

W. Secret 721

Chapter 721: Ruba's Monument II

This Veron who stood before him gave Merlin an eerie feeling. He could also detect a trace of dangerous aura from him.

“Who are you?”

Veron took a step forward. His plain-looking demeanor had immediately transformed into a frightening presence, and his special force field shrouded Merlin without warning.

Boom!

An invisible pressure made Merlin feel like his entire body was restrained. He was unable to move forward quickly.

Fortunately, Merlin had already covered himself with spells, and the Wizard Heart had emerged behind him at once. Merlin's expression also turned icy when Veron attacked him without any warning.

“Ice Seal.”

Merlin stretched out a finger. The surrounding area was frozen into ice which was extending at high speed towards Veron. The frigid draught had overwhelmed the three Sanctuary Contenders.

Chi! Chi! Chi!

Dissimilar to when Merlin was facing off the three Sanctuary Contenders, Merlin's spell did not manage to touch Veron before it seemed to have encountered a powerful and invisible force. The ice crystals shattered and were unable to trap Veron.

At the same time, the surrounding pressure seemed to have turned chaotic. An incredible force was trying to tear apart every layer of defensive spells Merlin had on his body.

“There’s not just one special force field?”

Merlin’s eyebrows rose. He did not expect Veron to be so powerful. Moreover, Veron did not only have a single type of force field but a combination of force fields each attributing to a different ability. It was unpredictable, and a three- or four-Maxim Legend might not be able to resist his attacks.

Only someone like Merlin, who had consolidated a groundbreakingly powerful Wizard Heart comparable to a six-Maxim Great Legend and was second only to an Honored Legend, was a match for him in combat.

“Darkness Cover!”

Merlin waved his hand again and the sky turned dark. Darkness blocked out the rays of light and turned the entire sky pitch-black. This was no ordinary darkness. Even one’s Mind Power could not penetrate it. It was also filled with lethal attacks.

“Chaos!”

Veron’s long hair swayed despite the stillness in the air. His special force field covered a vast area, including the sky. Hence, the power of his special force field exploded and blew away the endless darkness forcefully.

“Fire!”

Merlin tried to employ various types of spells, but no matter what spell he used, they were disintegrated easily by Veron. At the same time, Veron’s force field could also be easily broken down by Merlin’s defensive spell.

The two of them began to fight!

This was the first time Merlin had encountered an opponent who was a match for him in terms of power since he became a Great Wizard. As a Great Wizard who was second only to an

Honored Legend, Merlin had thought that he would never encounter a worthy opponent anymore aside from someone who was an Honored Legend.

It was unexpected that Veron he had just met had quite a powerful force field too. These twisted, chaotic, and weighted force fields were powerful enough to shatter any spell attack to dust. There was no doubt that Veron was also a powerful existence second only to an Honored Legend.

“This is troublesome. If I don’t mobilize the Illusory World or the empire-level warship, I won’t be able to defeat Veron!”

Merlin’s gaze flickered with hesitation. The situation right now was very clear on the fact that Veron was equally powerful as Merlin. If they were to compete on the basis of stamina, Merlin was unwilling to waste so much of his Magic Power.

“I’m from a foreign world. I’m here for the Ruba’s Monument behind you!”

Since Merlin could not defeat him, they might as well work together. Merlin’s objective was to obtain the item left behind by Aruba in this world, not to destroy it.

“Ruba’s Monument?”

Veron’s eyes lit up with interest. Then, the three Sanctuary Contenders gave him a brief introduction on Merlin’s identity. Even Veron, a Sanctuary Contender who had lived for god knows how long, was taken completely by surprise.

After a while, he took the initiative to retract his special force field and showed some goodwill.

“Someone from the foreign world, huh? Our space here was really tough to the point we could not break through it, but I have a vague premonition that behind this space is an endless vast world... True enough, I was right. Do you know how to leave the Mobata world?”

Distinctive from the other Sanctuary Contenders, Veron did not seem astonished by Merlin’s origin from a foreign world. However, it was all that surprising if one were to think about it. Based on his abilities, it was not impossible for Veron to discern that there was another world behind this space even though he could not rip open space.

“I’m afraid the secret to leaving the Mobata world lies within the secret of Ruba’s Monument. You’ve been here for a long time, have you discovered the secret of Ruba’s Monument?”

Merlin did not continue to elaborate on his identity but redirected the conversation to Ruba’s Monument.

“Ruba’s Monument. Despite knowing that there are secrets hidden within and have been deciphering it for a long time, I’m still unable to decrypt its mystery. Since you are here for the secret inside Ruba’s Monument, perhaps you may have an idea?”

Both of them were well-aware that their abilities were evenly matched. Therefore, Veron treated Merlin as an equal. Although he did not say it outright, Veron’s meaning was very clear. Should Merlin managed to decipher the secret of Ruba’s Monument, both of them would share it. Together, there was nothing they could not solve.

Merlin nodded. Although he did not have any specific ideas as of now, he was sure that there was something special about this place to warrant the sphinx sending him here.

“I’ll try.”

Merlin walked up to look at the huge Ruba’s Monument. There were some carvings of humans on top which appeared to be a set of training drills.

“This carving on top is a set of training drills?” Merlin asked curiously.

Veron nodded. “Yes, it’s a set of training drills, but it’s the most common and most primitive training drills, so it’s not very useful. Many people have tried cultivating this set of training drills, but its effect is quite appalling.”

After all, Ruba’s Monument had stood here for a very long time. Due to developments over long periods of time, the training drills were constantly updated and many people had invented more powerful training drills.

However, Merlin froze when he read the moves for the training drills. Were these postures not the same as the mysterious relief sculptures he had in his hand?

There were other pictures besides the training drills. These pictures gave Merlin another jolt of shock. They were exactly the same as the one he had seen in the secret place regarding the development of the Glorious Land. Of course, the Mobatans would not understand what it meant.

Merlin was sure that this Ruba's Monument was definitely linked to the master of the secret place, the ever-mysterious Aruba.

"Have you tried shrouding Ruba's Monument with your force field?" Merlin asked Veron as he examined the stone monument carefully.

"Of course I've tried that, but there seems to be no effect. We've tried everything we can but still couldn't discover its mystery. If not for the fact that Ruba's Monument is too miraculous and indestructible, some people might even think that it's merely a prank."

Veron also appeared quite helpless. Everyone knew that Ruba's Monument contained secrets, but no one could decrypt it.

"If even your special force field is useless, then I'll try using my Mind Power. This is a characteristic unique to Spell Casters. If it's as the sphinx guardian said, that Aruba had left something behind in this world, I don't believe it would be unaffected by a Spell Caster's Mind Power."

Merlin knew very well that Aruba would not leave something behind but forbid them to be taken away. It was because no Spell Casters had been here before, so the prerequisite was not fulfilled. Now that he had fulfilled the prerequisite, Merlin wanted to try again.

Hum...

When the Mind Power projected by Merlin touched Ruba's Monument, the white light on the stone monument changed right away. The carvings on the monument also seemed to come alive and became highly animated.

"It's moving, it's really moving. Does this mean that the secret of Ruba's Monument will soon be revealed?"

Veron and the other three Sanctuary Contenders were unbelievably thrilled.

“There’s a change!”

Merlin’s heart was also bursting with anticipation. He had spent a lot of effort coming to the Mobata world simply to discover what this mysterious Aruba had left behind.

Boom!

Suddenly, Ruba’s Monument shook violently. A dark and unfathomable vortex appeared on top of the huge stone monument. It seemed to lead towards a mysterious place.

New words were forming in the Molta language on the monument itself.

“He who seeks to enter this gate must need a Spell Caster’s Mind Power and a Sanctuary Contender’s blood.”

“The fresh blood of a Sanctuary Contender?”

Merlin glanced at Veron. The other Sanctuary Contenders also seemed eager to participate. With the secret of Ruba’s Monument at stake, no one was willing to give up the opportunity.

Chi!

Veron was not slow to point a finger at Ruba’s Monument. A drop of blood flew out and was quickly absorbed by Ruba’s Monument. Similarly, Merlin projected a strand of his Mind Power into Ruba’s Monument.

Hum... Hum... Hum...

Subsequently, the pitch-black vortex emitted an even stronger suction which seemed to be pulling Merlin and Veron into it. Both of them did not resist and allowed this suction power to suck them into the vortex.

Swish!

The two figures disappeared in an instant, leaving behind three astonished Sanctuary Contenders.

“They’re both gone?”

“They must have gone to search for the secret of Ruba’s Monument. Let’s try too.”

These three Sanctuary Contenders, of course, did not dare to fight Veron. Now that both Merlin and Veron had gone ahead, they also wanted to explore the secret of Ruba’s Monument.

Thus, the three of them dripped their blood onto Ruba’s Monument. After a while, they realized that it was utterly useless no matter how many drops of blood they dripped onto Ruba’s Monument. Ruba’s Monument did not change at all.

“Is our blood useless? Or perhaps it’s because we don’t have that person from the foreign world?”

The three Sanctuary Contenders were disappointed. This was their best chance to discover the secret of Ruba’s Monument, yet they missed it.

“We don’t know if Sir Veron will be able to discover the secret of Ruba’s Monument. If this secret can help the Mobatans overcome our predicament, then it would be the most helpful.”

Although the three of them did not manage to enter, Veron did. The secret of Ruba’s Monument had plagued the Mobatans for tens of thousands of years. No one knew what the secret actually contained.

Hence, the three of them could only pray for Veron in their hearts. Then, they stood guard before Ruba’s Monument. They believed, surely, Veron would return soon.

Chapter 722: Secret of Origin I

Swish! Swish!

Two figures were wrapped in a white ray and flung into an unknown space.

“What is this place?”

Veron, who had a tough body, and Merlin, who had resilient Mind Power, had awoken quickly. They had only lost consciousness for a split second.

Although both of them were powerful existences second only to an Honored Legend, they were rendered completely helpless when the white light wrapped around them.

Merlin’s Mind Power seemed to have met an invisible barrier. Even space was being suppressed in a place like this. Veron also could sense the unusual quality of this place.

There was no distinction between day and night in this place. It appeared to be an empty space.

Hum...

Suddenly, the space around them quivered. A ball of dazzling light gradually ascended into the air.

“Finally, someone is here...”

A faint sigh reverberated in this abnormal space. Merlin stared directly at this dazzling ball of light. The voice came from within the light.

“Who are you?” Merlin asked in a deep voice.

“Aren’t you looking for me?”

The dazzling light gradually coalesced into a tall figure. He wore a layer of black armor, looking like a powerful knight.

“Are you Aruba?”

Merlin’s eyes narrowed a little. Was this person Aruba, the mysterious founder of the secret place, the creator of the Mobota world and was intricately linked to the Glorious Land?

“My real name, even I’ve forgotten it... But when I traverse the infinite Latitude Cosmos, they call me Aruba!”

This armored man was indeed Aruba. Merlin’s breath hitched. He came to the Mobata world just so he could to search for this mysterious Aruba.

“Traverse the infinite Latitude Cosmos? What do you mean?”

Merlin had so many questions he wanted to ask, but he could not help but ask when he heard what Aruba has said in passing.

Aruba glanced at Merlin and waved his hand. The entire space was illuminated, and their surroundings transformed rapidly.

Under Merlin’s and Veron’s startling gaze, a little gazebo appeared. Surrounding this little gazebo was a huge lake, and on the lake floated countless beautiful lotus leaves. A gentle breeze stirred up ripples of water across the calm surface. It was picturesque.

That was not all. A marble table materialized in the gazebo along with a few cups of hot beverage, giving off a tempting aroma. Merlin used his Mind Power to check his surroundings and could not sense any illusion.

“What a realistic illusion!” Merlin mumbled under his breath. It was impossible for him to create such an illusion even with his current Hallucinating spell realm. This was almost like a real-life illusion.

Beside him, Veron was completely dumbstruck. The shock that rattled through his heart rendered him stricken for a long time.

“Do you think this is an illusion?” Aruba asked, amused.

“Huh? So, it’s not an illusion?”

Merlin’s heart skipped a beat. He had seen it with his own eyes just now that these things had appeared bit by bit out of thin air. This was a reversal of natural order.

No one could create something out of nothing, even the ultimate existences. This was because natural order that existed everywhere did not allow such occurrence.

“Of course it’s not an illusion. Perhaps it may seem unbelievable to you, but really, this is not an illusion. I believe you’ve seen me give life to the icy statues. If I can give life, what can’t I do?” Aruba said calmly.

“Yes, if you can give life to a statue, what is conjuring something out of nothing?”

Merlin looked at Aruba in a daze. Meeting Aruba in person was even more disconcerting than ever and had overturned all his previous cognitions.

Aruba lifted the pristine white cup and took a sip. He appeared to be at ease. After a while, he spoke slowly, “This was one of the amazing Latitude Cosmos that I’ve visited. This is called tea n their Latitude. I like this. Why don’t you try it and tell me what you think about it?”

Merlin wrinkled his forehead. In his previous life, tea was not considered an exotic item. He knew that it was a type of beverage favored by people back in the olden days.

However, it was rarely consumed now in this lifetime of his.

“A little bitter.”

Veron had finally regained his composure and tried a sip.

“Yes, a little bitter, but full of flavor.”

Aruba smiled.

Merlin pressed on, “The Latitude Cosmos that you mentioned just now, what do you mean?”

“The Latitude Cosmos is not something you can understand right now. Let me simplify it. You should know about the Void Zone, right? The Latitude Cosmos is like another Void Zone, but with millions of Void Zones. Do you understand that?”

Aruba’s explanation was very straightforward. How could Merlin not understand?

Nevertheless, it was too astounding. The entire Void Zone was already so incredibly vast that neither Merlin nor the three Ultimate Arcane Wizards could discover its boundaries.

According to Aruba though, there was also an amazing Latitude Cosmos which contained infinite vast universes that were like the Void Zone.

Despite the clarity of Aruba’s explanation, Merlin still could not wrap his head around the concept.

“And you can traverse the Latitude Cosmos?” Merlin continued to ask.

“Of course. I’ve traversed countless Latitude Cosmos to reach the universe you call Void Zone. It’s quite an interesting place. The Void Zone actually gave birth to quite a large number of ultimate existences. So I decided to loiter here for some time. According to your measurement of time, it should be around hundreds of thousands of years,” Aruba said indifferently.

Merlin gawked. Hundreds of thousands of years. The way Aruba said it sounded like it was inconsequential to him. The Spell Caster civilization had left the Glorious Land and entered the Void Zone around three thousand years ago. Hence, a few hundred thousand years was an inconceivably long time.

“The stone carvings in the secret place were left behind by you?”

Merlin continued to pursue.

“Yes, I left them behind. Back then, I was fascinated by the Void Zone, so I went to a dimension. Unfortunately, that dimension was simply too barren. No life forms had yet to come into existence in the dimension that you now call the Glorious Land. Before coming to the Void Zone, I’ve traveled around several Latitude Cosmos and was quite tired. I had also learned a lot and had some peculiar ideas in my mind, so I wanted to try to make them come true in the Glorious Land.

“After a while, I kick-started the evolution of life in the Glorious Land and the Normies appeared. Nonetheless, the natural order of the Void Zone is really weird. Apparently, wherever intelligent life appears, the gods will be born. I’ve studied about gods for many years. My rudimentary inference is that they are a product of the Void Zone’s natural order. Every Latitude Cosmos’ natural order is strange and unfathomable. They’re really special in their own way.

“It’s just that, I was hoping for some change. I’ve lived for far too long and I’m very lonely. Throughout my endless travels, I’ve never met anyone who could traverse the Latitude Cosmos freely like me. Therefore, I started a very interesting experiment in the Void Zone. First of all, I used myself as a blueprint. Back then, I’ve overcome the natural order due to various reasons and received boundless power in return. That’s why I can break away from the constraints of natural order and rise above them. I could travel to anywhere I want in the Latitude Cosmos. So, using myself as the blueprint, I trained the people in the Glorious Land to practice some training drills. These training drills were specially designed for their bodies. I hoped that with the strengthening of their physical bodies, they would be able to achieve excellence.

“However, it was a failure. My miracle could not be replicated. The natural order of this world was too constricting. Even after these people cultivated the training drills and become a strong contender, they are unable to break through their own limitations. If we’re to say this in terms of the levels of Spell Casters, this bottleneck would be the level of an Honored Legend. No matter how much they’ve cultivated, they simply could not achieve an existence above an Honored Legend.”

Merlin processed it in his head and understood. He responded calmly, “So, these people were failed creations. You then created a world and sent all of them there. You named it the Mobata world and the people Mobatans, meaning imperfect, incomplete, failure, right?”

Merlin had finally understood the meaning of ‘Mobata’ entirely. It meant that the Mobatans were failed creations.

Aruba smiled and nodded. “Yes, you guessed correctly. The Mobatans are failed creations. They’re flawed and imperfect, so I sent them into the Mobata world, but their world is still attached to the Glorious Land by using its Origin as the communication bridge.”

Standing beside them, Veron’s mind had already gone blank. How could he not understand what Merlin and Aruba were saying? The Mobata world that his people had lived for generations was none other than a failed world.

It seemed that the gravely threatened Mobatans were merely failed creations under Aruba’s hand...

Merlin took a deep breath and closed his eyes. He followed his line of thoughts and said calmly, “The Mobatans were failed creations, but you didn’t get rid of all the training drills. You left some behind.” Merlin spoke emotionlessly.

The relief sculpture Merlin had was probably what the first generation of Mobatans cultivated. Aruba did not erase them though.

“I think that you’re not satisfied with your failure. The Spell Casters’ appearance after that was your doing too. Am I right?”

“That’s right. After my first failure, and after contemplating for a long time, I finally decided not to destroy the natural order of the Void Zone. I’ll instead make use of its natural order. Coincidentally, the Glorious Land was filled with some odd energy sources which you call the Elements. So, I followed the characteristics of these Elements and constructed some Spell Models. With that, the Spell Casters were born.”

Despite already expecting such an answer, actually hearing that the Spell Casters were created by this Aruba before him had rendered Merlin speechless.

Chapter 723: Secret of Origin II

The Spell Caster civilization, which had three ultimate existences and was once glorified in the Void Zone, was actually created by this Aruba before his eyes.

No matter how unbelievable it was to Merlin, it was the truth.

Aruba was unperturbed by Merlin's revelations and continued to speak. "The birth of Spell Casters exceeded my expectations. I merely constructed some simple Spell Models for them based on the characteristics of the Elements. It was at this point that the creativity of intelligent life was manifested. With just a few basic Spell Models, the Spell Caster civilization developed further and further effortlessly. Thereafter, they have developed Spell Models that are much more advanced and complicated as well as alchemy, potions, runology and so on."

"However, the gods were powerful. Although the Spell Caster civilization's development had exceeded my expectations, it had not been a smooth-sailing journey. A product of the Void Zone's natural order still remained—the gods! Naturally, these gods had discovered the Spell Casters in no time. The fact that the Spell Casters were born seemingly without rhyme or reason also puzzled the gods. Nevertheless, similar to all the dimensions in the Void Zone, once the people ruled by the gods gained strength, they would retaliate against the gods. The Glorious Land was no exception!

"Hence, the Spell Casters began to retaliate. Alas, they have only developed so far, so their first and second attempts had been a failure. That, I believe you've already learned from my stone carvings. It was at this juncture that I intervened. Among this bunch of Spell Casters, I've nurtured a few people with strong inherent talents. I can still remember it very clearly. I changed my identity and went to instruct the first Spell Caster, Augustus."

Merlin was shell-shocked. This name was not unfamiliar to any Spell Caster and was especially well-known among the Great Legends. This was because he was the first Ultimate Arcane Wizards of the Spell Caster civilization, Arcane Wizard Augustus!

"The second one was called Ceci. His talents were not lacking compared to Augustus. Under their leadership, the Spell Casters finally overcame the rule of the gods and even began to step foot in the Void Zone. I knew then that the Spell Casters will finally become a powerful civilization. However, this wasn't what I wanted to achieve. Both Augustus and Ceci were very powerful, but they chose to integrate into natural order and be bound by it. They are forever unable to break the bindings of the natural order, and this was not my original intention.

"Subsequently, I chose another few people among the Spell Casters and used different identities to instruct them. You Spell Casters are indeed perfect. You're intelligent, powerful and brimming with potential. In just a short amount of time, you were able to develop into a powerful civilization which was almost beyond my wildest imagination. Nonetheless, you have not been able to give birth to an existence above the ultimate existences. I remember the last two people I instructed were named Diss and Setoh. The talents of these two were probably second only to Augustus and Ceci."

Merlin raised his head abruptly and a strange glint flashed across his eyes. Setoh was obviously Arcane Wizard Setoh. He chose to travel along the same road as Augustus and Ceci, which was to integrate into the natural order. Despite being bound by the natural order, they were able to have incredibly powerful abilities and become ultimate existences.

As for Diss, many people might not know him, but Merlin knew that Diss was the name of the Blackfire Lord. Merlin had been surprised that the Blackfire Lord and Arcane Wizard Setoh had such an intimate relationship with one another. Both of them had shared the same mentor. At that point, Merlin was also curious as to what kind of mentor could nurture an Arcane Wizard as well as a Great Lord.

It turned out that it was Aruba all along. In fact, it appeared that Aruba had single-handedly created the Spell Caster civilization. Even the three Ultimate Arcane Wizards had been instructed by him under different identities. Perhaps even they did not know that they had always been watched by Aruba.

“The Spell Caster civilization is now developed. They don’t need me anymore. As for my initial aspirations, they’ve been in vain... None of them could overcome the natural order or surpass an ultimate existence. I’m still alone. So, I finally decided to leave. After staying in the Void Zone for some time, I finally decided to leave and continue to explore the Latitude Cosmos, but I still felt a little dissatisfied when I was about to leave, so I laid down the secret place.

“This time, I don’t need to instruct anyone anymore. The Spell Caster civilization is already powerful enough. However, I must warn you all. If there comes a day when you’re qualified to integrate into the natural order, you must remember not to do so. Once you’ve integrated into the natural order, you’ll be bound by it and will never be able to break through your limits. The rest of the Latitude Cosmos is very exciting. The Void Zone is merely one out of billions of Latitude Cosmos. Only by overcoming, reversing and prevailing over the natural order, you’ll be able to leave the Void Zone and enter the vaster Latitude Cosmos. Although I’m aware that the chances of this happening are very slim and almost close to null, I still hope that one day I’ll encounter someone who can traverse the Latitude Cosmos freely like me. Remember, my name is Aruba, and I’m a traveler in the Latitude Cosmos!”

As soon as Aruba finished speaking, his figure started to fade and was about to disappear completely.

“That’s all? You’ve set up such an elaborate scheme and put me through so much trouble to find you. Don’t you have anything for me?”

Merlin looked at Aruba fading away with a sense of speechlessness. Perhaps this Latitude Cosmos traveler had lived for far too long, or his stay at the Void Zone was merely an insignificant speck in his long lifespan. He was just going to disappear after revealing the secret of the Glorious Land's origins?

Despite the fact that Merlin had already received a priceless benefit, Aruba was an existence who has surpassed an ultimate existence. So, this was considered stingy of him. Aruba had left behind so many treasures in the secret place but did not leave them anything.

Aruba, who was yet to disappear completely, smiled. "You were able to find me, of course, you're lucky. Back then, I've really mistreated the Mobata world by sealing them away from the rest of the world. From now on, Ruba's Monument will disappear along with the seal on the Mobata world. You can now enter the Void Zone..."

"As for the two of you, I'll leave behind two Soul Medallions. The Mobatans will only need to drip a drop of fresh blood whereas the Spell Casters only need to imprint a strand of their Mind Power. The Soul Medallion can resurrect you three times after you die, and you'll remain in the exact same condition before your death. These Soul Medallions are not easy to make. I've been spending all my free time in the past few hundred thousand years making these two Soul Medallions. Haha, hope you'll be lucky..."

Aruba's figure finally disappeared, and a golden stake appeared in both Merlin's and Veron's hands. This was what Aruba had called Soul Medallion.

"Resurrection..."

Merlin had explored the Void Zone, so he naturally knew that even the god could only triumph over death under specific circumstances. Once their divinity was destroyed, the gods would die.

It was the same for Spell Casters as well. The Great Legends have consolidated Maxims because as long as the Maxims existed, the Legends could not die. In reality, once a Maxim was destroyed, the Spell Caster would die as well.

Once they were dead, even the three Ultimate Arcane Wizards could not be resurrected. This was the constraint of the natural order which even the ultimate existences could not defy.

However, these two Soul Medallions could resurrect a person three times. This was obviously a reversal of the Void Zone's natural order. Only a supreme existence like Aruba who prevailed over the natural order could create such a nature-defying treasure.

Therefore, Merlin and Veron did not hesitate at all and refined the Soul Medallions according to Aruba's instructions. The Soul Medallions were quickly connected to the two of them. Wherever the Soul Medallion was placed, upon their death, they would be resurrected from it.

"Space is collapsing," Veron said to Merlin. Merlin looked around, and true enough, the space around them began to collapse. The beautiful scenery from earlier was destroyed in the blink of an eye.

Hum...

Suddenly, a ray of light wrapped around Merlin and Veron, and they vanished without a trace.

...

It had been half a year since the three Sanctuary Contenders stood guard around Ruba's Monument, but Veron had not returned.

Just as the three of them wavered, Ruba's Monument began to quake furiously.

"The stone monument is moving. I wonder if Sir Veron is coming back?"

The three Sanctuary Contenders stared at the quaking Ruba's Monument without blinking. The last time Ruba's Monument moved was similar to what it was doing now.

Swish, swish!

A dark vortex appeared on top of Ruba's Monument, and two figures flew out. It was really Merlin and Veron.

"Sir Veron, you're finally back!"

“Half a year has passed. Does Sir Veron now know the secret of Ruba’s Monument?”

The three Sanctuary Contenders were overjoyed when they saw Veron. Obviously, Veron was the leader and spiritual pillar for these Sanctuary Contenders.

“It has been half a year?”

Veron did not answer these three Sanctuary Contenders. Instead, he looked towards Merlin. Veron still did not understand several parts of what Aruba said, but he believed that Merlin understood it completely.

Hum... Hum... Hum...

Ruba’s Monument did not stop quaking after Veron and Merlin had returned. On the contrary, its quivering had gotten even stronger than before.

Ka-chak!

A series of strange noises resounded from Ruba’s Monument, and spiderweb-like cracks appeared on the structure itself. The next moment, the monument crumbled into a pile of dust.

“Why did Ruba’s Monument crumble?”

“No power in the world was able to affect Ruba’s Monument. How did it crumble so suddenly?”

The three Sanctuary Contenders exchanged looks of bewilderment. However, Veron and Merlin looked calm. They both knew the reason. Aruba had left, so Ruba’s Monument naturally crumbled.

Moreover, the movement had not stopped. They could clearly see the surrounding space begin to weaken bit by bit as if the force that kept them imprisoned was rapidly disappearing.

Chi!

Merlin pointed a finger forward, and a flame began to burn. The space around them had collapsed in no time. This would have been completely unimaginable before this. Right now though, it was possible to shatter space even without the power of an Honored Legend.

After a while, the space in this world would be restored to normal. Aruba's seal would also disappear. Any existence comparable to a Great Legend would be able to step into the Void Zone.

Chapter 724: Master of the Dimension!

After keeping away their Soul Medallions, Veron gazed at Merlin with an unfathomable expression. He asked slowly, "There's a Glorious Land right beside the Mobata world?"

Although Veron did not understand their conversation entirely, he had learned some information about the Mobata world. There was only one real dimension which was the Glorious Land. The Mobata world was merely attached to the Glorious Land.

"Yes, the Glorious Land. Everyone there is a Spell Caster like me!"

Merlin parted his lips. There were things that he did not say. For example, now that the seal placed on the Mobata world had been opened, the Mobatans would actually be able to come in contact with both the Glorious Land and the Void Zone.

Although the people from the Mobata world and the Glorious Land were considered the same kind, the two civilizations had developed differently from one another. Whoever assumed that one civilization would ever accept and treat a foreign civilization equally was a fool.

Therefore, Merlin could foresee the conflict that would surely erupt when the Mobatans entered the Glorious Land. This was an outcome that Merlin did not want to see.

Unless Merlin could control the Elemental Origin left behind by Aruba and seal off the passage between the two worlds completely. That way, the Mobatans would only be connected to the Void Zone. It would be impossible for them to enter the Glorious Land via the Void Zone due to the seal of the three Ultimate Arcane Wizards. Even an ultimate existence such as the Lord God of Light would not be able to enter the Glorious Land, let alone the Mobata world.

“How big is the Void Zone?” Veron asked out of nowhere after a while.

Merlin smiled. He understood Veron’s meaning, so he explained calmly, “The Void Zone is so unimaginably vast that even the ultimate existences don’t know the extent of its vastness. There are also countless other dimensions in the Void Zone. The Spell Casters had set foot into the Void Zone long ago, so we owned hundreds of millions of dimensions. This is a good opportunity for the Mobata world to enter the Void Zone. Furthermore, you can choose to enlist yourselves under the Spell Caster civilization.”

Enlisting under the Spell Caster civilization was indeed a good way to ensure that the vulnerable Mobata world would not be threatened by the foreign tribe civilizations.

However, Veron shook his head and said, “The fate of the Mobatans should rest in our own hands! Aruba said that we Mobatans cannot break through our limitations, but this is merely his speculation and is not absolute! The Mobatans might have been unable to break through the bottleneck for a very long time, but I won’t give up. I’ll explore the Void Zone. I might never succeed or perhaps I will. Perhaps, one day, a powerful civilization called the Mobata civilization will rise in the vast Void Zone!”

Veron was unwilling to depend on the Spell Caster civilization. He wanted to explore the Void Zone instead and break through the bottleneck. Merlin knew that the chances of this happening were very slim.

The Mobatans were still facing an internal crisis at the moment. Nevertheless, there was Veron whose existence was second only to an Honored Legend. Thus, the situation would not worsen to the point of no return. If he really managed to break through the bottleneck, then most probably the Mobatans would also become a powerful civilization.

After all, the Mobatans were created with Aruba as a blueprint and had cultivated the training drills. It was a pity that they were bound by the natural order of the Void Zone.

Merlin simply could not imagine how strong Aruba’s physical body was. How could he overcome the natural order just by relying on his physical body? Perhaps even the Titan Giants among the Giant tribe had never conceived such a thought.

Nevertheless, this encounter has strengthened Merlin’s resolve. He found out that there was actually a supreme existence that had transcended the ultimate existences and could overrule the natural order.

“It’s time to leave...”

Merlin pointed gently forward, and space shattered in an instant. He could also sense the aura of the Elemental Origin as he disappeared into the shattered space in a flash.

The Mobatans, from this day onwards, would be starting a brand-new life...

...

Hum...

A figure stepped out from space and into the passage of the secret place. It was none other than Merlin. He had finally returned to the Glorious Land.

The sphinx guardian had noticed him too. He appeared at the mouth of the passage right away and seemed to have sensed something when he saw Merlin. He asked in a deep voice, “Did you obtain the Soul Medallion that Master left behind?”

“You know of the Soul Medallion too?”

Merlin was a little surprised. He did not know why Aruba had given life to these statues.

“Of course. Master had told us back then that all of us here must obey whoever succeeded at obtaining the Soul Medallion he left behind and serve him as our new Master!”

Merlin’s heart leaped in joy. He did not expect Aruba to leave behind the guardians of the secret place to him. Each of these guardians was comparable to a Great Legend. Added with the Atlan civilization’s empire-level warship and martial art robots, his troop was no less powerful than an above-average civilization in the Void Zone.

After all, the empire-level warship was comparable to an Honored Legend. Many foreign tribe civilizations that relied on the Spell Caster civilization only had one or two existences that were comparable to an Honored Legend.

“Master, what’s your command?”

The change in the demeanor of the sphinx guardian was almost instantaneous. Despite being given life, its mentality seemed to remain at the level of a puppet. Perhaps, this was a deliberate action on Aruba’s part.

“Can I refine the Elemental Origin now?”

Merlin pointed to the Elemental Origin that connected the Mobata world and the Glorious Land. Although Veron had indicated that he would not enter the Glorious Land, Merlin still felt that it was better to destroy the passage between the two worlds. Prevention was better than cure.

“Since Master has received the Soul Medallion, the seal placed by the old Master has disappeared. Master can refine it now.” the sphinx guardian replied truthfully.

“Very well. Assemble all the guardians in the secret place and wait for me outside.”

Then, Merlin waved his hand and sent the sphinx guardian outside. He shifted his gaze towards this cluster of Elemental Origin. This was the power source of the Glorious Land that even the three great Arcane Wizards did not manage to control.

Once he had refined the Elemental Origin, it would be equivalent to controlling the entire Glorious Land. Moreover, the Glorious Land had been sealed by the three great Arcane Wizard. Hence, this was a very safe place. Merlin intended to leave his Soul Medallion in the Glorious Land.

With that, should he encounter any danger in the future and die as a result, he would be able to rely on the Soul Medallion to resurrect himself in the Glorious Land as long as no harm had come upon the medallion.

There was no place safer than a dimension controlled by himself.

Merlin began utilizing his Mind Power to examine the Elemental Origin. True enough, the immense surge of power from before was no longer there. He could refine the Elemental Origin without any impediment.

Merlin was more than familiar with refining the Elemental Origin. He was very familiar with the process. After all, he had previously taken hold of dimensions in the Void Zone before. Therefore, the refining this time had proceeded without a hitch.

Coupled with Merlin's unprecedentedly powerful Mind Power, he only had to spend a few days to gain complete control of the Elemental Origin. Merlin could now feel the violence of fire, the magnificence of wind and so on and so forth.

He could also see the whole of Glorious Land with clarity in an instant. He could even see that Bhutto XVII was putting on the sacred golden armor right now and was gradually solidifying his authority in the Blackmoon Empire. The empire would soon begin a glorious era.

However, no matter how authoritative an emperor or how powerful a Spell Caster, all of their fates rested in Merlin's hands now. He was the master of the Glorious Land dimension!

Controlling a dimension allowed for the usage of the Elemental Origin to collect insights for Maxim consolidation. In fact, he could even plunder the Elemental Origin by force to consolidate a new Maxim.

Nonetheless, Merlin had no need for such actions. His current abilities were powerful enough due to the exceptional strength of his Wizard Heart. Right now, he wanted to achieve the greatest feat right away by consolidating an ultimate Maxim.

Therefore, the Elemental Origin of the Glorious Land was not particularly helpful to Merlin. It was still useful to some extent, but it was not a decisive factor in his power. The decisive factor of whether or not Merlin could become an Honored Legend boiled down to his own enlightenment.

Merlin knew that it would likely take a very long time for him to become one unless he encountered some kind of miracles.

Swish!

Merlin returned to the first floor of the secret place. He saw that the sphinx guardian had assembled four guardians. All of them were statues that were given life by Aruba.

Among them were the two guardian statues at the door.

Merlin did not expect that besides there were another two guardians besides them though. He had not discovered them at all in the secret place.

“Master.”

The sphinx guardian seemed to know what Merlin was thinking. He pointed at the two other guardians and explained, “They are clandestine guardians, and their abilities are no weaker than mine. Their role is to protect the secret place from the shadows.”

Merlin nodded. Adding the sphinx guardians into the equation, there would be a total of five powerful existences each comparable to a Great Legend. This was a powerful force of which he could not just let them be without keeping an eye on them.

This was because even if he returned to the Spell Caster civilization, Merlin desired to amass a huge force that could span across countless dimensions. He needed numerous Legends under him. Relying on the martial art robots from the empire-level warship was simply not enough.

Merlin now had a basic foundation of a large force now that he had these five subordinates that were comparable to Great Legends. All that was left for him to do was to continue expanding his plans back in the Void Zone.

“Okay, I want this secret place to be moved to another secret location. All of you enter the warship first.”

Merlin did not hide anything from these subordinates. He took out the Atlan civilization’s empire-level warship and allowed the five of them to enter.

Once the five of them had entered, Merlin kept the warship away. This so-called secret place was actually not that secretive because the Blackmoon royal family knew about it. So, if Merlin wanted to leave his Soul Medallion here, he could not allow anyone to know. That was why he had to move the secret place.

Merlin would not have been able to accomplish such a stealthy move in the past, but after refining the Elemental Origin, Merlin was now basically the master of the dimension. Moving a place around silently was, of course, a piece of cake for him.

Once his Mind Power encapsulated the entire secret place, the Wizard Heart behind Merlin released a powerful burst of power. Even the power of the Glorious Land was mobilized by Merlin in order to conceal the movement caused by shifting the secret place.

“Rise!”

Merlin roared once. The secret place was immediately moved using his Magic Power and floated in the air.

“Shift!”

As soon as Merlin spoke, the secret land that was floating in the air vanished without a trace. Merlin also moved a few mountains around silently so that this place seemed unchanged.

It was just that if the Blackmoon royal family were to send someone else here, they would not find the secret place even if they searched several hundred meters around the mountain.

....

Boom!

An inconspicuous mountain range seemed to be experiencing an earthquake as it shook violently.

If someone were to look carefully, they would find that a thick fog has shrouded this place.

After a few days, the thick fog dissipated and the mountain range returned to how it had been before. There seemed to be no changes.

It looked as if nothing has changed, but the secret place had been buried under its ground. Merlin put the Soul Medallion inside the secret place. There was a thoughtful pause before he left behind the sphinx guardian statue to guard the place because he still felt uneasy.

“If someone actually stumbles across the secret place, kill them!”

This was the most crucial order issued by Merlin to the sphinx, assigning him to guard the secret place forever. Although the probability of anyone discovering the secret place again was very slim, the Soul Medallion was simply too important to risk anything. Merlin could not afford to be careless.

Once everything was settled, Merlin looked up at the sky, and a smile danced on his lips.

“I guess it’s time to see Bhutto XVII.”

Chapter 725: The Real Lord God of Light!

In the dazzling palace, Bhutto XVII sat up high above. At the moment, he felt as if everything was in his grasp. Ever since the elder had brought back the sacred golden armor from the secret place, he had tried it out, allowing the Great Wizard elders of the royal family to attack with all their strength. With the protection of the sacred golden armor, the attacks of a Great Wizard were nothing.

This was a treasure even more powerful than the purple gold crown back then. With it, the royal family’s rule was more stabilized.

In this respect, Bhutto XVII had even spread this news through various channels. At once, news that the royal family had obtained a treasure more powerful than the purple gold crown spread like wildfire. It also caused a trace of apprehension in Spell Casters who harbored discontentment.

However, Bhutto XVII was afraid as well. As a supreme monarch, the one he was most frightened of was still the titular First Elder of the Spell Caster Alliance, Merlin.

The sacred golden armor was brought to him by Merlin. Merlin could even defeat the Divine Believers of the Church of Light hence the sacred golden armor was nothing to him.

Therefore, Bhutto XVII’s sole worry was only Merlin, a worry which cast his heart in a haze.

“Buzz.”

Suddenly, in the vast, empty space of the main foyer, Spatial ripples appeared. Soon, a familiar figure stepped out from the space, entering the main foyer.

Bhutto XVII's heart leaped but after he saw this figure, an odd look flashed across his eyes as he said softly, "Wizard Merlin, you've finally returned."

As Merlin looked at the somewhat startled Bhutto XVII, he said calmly, "That's right, I'm finally back. Is Your Majesty happy with the sacred golden armor?"

"I am, I'm perfectly happy with it. This is even more formidable than the royal family's purple gold crown from before. Look at the Spell Casters now. They no longer target the royal family. This is all thanks to you."

Bhutto XVII was deeply satisfied with the sacred golden armor. Ever since he had received it, he had always worn it. Naturally, he could not be more familiar with the might of the sacred golden armor.

"What a relief that you're pleased with it. However, I've lately heard that Your Majesty still have some troubles?"

Merlin asked with the hint of a smile.

Bhutto XVII's expression changed as his heart sank even more. Of course, he knew what Merlin meant. By now, Bhutto XVII had established an enormous empire. This was the second major empire after the Molta Empire.

Thus, Bhutto XVII was anxious about the Spell Caster Alliance. Moreover, there was such a powerful Spell Caster like Merlin who was the First Elder of the Spell Caster Alliance.

Although he had all these misgivings, he could never voice them out.

Therefore, Bhutto XVII could only smile and say, "The beginning of an empire naturally involves many matters, some of which are giving me a headache. Wizard Merlin, this time you should stay in the Imperial City for a longer time, to get a proper look at the empire's new situation."

Bhutto XVII was confident about governing a massive empire. Back then, under his governance, the Kingdom of Blackmoon had prospered day by day until they had encountered the more powerful Holy Light Empire.

During this period, Bhutto XVII's various strategies had alleviated the panic caused by war. After the remaining forces of the Church of Light had vanished, the entire empire gradually headed toward a more favorable future.

Merlin shook his head. There was no longer any need for him to stay in the Glorious Land, so he said directly, "I'm going to leave this place. Perhaps I may never return, in which case I'll have to trouble your Majesty to look after the Wilson clan and the Dark Magic Region."

"Never return?"

Bhutto XVII was flabbergasted. Back then, Merlin had appeared so suddenly, and now he was disappearing again? Perhaps he was going to retire from society completely, just like those Great Wizards in search of the higher possibilities of Spell Casters?

Nonetheless, Bhutto XVII swiftly recovered from his surprise. To him, this was the best news, so he immediately made a decision. He said in a low voice, "Wizard Merlin, please be rest assured. The empire will dub your father, Old Wilson, as a hereditary duke, and the cities surrounding Blackwater City shall be placed under Duke Wilson, becoming the territory of the Wilson clan. As for the Dark Magic Region, the royal family will always keep an eye out for them. You've made an immense contribution to the Spell Caster world, which the royal family will never forget."

Merlin nodded. With his current prestige, no one could be of threat to the Wilson clan. In addition, after he had passed down knowledge from the Void Zone, the Wilson clan and the Dark Magic Region would grow stronger. Merlin was no longer worried.

"Your Majesty, the Spell Caster Alliance will soon dissolve. It was originally founded as a temporary measure to deal with the Church of Light. Now that I'm leaving, the Spell Caster Alliance will naturally dissolve. Your Majesty, I hope that under your leadership, the Spell Caster world may once again witness the true glory of the Molta Empire's era."

Even so, Merlin knew that this was not possible. It was too difficult for the declined Glorious Land to shine once more.

“Whoosh.”

After he spoke, Merlin did not wait for Bhutto XVII’s response, and instantly tore space apart. In the blink of an eye, he vanished from the foyer as if he was never there.

Ten thousand meters in the air, Merlin’s figure appeared. His gaze swept across the scene below. This was the Glorious Land he knew so well but now he was going to leave. Furthermore, after he left this time, he was likely to never return.

Merlin was in control of the Glorious Land. His consciousness extended into Blackwater City. There, Wilson Castle was filled with people by now. Old Wilson had brought the members of the Wilson clan and returned to Blackwater City. Being able to return to Wilson Castle in Blackwater City in his later years, Old Wilson’s final wish had been fulfilled.

Fat Old Gutt was also quietly enjoying his golden years. That weird little Andie was currently in Gutt’s embrace, occasionally making a face that made Gutt laugh heartily.

Merlin’s consciousness stretched further. On a broad street, a fleet was hurrying toward Light City. In the carriage sat Charise with a head full of white hair.

She had just started out from Blackwater City. It was as if she could not wait one moment longer to return to Light City, fulfilling her last desire.

“Goodbye, Charise!”

Merlin mumbled softly. He knew that Charise did not have very long to live.

“Hmm?”

In the carriage, Charise seemed to have sensed something. She threw aside the curtains of the carriage. A cold wind invaded the carriage but she saw nothing.

“That’s strange. Why did I seem to hear a familiar voice just now?”

The carriage pulled further away, slowly approaching Light City. Charise's heart was filled with emotion for this was her lifelong dream to return to Light City...

...

"There's nothing left to miss."

Through the Elemental Origin, Merlin could observe many people whom he knew, and places he had visited. Whether they were familiar or not, Merlin could see it all.

Nevertheless, at this moment, all this had nothing to do with Merlin.

The Glorious Land was Merlin's beginning but it was surely not his end. He still had to return to the Void Zone.

"Swish."

Without any hesitation, Merlin shot up into the sky of the Glorious Land. He could feel a seal of unparalleled power.

It even bore the obvious force of the three Arcane Wizards. It was practically impossible to break the seal from the outside to enter the Glorious Land.

However, to leave from the inside to enter the Void Zone, all one needed was strength on par with a Legend. Therefore, the multi-colored Wizard Heart appeared behind Merlin. Turbulent Magic Power surged forward, turning into a gigantic fist.

"Boom."

An opening was created in the seal, and Merlin seized this moment to step out instantly.

...

Holy light circled the Light Dimension. The leader of many gods, the Lord God of Light who had founded a god organization by himself, was now communicating with countless believers.

“He’s appeared?”

Suddenly, the Lord God of Light seemed to notice something, and a strange look crossed his face. He had constantly monitored the Glorious Land, and would discover any changes instantly.

This time, Merlin, who had destroyed a fragment of his will, was leaving the Glorious Land at last!

“Finally, you’ve left the Glorious Land. This time, no matter who it is, they can’t save you!”

In the next moment, the colossal Lord God of Light’s body vanished instantly.

“Hum.”

When Merlin had stepped into the Void Zone once more, his entire body relaxed. As he stared at the pitch-black, icy Void Zone, he felt an incomparable sense of familiarity.

“I’m finally back.”

His time in the Glorious Land had not been long but he had gone through many experiences, which induced in him a tumultuous sensation. Back in the familiar Void Zone, he was matchlessly relaxed.

“Boom.”

However, before Merlin could rejoice, a terrifying pressure descended in the next moment. The Void Zone had no space nor time but a blinding flash of light abruptly appeared.

This light gleamed brilliantly as if an imposing figure had arrived at this place. It was the familiar force of the holy light which caused Merlin to change his manner.

“The Lord God of Light?”

At once, Merlin thought about the Lord God of Light. Back when he had wiped out the Lord God of Light’s will, Merlin knew that he might be targeted by the Lord God of Light but had never expected that the Lord God of Light would be constantly monitoring the Glorious Land.

Moreover, the second the Lord God of Light had sensed that Merlin had left the Glorious Land, he had come here himself. This was the Lord God of Light’s real body. He had not left the Light Dimension for so many years, and now he had come just to kill Merlin!

Within the dazzling, dreadful light, an enormous figure emerged, exuding endless imposing force. Only the ultimate existences could disregard the space and time of the Void Zone. They only needed to target a place to arrive instantly.

This was mobilizing the power of the natural order!

“Tiny, pesky Spell Caster, die!”

The Lord God of Light could not bear that a mere Spell Caster who was not even a Legend destroyed his will avatar. Therefore, he attacked with resentment. A massive palm formed by holy light shrouded the entire Void Zone, swiping toward Merlin.

This was the ultimate existence, Lord God of Light’s fatal attack!

Chapter 726: Resurrection through the Soul Medallion

In Setoh Arcane City, everything was calm once again. The civilization war with the Rock Tribe had ended for now, so everything was quiet and peaceful in the entire Setoh Arcane City.

“Swoosh.”

In the depths of Setoh Arcane City, however, the great Ultimate Arcane Wizard Setoh opened his eyes furiously. A piercing glint flashed in his eyes, and he growled, “Lord God of Light, how dare you?”

At the same time, in the other two Arcane Cities, two similar cries of rage sounded as well. In an instant, bursts of mystical fluctuations affected the natural order flow of the Void Zone.

The three Great Arcane Wizards of the Spell Caster civilization were enraged, and they hurried to the Glorious Land as quickly as they could. This was because they had just sensed an unexpected situation at the Glorious Land.

The Lord God of Light had reached the Glorious Land! As the origin of the Spell Caster civilization, nothing must happen to the Glorious Land. Therefore, the three Ultimate Arcane Wizards simultaneously hurried toward the Glorious Land without further discussion.

...

Destruction, it was an endless destructive force. Merlin had never felt as powerless as he did now. His Wizard Heart, the Illusory World, and even the empire-level warship of the Atlan civilization – everything he had relied upon was now useless.

Under the Lord God of Light's attack, all of this power appeared so puny, unable to block it at all.

“Bang.”

This immense power promptly crushed Merlin to smithereens, without meeting the slightest resistance. The power of an ultimate existence was far from something Merlin could withstand.

At this moment, Merlin's consciousness sank into infinite darkness. There was only darkness and more darkness.

“Maybe this is death...”

Merlin's long sigh came to an end. His body was crushed to bits, turned to ashes, and the multi-colored Wizard Heart disappeared completely. All that was left was a few Spatial Rings, which remained even after such a dreadful blow. Perhaps the Lord God of Light had left them intentionally.

“Lord God of Light, how dare you?”

Suddenly, another dazzling burst of light appeared. The moment Arcane Wizard Setoh appeared, he waved his hand. Terrifying vortexes appeared all around the Void Zone, aimed at the Lord God of Light from every direction.

At a level like theirs, it was just a contest of pure strength from the natural order. After all, they were all ultimate existences who had merged with the natural order. Whoever could mobilize more of the natural order’s power would be the stronger one.

“Haha, Setoh, you’re no match for me by yourself. A puny Spell Caster dared to destroy my will avatar, so he must be punished.”

The Lord God of Light was not afraid of the Arcane Wizard Setoh at all, so he was not troubled in the slightest and immediately turned to leave.

“Leaving so soon? Lord God of Light, do you really think there’s no one else in our Spell Caster civilization?”

A cold voice rang out, following which a man with clear, cold eyes appeared in a white robe. He was the one who watched over Ceci Arcane City, Arcane Wizard Ceci.

“Buzz.”

Arcane Wizard Ceci acted immediately. He had mobilized the power of the natural order without holding back. Instantly, the entire Void Zone seethed like a storm. Although there was no time nor space, this invisible crushing power of the natural order was majestic, boundless, and terrifying.

This time, a slight change finally came over the Lord God of Light’s face. He was not a match for two Arcane Wizards. Nonetheless, faced with their suppression through the power of the natural order, he did not resist but instead, tried his best to return to the Light Dimension.

Once an ultimate existence was bent on leaving, it was difficult to stop him.

“You can’t stop me from leaving.”

The Lord God of Light's body was ringed with holy light. He had already activated the power of the natural order and would leave in an instant.

"Is that so? Lord God of Light, it's true that no one can stop you from leaving but since you've made a rare visit to the Spell Caster civilization, you should leave something behind..."

A serene voice sounded, and the Lord God of Light, who had been unruffled until now, finally revealed a fearful expression. Before him, a black-robed figure appeared.

This figure was dressed in black, and his hair was black too. He was draped all in black, causing a tremble even in the depths of one's heart.

This was the strongest contender of the Spell Caster civilization – the first Honored Legend, the first Lord, and the first Arcane Wizard – the noble Wizard Augustus!

"Augustus, you came too? You, three Arcane Wizards, are attacking all at once. Are you trying to start a war between the Spell Caster civilization and the God Alliance?"

Maybe the Lord God of Light was unafraid of Setoh or Ceci but if Augustus was in the mix, then things were different. The Lord God of Light might be more or less on the same level as Ceci and Setoh but Augustus was the first Arcane Wizard of the Spell Caster civilization, inducing great apprehension in him.

"You, the Lord God of Light, can represent the God Alliance?"

Augustus' face broke out into a cold smile, then he pointed with one finger.

"Hiss."

Even with layers of holy light as protection, the Lord God of Light was unable to block this blow. A wisp of black smoke appeared on his body, which formed a sharp contrast against the pure holy light.

This meant that the ultimate Lord God of Light was injured!

“Very well! Augustus, after I’ve recovered from this injury, I won’t forget this gesture of yours!”

The Lord God of Light threw out this vicious line, after which the holy light dispersed and his body vanished without a trace. It seemed that this blow had caused him significant harm but it was the limit as well. After all, it was extremely difficult to kill an ultimate existence. It was nearly impossible, even with the power of the Spell Caster civilization’s three Great Arcane Wizards.

As he stared at the disappearing Lord God of Light, Augustus looked toward the Glorious Land once more. He stretched out a hand and grabbed the Spatial Ring left by Merlin in the empty space.

“Setoh, is this the Merlin you sent into the Glorious Land? The Lord God of Light was exasperated and bad-tempered, having to lose a will avatar. It looks like Merlin has destroyed the Church of Light in the Glorious Land. He’s done very well, it’s just a shame that...”

Augustus shook his head, feeling sorry about Merlin’s fate. After all, back during the war with the Rock Tribe, Merlin had demonstrated abilities beyond a civilization-level genius.

It was a great thing for the entire Spell Caster civilization, but now, the Lord God of Light had arrived in person and killed Merlin. Not even Augustus, the first Arcane Wizard of the Spell Caster civilization, could do anything.

Setoh glanced at the Glorious Land which was still sealed, a complicated look flitting across his face. He muttered, “We’ve arrived too late. Who knew that a lofty ultimate existence like the Lord God of Light, who had started a god organization, would come here himself to deal with a Spell Caster who wasn’t even a Legend?”

Setoh did not even know how to explain this to the Blackfire Lord.

“Huh? His mind imprint still hasn’t vanished. Is he not dead?”

Augustus carefully observed the Spatial Ring in his hand, and a bewildered look emerged on his face.

“Not dead? How’s that possible? It was a full-force blow from the ultimate existence, the Lord God of Light. Who could withstand that?”

Setoh and Ceci were both doubtful. They had come here one step before Augustus, and both had felt Merlin’s force vanished instantly. This was a sure sign of death.

“Or... Could it be an avatar? I’ve heard that he’s a formidable Mind Power Master!”

Augustus looked at the Glorious Land thoughtfully, and many possibilities flashed across his mind.

Therefore, the three Great Arcane Wizards decided to wait here. If it was an avatar, then Merlin would come out of the Glorious Land.

...

“Hum.”

In the hidden, underground secret place, the pitch-black Soul Medallion suddenly erupted with dazzling light. Thereafter, this light gradually began to twist together as if an unknown power was reconstructing a body.

The sphinx guardian who had detected the commotion hurried to this place. He had been ordered by Merlin to stay here and guard the Soul Medallion. Upon seeing the changes of the Soul Medallion, the sphinx guardian was slightly taken aback.

Nevertheless, upon seeing the familiar figure emerging from the Soul Medallion, the sphinx guardian hurriedly asked in a deferential manner, “Master, how come you’re back again?”

Although it knew of the Soul Medallion’s function, the sphinx guardian was still somewhat unclear about what had happened. Could there be someone in this dimension who was a threat to Merlin?

“Phew...”

Merlin appeared once more from the Soul Medallion. His body was completely reconstituted, exactly the same or perhaps even better than before. This time, he had experienced true death, particularly after his consciousness had sunk into the never-ending darkness. If he was not resurrected, that would mean his consciousness would pass into oblivion.

“So that’s what death is...”

Merlin still seemed immersed in that moment of his death. As his consciousness sank endlessly throughout the darkness, he knew nothing. In that instant between life and death, Merlin learned what true darkness was.

“Wizard Heart!”

The multi-colored Wizard Heart appeared behind Merlin. Before this, Fire Element and Darkness Element were on par with the other, neck to neck. However, after Merlin’s death experience, his Darkness Element was more active.

This meant that Merlin had a deeper understanding of Darkness Element. He could even vaguely feel the ultimate Maxim of Darkness Element.

Before this, Merlin merely had such a goal. As for how he would condense the ultimate Maxim, he did not even have a clear line of reasoning.

However, he now knew that if he wished to consolidate an ultimate Maxim and become an Honored Legend, it was best to start from Darkness Element. This was because his understanding of Darkness Element was more profound now, and he could dimly sense the traits of the ultimate Maxim.

Other than a deepened understanding in terms of the Maxim, Merlin’s improvement in the area of Hallucinating spells was also very direct. Initially, Merlin had reached the third step of the first stage, Hallucinating spells, which seemed very close to the realm of the Illusory Heart. Nonetheless, in truth, Merlin did not have the slightest clue nor direction, and he did not know where to start.

However, Merlin currently had a clear direction, vaguely able to touch the realm of the Illusory Heart. Perhaps in the near future, he might break through completely to the Illusory Heart.

In short, it seemed as if Merlin's abilities did not change much but in fact, this was very important to Merlin's future. Still, this did not mean that Merlin should be thankful to the Lord God of Light.

After all, if it was not for the Soul Medallion he received from Aruba, who had left it behind, he really would have died this time!

Chapter 727: The Matrix Vanishes

Merlin shot a glance at the Soul Medallion behind him. At the moment, its glow was much dimmer. Merlin knew that this was because the Soul Medallion had been slightly damaged.

If he died two more times, the Soul Medallion would not be of any more use. One Soul Medallion could only resurrect him three times. This was more precious than any treasure.

"The Lord God of Light!"

Merlin looked toward the sky. A lofty Lord God was an ultimate existence of the Void Zone. Now, he had come personally to kill Merlin. This was something Merlin had never expected.

"What a great loss I've suffered. The Atlan civilization's empire-level warship, the martial arts robots, the guardians left by Aruba, the illusion bead, and the rest, everything's gone..."

Merlin was incomparably gloomy. Although he could be resurrected, all the treasures he had on him were gone, especially the Atlan civilization's empire-level warship, which was comparable to an Honored Legend.

There was also the Illusory World within the Illusion Bead. That would have been the foundation for Merlin to create the Illusory World in the future. With a ready-made Illusory World, Merlin could have skipped the most difficult part of condensing an Illusory World.

If these treasures had been destroyed just like that, even Merlin would be filled with boiling resentment.

Having used the Soul Medallion so soon, Merlin was somewhat at a loss. He did not know if the Lord God of Light was still waiting out there. Therefore, he dared not leave the Glorious Land again but instead waited silently.

Merlin could only wait for the Lord God of Light to leave. To block an attack from the Lord God of Light – was there such a treasure in the Void Zone? Perhaps there was but it would be extremely precious, with only a few such items in the Void Zone.

It should be known that the so-called ultimate existences of the Void Zone were not essentially different from Great Lords. Ultimate existences were more powerful because they had begun to make contact with the natural order, devoting their lives to merge with the natural order. Their bodies thus become a part of the Void Zone's natural order. The more powerful the natural order, the greater the power they could mobilize.

Therefore, to fight against ultimate existences, one was directly fighting against the Void Zone's natural order.

Of course, different ultimate existences would master the natural order differently. As for those ultimate existences which were truly powerful, they were rather scary. In a rage, a sweep of the natural order's power was enough to annihilate millions and millions of dimensions.

There was one desolate territory in the Void Zone, which was genuinely a void, containing nothing but empty space. According to rumors, back then, a frightening ultimate existence had created that space in a fit of fury.

There might be a treasure able to withstand the power of the natural order, even if it simply contained a bit of the natural order's power. However, Merlin had never heard of one, much less found one in the Glorious Land.

Thus, Merlin could only wait.

Time passed by bit by bit, and soon, it had been half a month. To powerful Spell Casters, half a month was nothing much, flashing by in the blink of an eye.

However, within this half a month, Merlin had gradually recalled the details of the moment he was killed by the Lord God of Light. At that time, he was truly killed by the Lord God of Light, but at the last moment, he seemed to have heard a familiar voice.

“Arcane Wizard Setoh?”

Merlin carefully thought about it. That voice was similar to Arcane Wizard Setoh’s. It was just that Merlin had no way to prove it. According to his deduction, since such a huge commotion had occurred at the Glorious Land, it was indeed likely that Arcane Wizard Setoh, as one of the three Great Arcane Wizards, would appear.

“It’s better to wait longer.”

Even if he had guessed rightly, Merlin was unwilling to take the risk. If he encountered the Lord God of Light again, he would have to die another time.

Therefore, Merlin continued waiting for another month. It was then that a problem occurred to him.

“The Matrix?”

Merlin thought about a very serious problem. Before he died, the Matrix was fused into his body. Even after it became the intelligent core of the empire-level warship, Merlin was still its owner.

However, after he had died once, was there still the Matrix?

Soon, Merlin got his answer. The Matrix did not respond, which meant that it was truly no longer within Merlin’s body. He just did not know if this would affect the Matrix which was on the empire-level warship.

“The Matrix is gone.”

Merlin mumbled miserably. He had very special feelings toward the Matrix. It was because of the Matrix that Merlin could reach to where he was today. After Merlin gradually outgrew his use of the Matrix, he felt a hint of worry deep in his heart about the Matrix.

He started to ponder why would his Matrix transform in such a manner? Why was after he became a Great Wizard and his Mind Power was even more terrifying, he was still unable to locate where exactly the Matrix was fused?

Faced with an unknown power, whether a Spell Caster or a Normie would still be frightened and worried. Merlin was no exception. He had begun to worry if the Matrix contained secrets not known to anyone. Could that possibly be of harm to himself?

This was a thought that occasionally occurred to him but now, after he was killed by the Lord God of Light and resurrected by the Soul Medallion, he had parted from the Matrix by accident. Merlin's heart was a complex tangle of emotions, not knowing to rejoice or mourn.

“Phew...”

Merlin finally let out a long sigh, and stared at the sky, whispering, “No matter what, a long time has passed. Maybe the Lord God of Light has left. I should go out and take a look.”

Even if there was still a certain risk, he must still go out eventually. Moreover, there was still a slight hope in Merlin's heart. Perhaps his ring was not destroyed. Perhaps the Lord God of Light overlooked those treasures of his, and his ring was still in the Void Zone. Who could tell?

Although this was a slim hope, Merlin still was eager to leave the Glorious Land once more. Nonetheless, for his safety, he did not plan to leave the Glorious Land directly. Instead, he would open a gap in the seal, and allow his Mind Power to investigate the situation outside. After determining it was safe, he would then leave the Glorious Land.

“Break.”

Merlin's full Magic Power surged ahead and soon split a gap within the seal. His vast and vigorous Mind Power instantly gushed out of the Glorious Land, starting to inspect the Void Zone.

...

In the pitch-dark, silent Void Zone, the three Great Arcane Wizards had waited for more than a month.

“Augustus, the mind imprint on that ring still hasn’t vanished? It’s been more than a month.”

Wizard Ceci opened his eyes and looked toward Augustus. Merlin’s ring was in Augustus’ charge. Of course, the three Arcane Wizards would not have any desire toward the Spatial Ring of a young Wizard. It was merely a way to ascertain whether Merlin was still alive.

“The mind imprint is still here. Now I’m more certain that the Lord God of Light had merely killed of an avatar of Merlin. The Lord God of Light has made an error of judgment. He came here himself but only killed an avatar, haha.”

Augustus could not help but laugh. They had crossed paths with the Lord God of Light for so long, yet had never seen the Lord God of Light commit such an embarrassing mistake in these thousands of years.

“That’s right, that’s right. Merlin still has a trick like this, resulting in the Lord God of Light’s mistaken killing? However, it’s been such a long time. Could his real person still be in the Glorious Land?”

Arcane Wizard Setoh asked rather doubtfully.

“He should still be in the Glorious Land. After all, his avatar was killed by the Lord God of Light, which must’ve frightened him. He would surely hide for some time before coming out. We’ll wait longer.”

Wizard Augustus was in no hurry. If the three of them had not joined forces to seal the Glorious Land, it would not be so troublesome. They could just enter the Glorious Land to search for Merlin.

However, if it were not for the seal, the Lord God of Light would have destroyed the Glorious Land long ago.

Therefore, they could only wait.

“I wonder how long will Merlin hide? Huh? Is that a Mind Power investigation?”

Arcane Wizard Setoh's heart leaped, and he shot a look at the Glorious Land. Besides Arcane Wizard Setoh, Ceci and Augustus seemed to notice it as well.

No matter how shapeless or soundless Mind Power was, it could not be concealed from the Ultimate Arcane Wizards, so they would instantly notice it.

It was not just Augustus and the other two who were gleefully surprised. Currently, in the Glorious Land, Merlin, who was stealthily using his Mind Power to observe the situation outside, was also joyful and surprised.

Naturally, his Mind Power had detected Augustus and the rest. He did not recognize the other two but he had the utmost familiarity with Arcane Wizard Setoh.

"It really is Arcane Wizard Setoh. It should be safe!"

Just as Merlin was about to leave the Glorious Land right away, he suddenly thought of another problem.

"They've clearly seen me dying from the Lord God of Light's attack. How do I explain that now?"

This involved the problem of explaining. He must not reveal the Soul Medallion so easily. After all, anyone would wish to get their hands on it. Perhaps Merlin could not seize Veron's Soul Medallion because he had no way to do so.

However, Arcane Wizards were ultimate existences. They might seize the Soul Medallion for their own use. Even though he trusted Arcane Wizard Setoh, when it came to the matter of one's life, he still had to be prudent.

"The matter of the Soul Medallion must not be revealed. Even my resurrection must not be mentioned. After all, even the ultimate Arcane Wizards have no way of resurrecting anyone. This is something that reverses the natural order."

Merlin racked his brains, and thought about it carefully, and his brow gradually loosened.

“It looks like I can only explain it with an avatar, especially since I can use Hallucinating spells to create a simple Mind Avatar.”

Merlin thought it over in detail. This was the best plan.

After he had decided how to explain himself, Merlin immediately tore apart the seal and exited in one leap, returning to the Void Zone once more. However, once he left the Glorious Land, unless an Ultimate Arcane Wizard assisted him, Merlin would have to die again to return, relying on the Soul Medallion in the Glorious Land to be resurrected.

Otherwise, he would never be able to return to the Glorious Land.

“Whoosh.”

Merlin’s figure appeared in the Void Zone. Three pair of eyes immediately turned toward him.

“It really is Merlin. You’re not dead! Haha, even the Lord God of Light was fooled by your use of an avatar.”

Arcane Wizard Setoh was the happiest. He was the one who sent Merlin into the Glorious Land, so naturally, he did not wish for Merlin to be killed by the Lord God of Light. Now that he saw Merlin was safe and unharmed, he sighed in relief.

“That’s right. You’re the first one who managed to fool the Lord God of Light. This is your Spatial Ring. It’s undamaged. Now, it’s time for it to return to its original owner.”

A black-robed Spell Caster with an indifferent expression immediately tossed a ring from his hand. Merlin’s eyes brightened, his face bursting into an elated look. Naturally, he could tell at a glance that this was his Spatial Ring.

Therefore, he quickly took the ring in his hand and checked the contents within.

Chapter 728: Return to Arcane City

Many of Merlin's secrets were hidden in the Spatial Ring, such as the Atlan civilization's empire-level warship, the martial arts robots comparable to Legends, the guardian statues, the illusion bead, and so on.

Although these Arcane Wizards might not even have any regard for these things, Merlin was still very nervous.

Fortunately, after an inspection, Merlin realized that nothing was missing. Everything was untouched.

"Don't worry. After I realized that your mind imprint didn't disappear from your Spatial Ring, I surmised that you hadn't died, so I didn't touch your ring."

Augustus' aloof face seemed as if it would never smile. When Wizard Setoh noticed Merlin's anxious expression, he shook his head. "These two are Wizard Augustus and Wizard Ceci. They had sensed the Lord God of Light arriving at the Glorious Land, so they hurried over. Tell us about the situation in the Glorious Land. Due to the seal, we don't even know what it's like in the Glorious Land."

Merlin thought about it, and concluded that he should tell the three Arcane Wizards of the situation in the Glorious Land. Therefore, he began to explain briefly, "The situation in the Glorious Land is better now. The Church of Light has been destroyed completely, and the Lord God of Light can no longer use the Church of Light to interfere with the matters of the Glorious Land. He can't even possibly ascertain the location of the Glorious Land."

The Church of Light had been the Glorious Land's greatest affliction because it was supported by the Lord God of Light. Through the Church of Light, the Lord God of Light could project some of his strength, locking firmly onto the Glorious Land.

Therefore, no matter how hidden the Glorious Land was, even if it constantly changed its position, it could not escape the scrutiny of the Lord God of Light. However, now that the Lord God of Light had lost the Church of Light and the power of faith, he was no longer able to lock onto the Glorious Land. There was no doubt that this greatly improved the safety of the Glorious Land.

Seeing that Arcane Wizard Setoh's face had broken into a smile, Merlin continued, "After the Church of Light was annihilated, a unified empire called the Blackmoon Empire finally emerged in the Glorious Land once again. It claims to be a continuation of the Molta Empire but it's also an empire controlled by Spell Casters. Moreover, I've passed on some knowledge

of the Spell Caster civilization. I'm sure that the entire Glorious Land would prosper once more."

Merlin said everything in one breath and stared at Arcane Wizard Setoh and the rest. These were the three most powerful Arcane Wizards of the Spell Caster civilization, and they were all here now.

"Not bad. The Glorious Land had fallen behind but with your actions, even if it can't recover the glory of the Molta Empire, at least it won't continue to decline. Merlin, you've done well!"

Arcane Wizard Setoh was the first to speak.

"The Lord God of Light will no longer have the chance to meddle with the origin of our Spell Caster civilization."

Arcane Wizard Ceci nodded as well. It could be said that Merlin had removed a significant threat to the Glorious Land. For a long time, the Lord God of Light had been a great threat to the Glorious Land. The Glorious Land was the origin of the Spell Caster civilization. Any civilization would protect their origin more strictly, and the Spell Caster civilization was no exception.

However, the Church of Light was in the Glorious Land. In the past, due to the war with the Atlan civilization, they did not manage to wipe out the Church of Light completely. After they sealed the Glorious Land, not even the three Ultimate Arcane Wizards could enter hence the Church of Light gradually grew and expanded.

The Lord God of Light thus relied upon the Church of Light to begin interfering with the Glorious Land. Now, Merlin had uprooted the Church of Light at last.

Nonetheless, Merlin was targeted by the Lord God of Light because of this. His heart was still beating with lingering fear. After all, he was someone who had "died" once in front of the Lord God of Light.

"Arcane Wizard Setoh, what about the Lord God of Light? He had just slain an avatar of mine. Surely he won't let things go just like that?"

Merlin was still very worried about the Lord God of Light. After all, anyone who was scrutinized daily by a great ultimate existence would not feel safe.

“The Lord God of Light?”

Augustus’ stern face revealed a smile, and he laughed softly. “I don’t know what method you used that the Lord God of Light believed it was the real you that he had killed. However, he might soon learn of his error. Still, at least for a thousand years, you need not worry about him. Earlier, the three of us have heavily injured him. Without hibernating for a thousand years, he can forget about recovering. Therefore, he would surely return to the Light Dimension to hibernate for at least a thousand years.”

“A thousand years of hibernation?”

Merlin felt immense relief, finally able to let down his guard. A thousand years might be nothing to an ultimate existence like the Lord God of Light. It might just be the blink of an eye.

However, a thousand years was a lengthy period for Merlin. From when he first arrived in Blackwater City, all the way to where he was now, forget about a thousand years, it had not even been a hundred years. At best, it was merely a few decades.

In a few decades, he had now become an existence second only to an Honored Legend. Even in the Spell Caster civilization, he was classified as someone freakish.

“With a thousand years’ time, I won’t have to worry about being targeted by the Lord God of Light.”

Merlin eyed the three Great Arcane Wizards. It looked like the three Arcane Wizards of the Spell Caster civilization were truly formidable. When all three had joined forces, they could heavily injure the Lord God of Light. It was not surprising that even though the Void Zone had so many powerful civilizations, until now, none of them could really do anything to the Spell Caster civilization.

This was a reflection of how powerful the Spell Caster civilization was.

“Alright, the crisis of the Glorious Land has been resolved. From now on, other than the three of us, no one will know where the Glorious Land is.”

After Augustus spoke, his body flashed and he vanished without a trace.

Augustus and Ceci left one after the other. Arcane Wizard Setoh glanced at Merlin and said, “Merlin, take one last look at the Glorious Land. Perhaps you won’t be able to see it anymore.”

Arcane Wizard Setoh knew about Merlin’s real identity. He knew that Merlin came from the Glorious Land. After Merlin left this time, he would have no way of finding the Glorious Land without the permission of the three Great Arcane Wizards.

Therefore, this might be the last time Merlin could see the Glorious Land.

Merlin’s gaze turned toward the gigantic dimension below. The Glorious Land was still glistening with radiance. The Glorious Land encompassed so many moments Merlin had gone through – from the very beginning when he first encountered spells in Blackwater City, then escaping to the Kingdom of Blackmoon, entering the Dark Magic Region, and experiencing various events.

This was how the present Merlin was born!

After a long time of silent observation, Merlin turned around decisively, saying calmly, “Arcane Wizard Setoh, let’s go.”

Arcane Wizard Setoh nodded and brought Merlin along within a mystical fluctuation. It was as if they were encased in invisible energy, and they shuttled away instantly.

Merlin did not feel any Magic Power, Maxims nor any sense of space, but he was in the aforementioned process of shuttling, as if through a Spatial Passage.

He recalled Aruba’s previous explanation of ultimate existences. All ultimate existences had merged into a part of the natural order and were able to mobilize some of its power.

Although the Void Zone had no space, time nor Elements, it was covered in the power of the natural order. Ultimate existences were still under no restrictions in the Void Zone. This was the formidable power of ultimate existences.

“Perhaps this is the power of the natural order...”

Such a thought occurred to Merlin, following which he vanished without a trace along with Arcane Wizard Setoh.

...

Merlin finally returned to Setoh Arcane City. In the present, Setoh Arcane City was very peaceful. After going through a war with the Rock Tribe, Setoh Arcane City, as the final Arcane City to be established, received the acknowledgment of many Spell Casters at last. Obviously, those who wanted to join Setoh Arcane City on their own had grown in number.

The three great Arcane Cities were in silent competition. Before this, Setoh Arcane City had always been the weakest force. Nonetheless, after it faced the Rock Tribe and even won the war, Setoh Arcane City naturally was greeted with rapid expansion.

Thus, the current Setoh Arcane City seemed much busier than before.

Merlin made time to visit the Blackfire Lord. Back in the Glorious Land, Merlin had learned from Aruba that the Blackfire Lord and Arcane Wizard Setoh had both received pointers from Aruba.

It was just that Arcane Wizard Setoh became an Ultimate Arcane Wizard in the end while the Blackfire Lord was merely a Lord with two ultimate Maxims. This must have been more than simply an issue of talent. After all, for someone to be picked out by Aruba, would his talent be insufficient?

However, by now, Merlin had already somewhat figured out the reason. Once he returned to Arcane City, he was faced with the Blackfire Lord’s urgent inquiries about the development of his Mind Power.

Presumably, after the Blackfire Lord had become a Lord, he had focused all his efforts into cultivating Mind Power, hoping to significantly develop the Mind Power system. Therefore, he was ultimately unable to consolidate more ultimate Maxims.

After all, the energy of even the strongest genius was limited. In addition, an ultimate Maxim was not so easily attained. If one could not focus every single effort, naturally, it was difficult to obtain an ultimate Maxim.

After briefly fielding the Blackfire Lord's questions, Merlin returned to his own room.

"Setoh Arcane City is no longer of much help to me. Following this, I should set up a force that belongs to me and control a great swathe of dimensions. Through controlling these dimensions, I'll command the Elemental Origins and hone a Maxim. Finally, I'll reach a point where I can create an ultimate Maxim!"

Merlin's reasoning was clear, and his plan was reasonable too. Perhaps one or two dimensions would be useless in helping him condense an ultimate Maxim but if it were ten or even dozens of dimensions, things would be different.

Through the accumulation of infinitesimal advancements, and under the ceaseless honing of the Elemental Origins, surely his understanding of the ultimate Maxim would speed up. Finally, he would consolidate an ultimate Maxim and become an Honored Legend!

For now, this was the most effective method.

Merlin had already made up his mind and immediately stood up to walk toward the Mission Hall of Arcane City. There, he could learn of the Spell Caster civilization's situation in various regions. This was an advantage of being a Spell Caster of Arcane City.

Chapter 729: Capability I

In Arcane City's Mission Hall, there were still throngs of people. Compared to the first time Merlin came here, the present Merlin did not need contribution points anymore.

"Ah? It's Wizard Merlin."

“It really is him. During the civilization war with the Rock Tribe, he’s done us a great service. I hear that he’s even stronger than civilization-level geniuses. I really don’t know how can he become so impressive.”

“Haha, Wizard Merlin is from our Setoh Arcane City. So he’s lacking contribution points as well.”

When Merlin appeared, the entire Mission Hall became even livelier. Many Spell Casters fought their way forward to get a look at Merlin. After all, Merlin could be said to have made a name for himself in the civilization war with the Rock Tribe. In particular, almost everyone in Setoh Arcane City knew of him.

Merlin smiled and responded to these Spell Casters, following which he finally squeezed his way to those Legendary Wizards.

“Phew…”

Heaving a sigh, Merlin asked the Legendary Wizard, “I need to consult the distribution map of the forces in the entire Spell Caster world.”

“One contribution point.”

He only needed one contribution point. This was quite cheap that it seemed practically free. Merlin was soon missing one contribution point while at the same time, he was able to consult the distribution map of the Spell Caster civilization’s general forces.

This map was very detailed, and it would be revised every ten years. Thus, it could be considered to be rather accurate compared to the actual situation.

On the map, the Spell Caster civilization was too massive, encompassing countless dimensions and spanning innumerable regions. Within this territory, it was difficult to find any masterless dimensions.

As for masterless dimensions, any Great Legend who had signed the Legends’ Accord could not violate the agreement and seize the dimensions. Only those plunderers who did not abide by the accord would do so. Nonetheless, there were far too few plunderers, and they were liable to arouse the enmity of Legendary Wizards, so they often acted surreptitiously.

Thus, Merlin did not pay any more attention to the dimensions within the domain of the Spell Caster civilization. Instead, he looked at the borders of the Spell Caster civilization. In fact, there were also many powerful civilizations surrounding the Spell Casters.

For instance, the paths of God Alliance and the Rock Tribe were blocked. The Spell Casters could not expand further. There were also bigger areas like the chaotic territory.

In the past, Merlin had gone to the chaotic territory. Nevertheless, after careful consideration, he gave up on the idea. The reason was simple – it was too chaotic with all kinds of forces from foreign civilizations.

Of course, the main reason was that the Spell Caster faction there was too weak. Merlin wished to occupy not just one or two dimensions but dozens of dimensions, to form a colossal force.

Therefore, he needed the support of a powerful faction from the Spell Caster civilization. In that manner, even after he had occupied those dimensions, there would not be any foreign civilization who dared to retaliate on a large scale. He could even help the Spell Caster civilization expand its territory this way.

A place like this was hard to find. Besides the chaotic territory, there were other places such as the dark territory, the open territory, and so on.

Merlin searched painstakingly. It seemed that at the borders, the forces of Spell Casters were not that strong. In truth, this was understandable. After all, the Spell Casters did not have an extensive heritage, merely having set foot in the Void Zone for three thousand years. One would need to be like the Giant Tribe or the Tree Tribe which foreign civilizations had more than a million years of history, whose territories were incomparably stable.

The Spell Caster civilization was still lacking in this respect. There was a vital reason for this. The Spell Caster civilization was expanding so fast that it did not have much time for thorough administration.

The Spell Caster civilization was able to occupy so many dimensions in over three thousand years, becoming one of the formidable civilizations of the Void Zone in one leap. Although it was not the most preeminent, they could be considered a relatively powerful civilization. Naturally, it was not just because of the three Great Arcane Wizards.

Just the three Arcane Wizards by themselves would merely be like a castle in the air, with not much practical purpose. Other than the ultimate existences that a civilization produced, the strength of a civilization was dependent on the number of Spell Casters above the level of Legends.

This was because existences higher than a Legend were the core strength of a civilization. In this sense, the Spell Caster civilization clearly had an unparalleled advantage. Some Spell Casters could become Great Legends in over a hundred years. Even if they needed more time, they could become a Legend in just a few centuries.

This was different compared to the foreign civilizations, which needed centuries or more than a thousand years or even millennia to become much stronger. Thus, the Spell Caster civilization was able to grow so rapidly.

“I’ve decided to go to the boundless territory in the north.”

After looking at the map for a long time, Merlin ultimately decided on the boundless territory in the north. Although this region was in constant chaos as well, the Spell Caster forces were comparatively stronger. Thus, if Merlin went to the boundless territory and forcefully seized a few dimensions, he could join this territory to the initial area of the Spell Caster forces.

In this way, he could better guard the dimensions he occupied.

Having made up his mind, Merlin said to the Legendary Wizards, “Now I wish to apply for departing to the boundless territory.”

Ever since Merlin entered Setoh Arcane City, he had been branded by Setoh Arcane City. Although on the surface it seemed that Arcane City was not concerned about the Spell Casters who had left, the branding of Arcane City was a prestige that smoothened one’s passage in any area.

Nonetheless, these benefits came with obligations. One of the Legendary Wizards said, “You’re now a Great Wizard, and can leave Arcane City. However, you’re still a part of Setoh Arcane City. This is something that’ll never change unless you become an Ultimate Arcane Wizard in the future and establish your own Arcane City. Otherwise, the moment Setoh Arcane City summons you, you must obey unconditionally.”

Merlin nodded. Establishing an Arcane City was something no one would think about because until now, there were only three Great Arcane Wizards in the Spell Caster civilization. It would not be so easy to become an ultimate existence.

As for Setoh Arcane City summoning him, this would only happen during a civilization war with a foreign tribe. Usually, they would not summon Wizards just like that, so Merlin did not mind that so much.

Even if he did not join Setoh Arcane City, he would still be enlisted by the three Great Arcane Wizards if the Spell Caster civilization was facing a powerful enemy. Not even plunderers were an exception.

“Very well. Can you give me a dimension map of the boundless territory?”

“Ten contribution points.”

The Legendary Wizard said calmly. Obviously, this was also an advantage of being a Spell Caster of Setoh Arcane City. If Merlin was an outsider, a dimension map like this would cost an astronomical sum, something he could never obtain for a mere ten contribution points.

After he kept the map in his ring, Merlin turned and left, paying no mind to the gazes of the other Spell Casters. Still, these Spell Casters kept observing Merlin.

After Merlin had left, the hall burst into a hubbub again.

“Wizard Merlin is going to the boundless territory?”

“With his strength, he can occupy some dimensions now. How I envy him. He’s just a Great Wizard but he has the ability to start occupying dimensions.”

Occupying dimensions and using the Elemental Origins to condense a Maxim – this was accepted as one of the quickest ways to consolidate a Maxim. The actual practice had shown that it was effective indeed.

However, to be able to occupy dimensions at the level of a Great Wizard was something extremely rare. Those preeminent Great Wizards might get to do so if they were lucky enough.

Only those civilization-level geniuses would be unafraid of Legends, and thus able to seize a dimension.

...

Soon, Merlin returned to his room. Before he left, he had to make some plans. First, he needed to ascertain how strong he really was now.

Therefore, Merlin took out the Spatial Ring and extended his Mind Power into the ring.

“Buzz.”

First, Merlin entered the illusion bead. Luckily, the illusion bead was not damaged and was perfectly fine. The Illusory World was carrying on as usual.

Titus’ voice swiftly rang out. Only Titus seemed to be too quiet during this period of time. In the past, Titus would have constantly urged Merlin to focus on his Hallucinating spells.

“Titus, you’ve been quiet lately. What’s wrong?”

Merlin felt that Titus was acting strangely, and asked curiously.

Titus glanced at Merlin, then let out a long sigh. “You’ve met Aruba, and what he said stunned me to the core. If I was previously not confident that the Mind Power system I came up with would succeed and ultimately be perfected, then after meeting Aruba, I have faith that this Mind Power system of mine can succeed.”

Aruba had relied on his powerful physical strength to forcibly go against the natural order. He was not even afraid of the natural order, being able to transcend it. In the Void Zone, there had never been anyone like this.

In the Void Zone, the natural order was supreme. No one could reverse or transcend the natural order.

“Aruba can use his bodily strength to transcend the natural order. In that case, so can Mind Power! Merlin, after completing the Illusory World, the final step in the Mind Power system is to reverse the natural order, turning illusions into reality and truly transcending the natural order. I call this the Immortal Mind!”

At the point, Titus’ expression was solemn.

“The Immortal Mind? This is why you’ve been so silent all this while?”

Merlin mumbled softly. It turned out that during this time, Titus had been inspired. In other words, Aruba had enlightened him, inducing him to refine the final step of the Mind Power system. It would surpass the Illusory World, reaching the stage of the Immortal Mind.

However, that stage was merely Titus’ conjecture at this point.

“Merlin, during this time, please don’t disturb me. This is merely a recent speculation of mine, and I’ll need a long time to refine it. In terms of practical application, that would fall to you in the future. You know, before this, I couldn’t make heads or tails of the Immortal Mind...”

One could see that Titus was in fervor. Following that, he vanished.

“He has left so swiftly.”

Merlin did not pay further attention to Titus. Titus being silent was exactly what Merlin needed. With that, he extended his Mind Power into that empire-level warship in the Spatial Ring.

Chapter 730: Capability II

In the empire-level warship, Merlin was most concerned whether the Matrix was still there.

The Matrix had disappeared because Merlin had died once and was resurrected. Back then, the Matrix had become the control core of the empire-level warship. Without the Matrix, it was difficult for Merlin to control the warship. As a result, he would not be able to use this warship which had the fighting power of an Honored Legend.

“Whoosh.”

Merlin’s Mind Power stretched into the warship. The first thing he saw other than the sphinx statue was the other four guardian statues. Merlin had placed them in the warship previously.

“Master!”

The four guardian statues hurriedly cried out to Merlin respectfully.

Merlin nodded in response, then led these guardian statues into the control room of the warship. The instruments were undamaged and still in operation, meaning that the Matrix might still be controlling this warship.

“Matrix!”

Merlin yelled anxiously.

“Beep. The connection was interrupted for an unknown reason. Bind to your body?”

The control room resounded with the familiar voice of the Matrix. The Matrix was still here indeed, obeying Merlin’s order. Merlin let out a long sigh of relief.

“Is it possible to not bind?”

Merlin asked after some thought. He was still rather apprehensive of something like the Matrix with its origin unknown.

“Without binding, this might affect the connection with you, Master.”

“If I don’t bind, can I still give you orders?”

“Of course. The Matrix has already collected Master’s gene. A previous scan has confirmed that you, Master, has the correct gene.”

Merlin nodded pensively. Now he had a general understanding that perhaps back then, there was a small portion of the Matrix left in his body, used simply to maintain his connection with the Matrix.

The majority of the Matrix had been transferred to the empire-level warship. Otherwise, he would have no way of controlling this massive warship. Therefore, when the Lord God of Light killed Merlin, the Matrix had escaped disaster.

Even so, this state of separation was Merlin's ideal situation. He could control the empire-level warship, and did not have to allow an unknown power like the Matrix to be bound to his body.

Therefore, Merlin did not hesitate to refuse. "There's no need to bind!"

"Beep. Order received!"

The Matrix still had a robotic voice, sounding incomparably icy. Nonetheless, Merlin was already used to it. He thought to himself that what he needed was martial arts robots, as many as possible.

"With the remaining energy from the Light Tome, how much of the warship's power can be replenished?"

Merlin knew that manufacturing martial arts robots required a tremendous amount of energy, so he first checked on the warship's energy supply.

"The remaining energy of the Light Tome hasn't been broken down, and cannot be confirmed."

Merlin fell into silent contemplation. He must manufacture the martial arts robots. Otherwise, with just four guardian statues, how many dimensions could he occupy?

"Begin manufacturing martial arts robots. At the same time, break down the Light Tome and replenish the ship's power."

“Beep. Order received. Beginning the manufacturing of martial arts robots.”

The control room of the warship started to flash with light, and various apparatuses began to move. Merlin could only see that the energy of the warship dropped steeply from a hundred percent to ten percent.

Nonetheless, soon enough, the energy bar began to rise swiftly. It must be the high-powered energy furnace that was breaking down the energy of the Light Tome so that it could replenish the warship.

“Creak.”

After a moment, a strange sound rang from within the warship. Following that, a special martial arts robot slowly walked out from the manufacturing room. This martial arts robot was unarmed and defenseless but the icy sensation it exuded created a subtle sense of pressure.

After some thought, Merlin sent forth one of the guardian statues.

“Give it a go.”

The guardian statue immediately understood Merlin’s meaning. Strength had always been the forte of these statues, similar to the Mobatans. Therefore, it immediately swung a fist at the martial arts robot.

“Swish.”

The martial arts robot sidestepped the blow with incredible speed. If Merlin was not using his Mind Power, he would have been unable to perceive it. Following that, the robot appeared behind the guardian statue and brought down a fist.

“Bang.”

The guardian statue responded quickly too, turning around to forcefully counter the martial arts robot’s blow. The entire warship seemed to be shaking.

“Not bad, equally matched. It’s on par with a Great Legend!”

Merlin nodded, satisfied with the martial arts robot’s performance. As long as it could match a Great Legend, then it could guard a dimension by itself.

Merlin glanced at the energy of the warship once more, finding that it still had a hundred percent energy. He did not expect the Light Tome to have such abundant power.

“Continue manufacturing martial arts robots.”

Under Merlin’s command, the warship continued to manufacture martial arts robots. The energy dropped swiftly, then rose up quickly again.

At last, after manufacturing three martial arts robots, the warship’s energy, for once, did not rise back to a hundred percent but only eighty percent instead.

Evidently, the energy of the Light Tome had been exhausted. Although Merlin could still use elemental crystal stones to fill it up to a hundred percent, doing so just to manufacture martial arts robots would be too excessive. In addition, the elemental crystal stones had a greater function, and that was to ensure this empire-level warship still had fighting power on par with an Honored Legend.

Therefore, the energy bar must be constantly replenished to a hundred percent. Now that the energy of the Light Tome had been used up, Merlin could not continue manufacturing martial arts robots.

Merlin counted and found that he had manufactured three martial arts robots in total. In addition to the four guardian statues, he had seven beings on par with Great Legends.

This was already a relatively formidable force.

“What a shame about the tyrant raptor. If I could bring it out, it would also be on par with a Great Legend.”

Merlin did not bring the tyrant raptor of the Mobata world into the Void Zone. After all, the tyrant raptor was born in the Mobata world. If it was brought to the Glorious Land, Merlin was afraid something might change.

Furthermore, Veron was unwilling to have too much contact with the Glorious Land, not even wishing to be in touch with the Spell Caster civilization. Therefore, after weighing these factors, Merlin did not bring the tyrant raptor with him.

“Seven forces on par with Great Legends. Adding myself, we’ll be able to control eight dimensions! That’s about it. I can leave now.”

Merlin carefully coordinated his capability. He would only leave when he was confident.

Following the dimension map, Merlin immediately left Setoh Arcane City.

...

In the pitch-black, silent Void Zone, a shiny black warship of unparalleled size was flying forward at a terrifying speed.

This warship was Merlin’s empire-level warship from the Atlan civilization. Its speed was far superior to the casting tools of the Spell Caster civilization.

Purely in terms of equipment, there was no one among the countless foreign civilizations in the Void Zone who could compare to the Atlan civilization.

Merlin was in the warship, poring over the dimension map. He had already scanned this map for the Matrix so it could maneuver the warship completely, flying to the boundless territory on autopilot.

Merlin shut his eyes. Initially, he wanted to visit Titus to ask about matters regarding Mind Power. However, lately, Titus had been researching the mysteries of the Immortal Mind. Therefore, even when Merlin had entered the Illusory World, Titus did not show himself.

Although Merlin could force Titus to come out, it was not necessary. Since he could not develop his Hallucinating spells further, he could focus on the Maxim.

Of course, Merlin was merely understanding the Maxim for now, not condensing it. Currently, among all of Merlin's spells, the only ones that had reached the stage of condensing a Maxim were the Fire-type and Darkness-type spells.

Out of these two, the Fire-type spell had reached the stage of consolidating a Maxim but this would merely be an average Maxim. Even if he had become a Legend, he would be an ordinary one.

As for the Darkness-type spell, it was nearly at the level of attaining the ultimate Maxim but there was a gap to reach there, and Merlin did not know how long it would take to truly understand it.

Looking at the endless darkness in the Void Zone, Merlin seemed to feel something. He allowed his consciousness to be immersed in understanding the Darkness Maxim, letting the warship speed along in the Void Zone.

The Void Zone was vast and borderless. This time, Merlin was going to the boundless territory, which was a great distance away from Setoh Arcane City. Within the territory of the Spell Caster civilization, it was still relatively safe.

In particular, Merlin was aboard an empire-level warship, which emanated a fearsome force. No one would dare to stir up trouble, thinking that it must be a casting tool of some formidable Legend.

However, if he had reached the boundless territory, Merlin would have to keep the warship. Not only would the warship consume a lot of energy but more than that, it was also very likely to be recognized by someone.

With Merlin's current capability and position, no one would find fault with Merlin over this warship of the Atlan civilization. Still, there would be unnecessary trouble.

"Endless darkness... Endless sinking..."

In the warship, not even Merlin had realized that his body had begun to exude some fluctuations. These fluctuations expanded swiftly and even spread outward. The endless vacuum of the Void Zone was filled with these strange fluctuations.

“Whoosh.”

The warship sped by a dimension at an extreme speed. Immediately, a Great Legend flew out from the dimension, staring bewilderedly at the shadow of the departing warship, mumbling to himself, “Which Legend is that? They seem to be condensing a Darkness-type ultimate Maxim?”

It was true. Presently, Merlin was in the process of understanding the Darkness-type ultimate Maxim. He was already slowly consolidating the ultimate Maxim. Once he had attained complete understanding, he would be able to instantly condense the Maxim with a single thought.

Condensing a Maxim required no luck nor elemental crystal stones. All that was needed was an understanding of the Element’s Essence.

Therefore, there was an essential disparity between Legends and Spell Casters below Legends. Only by becoming a Legendary Wizard and creating a Maxim could one break free of a dimension’s binding. Without needing Elements, one could roam the Void Zone as they liked, traveling past countless dimensions.

“Beep. You’ve reached the boundless territory. Please prepare yourself, Master.”

The Matrix’s icy voice rang out. Merlin was roused from the depths of his enlightenment. The mystical fluctuations on his body also vanished quickly without a trace.

“I’ve reached already?”

Merlin thought about it. Earlier, when he was immersed in understanding the Darkness-type spell, he had a vague sense that he was still missing something. He knew that this was key to attaining the ultimate Maxim.

“Forget about it. There’ll be a chance in the future.”

Merlin did not linger upon that sensation. He knew that consolidating an ultimate Maxim was not a matter of one or two days. He would need a long time of understanding and bit by bit

accumulation for him to succeed. Occasional bouts of enlightenment were not enough to support his consolidation of a complete ultimate Maxim.

Through the warship, Merlin could see the region before him. Dimensions began to crowd together. This was the unique feature of the boundless territory. It had plenty of dimensions.

Of course, with a great number of dimensions, the battles and fights were also exceptionally turbulent.

Merlin exited the warship in one step. After keeping the empire-level warship into his Spatial Ring, he relied on a spell to fly on his own toward the nearest dimension.