirked.

“You’re the Great Wizard of Fog City? Very well, I’ll destroy your Fog City first, and all its Spell Casters. None will be left! Even if Merlin were to create some small problems for me, right now, I’m the most powerful contender in the entire Spell Caster world!”

Kleis cackled into the sky. The space-cutting Spatial Strength landed on the first three Great Wizards in front. True enough, they were completely unable to put up a resistance, and were immediately cut into chunks.

Looking at the almost insane Kleis, Wizard Ian and the others gnashed their teeth but dared not open their mouths. Despite being formidable Great Wizards, they were an easily crushable target in Kleis’ insane eyes.

“Kleis, the most powerful contender, weren’t you also defeated once?”

A calm voice suddenly reverberated in the air.

“Whoosh.”

Kleis’ expression stiffened as he abruptly turned his head to look behind him.

Chapter 673: Kleis’ Demise I*

The enormous three-headed dragon stretched its wings and sped toward Fog City. Its brutal and ferocious aura overwhelmed everyone. The three-headed dragon was undoubtedly a savage beast.

Nevertheless, Kleis’ eyes could only focus on the figure standing on the back of the three-headed dragon. This figure had appeared in his mind many, many times, but every single time it had been accompanied by the memory of his humiliating defeat.

“Merlin!”

Kleis kept his eyes on Merlin as he shouted. Kleis’ expression, which had remained unfazed when he was fighting against over a dozen Great Wizard and a powerful alchemy Monster just now, actually turned solemn once he saw Merlin.

“Who is this person? Why does Kleis look so wary of him?”

Wizard Ian asked intriguingly. He only paid attention to the northern Spell Caster world and Ozmu, so he was not sure who this Spell Caster riding on the back of the three-headed dragon was.

The other Great Wizards also exchanged blank looks, obviously not knowing the identity of the three-headed dragon or Merlin.

“Respected Great Wizards, I might know some information...”

It was a mere Seventh-level Spell Caster who decided to speak up in a cautious tone.

“Hmm? Tell us quickly, who is this person? Someone who could tame the legendary three-headed dragon and make Kleis so wary must not be an average Joe,” Wizard Ian asked hurriedly. The other Great Wizards also turned their attention towards this Seventh-level Spell Caster.

“I’ve been to Subzero Snowfield before and interacted with some of the Spell Casters there. Not too long ago, I’ve heard news of a new Spell Caster named Merlin. He was actually a Spell Caster from the Dark Magic Region, but had disappeared for a few decades. When he re-emerged, he had managed to tame the three-headed dragon and return to the Dark Magic Region. Additionally, he led the Dark Magic Region to defeat the other two major factions in a single swoop, thereby unifying the entire Subzero Snowfield. There is only one three-headed dragon. Unless there is another three-headed dragon we don’t know of, I’m afraid this Spell Caster must be Wizard Merlin.”

Upon hearing the detailed explanation of this Seventh-level Spell Caster, these Great Wizards felt enlightened.

“The Dark Magic Region... That’s right, we’ve investigated Kleis’ background before this. Kleis used to be a Spell Caster from a small Spell Caster organization in the southern Spell Caster world, the Dark Magic Region. Then, he betrayed the Dark Magic Region and defected to Ozmu before finally becoming the First Elder of Ozmu! This Dark Magic Region actually gave birth to two prodigies. Since Kleis had betrayed the Dark Magic Region, surely this Wizard Merlin from the Dark Magic Region has come specifically for Kleis.”

A spirited look appeared on Wizard Ian's face once again. Merlin's appearance seemed to have given the Seven Major Spell Caster organizations a glimmer of hope.

"The three-headed dragon might be powerful, but is it able to fight Kleis? I even suspect that Kleis' Spatial Demon Ability may have completely exceeded the level of a preeminent Great Wizard, and is actually comparable to the fabled Great Legends that only appeared in the golden era of Spell Casters!"

One of the Great Wizards voiced out his speculation.

"Absolutely impossible. Kleis is definitely not a Great Legend! According to the ancient scrolls, all the Great Legends were able to consolidate a Maxim. Kleis may be powerful, but he did not consolidate a Maxim, so it is impossible for him to be a Great Legend!"

The Great Wizards of the Seven Major Spell Caster organizations were well-learned. Naturally, they knew the characteristics of a Great Legend. Nonetheless, despite the fact that Kleis was not a Great Legend, he was actually very close to being one. Even the Seven Major Spell Caster organizations would not be able to defeat Kleis.

"This time, we must help this Wizard Merlin no matter what the price is!"

Wizard Ian decided firmly. This Merlin who appeared out of nowhere seemed to be quite formidable and was able to make Kleis so nervous. Thus, he must not be any simple person. Perhaps, he was the only hope for the Seven Major Spell Caster organizations.

Once Merlin fell into a disadvantageous situation, they would go all out to help him defeat Kleis.

...

Both Merlin and Kleis simply stood in silence. Neither of them paid any attention to their surroundings.

"Protect Yulais, and go to the back."

Merlin patted the head of the three-headed dragon gently and gestured for it to leave.

The three-headed dragon growled softly and fixed its eyes on Kleis with a guarded expression. The three-headed dragon could sense the threatening aura rolling off Kleis and knew that this battle did not belong to it.

Therefore, together with Yulais, the three-headed dragon flew behind Merlin and waited quietly.

Merlin walked toward Kleis step by step. This was the first time he saw Kleis since coming back to the Glorious Land. He had thought that Kleis was merely a preeminent Great Wizard and did not expect Kleis to be even stronger than that. He had far surpassed the level of a preeminent Great Wizard. He was the mightiest existence in the Void Zone who's just shy of becoming a Legend!

Even during the most glorious of times for the Spell Casters, birthing forth such an existence was unimaginable. It was even more unheard of to become the mightiest existence aside from a Legend in the Void Zone. The chances of this happening were equivalent to discovering civilization-level prodigies.

The fallen Glorious Land actually managed to give birth to the mightiest existence who was just a level away from being a Legend. Perhaps even Arcane Wizard Setoh would not expect such a thing.

"Merlin, you've finally shown up! I was planning to visit the Dark Magic Region in Subzero Snowfield once I'm done with the northern Spell Caster world."

Kleis had also seemed to calm down. The two of them were chatting as if they were old friends.

"Start now, Kleis! You call yourself the most powerful contender in the Spell Caster world. I'm extremely curious just to see how powerful you actually are."

Merlin's lips tugged up into a sardonic smirk.

"You'll find out soon enough!"

Kleis' body began to emit multi-colored rays. The elements around them gathered in a frenzy, illuminating the entire sky with a colorful radiance.

The multi-colored Wizard Heart!

It was not Merlin's first time seeing it. He was painfully aware of how difficult it was to consolidate the multi-colored Wizard Heart. Even he himself had only managed to combine the Four-Elemental Wizard Heart and had not succeeded in combining the multi-colored Wizard Heart.

"Spikes of Destruction!"

Kleis reached out with his hand. Endless elements converge into millions of sharp spears and rained down sadistically on Merlin.

This was not an ordinary spell, but Kleis' Five-Elemental spell 1 . Every single spear was packed with a force that was comparable to a single strike from a peak Great Wizard.

Clang! Clang! Clang!

Merlin's expression did not waver. A layer of white light automatically appeared before him and converged into a huge shield that could protect Merlin.

The rain-like spell attacks seemed to be drowning Merlin.

"Fire!"

Another brutal fiery rain fell from the sky. The terrifying temperature was almost unbearable to the Great Wizards who were present. Kleis' control of spells had reached such a high level that any spell he wielded could detonate a huge force.

Next, a fearsome chill appeared and encapsulated Merlin.

Even Kleis himself might not be able to withstand such a barrage of spell attacks.

“Merlin, I had lost to your Darkness Eye back then, but this time, you’ll die under my spells. I am the true victor!”

A faint smile appeared on the corner of Kleis’ lips. However, that smile froze on his lips soon enough. This was because Merlin’s aura was completely unharmed despite being inflicted with the vicious attacks of his spells.

“How is this possible? You’ve not become a Great Wizard. How can you resist my spell attack?”

Kleis could not imagine that Merlin was able to rely on spells to withstand his Five-Elemental Wizard Heart.

“My turn!”

Merlin extended his palm and grabbed onto something in the air lightly. In an instant, Kleis felt his body tightened as if his entire surroundings were bound by an invisible force.

At the same time, a huge fireball was amassing slowly in the sky. The frightening aura it radiated made even Kleis feel uneasy.

Merlin had far surpassed Kleis in terms of spell power. After all, Kleis was only the mightiest existence below a Legend. Merlin’s Four-Elemental Wizard Heart, on the other hand, was able to defeat even a Great Legend.

“Haha, I won’t die. Merlin, you’ve forgotten that I’m also a powerful Spatial Wizard. As long as space exists, no one can kill me!”

Kleis’s face turned shrewd. With a violent shrug, his figure stepped into a subspace passage that appeared out of thin air.

Merlin frowned. He was unable to detect Kleis’ aura. Spatial Wizards truly had the unparalleled advantage aside from when they were in the Void Zone.

Whiz.

Suddenly, a flame sword appeared out of nowhere and flew towards Merlin.

Merlin did not even turn his head. A shield converged behind him, and he had easily deflected the stealthy attack.

Bam!

Merlin had consolidated a Fiery Palm and clawed viciously in one direction. Immediately, space shattered and a black shadow flashed before him. Subsequently, Kleis appeared on the other side of him.

“Hmph, Merlin, as long as there is space, a Spatial Wizard cannot die. Haha, I will let you die a slow, fearful death...”

Kleis’ figure flashed and disappeared again. As a Spatial Wizard, he was able to travel via subspace. As long as space existed, Kleis’ abilities were undefeatable to anyone below a Legend. It was a frustrating issue to deal with indeed.

Nevertheless, Merlin was not the least flustered.

A stern glint flashed across his eyes. His Mind Power extended outwards, and the elements rapidly gathered around him.

“Spatial Wizards can’t be killed? I don’t believe it...”

Once Merlin’s Mind Power had identified an area a few miles from where he was, he stretched out his hand. The entire sky was then filled with ferocious flames, blazing and burning angrily.

“Shatter now!”

Merlin growled under his breath. His Wizard Heart which could be compared to a Great Wizard had then released a terrifying wave of power at the instant.

Boom!

The space within those few miles shattered like a fragile mirror.

“Space is shattered? No one can shatter space other than a Legend!”

Once space was shattered, an unsightly figure was revealed. Kleis’ entire body had become incomparably weak and was staring at Merlin with incredulity. The ability to shatter space across a few miles was no longer within the realms of a Great Wizard.

Chapter 674: Kleis’ Demise II

The shattered space no longer allowed Kleis to travel through it. Merlin’s spell power formed a binding circle which prevented Kleis from escaping.

The true gap between the two of them was made apparent. Everyone stared at Merlin with their eyes and mouths wide open. Shattering space was an ability that belonged exclusively to the legendary Great Legends.

“No, how could you be more powerful than I am? I’m more talented than anyone else. I have Spatial talent that enables me to become a powerful Spatial Wizard. I even constructed Five-Elemental spells and infiltrated the Dark Magic Region for such a long time. After I defected to Ozmu, I’ve experienced all kinds of trials and tribulations as well as countless opportunities to achieve this level today. How could you be more powerful than me?”

Kleis’ expression was distorted. He had not achieved his current success easily. He was the most powerful Spell Caster in the Spell Caster world. Even the Seven Major Spell Caster organizations in the powerful northern Spell Caster world were unable to stop his conquest.

Nevertheless, he had just lost to Merlin. He lost again, just like the last time!

Merlin made his way towards Kleis. Although he had managed to defeat Kleis on his first try, Kleis’ formidable talents were not to be dismissed at all.

Kleis was able to become the mightiest existence below a Legend in a sunken place like the Glorious Land. Perhaps, if he were in the Void Zone and had experienced a wider stage, Kleis might have possibly become a civilization-level prodigy.

Unfortunately, Kleis was in the Glorious Land and had Merlin as his enemy. Merlin might consider sparing the others from Ozmu, but Kleis was the only one he would not spare.

Merlin still clearly remembered how furious Teacher Leo was when he found out about Kleis' betrayal. Wizard Leo hoped that he could kill Kleis, but he did not succeed until he died.

In fact, Teacher Leo's death could even be indirectly linked to Kleis. Therefore, Kleis must die. No matter how talented or gifted he was, he had to die!

As Merlin stepped closer to Kleis, his expression grew more and more merciless. In his mind, he replayed each of his memories of Teacher Leo. Despite returning to the Glorious Land, Merlin was not able to resurrect Teacher Leo.

"Kleis, do you still remember the Darkness Eye? Back then, I had used the Darkness Eye to defeat you. That was passed down to me before Teacher Leo died. Right now, I will use the Darkness Eye to kill you once again! If you are able to evade this, you can leave. I will not hunt you down again!"

The maniacal Kleis was momentarily stunned upon hearing the offer. The insanity in his eyes gradually faded, and his composure returned.

"You're serious?"

A glimmer of hope flickered to life amidst Kleis' hopelessness. As long as he could withstand one attack from Merlin's Darkness Eye... If it was just one attack, Kleis believed that he could withstand it.

This was because Kleis had searched for any information related to the Darkness Eye after losing to Merlin and to the Darkness Eye specifically.

He was able to actually find it in the end. After all, the Darkness Eye was a very powerful and special Demon Ability back in the most glorious era of Spell Casters. Hence, there was a lot of written records on it.

Kleis understood that the sixth form of the Darkness Eye was only comparable to a peak Great Wizard, whereas the seventh form, Kleis did not think Merlin could actually cultivate it. After all, back in the most glorious era of Spell Casters, no one had been able to cultivate the seventh form of the Darkness Eye beside the Legend of Darkness, Oflas.

Therefore, he would certainly be able to withstand the attack of the sixth form of the Darkness Eye with his abilities. Naturally, a glimmer of hope rose in Kleis' heart.

“Merlin, this is your word. If you can't kill me, you must let me go!”

Kleis' expression was sullen as he glared daggers at Merlin. As long as he could escape, Kleis believed that he would be able to become a Great Legend one day. Then, he could defeat Merlin and even kill him

“Of course. If you survive this strike from me, you can leave!”

A smirk danced on Merlin's lips. Then, he slowly extended a hand without caring whether Kleis was ready or not.

Resting on his pale palm was a demonic blood-red eye. It blinked continuously and emitted a chilling aura.

“Darkness Eye!”

Merlin called to the Darkness Eye gently. Looking at the Darkness Eye, Merlin felt as if he was looking at Teacher Leo again. Teacher Leo had sacrificed his life to pass the Darkness Eye to Merlin, and it had given Merlin a unique edge.

“Silencing Ray!”

A large crimson shadow coalesced in the air behind Merlin. It was a gigantic ghostly face, growing gradually clearer by the second. At last, it actually bore a vague resemblance to Merlin's face.

Swoosh!

A blinding crimson light shot out of the Darkness Eye. The colossal force caused Kleis' face to grow pale. Abandoning all else, he dashed madly backward in an attempt to escape.

“Merlin...”

Kleis could not believe that Merlin had actually managed to cultivate the seventh form. This was the most petrifying force comparable to an attack from a Great Legend. How could Kleis possibly withstand it?

Chi!

A crimson light flashed and flew through Kleis' body. The very next moment, Kleis' body stopped moving. His body then appeared to disintegrate into countless crimson sprinkles, disappearing into the air.

Kleis was filled with resentment up until the last moment of his life!

“Dead? Kleis is finally dead?”

The Spell Casters of the northern Spell Caster world exchanged looks of bewilderment, still reeling in disbelief. However, the truth was laid out right before their eyes. The invincible Kleis was unable to withstand even a single attack and was killed by Merlin using the Darkness Eye.

“How could the First Elder be defeated? He is supposed to be the strongest Spell Caster in all of Ozmu's history...”

Great Wizard Tamo suddenly realized that his and Wizard Gilles' act of rushing to the northern Spell Caster world was a foolish decision. They had ran straight into their doom. Especially since Merlin had already spared them once.

Merlin swept his gaze downwards and picked up the ring that fell off Kleis. This ring contained everything that Kleis had accumulated over the years. He must have an impressive collection since he was the First Elder of Ozmu.

Nonetheless, Merlin was not in a hurry to check it out. He stowed the ring away instead. Killing Kleis was not only to settle the grudge between them but more importantly, it was the first step towards unifying the entire Spell Caster world.

Whether it was the northern Spell Caster world or Ozmu, both parties had witnessed Kleis' defeat to Merlin with their own eyes. In other words, he was establishing his dominance. A matchless, overwhelming dominance. With this clout of dominance, Merlin would be able to unify the Spell Caster world more smoothly.

Swish!

Merlin flew directly toward Wizard Ian and the others. These fifteen Great Wizards were regarding Merlin with a reverent expression. As Great Wizards of the Glorious Land, they had all at their highest possible limit, and there was no way for them to advance any further.

Although they knew that above the Great Wizards were the Great Legends, they had no inkling whatsoever on how to become a Great Legend. Compared to the most glorious era of Spell Casters back in the Molta Empire, the current generation of Spell Casters in the Glorious Land was, in fact, suffering from a severe knowledge gap.

Otherwise, it was impossible that no Great Legend had been born over the past three thousand years.

Hence, Merlin's appearance was dumbfounding to all of them. All of them saw that Kleis, who was infinitely close to becoming a Great Legend, was not able to withstand a single attack from Merlin. That meant that Merlin's power was already on par with a Legend even though Merlin had not consolidated a Maxim yet.

Therefore, these Great wizards held Merlin in high esteem.

"Wizard Merlin, we are truly grateful for your help. The Seven Major Spell Caster organizations are spared from Kleis' destruction!" Wizard Ian said with a smile.

"I'm sure you've heard of the grudge between Kleis and I. Me killing him has nothing to do with the northern Spell Caster world. On the contrary, the reason I came to the northern Spell Caster world is, in some sense, similar to Kleis."

Merlin said with a strange smile.

“What?”

Wizard Ian’s expression changed drastically. They were of course well informed about the reason Kleis came to them. Kleis wanted to conquer the whole of the northern Spell Caster world and was planning to kill all the Great Wizards there.

This was because Kleis had no need for forces that he could not control. In this regard, the Great Wizards could not be controlled by Kleis unless they were willing to sign a contract. Otherwise, Kleis would not spare any of the Great Wizards from the Seven Major Spell Caster organizations.

The Great Wizards of the Three Major Spell Caster organizations in the southern Spell Caster world had all been killed by Kleis simply because they would not sign the harsh contract with Ozmu.

Not only did Wizard Ian’s expression undergo a dramatic change, but even the other Wizards were also sporting troubled looks. Although Kleis made them despair, they still had the courage to fight to the end.

Merlin, on the other hand, was a different case altogether. They had just witnessed how powerful he was a moment ago. It was completely out of the league for Great Wizards, it was not a force they could possibly resist.

Even the joint forces of the Seven Major Spell Caster organization would not be able to resist Merlin. Thus, they did not dare to even attack Merlin.

“Wizard Merlin, Kleis wanted to wipe us out, do you really intend to do the same?” Wizard Ian could not help but ask loudly.

“Wipe you out?”

Merlin was stunned but seemed to have recalled something suddenly. He shook his head.

“Why should I wipe you out? You are the backbone of the entire Spell Caster world. With you around, then only the Spell Caster world can flourish! I’m different from Kleis. I’ve established the Spell Caster Alliance. Right now, the entire Subzero Snowfield is under the

influence of the Spell Caster Alliance. As long as you agree to join the Spell Caster Alliance and obey its instructions, not only will you be able to preserve your Spell Caster organizations, but I will pass down some spell knowledge that you do not have about potions and alchemy. In fact, I will also disclose some of the precious Demon Abilities to you all.”

The Spell Caster Alliance that Merlin had established in Subzero Snowfield was actually a very loose alliance, but with him at the helm, he could unify their strength to form a mighty force.

He also did not want to give the Dark Magic Region control over the other Spell Caster organizations because that would be meaningless. Take for example the Spell Caster civilization in the Void Zone. Despite the three great Arcane Cities being the largest forces, they never once thought about controlling all the Spell Casters. Instead, they allowed the Spell Caster civilization to develop freely.

It was this freedom that would allow civilization to be as lively as it was now and continue to strengthen in the future.

Merlin had established the Spell Caster Alliance in order to fight the Church of Light. Hence, he only wanted to unify the powers of the Spell Caster world temporarily. Once the Church of Light was eradicated, the Spell Caster Alliance would naturally be disbanded. Then, he would allow the Spell Caster world to develop on its own. This was Merlin’s true objective.

“You won’t disband the Spell Caster organizations? You’ll also pass down spell knowledge, potion knowledge, and alchemy knowledge as well as disclose precious Demon Abilities... How is this controlling? You’re obviously giving us benefits! Wizard Merlin, how could it be possible that you don’t want to control us?”

These Great Wizards could not imagine that such an alliance would exist. What benefit would it bring to Merlin? Why would he spend so much effort and pay such a huge price just to form a loose alliance?

“Control? Why should I control you? With my current abilities, do you still have anything that could tempt me?”

Merlin smirked at them.

“Yes, that’s true. I’m afraid even an alchemy puppet comparable to a Great Wizard at their peak would not appeal to Wizard Merlin. What else can the Seven Major Spell Caster organizations offer to Wizard Merlin? However, Wizard Merlin, you must tell us the true motive for your actions. It’ll be hard for us to believe you without understanding your true motives.” Wizard Ian voiced out everyone’s doubts.

“Motive? It’s because we’re facing the same threat! I’ll tell you the truth now since you’ll find out soon enough. The entire Spell Caster world is facing impending doom. We have a common enemy. Unless we can unify the entire Spell Caster world, any resistance would be futile!”

Merlin’s words shocked everyone. His gaze was transfixed at the horizon far away, and his eyes were as unfathomable as the endless night sky.

Chapter 675: The Final Fortress!

“Ten days. I give you ten days! After ten days, I’ll visit the northern Spell Caster world again. Hopefully, I’ll see you all prepared to join the Spell Caster Alliance by then. Otherwise, I’ll be following after Kleis’ footsteps!”

Merlin did not wait for Wizard Ian and the others to respond. Ten days was already pushing the limit. It should be enough time for the Seven Major Spell Caster organizations of the northern Spell Caster world to discuss their strategy.

Merlin did not want to waste too much of the Spell Caster force. However, if the Seven Major Spell Caster organizations remained unwilling to join the Spell Caster Alliance, then Merlin would not mind obliterating some Spell Caster organizations and unify the northern Spell Caster world by force at all. In some sense, this was similar to Kleis’ intention.

Swish!

Merlin flew towards Wizard Tamo and Wizard Gilles, causing the two of them to tense up immediately.

“We meet again, Wizard Tamo!”

Merlin took a look at Wizard Tamo and Wizard Gilles. Both of them were Great Wizards. Not too long ago, they tried to confront Merlin but were defeated. In the end, they came all the way to the northern Spell Caster world to report the news to Kleis.

Now that Kleis was dead, they naturally felt dismayed.

“Don’t worry, as I’ve said, I’m doing this to unify the entire Spell Caster world to defeat a common enemy, so I won’t kill you. Nevertheless, the fact remains that Kleis is now dead but Ozmu Headquarters stands still. Don’t you think you have something to tell me?”

Merlin’s gaze lingered on them. Kleis might be dead, but Ozmu was not controlled by Kleis alone. It was controlled by numerous other Great Wizards. If he could not find Ozmu Headquarters and destroy it with a single move, then Ozmu would still be a wildcard which might cause him problems in the future.

“We’ve signed a contract... Since you’ve obtained Kleis’ ring, there should be no problem for you to enter Ozmu’s headquarters then. It’s a beacon ring!”

Wizard Tamo explained in detail to Wizard Merlin. After all, Kleis was dead now. Faced against Merlin who was even more powerful than Kleis, how much longer could Ozmu possibly hold on?

Upon becoming a Great Wizard, Wizard Tamo had already realized how harsh reality was. His only motivation now was to grow more powerful and perhaps to become a legendary Great Legend.

His so-called ‘loyalty’ towards Kleis was simply because Kleis was probably the only existence that was closest to a Great Legend and would one day become a Great Legend. Wizard Tamo would have a glimmer of hope to consolidate a Maxim and become a Great Legend only if he followed Kleis.

Kleis was dead now though. He had been replaced by the powerful Merlin. Not only was Merlin more powerful than Kleis, but he was also comparable to a Great Legend. This was the level of power that Wizard Tamo dreamt of achieving!

Therefore, Wizard Tamo did not see any further benefits of staying in Ozmu. He might as well tell Merlin everything he knew, except for the bits restricted by the contract. Besides those, Wizard Tamo had shared all other information with Merlin in detail.

Merlin produced a pale green ring that was glowing with a green light.

“Beacon ring?”

Merlin looked at Wizard Tamo suspiciously. Then, his Mind Power enclosed around the ring. Instantly, a strange feeling appeared. It felt like there was a special place far away that was calling out to Merlin.

“This is Ozmu Headquarters?”

Merlin reached an epiphany. Ozmu Headquarters had always been a very mysterious place. Even if he were to capture the Great Wizards of Ozmu, they could not reveal the location of Ozmu Headquarters due to the contracts they’ve signed.

“Yes, Wizard Merlin, what you’re sensing is none other than Ozmu Headquarters! The beacon ring is created by Kleis. After he created the ring, even the Great Wizards are unable to know the location of Ozmu Headquarters. We can only rely on the beacon ring to find it. What’s more, once a Great Wizard dies, their beacon ring will break. Hence, it’s useless even if an enemy obtained it. They won’t ever be able to find Ozmu Headquarters!”

Wizard Tamo spoke carefully. It would not be considered a breach of contract, and he would not be punished as long as he did not reveal the address of Ozmu Headquarters.

“If the beacon ring is to break after its owner dies, why didn’t this ring break?”

Wizard Tamo shook his head in bafflement. “The beacon ring is created by Kleis. No matter what, he was a real prodigy and was also sufficiently talented in the field of alchemy. His alchemy skills were considered expert-level even in Ozmu. Perhaps, he didn’t think that he would die. That could be why his beacon ring didn’t break after his death.”

Merlin nodded. This was a highly plausible explanation if one took into account Kiels’ arrogance. Only Kleis’ beacon ring was unique compared to the others. However, Kleis’ arrogance would now bring calamity upon Ozmu.

“Come on, let’s go check out your Ozmu Headquarters. Seeing that Kleis was able to become such a mighty existence in just a few decades, I’m sure that Ozmu’s support was also fundamental to his success besides his natural talents...”

Ozmu had always been very mysterious. After all, it was not a simple feat to nurture the mightiest existence below a Legend like Kleis. Perhaps Ozmu was one of the several secrets hidden by the Glorious Land.

Crash!

The three-headed dragon stretched open its wings and flew up into the sky. It caressed its three heads lovingly against Merlin’s calves once it landed on the ground.

Merlin beamed and patted the three-headed dragon on its crown gently. Then, he hopped on together with Wizard Tamo and Wizard Gilles and flew in the direction of the beacon ring.

The remaining dozen or so Great Wizards of the northern Spell Caster world finally regained their wits as they watched Merlin’s departing figure.

“Wizard Ian, Kleis is dead, but an even more powerful Merlin has emerged. Merlin is heading towards Ozmu Headquarters right now. What should we do?”

The Great Wizards were reluctant to accept Merlin’s offer, yet they were sorely tempted by it at the same time. The terms outlined by Merlin were extremely tempting to the Great Wizards.

The offered guidance to become a Great Legend through his sharing of experience was particularly tempting. It was an utterly irresistible offer for the Great Wizards. Many of them had in fact made up their minds when they enquired about Wizard Ian’s opinion.

Wizard Ian swept his gaze towards the direction in which Merlin had headed. He said in a meaningful tone, “Do we have a choice?”

With that, Wizard Ian ceased to pay any attention to these Great Wizards and headed back to Fog City right away, leaving the Great Wizards baffled...

...

In a dazzling golden palace foyer sat the eighth prince on the symbolic throne wearing a purple gold crown. He must be the King of the Kingdom of Blackmoon, King Bhutto XVII!

The eighth prince, or the ambitious King Bhutto XVII, looked extremely troubled at the moment though. Several Spell Casters, army men and officials were staring at him expectantly standing below his throne.

King Bhutto XVII had vowed to transform the Kingdom of Blackmoon into a flourishing country the moment he ascended the throne. In the early days, the Kingdom of Blackmoon was indeed ruled commendably by the eighth prince, and its force grew stronger.

However, the enemies of the Kingdom of Blackmoon had grown even stronger and faster than them. Following the war waged by the Holy Light Empire's in its crusade against heresy, the Kingdom of Blackmoon had been defeated continuously. They had mobilized every last ounce of strength, including the Elders' Court of the royal family, but still did not manage to stop the conquest of the Holy Light Empire.

They had just received news a few days ago that out of the three most powerful Great Wizards of the royal family, two of them had been assassinated by unknown assailants from the Holy Light Empire. Consequently, the army had also suffered an utter defeat. The Kingdom of Blackmoon was in grave danger now.

He had went from a proud and ambitious king to the ruler of a falling nation. This was the greatest humiliation and biggest blow to the eighth prince.

"Your Majesty, please make a decision. If we can't hold on any longer, then we can retreat from the Imperial City temporarily. As long as Your Majesty is still around, we have hope in our hearts. Moreover, the conflict between Ozmu and the northern Spell Caster world would soon be over. Regardless of whether Ozmu or the northern Spell Caster world emerges triumphant, the entire Spell Caster world will be unified and the chaos will cease. I believe that they would not sit back and watch the Church of Light oppresses the Kingdom of Blackmoon. After all, this is a free country for Spell Casters!" One of the black-robed Spell Casters exuding Ninth-level Spell Caster elemental fluctuations from head to toe exclaimed loudly, obviously feeling quite emotional.

"A free country for Spell Casters..."

The eighth prince who had been looking forlorn whipped his head up suddenly and murmured, “Yes, this is a free country that belongs to the Spell Casters. Countless Spell Casters are able to live their lives freely in the Kingdom of Blackmoon. Our royal family also has three Great Wizards. It’s almost equivalent to a large Spell Caster organization!”

“In the beginning, it was the Great Wizard Blackmoon who founded the Kingdom of Blackmoon and became the first king of the royal family. His objective was none other than to safeguard the freedom of Spell Casters. Numerous Spell Casters who had reached a dead-end entered the Kingdom of Blackmoon and were given refuge by this kingdom. Gradually, the Kingdom of Blackmoon became a free country for all Spell Casters. In fact, we even hold on to the legacy of the Molta Empire which collapsed three thousand over years ago in hopes of recreating another glorious era of Spell Casters. This was the original objective of establishing the Kingdom of Blackmoon!”

“Right now, the kingdom is in danger. Even if no one else comes forward to help us, the Blackmoon royal family should defend this free country at first instance! Let’s go and gather every last strength of the kingdom. I’ll put on the purple and gold crown and march to the frontline myself to stop the Church of Light’s conquest into this free country...”

The purple and gold crown sitting atop the eighth prince’s head was inlaid with several huge gemstones. At this moment, the gemstones radiated waves of strong elemental fluctuation, and they gradually soothed everyone’s anxious hearts.

The eighth prince was going to wear his purple and gold crown into the war. This meant that he was prepared to fight till’ the end!

After all, the purple and gold crown represented the orthodox rule of the royal family in the Kingdom of Blackmoon. It was also a powerful casting tool. Even a Great Wizard would find it difficult to break it.

The purple and gold crown actually represented the final fortress of the Kingdom of Blackmoon!

Chapter 676: Ozmu Headquarters

Up in the sky, clusters of clouds were pierced by the three-headed dragon. Even the Spell Casters felt chilly and cast spells to insulate themselves against the cold draft.

Except for Merlin, who did not seem to feel anything at all. He had shut his eyes quietly, but his invisible Mind Power was rummaging through Kleis' beacon ring.

Kleis' ring contained many valuable items. There were millions of elemental crystal stones. Possessing such an immense number of elemental crystal stones in the Glorious Land was absolutely unbelievable.

Other than elemental crystal stones, Merlin also saw voluminous precious alchemy materials, potion materials, and even some runes, all left behind by Kleis. As the *crème de la crème* among the prodigies, Kleis was also very proficient in runology, potions, and alchemy. Such a prodigy was rare to find even in the Void Zone.

Although there were countless valuable treasures inside the beacon ring, the most precious items were Spatial spells and Spatial Demon Ability. Merlin also found Kleis' notes on Spatial spells which he hurriedly flipped through the moment he got his hands on the ring.

The Spatial spells were contained inside a Spell Manual which was far more detailed than Old Man Eita's Spell Manual. Kleis had documented all the Spell Models he had constructed with meticulous detail, all the way from his Zero-level spell to becoming a Great Wizard. Such a detailed Spell Manual would be highly precious even in the Void Zone.

It was especially so when the contents were about Spatial spells. These were very rare spells. Across the entire Void Zone, the total number of Spell Casters with Spatial gift could be counted with one hand. In fact, the number of those who eventually managed to become Spatial Great Wizards was even more negligible.

At least, Merlin did not encounter any Great Wizard with Spatial spells among the numerous Spell Casters involved in the civilization war.

Merlin flipped through Kleis' notes page by page carefully. Back then, Kleis had obtained a Spatial spell tome together with its Demon Ability under unexpected circumstances.

Then, he followed the test given and discovered that he indeed had Spatial talent. Therefore, Kleis had managed to become a Spatial Wizard quite easily.

It was not a smooth-sailing journey for after becoming a Spatial Wizard though. This was because the Spatial Demon Ability was too dangerous. At one point, Kleis had no idea what to

do with it. He did conceive an idea of using a Runic Magic Circle to suppress the hidden dangers after a while.

Afterward, Kleis had infiltrated the Dark Magic Region. That was because the Dark Magic Region was unmatched in the field of runology despite being a small Spell Caster organization. Even those large Spell Caster organizations were not a match for it.

With Kleis' talents, he soon earned the approval of the Dark Magic Region. The Dark Magic Region nurtured Kleis with all their might, and he was able to obtain the Runic Magic Circle he desired.

The Dark Magic Region could no longer support his quest to become an even stronger existence at the end. Kleis had chosen to betray the Dark Magic Region and defect to Ozmu as a result.

The series of events that occurred thereafter was already known to Merlin. It led to the uprising of the southern Spell Caster world against Ozmu. The southern Spell Caster world was defeated, and the Dark Magic Region was then forced to evacuate to Subzero Snowfield. Soon after that, Merlin had entered the Void Zone accidentally while Kleis gradually advanced to become the strongest Spell Caster in Ozmu and eventually became the First Elder!

“Phew...”

Merlin heaved a long sigh. It seemed like Kleis' experience was not at all inferior compared to Merlin's exciting experiences. Kleis not only understood the art of endurance, but he also had talent and determination. For a prodigy such as Kleis, it would not be surprising if he managed to become a Great Legend, Honored Legend or even a Lord in the Void Zone.

“This Spell Manual is very useful. Spatial spells and Spatial Demon Ability are extremely precious!”

Merlin isolated the Spatial Spell Manual and stored it securely. Although he did not have any Spatial talents, one day he might encounter someone who had Spatial talents. When that time came, this Spell Manual would be highly useful to that person.

Boom!

The huge three-headed dragon landed on the ground heavily. Its enormous body caused the entire mountain to tremble.

“Wizard Merlin, we’re here!” Wizard Tamo said solemnly, looking at the very ordinary-looking mountain in front of them.

Merlin opened his eyes. The location given by the beacon ring was indeed here. Ozmu Headquarters was hidden nearby.

This forest that appeared to be completely ordinary might pose a stumbling block to others to find anything out of the ordinary inside, but Merlin’s Mind Power was incredibly immense and could catch the tiniest of details. Even a tiny little ant could be sensed by him clearly.

Therefore, Merlin finally found a trail of clues after investigating with his Mind Power.

“Up!”

Merlin reached out a finger. His spell immediately transformed into a giant hand that violently gripped onto the valley in front of him.

Hum.

Above the valley, a strong rumble erupted. Then, a series of runes flew out in a futile bid to resist Merlin’s spell-conjured hand. However, Merlin’s Four-Elemental Wizard Heart was already comparable to a Great Legend’s or perhaps as powerful as a Legend. These Runic Magic Circles were unable to stop him at all.

Hence, the Runic Magic Circles flashed dimly and was instantly crushed by Merlin’s spell-conjured hand. With that, the true appearance of what lied beneath the valley was revealed. It was an artificially constructed passage. Outside the passage, there were some large stone carvings. The stone carvings were originally covered with dense runes, but all of them had been crushed by Merlin earlier.

“Ozmu is here? Well, let’s take a look at the mysterious Ozmu!”

Merlin was also filled with curiosity at Ozmu. This Spell Caster organization was extremely mysterious and had a longstanding history. They would recruit genius Spell Casters around all corners of the world and were completely unafraid of offending any of the large Spell Caster organizations.

If not for Ozmu's obsessive recruitment of prodigy Wizards, the battle with the southern Spell Caster world would not have erupted. Perhaps the factions and distribution of the entire Spell Caster world would have been drastically different.

"Wizard Tamo, how much do you know about Ozmu?"

Merlin asked Wizard Tamo as he eyed the huge passage.

Wizard Tamo frowned a little. The contract between him and Ozmu only prohibited him from revealing the location of Ozmu Headquarters which he did not breach at all. Merlin had found Ozmu Headquarters using Kleis' beacon ring.

Therefore, Wizard Tamo did not hesitate further and answered, "Wizard Merlin, there might have been an influx of Great Wizards into Ozmu in the recent years, and we are all able to enter Ozmu Headquarters, but in reality, our understanding of Ozmu is not more than outsiders. The core secret of Ozmu is known only to the original four Ancient Great Wizards of Ozmu. It's possible that Kleis might have found out about Ozmu's secret upon becoming the First Elder, but we definitely don't know anything."

Merlin crinkled his forehead. Wizard Tamo actually did not know much about Ozmu. There were so many Great Wizards, yet they were all not privy. In that case, it indicated Ozmu's distrust towards these Great Wizards.

Alternatively, it could be that Ozmu's secret was so astounding that it could only be revealed to a selected few.

"Who are the four Ancient Great Wizards of Ozmu?" Merlin continued to ask.

"Ozmu originally had four Ancient Great Wizards, but two of them had died in previous battles. There are only two left, but these two Ancient Great Wizards are truly formidable. In the whole of Ozmu, they are only inferior to Kleis! We guess that they must be at the level of peak Great Wizards. They are Great Wizard Savaron and Great Wizard Terian respectively!"

Merlin nodded. These two ancient peak Great Wizards were the real core of Ozmu. They were the ones who controlled Ozmu's true secret.

It was these Ancient Great Wizards who were controlling the entire Ozmu before Kleis had not become the First Elder.

“Interesting. Let's go inside. No matter what kind of secret Ozmu is hiding, it's useless now...”

With that, Merlin led the way and stepped into the pitch-black passage. After a moment of hesitation, Wizard Tamo and Wizard Gilles eventually followed him inside.

As for Yulais, she obeyed Merlin's instructions and stood guard outside the passage with the three-headed dragon.

Chapter 677: Inner Chamber I

The passage was so dark that it was impossible to see anything in front of them. It also seemed that they were descending to the underground. There was a trace of cold draught that seemed to be resistant to Spell Casters' spells.

Chi!

A flame flickered to life before Merlin. He had released a spell to illuminate the entire passage. Merlin finally saw right then that the passage he was in was not very big. At most, it would only allow two people to walk side-by-side.

To add to that, the passage also bore manmade chisel marks. There were some strange murals on the uneven surface of the stone walls. Merlin stroked the murals inside the passage gently. The icy sensation made him felt as if he was in another world.

“These stone carvings are very ancient...”

Merlin could almost feel the progression of time underneath these stone carvings. This passage was definitely not built in the last few decades but a very long time ago. Maybe more than a few thousand years ago. It could be a remnant from the Molta Empire era.

“Wizard Merlin, this place had been discovered by the southern Spell Caster world before and was almost destroyed. We’ve been through here many times, but it remains as mysterious as ever.” Wizard Tamo whispered as he stared at the stone-carved murals.

Ozmu Headquarters had always had a trace of mysteriousness about it. Nonetheless, all the other Wizards did not know of the secret within aside from the two Ancient Great Wizards of Ozmu and Kleis.

Merlin continued to walk down the passage and soon saw a glimmer of light. Just as Merlin was about to exit the passage, Wizard Tamo hurriedly spoke up behind him. “Wizard Merlin, although your abilities are outstanding, there are still many Great Wizards inside Ozmu Headquarters. Kleis has always been arrogant, so he had only brought a small number of Great Wizards with him for the final battle with the northern Spell Caster world. A majority of them are still in Ozmu Headquarters. If you barge in like this, I’m afraid it might be somewhat dangerous.”

“Dangerous?”

Merlin’s lips quirked into a smile. Wizard Tamo still had not grasp that no number of Great Wizard would pose a threat to him with Merlin’s current abilities.

Thus, Merlin did not heed Wizard Tamo’s ‘advice’ and stepped out of the passage.

Bright dazzling light flooded Merlin’s vision immediately upon exiting the passage. Nevertheless, he had adapted to the brightness in no time and began to examine his surroundings.

This was a huge underground palace. It was glorious and sparkling with gold. Huge gemstones were inset on almost every surface of the place. These gemstones were considered immaterial to Spell Casters, but the elements inside this underground palace were abnormally concentrated. In fact, they were more concentrated than any place in the Glorious Land.

Merlin had only ever sensed such concentration of elements in some of the dimensions in the Void Zone that contained large lodes of elemental crystal stones. It was unbelievable that such a place existed in the Glorious Land where resources were increasingly scarce.

However, after a careful search using his Mind Power, Merlin realized that there was no elemental crystal stone lode underneath this place. The reason the elements were so concentrated was that the entire underground palace was built with elemental crystal stones.

Every inch of the palace was polished out of elemental crystal stones. From the tiles on the ground to the glistening walls of the underground palace. Such extravagant behavior was completely unthinkable in the Glorious Land.

“Who is it?”

It was only at this moment that some of the Spell Casters in the underground palace discovered the anomaly in their midst. All of these people carried powerful elemental fluctuations, so they must be Great Wizards at least.

t]These Spell Casters were taken aback when they realized that Merlin was not a Spell Caster from Ozmu. After all, Ozmu Headquarters had never been breached by external Spell Casters.

An invisible Mind Power shrouded all the Great Wizards in the underground palace just as some of the Great Wizards regained their wits and were about to release some spells.

“Hallucinate!” Merlin growled softly.

All the Great Wizards fell into a hallucination, their expressions became blank and drunken. Judging on how powerful Merlin’s Hallucinating spell was now, these Great Wizards would never recover from the hallucination unless Merlin canceled the spell.

Merlin seemed to have entered a completely deserted place as he made his way deeper inside the palace.

Swish! Swish!

Despite their wariness, Wizard Tamo and Wizard Gilles followed in tight footsteps behind Merlin. Once they had stepped inside the underground palace, they were stunned to find that Merlin seemed to be splaying a large cloth all over the place and all the Great Wizards around them had blank looks on their faces. Even with a single glance, they could tell that these Great Wizards had been trapped in an illusion.

“All trapped in an illusion. Every last one of them! This is the majority of Great Wizards in Ozmu. Ozmu’s force should be greater than the Seven Major Spell Caster organizations of the northern Spell Caster world even without Kleis!”

If they had not witnessed it with their own eyes, Wizard Tamo and Wizard Gilles would not believe that Merlin was able to entrap so many Great Wizards in an illusion with just a single wave of his hand. This was even more staggering than his act of defeating Kleis!

“Wizard Tamo, which of these people are the two Ancient Great Wizards of Ozmu?” Merlin asked as he cast a glance over the Great Wizards in the underground palace.

Wizard Tamo looked around hurriedly. His expression changed when he whispered, “Wizard Merlin, Great Wizard Savaron and Great Wizard Terian are not here. They must be inside the inner chamber.”

“Inner chamber?”

Merlin looked at the huge dazzling golden palace around him. There seemed to only be one palace. Where was this inner chamber?

Wizard Tamo stepped forward and said, “Wizard Merlin, you may not know but this underground palace is very complex and very ancient. In fact, I suspect that this was not built by Ozmu but was built a long time ago. This is only the outer chamber. The Great Wizards usually have access to the palace up to this outer chamber. The inner chamber can only be entered by the two Ancient Great Wizards and Kleis.”

Following the direction of Wizard Tamo’s finger, Merlin looked toward the front of the main chamber. There was a very large mirror installed at the front of the main chamber. A very bizarre accessory indeed.

What was even more bizarre, though, was the fact that this mirror could not show any reflection. Its surface was covered densely with runes. Merlin could sense the complexity of these runes when he inspected the runes with his Mind Power.

“How do I enter?”

Merlin frowned, finding this Runic Magic Circle to be slightly tricky.

Wizard Tamo shook his head helplessly. “This is the most secretive place in Ozmu. No one except for a handful of people can enter. I don’t have a clue as to how I could enter the place.”

Merlin tried using the beacon ring, but there was no response.

“Wizard Merlin, why don’t we wait for a while. Maybe Great Wizard Savaron and Great Wizard Terian will emerge from the inner chamber soon.”

“Wait?”

Merlin snickered. “There’s no need. If we can’t slip in unnoticed, then we’ll just enter by force!”

Merlin stood up and gave stared at the gleaming mirror with a piercing gaze. Then, he walked towards the mirror slowly.

“Shatter now!”

Merlin extended a hand and slammed it down viciously. At once, ice crystals converged together to form a large hand, and there was even a layer of white flames wrapped around it.

The co-existence of ice and fire was only possible to those who had fused the two spells and consolidated a Wizard Heart.

Hum.

The large hand slammed onto the gleaming mirror violently. The dense runes began to flash brilliantly in an attempt to block Merlin's spell-conjured hand.

Surprisingly, it did manage to block it, but only for a brief moment.

Crack!

The flames on Merlin's spell-conjured hand burned strongly and devoured the large mirror entirely. The mysterious and powerful runes were unable to withstand the attack and shattered at once. The ferocious force even formed spiderweb-like cracks all across the mirror.

“Shatter!”

A tiny smile appeared on Merlin's lips when he saw the cracks forming across the mirror. He stretched out a finger and pointed gently. Just like that, the large mirror shattered into smithereens.

After the large mirror was shattered, Merlin's expression changed dramatically as he stared at the dark passage behind the mirror. At this moment, a familiar aura wafted from the passage.

“This aura...”

Merlin was so astonished that he disregarded all else and dashed directly into the passage toward the inner chamber.

Chapter 678: Inner Chamber II

The dark passage was obviously a Spatial Passage. Upon stepping inside this passage, Merlin's consciousness black out, and he was transported to a colossal subspace.

Arriving in this subspace stunned even the well-traveled Merlin. In this almost endless subspace, there was an incredibly humongous vessel almost as big as the sky.

Seeing this humongous vessel, Merlin was immediately reminded of the futuristic space warships depicted in the fantasy movies in his past life. This humongous vessel was inconceivably huge. Even the three-headed beast would seem minuscule next to it.

This was obviously a warship!

Only that the warship had been broken into two. Its hull was completely fractured. Even so, the ice-cold warship still gave Merlin a sense of imminent danger.

“What is this place?”

Merlin looked up and noticed that there were stars twinkling beautifully above his head, looking like an endless starry sky. There was nothing under his feet though. There was no land whatsoever. Evidently, this was a perfect subspace that was completely independent of the Glorious Land.

Merlin was no stranger to subspaces. It was possible for a Great Legend to carve out an independent subspace. It was just that the subspace carved out by most Legends were too small, perhaps only slightly bigger than the subspace contained in most spatial rings.

In reality, only those who became Great Legends would be able to transfigure spatial rings. Moreover, the Great Legends would usually carve out an independent subspace to put larger items that could not fit inside their spatial rings.

The more powerful a Legend was, the bigger the subspace they could carve. This subspace was so vast that he could not find its boundaries even after extending his Mind Power. This subspace was definitely not carved out by an ordinary Legend.

If one became an Ultimate Arcane Wizard, one could carve out not just a subspace but a brand-new dimension. For example, the three great Arcane Cities were, in fact, new dimensions that were carved out by the three Ultimate Arcane Wizards.

“Such a colossal subspace! I’m afraid even an Honored Legend would not be able to carve this!”

Merlin was mesmerized, not just by the humongous warship but also this colossal independent subspace.

Swish! Swish!

Two figures emerged from behind Merlin. They were Wizard Tamo and Wizard Giles. They were noticeably stunned as well when they saw that the inner chamber was actually this independent subspace.

They were especially shocked to see the broken warship. Their jaws had gone slack, and they could not speak at all.

“This is... What is this place? And this giant vessel, what is it?”

After all, Wizard Tamo had only ever lived in the Glorious Land. With his limited experience, he was naturally unaware that this was an independent subspace which could only be carved out by a Great Legend.

As for the warship, even Merlin was not sure why it had existed in the Glorious Land and inside the subspace carved out by a Great Legend.

“Giant vessel... Now I recall, Ozmu has many completed ancient scrolls. One of the events described most frequently is a massive war that happened over three thousand years ago. According to the scrolls, the great Molta Empire had encountered an unprecedented crisis. From the outside world came a giant vessel the size of the sky that was far more powerful than any Spell Caster casting tool transfigured by the Great Alchemists. A single beam of light shot out by the giant vessel could easily destroy an entire city... Don't tell me, this is the mysterious giant vessel described in the ancient scrolls to be as big as the sky?”

Excitement glimmered in Wizard Tamo's eyes. He had thought that the ancient scrolls had been erroneous. How could there be a powerful giant vessel that was even more powerful than all casting tools?

Moreover, a giant vessel the size of the sky was practically unimaginable to them. At one point, he also wondered whether it was merely a delusion. He did not think that the legend would be true.

“Giant vessel...”

Merlin mumbled under his breath. Suddenly, a flash of inspiration popped into his mind. Last time when he had obtained the Ship of Nikola in the Glorious Land, he found out that the Spell Casters had waged a war against a mysterious civilization when they first stepped into the Void Zone.

That mysterious civilization was very different from the Spell Caster civilization. They had massive warships as big as the sky. Even Great Legends could not defeat these vessels. Eventually, it was the Arcane Wizards' intervention that had managed to stop this extraordinary civilization.

Afterward, Merlin found out the name of this civilization for the first time when he went to the Void Zone: the Atlan civilization. The war had not ended yet. Although the Atlan civilization had been banished back to their origin dimension, one of the Ultimate Arcane Wizards of the Spell Caster civilization stayed back to guard against the Atlan Dimension. In other words, the war with the Atlan Dimension had continued till today.

“So, is this the Atlan civilization's warship?”

Merlin did not dare underestimate the Atlan civilization. After all, due to the carelessness of the Spell Caster civilization back then, the Atlan civilization managed to spread the flames of war all the way to the Glorious Land. This had caused irreparable damage to the Glorious Land, and it had yet to recover from them now.

The reason for the legacy gap in the Glorious Land, as well as its gradual fall from grace, were all closely related to the Atlan civilization.

Just as Merlin prepared to go closer, a layer of misty grey light suddenly appeared. The familiar aura that Merlin had sensed from the outer chamber emerged again.

“Maxim?”

Merlin's expression grew hesitant as he looked at this layer of misty grey light. This was clearly a Maxim consolidated by a Great Legend! The humongous warship was encapsulated by the Maxim.

“Wizard Merlin, you said that this is a Maxim? The Maxim that could only be consolidated by Great Legends?” Wizard Tamo and Wizard Gilles' voices trembled.

Merlin glanced at Wizard Tamo. He naturally understood the excitement and thrill in their hearts. Not a single Great Legend had been born on the Glorious Land ever since the collapse of the Molta Empire.

The lifelong dream of these Great Wizards was to become a Great Legend. Now that they had stumbled across a Maxim of a Great Legend here, how could they not be excited?

“Yes, this is a Maxim consolidated by a Great Legend!”

Merlin no longer paid any attention to Wizard Tamo and Wizard Gilles after that. Instead, he stared closely at this layer of misty grey Maxim. He could sense that this Maxim was fluctuating rapidly.

Splash!

Suddenly, the Maxim trembled and vibrated like water ripples. A tall puppet materialized from within the Maxim. This puppet’s eyes were hollowed out. It spoke in a deep voice when it saw Merlin, Wizard Tamo, and Wizard Gilles. “Finally, someone is here again! You’re all Spell Casters, so you are allowed to come here as per Master’s requirements. Come, follow me.”

“Master?”

Merlin’s heart skipped a beat. The fact that this puppet could walk freely inside the Maxim meant that it must have been left behind by the Great Legend who had wielded the Maxim. Merlin would not be able to break this Maxim even if he had used up all of his strength without the accompaniment of this puppet.

This was by no means a simple Maxim!

“Follow me, and don’t mess around!”

Merlin warned Wizard Tamo and Wizard Gilles walking behind him softly. Then, he took a deep breath and looked at the passage opened by the puppet. With Wizard Tamo and Wizard Gilles in tow, Merlin flew into the passage swiftly.

Once they had passed through the Maxim, the first thing Merlin did was to look at the humongous warship. Merlin could not see this warship clearly before due to it being isolated by the Maxim.

Nevertheless, he could still feel it's threatening aura.

Now that they were observing this warship close-up, Merlin felt an even stronger threat coming from it. The dark and ice-cold metal emitted a faint sheen. On the warship stood rows of black cannons that gave Merlin a spine-tingling chill. It felt more dangerous than a Great Legend.

"This is the Atlan civilization's warship?"

Merlin finally could not hold back from asking the puppet. He knew that this puppet surely had some ounce of knowledge.

"Oh? You know about the Atlan civilization? Where did you come from?"

The puppet peered at Merlin curiously.

"The Void Zone!"

After a slight pause, Merlin uttered these three words.

"What? The Void Zone?"

A fiery glow appeared inside the hollow eyes of the puppet to show its excitement and shock.

"Since you've returned to the Glorious Land from the Void Zone, I'll tell you. Yes, this warship indeed belongs to the Atlan civilization's fleet. Although it has been destroyed by Master, it's still an empire-level warship. It's normal for you to sense its threat."

The puppet chattered cooperatively. It seemed that Merlin's identity as a Spell Caster from the Void Zone had eased a lot of its concerns.

“Empire-level warships? I’m not very familiar with the Atlan civilization. Can you elaborate on that?”

Merlin was mystified. He was very unfamiliar with the Atlan civilization. He had heard of its name occasionally but did not know of the history behind it.

The puppet explained in detail, “The Atlan civilization is a very unique civilization. Their physical bodies are not very powerful. They’re actually not much different from the Normies. In fact, compared with the civilization tribes in the Void Zone, you could say that they’re them weak! However, they managed to develop some very powerful tools. These tools are somewhat similar to the Spell Casters’ casting tools, and the most powerful tool is none other than these warships! The Atlan civilization’s warships are generally classified into city-level, empire-level, dimension-level, and according to legends, void-level!”

“A city-level warship possesses powers comparable to a Great Legend whereas an empire-level warship is comparable to an Honored Legend. As for the dimension-level warship, well, it has once killed a Great Lord!”

This was the first time Merlin had heard so much about the Atlan civilization. He frowned and said, “So does that mean that a void-level warship is comparable to an Ultimate Arcane Wizard?”

The puppet shook its head incessantly. “It’s not that simple to achieve the level of an Ultimate Arcane Wizard. Among the millions of civilization tribes in the Void Zone, how many civilizations do you know have given birth to an Ultimate Arcane Wizard? Only a small handful has managed to produce an ultimate existence. Although the Atlan civilization’s void-level warship is very powerful, it still unable to rival an Arcane Wizard. Nonetheless, even the mightiest Lord would not be a worthy opponent of a void-level warship!

“Not to mention, if the Atlan civilization achieved an ultimate existence, why would they remain suppressed in their origin dimension? The reason the war had lasted for so many years is due to their caution against the ultimate existences. Perhaps, there is something in the Atlan civilization that makes the Ultimate Arcane Wizards wary, therefore they are unable to destroy the Atlan civilization completely.”

Merlin nodded. The Atlan civilization was very secretive in the Void Zone. In fact, most of the Great Legends were unwilling to talk about the Atlan civilization. Otherwise, it was impossible Merlin still did not know much about the Atlan civilization after staying in the Void Zone for such a long time.

“By the way, which Wizard is your Master?”

Merlin spared a glance at the puppet and was very curious about the identity of its Master. Firstly, the puppet knew so much, and secondly, this empire-level warship which was comparable to an Honored Legend had been easily destroyed this puppet’s owner. Hence, he must at least be an Honored Legend.

“You’d only be qualified to learn of Master’s identity if you can pass Master’s first challenge!” the puppet replied coldly and did not answer the question.

Chapter 679: The Origin Lord!

“Challenge?”

Merlin looked at the puppet. It did not seem to be kidding.

“Okay, challenge away.”

Merlin was now filled with confidence. No matter what challenge it was, he would be able to pass it.

“Very well, the first challenge is, you must defeat six puppets like me! Remember, these puppets are all comparable to a peak Great Wizard!”

As soon as the puppet finished speaking, six fully-black puppets whizzed through the air from beyond. Merlin used his Mind Power to scan them, there was indeed no life force.

However, the material that formed these puppets’ bodies was quite extraordinary. The puppets were not made from conventional materials typically used in puppet transfiguration but instead, a distinctive kind of metal.

“Can I start now?”

“Of course!”

Upon hearing the puppet's reply, Merlin's Magic Power gushed out of his body and swiftly transformed into a terrifying hurricane that hurled toward the six puppets.

This terrifying hurricane contained a potent shredding force that could be sensed even from the outside. It had far surpassed a Great Wizard, so even the mightiest existence below a Legend might not be able to withstand it. This force was already comparable to a Great Legend!

The hurricane advanced like a hot knife through butter, and ruthlessly swiped up the six puppets. In an instant, the potent shredding force immediately shredded the six puppets into smithereens. There was no resistance whatsoever.

"Did I pass the challenge?"

Merlin turned to look at the puppet beside him.

Inside the puppet's hollow eye sockets, a fiery-red glow appeared. The puppet was apparently quite stunned as it stuttered, "Of course, you've passed. Your spell is already comparable to a Great Legend's Maxim power. Are you a civilization-level prodigy?"

This puppet was extremely knowledgeable, and even knew about civilization-level prodigies.

Merlin grinned. Just as he was about to continue asking about the Spell Caster who had defeated this warship and created this colossal subspace, suddenly, from the corner of his eyes, he saw the six puppets who had been shredded into pieces by his hurricane earlier reassembling themselves from the countless smithereens. Soon, they were completely recovered, and looked undamaged.

"Recovered? What puppets are these?"

Merlin had seen many puppets including puppets more powerful than these but he had never seen puppets that could recover. This had exceeded his knowledge of puppets.

"Shatter!"

Without warning, Merlin wielded a mighty spell, and slammed downward. Immediately, the six newly-restored puppets were crushed into dust again.

However, this time, Merlin used his Mind Power to carefully observe these tiny smithereens. After a moment, the black smithereens began to vibrate, then, almost as if it was alive, rapidly reassembled together.

Every single piece, without exception, reassembled together. Subsequently, they turned into liquid, and fused rapidly. Soon, the puppets which were turned into dust, reappeared once again.

“Immortal?”

Merlin was astonished. In the Void Zone, there were some civilization tribes that were known to be “immortal” but they were not truly immortal, just harder to kill. Once their weak points were exposed, they could be killed easily.

Merlin carefully examined these puppets. They looked exactly like other ordinary puppets. The only difference was the material of their body, which Merlin had never seen before.

“Do you see it now? Master transfigured all of them using the special metal from the warship. It’s called liquid memory metal. This metal is very unique. No matter how much impact it undergoes, it can still recover rapidly, and remain unblemished. It’s truly difficult to kill them. Moreover, this metal can also withstand extremely hot and cold temperatures. Unless, you achieve the power level of a Legend and can unleash a fearsome Flame Maxim or other similar tactics to burn the liquid memory metal into ashes. Then, it’ll not be able to recover and can be killed!”

Hearing the puppet’s explanation, Merlin’s interest was piqued by the liquid memory metal. Although the puppets transfigured from this metal was not truly immortal, their ability to recover was astonishing. If there were a big number of them, they would be a truly intimidating force to reckon with.

“The Atlan civilization is truly unique. That warship in particular, contains several battle tactics that impressed even Master. After some time, you’ll come to understand it! Anyway, you’ve passed the first challenge. Come on, let’s go and see what Master has left behind for you.”

This puppet appeared to be in control of the entire independent subspace.

“Oh, right, so who’s your Master actually?”

Upon hearing Merlin’s question, the puppet paused, and stopped in its tracks. Turning its head around, it replied softly, “Master’s name is but a single word, ‘Origin’. Many of the Spell Casters back then called him Wizard Origin!”

“Origin?”

Merlin mumbled under his breath. Soon, he seemed to recall something, and raised his head abruptly with a look of astonishment.

“Do you mean the Origin Lord? One of the most ancient and most powerful Lord in the Spell Caster civilization? Later, unfortunately, he died in a battle with a foreign tribe!”

Merlin immediately recalled an ancient legend within the Spell Caster civilization. The history of the Spell Caster civilization did not date back very long, so the Origin Lord was one of the most ancient Lords.

Merlin had once asked the similarly-ancient Blackfire Lord. However, compared to the Origin Lord, the Blackfire Lord was less ancient. It seemed that the Origin Lord existed since the birth of the Spell Casters. Then, he gradually grew in power as they fought back against the gods.

In fact, some Wizards said that if the Origin Lord had survived until now, he might have become an ultimate existence.

The Origin Lord died a very long time ago but his legend still continued to live on within the Spell Caster civilization, to the point that even Merlin had heard of it. It was completely unfathomable that the secret of Ozmu Headquarters was linked to the Origin Lord.

“That’s right, the Origin Lord! He had constructed this independent subspace, and defeated this Atlan civilization warship as well as left behind a series of challenges. If you manage to obtain everything left behind by the Origin Lord, then there’s hope for you to become a Great Lord as well!”

The puppet left behind by the Origin Lord noticeably missed him quite dearly, and held a special affection for the Origin Lord.

Merlin's heart was thrilled. The Origin Lord was a very ancient and very powerful Lord. The items that he left behind must be extraordinary. Although Merlin had already met an Arcane Wizard, he was not an Arcane Wizard's disciple, so, he could not obtain more benefits.

This was different for the Origin Lord. The items he left behind were specifically intended to nurture Spell Casters. Naturally, he would leave behind something beneficial. Thus, Merlin was incredibly thrilled.

"I wonder what the Origin Lord left behind?"

Merlin murmured inaudibly as he followed behind the puppet. They continued to traverse the pitch-black subspace.

"The items left behind by the Origin Lord are of course exceptionally beneficial, even to a Great Wizard. You are the second person to pass the first challenge, so I hope you can continue to pass the second and perhaps even the third challenge."

The puppet's words revealed a lot of information. Apparently, the Origin Lord's challenge was just not a single challenge. There was a second and even a third challenge.

However, the most surprising bit of information to Merlin was that he was not the first person to pass the first challenge. He could not imagine who else would be able to defeat six puppets that were not only comparable to peak Great Wizards but were extremely tough to kill.

"Who was the first Wizard to pass that challenge?"

Merlin asked quietly.

"The first Wizard... He was also a very special Spell Caster. He was a rare Spatial Wizard! Nevertheless, he was not as skillful as you. It took some time for him to pass the challenge. I think his name is Kleis!"

“Kleis?”

An odd look flitted across Merlin’s face. He did not expect that Kleis also passed the challenge. He wondered what item did Kleis received back then.

Thus, Merlin continued to follow behind the puppet, a look of anticipation plastered across his face.

Chapter 680: Five-Elemental Wizard Heart!

“Whoosh.”

Following behind the puppet, Merlin suddenly saw two peculiar zones suspended in the pitch-black void. Among these two zones, one of them was filled with a chilly sensation whereas the other felt earthy.

“We’re here. This is what Master deliberately left behind. It contains Master’s insights from when he consolidated his Maxims. Inside, you’ll witness the evolution of Maxims. Every single transformation of the evolution of spells into Maxims are manifested inside. Back then, Kleis also entered both places, and slowly collected insights for a few months. Merlin, these two places that Master has left behind are merely from his most ordinary Maxim. They’re not his Ultimate Maxim. If you want to receive insights into a more powerful Maxim, you’ll have to pass the second challenge.”

The puppet said cautiously as it pointed toward the two zones.

“Evolution of Maxims?”

Merlin furrowed his brows. He did not know what the evolution of Maxims was supposed to be.

“Correct, evolution of Maxims. It’s okay if you don’t know what is it now. Once you enter, you’ll understand. Nevertheless, I must remind you. Even if you don’t derive any insight from it, you must memorize the evolution process of the Maxims meticulously. The evolution process of a Maxim is highly sought after even in the Void Zone. In fact, if you pass the second challenge, the evolution of an Ultimate Maxim is something that even the Great Legends would fight to get their hands on.”

Upon finishing speaking, the puppet left and disappeared without a trace. Its hiding place was indiscernible.

Merlin took a deep breath and flew toward the earthy zone. Then, he entered it.

“Boom.”

Upon stepping his foot inside, Merlin had sensed that his surroundings had shifted. Before his eyes was an endless Earth Maxim. In this zone, the Earth Maxim was in every corner.

Merlin’s Mind Power examined his surroundings. The Earth Maxim in this place seemed to be circulating continuously. Merlin’s consciousness began to penetrate the Earth Maxim.

It was the evolution process of a Maxim. In the beginning, there were only the Earth Elements. They existed everywhere and floated around in the air like dust. The Earth Elements could not be seen with the naked eye. Only a Spell Caster’s Mind Power could sense it.

Then, the Earth Element was absorbed into the Spell Caster’s body and was converted by the Earth-type Spell Model into Magic Power. Subsequently, the Spell Models grew stronger and stronger, until they eventually fused together as one. At this moment, the Earth-type Magic Power began to undergo a qualitative transformation.

For an unknown period of time, the Earth-type Magic Power was slowly transforming. Then, the Earth-type Magic Power became more solid, just like real earth.

This was the essence of the Earth Element, solidness!

Upon discovering the Essence of Element, the Earth-type Magic Power would soon become a Maxim that was superior to all the Earth Elements.

Merlin carefully watched the entire evolution process of the Earth Maxim. It felt extraordinarily personal. Merlin had never seen the evolution process at such a close-up before.

However, there was an obvious impact. The Earth-type Wizard Heart in Merlin's body was trembling violently, and he felt a strong urge.

Merlin still remembered that in the beginning, constructing an Earth-type Spell Model was arduous. Later, he gradually fused his Spell Models and consolidated the Earth-type Wizard Heart but he never really understood the Essence of the Earth Element.

Now that he saw the entire evolution process of the Maxim, he seemed to have gained a significant insight. He gently shut his eyes. Currently, the Earth-type Wizard Heart no longer held any secret in Merlin's eyes.

Merlin had seen a fair share of Maxims but the evolution of a Maxim could not be reenacted by just anyone. If an ordinary Legend were to reenact the evolution of Maxim, there would be a huge price to pay.

The Origin Lord had deliberately left behind the evolution process of Maxim to help Spell Casters. Although he paid a great price, he was able to withstand it.

The evolution of Maxims was indeed immensely beneficial to Spell Casters who were yet to consolidate a Maxim. In fact, it might even increase their chances of consolidating a Maxim.

Currently, Merlin had derived some insights but he did not try to consolidate a Maxim. He was yet to become a Great Wizard. Without consolidating the multi-colored Wizard Heart, it was impossible to consolidate a Maxim.

However, the insights about the Earth Element still brought about a great change for Merlin's Earth-type Wizard Heart. Previously, the reason Merlin had not been able to fuse the Earth-type Wizard Heart with the Four-Elemental Wizard Heart was precisely due to his lack of understanding of the Earth-type Wizard Heart.

Perhaps he did not fully understand the Earth-type Wizard Heart, a forced fusion would cause the Wizard Heart to collapse. Right now, however, he was very insightful about the Earth-type Wizard Heart. His understanding was secondary only to Great Legends who had consolidated a Maxim.

Merlin gently shut his eyes. Since he had gained some insights, he did not need to forcibly memorize the evolution process of the Earth Maxim. It would naturally be filed away at the deepest part of his brain.

“Hum hum.”

Soon, in Merlin’s Awareness, the Four-Elemental Wizard Heart and the Earth-type Wizard Heart began to tremble and edged closer to one another. This was a very natural reaction that Merlin did not even have to activate by force. The time was right!

“Fuse!”

In Merlin’s mind, he replayed the entire evolution process of the Earth Maxim. It felt extremely personal, almost as if it had happened to him.

Thus, he gained a comprehensive understanding of the Earth-type Wizard Heart. When the two Wizard Hearts came together, his entire Awareness shook. They fused very quickly.

This time, the two Wizard Hearts did not vibrate precariously like the last time. In his last fusion attempt, the moment the two Wizard Hearts got nearer, they seemed ready to collapse.

The Four-Elemental Wizard Heart was now incredibly powerful and was practically engulfing the Earth-type Wizard Heart. In fact, in the process of combining a Wizard Heart, once one side became more dominant, it would no longer be a fusion. Instead, it would almost be an engulfment. The more powerful Wizard Heart would engulf the weaker Wizard Heart.

The only difference was whether the Spell Caster could maintain control over the weaker Wizard Heart. If he could not control it, the Wizard Heart would collapse, and the fusion would fail.

Therefore, it was because Merlin watched the evolution of Maxim here that he gained an understanding of Earth Elements and was able to fully control the Earth-type Wizard Heart. This was why the fusion went so smoothly.

“Boom.”

The fusion process only took up a few hours and was perfectly fused. At this moment, Merlin’s Wizard Heart was further strengthened. This powerful feeling made Merlin feel like he could tear apart the Earth Maxim willfully.

Bearing in mind this was a Maxim that belonged to a Great Lord!

Although this Maxim was not comparable to an Ultimate Maxim, it was still a Maxim of a Great Lord. Hence, it was far more powerful than an average Legend's Maxim. The fact that Merlin could entertain the thought of tearing apart this Maxim shed light on the might of his Five-Element Wizard Heart.

Maxims of the same type could be either strong or weak. Other than achieving an Ultimate Maxim and becoming an Honored Legend, a Maxim could range from strong to weak.

The Maxim left behind by the Origin Lord was fast approaching the level of an Ultimate Maxim. This Maxim was so tremendously powerful that Merlin's Four-Elemental Heart before this could not tear it.

Coming to this thought, an eagerness sparked in Merlin's heart. Abruptly, he opened his eyes and stood up. Then, his hands stretched forward and grabbed.

"Swoosh."

The newly-consolidated Five-Elemental Wizard Heart immediately coalesced into two giant hands that forcefully grabbed the Earth Maxim.

"Skrak."

The giant hand conjured by Merlin's Five-Elemental Wizard Heart clutched the Earth Maxim and tore with all his might. In an instant, the originally rock-solid Maxim had been torn apart, and the entire subspace shook.

"What happened?"

The mysterious puppet from before appeared in a flash. It stared anxiously at the Earth Maxim evolution zone where Merlin was in. A look of astonishment lit up on its ice-cold face.