

## **Black Iron 391**

### Chapter 391: Shoulder the Responsibility

The alleged Magical Snake Island was not the most powerful one among the numerous powers across Ewentra Archipelago yet it was definitely the most infamous organization. When they boarded a ship, they would be pirates. When they disembarked, they would be bandits. As long as others could afford them, they would always do some part-time jobs as an organization of killers. They might be more adapted to fight other dark powers.

If in Jinyun Country or Norman Empire, such an organization would have long been swept by the other forces and organizations in 1 day. However, they lived pretty well in the Ewentra Archipelago.

Before meeting the guys from Magical Snake Island, Zhang Tie had not imagined that an organization of killers and pirates could be that unscrupulous. After killing the opponent's man, they even dared to send the head back.

If not being that unscrupulous or ignoring the men in Bluesea Castle to a certain degree, he would never dare to do that.

Everybody in Bluesea Castle were impulsive to launch an attack, the first one was Adeline.

With a flash of a red shadow, Adeline had already rushed up, causing a air-breaking sound from her short spears.

It was Zhang Tie's first time seeing a female barbarian fighter launch an attack in the castle. The moment she moved Zhang Tie instantly judged that Adeline had already reached LV 8 like Gitta.

Barbarians' fighting skills were fierce, direct and swift. Adeline was very good at using her short spears with great power. The moment she moved, the area within 5 meters was filled with her flashing shadows.

That guy who sent the head here also didn't look weak. He was not flurried at all. Given his performance, he was even much powerful than Adeline. After 5 or 6 movements, that man punched towards Adeline's breasts. Adeline put her short spears horizontally to block it. He then directly boomed onto Adeline's short spears, sending Adeline flying back in the air at once.

Adeline kept flying back over 10 meters before she touched the wall with her foot tip and rebounded back.

The moment Adeline was boomed away by that man, the other men all roared and intended to rush forward.

"Stop!" Olina's voice sounded timely.

Hearing this order, even Gitta, Peri widely opened their eyes and gasped like old oxes, they also stopped at once. Adeline, who wanted to charge back also stopped her footsteps. Instead, she pointed at that person with the short spears. Behind Adeline, a great number of female barbarian fighters had already taken out of their short spears and aimed at that man, intending to throw their spears towards him.

However, with arms crossed, that man just watched the surrounding people with a contemptuous sneer. "Do you want to defeat me using numbers? Go ahead then. But don't blame me for not giving you a heads up—I'm not here for killing, but I don't mind killing some of you!"

"Even if you are LV 9, do you think that you could survive here?" Adeline also put it bluntly.

"If I was killed here, all the people in Bluesea Castle have to accompany me in death. Although we Magical Snake Island were not good at other things, we are always good at killing people." That guy added with his nasals holes facing the sky. "You also know about our power. We can easily sweep such a tiny Bluesea Castle!"

"I think you are not here to show your fighting skills. Just tell us, what do you want? By the way, I'm very satisfied with this gift. Thanks for killing a traitor of Bluesea Castle!" Olina smiled as she glanced at that head on the ground.

"Traitor?" Hearing this, the guy from Magical Snake Island became stunned for a short while.

"Don't you know that? This guy was bribed by someone several days ago and wanted to kill me on my way to Bluesea Castle. Therefore, I sent him away. Alas, I almost forgot this..." Olina fondled her forehead. "Those who employed you might not fully believe in your real strength, therefore, they bribed another person in Bluesea Castle as an alternate. I'm afraid they didn't tell you about it."

After gazing at Olina for a while, that guy found she was not telling a lie. The guy being killed by Magical Snake Island seemed to be fully within her expectations. Therefore, he was stunned slightly and became slightly kind.

"What a charming fox. You are right. I'm here not for showing off my fighting strength, but for negotiating with Bluesea Castle on behalf of Magical Snake Island."

"Negotiation?" Olina frowned her forehead.

"Right, negotiation. According to the intentions of our boss Bellus, the debt between Magical Snake Island and Bluesea Castle is cleared off now. At the beginning, those b\*stards who hired us to kill you had been swept by us. The employment between us had been canceled off, I will not find you trouble from then on. We will not find trouble with you from now on. You'd better not have your men go to the Headquarter of Rewarded Hunters Association anymore. We believe that even though Ballas Business Group could spend 1 million gold coins, it was still not a small expenditure for you. If you really drive us mad, we would carry out revenge at any price. By then, money won't work, either."

After thinking for a short while, Olina nodded. "I agree, please notify your boss. I agree with this condition."

"But we have one more attached condition."

"What's that? Do you want us to compensate you for your loss?"

"Hehe, Magical Snake Island is not money-centered!" The man casted a contemptuous smile. "Our boss' condition is to let you tell us who killed Phoenix that night. After you tell us about that, our debt would be cleared up. Don't tell me that Phoenix was killed by you. Given the strength of Bluesea Castle, even the Bell Clan's guards could not kill Phoenix easily. Even though Phoenix had fallen in your trap, he could

also escape safely. Additionally, according to our investigation, those guards of the Bell Clan didn't leave at all that night, therefore it must be somebody else who had killed Phoenix. Therefore, our condition is to know that guy who had killed Phoenix."

Hearing this condition, Gitta even slightly glanced at Zhang Tie while Olina sitting on the main seat didn't even look at Zhang Tie. She was afraid that her casual movement would arise that guy's attention; instead, she said mercilessly, "Is this your condition? You want to revenge that guy who had failed to assassinate me and let me to screw over my savior?"

"Right, this is the condition for we Magical Snake Island to cancel off the debts between you and us. Phoenix is a member of the roundtable warriors on Magical Snake Island. Based on the rules of we Magical Snake Island, we have to get revenge for the death of any member of roundtable warriors. If we are not even that cohesive, our Magical Snake Island would not be Magical Snake Island any more!"

"If so, you can go back to tell your boss and the other roundtable warriors on Magical Snake Island, I'm in Bluesea Castle and waiting for you to kill me!" Olina refused this condition at once.

Hearing this reply, that guy on Magical Snake Island instantly looked grim before revealing a wisp of a sneer. "Don't you need to consider it more? You have to know that if you stir up our Magical Snake Island, you will not like the outcome at all. As our target and our enemy, you would see a completely different outcome!"

"Have you made a decision? You should also know that you could survive the outcome if you piss off a woman. Although gold coins are not all-purposeful, as long as it reaches a certain scale, it would help a lot of things come true." Olina watched that guest from Magical Snake Island like a proud queen. "I almost forgot to tell you that I've already entrusted Golden Roc Bank to audit and keep the properties of the Ballas Business Group. As long as I suffer from an accident, all the properties of Ballas Business Group would be converted into my insurance and fund for revenge. Anyone who could avenge me would gain all the properties of the Ballas Business Group. How much do you think the heads of roundtable warriors on Magical Snake Island are worth? If I was truly killed, I wonder if there are any sharper powerhouses that would like to visit Magical Snake Island?"

It was that guest's turn to change face. He had not imagined that such a charming fox could be that vicious—if you Magical Snake Island want to fight me regardless of your lives, I will accompany you, let's see who the final winner is?

Zhang Tie, who didn't speak at all, just watched Olina. Not until then did he realize that this woman was so sharp. Although she looked weak, she was more responsible than many other men.

Not until then did Olina glance at Zhang Tie casually and calmly, however, her eyes seemed to hide many things.

According to Zhang Tie's temperament, of course he would not let a woman to take the burden for him. Even though he killed Phoenix in order to save her that night, he did it voluntarily. In his eyes, Magical Snake Island and the roundtable warriors were nothing but fart. How could they scare him to hide behind a woman?

Zhang Tie then revealed a smile towards Olina, which included a bit of relief, moving and more pride.

Olina understood what Zhang Tie meant. She then slightly changed her face.

"Periv, see off the guest!" The female owner of Bluesea Castle delivered the order at once.

"All right, don't be regretful!" That man glanced at Olina fiercely before turned around and left.

"Wait a moment!"

"Kill him!"

The first voice was made by Zhang Tie while the second was from the female owner of Bluesea Castle. The 2 voices almost sounded at the same time. The latter one sounded pretty resounding and high-pitched.

Hearing this, the man from Magical Snake Island stopped at once. In comparison, hearing "Kill him", all the female fighters threw their long-prepared short spears towards that man.

Periv, Gitta and the other fighters on Olina's side had also charged at that guy at the same time.

At the same time, Zhang Tie also moved. Although standing on Olina's side, the moment Zhang Tie moved, he had already stridden in the center of the hall. He then blocked Gitta's way forward as he punched against Periv's fist, forcing Periv back. After that, he surged forward again and kicked Adeline's short spears. In a split second, he had stopped the 3 powerhouses' attack.

At the same time, the man from Magical Snake Island rolled over on the ground and instantly escaped from those short spears thrown by those female fighters like a centipede twisting on the ground.

"Puh, puh, puh, puh..." 10 more short spears flew by that man, some of which hit the wall in the distance causing sparks on the hard wall while others directly inserted into the wooden floor of the Hall of Deliberation and made holes on the floor. All this indicated the great fighting strength of those female fighters.

All this happened in a split second. The moment the others moved a bit, they had to stop involuntarily in the next. Nobody could imagine that Zhang Tie joined in so abruptly to block away the first round of attack for that guy from Magical Snake Island.

Gitta seemed to understand something. Pevri just watched Olina full of doubt while Adeline pointed at Zhang Tie with her short spears with a hostile expression. At this moment, that guy from Magical Snake Island was staring at Zhang Tie full of doubt. 'What's wrong? I've not heard boss talk about this mole at the woman's side. Why would this guy help me? It shouldn't be that!'

Having been very calm, although this female owner was still sitting on the main seat, her sharply undulant breasts indicated that her inside was not that calm at all.

"If we kill this guy at this moment, it would be hard to explain what happened then!" Zhang Tie watched Olina and he shrugged.

"It's nothing to do with you!" The female owner of Bluesea Castle gritted her teeth and urged.

"I chopped off Phoenix's head. How come it was nothing to do with me." Zhang Tie smiled as he turned around towards that guest from Magical Snake Island who was watching Zhang Tie with a dubious look.

At the same time, Zhang Tie instantly looked very righteous and sacred like an unrivaled swordsman in Chinese legend, "I'm Peter Hamplester. I'm just a pioneer and have just been in Saint Herner Island for about 1 week. My current status is the guest of Bluesea Island and will leave Saint Herner Island tomorrow. I was born to hate evil things. No dark thing is allowed to exist in my eyes. You can go back to tell your sh\*t boss and those sh\*t like roundtable warriors that I'm the one who chopped off Phoenix's head. If you b\*stards of Magical Snake Island would like to revenge, just come for me. If you don't dare to, you tell everybody else on Magical Snake Island to clean their necks and wait for me to come for you over there..."

"You, you did that? The visitor from Magical Snake Island stared at Zhang Tie in an unimaginable look before glanced over the other guys in the Hall of Deliberation. He was confused whether this was a plot or trap or not. Given his look, he didn't believe in Zhang Tie's words at all. He found everything about Zhang Tie was not logical including Zhang Tie's age, real strength or motive to arise Magical Snake Island's hatred at this moment.

"What? You don't believe in me?" Zhang Tie asked him.

"Brat, who do you think you are? Phoenix is a LV 9 powerhouse. I persuade to not seek for death yourself." An icy light flashed across that man's eyes.

Zhang Tie didn't speak. Instead, he directly rushed over there. The moment he pulled out his long sword from its sheath, he had already launched his storm-like attack towards that guy, including that guy into sharp sword qi at once.

As the old saying goes, the moment an expert moved, he would show his proficiency. Similarly, the moment Zhang Tie moved, that guy with a contemptuous look had already jumped up like a cat whose tail was stepped on.

At the sight of Zhang Tie's attack, everybody in Bluesea Castle widened their mouths out of amazement. Watching Zhang Tie's performance, they realized that Zhang Tie's swordsmanship had long surpassed each of them. At the beginning, they could not see the difference between Zhang Tie and that guy. But as Zhang Tie kept attacking him, he took the preemptive move gradually. As a result, the man from Magical Snake Island gradually moved to the defense-focused side as his face turned red gradually.

At this moment, even those people who didn't understand why Olina brought Zhang Tie in the castle had figured it out that Peter was a swordsmanship powerhouse who was even sharper than a LV 9 powerhouse.

Zhang Tie's swordsmanship was so fast and fierce which was seen by them for the first time.

After 5-6 minutes' fight, with a miserable scream, blood was seen spraying in the air while an arm and an ear flew off the guy coming from Magical Snake Island. At the same time, he was sent flying back in the air before fell to the ground heavily.

With a clash, Zhang Tie waved a beautiful curve in the air before put his sword back into the sheath. He then watched the man lying on the floor with a proud look.

"Do you believe in me now? I only leave a mark on you this time. When I see you next time, I will chop off your head!"

"Argh...brat, you are dead, you are dead...our boss will definitely kill you if you dare to kill anyone from Magical Snake Island!"

"I will wait! You have one minute to disappear in front of me. Otherwise, I will chop off another hand. Do you want to have a try?"

After taking out of a vial of medicament from his coat by his shaking hand and eating it, the guy glared at Zhang Tie deeply before turned around and tumbled away.

"Periv, please see off this guy, keep him alive on the way back. If he dies I'll have to find the other b\*stards from Magical Snake Island to pass along my words!" Zhang Tie smiled.

Everybody in the Bluesea Castle then watched Zhang Tie with awestruck looks.

Chapter 392: Leaving Saint Herner Island

Zhang Tie already had the same wet dream about Miss Daina numerous times——luxurious dining table...snow-white tablecloth...burning candles...dim yet ambiguous candlelight...in a sexy skirt, Miss Daina revealed half of her plumpy breasts. Sitting on the opposite of the dining table, she was watching Zhang Tie. Each time she put the food on her knife and fork into her opening cherry lips, she would tease him...

The dream always started with a dinner yet never ended over the table.

Zhang Tie once just treated it as a dream which could never be realized. But at this moment, when this familiar dreamland appeared in front of him, he was shocked inside.

Sitting on the opposite of the dining table was not Miss Daina, instead Olina who looked very similar to Miss Daina.

At this moment, Olina was absolutely a noblewoman who used to attend to the cocktail party of top-class society. With a brilliant diamond hairpin on her coiled hair, she was wearing a set of beautiful blue bobtails with purple grains. The bobtail was skintight which well revealed her good frame as a mature woman.

Especially when she stood up, the extremely large yet firm U-shaped collar of her bobtail was like a bottomless canyon which was mysterious and alluring. It could arise people's endless desire for exploration as it included an unknown danger.

Olina had well dressed. It was a beautiful and delicate make-up especially for an evening reception, which made her pretty elegant yet sexy and absolutely a noblewoman.

Zhang Tie had not been that impulsive for a long time. However, when he was brought to the dining room by a beautiful female servant, at the sight of Olina, Zhang Tie felt his heart burning and felt his throat becoming dry.

At this moment, Olina was completely Miss Daina in his dreamland.

Being shocked, under the warm yet ambiguous candlelights, Zhang Tie could not identify whether he was in reality or in the dreamland.

When the fiery candle burned, it smelt pretty good. Smelling this fragrance, Zhang Tie started to have a maggot in his head!

Zhang Tie felt being a bit dizzy and a strong desire for sprouting something from inside.

When those beautiful female servants served the dishes on the table, he loosened his shirt's buttons.

"Are you feeling hot?"

Olin was sitting on the opposite of the dining table which was longer than 4 meters which seemed to be an unreachable distance.

Through the candlelight of the silver candlesticks, Zhang Tie threw a glance at Olin and saw that pretty delicate diamond necklace hanging from her neck to the place between her breasts, which was shining brightly in the candlelight. At this moment, the woman's half-exposed plump breasts seemed to expand greatly.

Zhang Tie felt his throat almost smoking. He then hurriedly took a cup from aside. Before looking at the liquid, he had already finished his drink.

It was white wine in the cup. As he drank it too quickly, he almost choked. As a result, he started to cough heavily.

Seeing this, the woman on the opposite burst of laughter, causing Zhang Tie feel like he lost a bit of face.

"Cough...cough...I thought it was water." Zhang Tie explained. "But, but I truly feel a bit hot!"

"Is that hot? I don't feel that. You are the first one who feels hot at night on Saint Herner Island!"

"Perhaps...there are too many candles here!"

"Oh, maybe. Then, we will have a candle moved away..." At this moment, that woman smiled like an aunt who caught small kids in the kindergarten. He looked pretty comprehensive. The woman then waved her hand to let a female servant move away one candle. Soon after that, the room looked a bit dimmer.

The female servant who moved away the candle was the one of those lying on Zhang Tie's bed this morning. She glanced at Zhang Tie in a teasing manner, causing Zhang Tie to become restless.

"No need to be that solemn, I will leave tomorrow."

"Do you think this is solemn for a person who saved my life twice?" The woman's voice sounded a bit sad. "I've told you that as long as you could help me that time, I'd like to pay you at any price. I mean it."

'Any price?' thinking of her promise 2 days ago and watching that alluring woman in front of him, Zhang Tie had a maggot in his head at once. However, the moment the whim appeared, Zhang Tie had chased it away in his mind. 'A love affair between a man and a woman is very nice. If you treat it as a condition for something, it would be not right then.'

"No, of course, I don't think you are kidding but I really don't need your reward at all. I'm very happy in Bluesea Castle these days, especially last night. You've already made it, no need to feel guilty or that you owe me anything at all."

Of course, Olina knew what Zhang Tie meant by "especially last night". Zhang Tie's frankness and generosity was out of Olina's imagination.

"Do you know how many things would you lose by saying this? Although the Ballas Business Group doesn't rank first in Ewentra, it's still a big business group which owned tens of millions gold coins and could also rank top 20. Don't you want to reconsider it? All those who are familiar with me know that I rarely promise anything to people."

"Gold coins and wealth might be very precious but in my eyes, what is truly precious is living creatures. Sometimes a small earthworm or a small grass is far more precious than them. This morning, as you wanted to stop that guy from leaving, you've already ceased to owe me anything at all." Zhang Tie sincerely said. "Additionally, I don't feel that anything could be more precious than the thing that you wished to shoulder for me this morning."

Hearing this, Olina gazed at Zhang Tie for a while as her eyes sparkled in the candlelight. Not until several seconds later did she recover her composure and let out a deep sigh.

"You are right. Something between people is truly more precious than gold coins. I have no relatives now, even sons or daughters. As a woman, it is very sad to be alone at this age. If only I could have a relative like you on my side."

Zhang Tie scratched his head and thought for a short while. Then, he also felt this woman was very miserable. He then asked, "Do you feel I should call you aunt Olina or sister Olina?"

"You tell me." The woman glanced at Zhang Tie in a charming manner.

Watching her mature, beautiful face and that pair of boobs which almost jumped out of her bobtail, Zhang Tie then replied, "I will call you sister then!"

The woman in the opposite then burst out laughing, causing her body quiver and showing her charming look. Watching this, Zhang Tie forcefully swallowed his saliva once again.

"Well, you just call me sister from then on. Actually, based on my age, that's reasonable. Before you leave Saint Herner Island, let your sister Olina invite you to enjoy some great food."

The female owner of the castle then clapped as those female servants served the dishes one plate after another.

The supper was truly the most sumptuous one that Zhang Tie had ever eaten. Olina didn't mention the compensation for Zhang Tie, neither did Zhang Tie ask about it. They just talked about other topics very tacitly like family members. Gradually, several hours passed.

Zhang Tie admitted that if he had no maggot in his head, he would feel very comfortable while eating supper together with her both visually and acoustically, even gustatorily. It felt pretty pleasant only watching her putting food in her mouth gracefully.

After supper, Zhang Tie bid a farewell to her politely before returning to his own room.



Less than 10 minutes after Zhang Tie returned to his room, the 4 beautiful female servants who had fought over him last night had knocked at his door. The moment they walked in, they had already stripped off their clothes. After that, they climbed onto Zhang Tie's bed and started to take off clothes for Zhang Tie...

For Zhang Tie, of course, he started to enjoy the following process. He then totally released his desire that had been oppressed since the beginning of the supper.

1 hour later, Zhang Tie's door was pushed open once again as another 4 beautiful female servants walked in.

"How about playing a game? You are forbidden to look. Just identify while covering your eyes. When you get it right you will get the reward..." A female servant murmured to Zhang Tie as she took out a black blindfold from out of nowhere to cover Zhang Tie's eyes.

Of course, Zhang Tie didn't mind playing this game at this moment, instead, he felt more stimulated...

However, after a short while, when he entered a hot and tight v\*g\*n\*, he smelt a familiar fragrance. At the same time, he faintly heard an obviously oppressive, strange yet very familiar groan.

Zhang Tie became slightly stunned, however, he didn't move away his blindfold. Instead, he was in a pretty violent and excited state...

Later on, in a period as long as that of the supper, Zhang Tie tightly seized the woman under his body in the darkness to prevent her from escaping. Zhang Tie was so crazy and rude that he injected his bodily fluids into different holes on her body and sprayed it all over her body, including her face, breasts, butts, thighs and lower abdomen...

After spraying out his bodily fluids one time after another, Zhang Tie felt that he finally returned to an elegant harbor which looked like a mirror that reflected the sun in the autumn after being restless 17 years like a small boat in a terrifying storm.

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Early the next morning, August 5th, many people from Bluesea Castle gathered at the pier of Saint Herner Harbor to see Zhang Tie off, including Olina, Gitta, Periv and Adeline. Three women with strange tattoos on their faces were at Olina's side.

Two of the three women were bald. They were twins. In the same armor with flame grains, they both felt very oppressive, causing Gitta and Periv stand away from them. As for the other woman, she covered herself in a black robe with a circle of colorful bird feathers over her waist and a necklace composed of various animals skulls and odd stones.

The 3 women arrived at Bluesea Castle last night, who were powerhouses assigned from Adeline's tribe. Since Zhang Tie caught sight of them yesterday, he had not heard them speak. Instead, they were just like mutes in a cool manner.

The siren of the passenger liner weighing tens of thousands of tons had sounded twice. The steamer was going to set off while Olina, Gitta, and Periv were all bidding farewell to Zhang Tie.

As it was a bit cold in the morning in the harbor, Olina wore a white marten, showing a very indolent and charming look. Overnight, everybody found that the female owner looked bright like a bud opened when being watered.

Periv was touching his beard while thinking about something. Gitta kept his eyes swimming between Zhang Tie and Olina. As for Adeline, she looked hostile about Zhang Tie once again like a warehouse keeper catching a guy who was preparing to dig a hole at the corner of the wall.

Zhang Tie and Olina then exchanged glances with each other. Olina's face slightly blushed. Zhang Tie wanted to say something, however, finally, he found that he didn't know what to say to this woman. It felt very sophisticated.

"Bon voyage!" After saying this, Zhang Tie directly embraced Olina tightly.

"Take care of yourself!" Olina kissed Zhang Tie's cheeks before taking out a delicate box and gave it to Zhang Tie. "This is an item that the Ballas Business Group gained several years ago. I might be helpful to you."

Zhang Tie didn't even see inside; instead, he directly put it in his coat.

"Two LV 5 men 100 m away were gazing at us since our fleet of cars left the castle. I feel they are hostile towards us!" One barbarian shaman who was always silent pointed at Zhang Tie.

Her special ability gained Zhang Tie's attention.

"Gitta..." Olina shouted as Gitta turned around and intended to walk towards them.

"No need." Zhang Tie stopped Gitta. "They are just some scouts, it doesn't work even if we kill them. Actually, more people are watching me on board. I bought my ticket a couple of days ago those guys from Magical Snake Island could never know that I would leave today. Just let them find me in the Ice and Snow Wildness."

After saying this, Zhang Tie shouted towards the two scouts 100 m away. "B\*stards from Magical Snake Island, your grandpa Peter is waiting for you in the Ice and Snow Wildness, let's see how many heads of your motherf\*cking roundtable warriors would be chopped off by me, hahaha..."

Zhang Tie's voice was so loud that so many people in the surrounding had heard it. As a result, they all exchanged glances at each other and were amazed. Few people dare to provoke people from Magical Snake Island in the public.

The huge steamer's siren sounded once again and was preparing to leave the harbor while the bridge stair being placed against the huge steamer started to be moved away.

With loud laughter, Zhang Tie turned around and ran towards the huge steamer on his side. He ran onto the bridge stair the moment it left the huge steamer and jumped onto the board several meters away. He then waved his hands towards them.

The 2 scouts who were watching Zhang Tie from afar were stunned at once. Even if there were still powerhouses on Saint Herner Island from Magical Snake Island, they would have no time to embark anymore. Instead, they could only watch Zhang Tie leave...

## Chapter 393: Firm Decisions

About 1400 km away to the southeast of Saint Herner Island, there was an island which covered about 200 square kilometers. On this island, there was a volcano that kept releasing black smoke into the sky all year round. Besides, a great amount of magma also sprouted out of the seabed near the island. As a result, the vapor made this sea area hot while always being covered by dense fog. This area was full of mystery.

In the legends shared by sailors of the Ewentra Archipelago, the sea area nearby this island was where demons lived. The magma which poured out of the seabed not only extended this island several square kilometers each year, but also filled the neighboring water with various hidden reefs that were formed by congealed magma. Like this island, those hidden reefs also changed each year. Even the most experienced captains and sailors would not be close to this sea area. Additionally, according to the legend, there was even a terrifying magical snake in this sea area which usually took passing vehicles and numerous living beings as food.

The legend about the magical snake in this sea area could be dated back to several hundreds years ago. That was why this island was named as Magical Snake Island. Although many people spoke about the magical snake, few of them had ever seen it. However, those living on Magical Snake Island were much more terrifying than that magical snake.

This was Magical Snake Island, one of the most infamous and frightening places across the Ewentra Archipelago.

On the evening of August 5th, in a mountain cave that was brightly lit, all the top figures on Magical Snake Island gathered there. Surrounding a stony roundtable they were discussing a person with solemn looks, a person who appeared on Saint Herner Island as a pioneer——Peter Hamplester.

"Where does this b\*stard come from?"——A furious sound resonated in the cave. "Did he really dare to speak on the pier of Saint Herner Harbor?"

"Really, besides our scouts on Saint Herner Island, many people on the pier heard it!"

Hearing this reply, another round of swears could be heard in the mountain cave.

At this moment, an icy and hoarse voice sounded when all the other voices disappeared.

"Bunny, how about that man's fighting strength according to your battle in Bluesea Castle?"

The man who asked was over 50 years old with only one eye while his other eye was wearing a black eyepatch. Sitting on the east of the roundtable, he looked gray and thin. Besides this, he was filled with a brutal sense.

Bonny was that guy whose hand and ear were chopped off by Zhang Tie in Bluesea Castle. At this moment, he was also sitting beside the stone roundtable with hatred on his face.

"Boss, he's only a bit more powerful than me. His swordsmanship is very sharp. I'm not sure about his level. He might be LV 8 or LV 9. If we don't kill him, how will we on Magical Snake Island live in this sea area?"

"Only a bit more powerful than you?"

"Yes, I'm sure!" Bonny replied loudly.

"If so, brothers, who'd like to bring that man's head back from the Ice and Snow Wildness? LV 10 is suggested. We need to let him know the outcome of being hostile towards Magical Snake Island! We have to solve this quickly." With one blinded eye, Bellus Ken said while he glanced over all the others sitting around the stone roundtable.

Over 10 people were sitting around the roundtable. Hearing Bellus Ken's words, more than half of them kept silent. Instead, they glanced over the other 6-7 people who were also exchanging glances with each other.

"I will be there. I've not tasted such a fresh boy for a long time..." A 40-odd-year-old guy revealed an obscene smile. He looked very righteous like a priest before he smiled. However, the moment he smiled, he instantly showed the gold teeth that covered his mouth, none of them were true teeth. At the sight of this, all the others felt chilly inside, including Bonny who was screaming loudly just now and instantly moved their eyes away from him.

"Dawson, you just need to bring back that brat's head, you'd better not do anything excessive. The Ice and Snow Wildness is not like Ewentra Archipelago as it belongs to Slavas. If you do anything excessive, you might not be able to come back alive." Bellus Ken glanced at Dawson seriously before warning him.

"I know, I can control myself. Besides that brat, I will not stir up any trouble. Oh, on my way back, can I take a trip to Bluesea Castle?" Showing his gold teeth, Dawson ground his gold teeth when he mentioned Bluesea Castle, causing a jarring frictional sound.

"Let's call it an end about Saint Herner Island. That woman is a sharp figure. As she has bound Ballas Business Group with her life, if she was in trouble, Golden Roc Bank might directly attack us considering the wealth of the Ballas Business Group. Additionally, 2 barbarian powerhouses above LV 10 were assigned there to protect her, plus a barbarian shaman, we might suffer a great loss if we want to kill her."

"Then, we just forget about the shame?" Someone asked.

Bellus Ken glanced over everybody on the stone table while a shrew light flashed by his only one eye. "There're always chances. It's not peaceful on the continent recently. Demons have been impatient. Therefore, we only need to wait for a short period. I believe that we will soon leave Magical Snake Island."

"Boss, I heard that the relics about pre-catastrophe human civilization was found on Ice and Snow Wildness, there might be the fragments of the Star of God; won't we...?"

"Do you think that you can touch the fragments of the Star of God?" Bellus Ken shouted loudly out of fury, causing that guy quiver all over, "With out a level above knight or a powerful reliance, you are only going there for death! There's only one guy across Ewentra Archipelago, who's reluctantly qualified to compete for that thing—the old d\*\*chebag on the Stars and Moon Island!" Saying this, the one-eyed head gritted his teeth while the only left eye turned wholly red, "That old d\*\*chebag made one of my eyes blind, making me hide in this motherf\*cking place many years. After hearing the news, the old

d\*\*chebag would definitely go there. I hope he was killed over there; that way, I will definitely kill all the clan members of that old d\*\*chebag on Stars and Moon Island."

"Boss, as long as you can reach one level higher, you will be a knight; by then, you will not be afraid of that old d\*\*chebag any more!" A LV 9 guy who had just reached LV 9 flattered.

Flattery existed everywhere. Even in Magical Snake Island, such kind of people also existed among the central figures of Magical Snake Island. The alleged round table warriors all had distinctive fighting strengths which caused different positions. Among them, the most powerful and privileged one was definitely Bellus Ken, the boss of Magical Snake Island. Have reached LV 15, he was a standard fighting spirit. As for others, the one with the lowest fighting strength had also reached LV 9.

(According to the opinions of fans of this book, I slightly adjusted the ranks that mentioned previously; after the adjustment, the ranks would be strong fighter, fighting master, great fighting master, fighting master, fighting demon and fighting spirit——Drunk Tiger, the author)

That flatterer didn't know that he had flattered the wrong man this time.

"You mean I'm afraid of that old d\*\*chebag?" Bellus Ken glared at that guy on the opposite of him with only one eye as he narrowed his eyes and uttered an icy voice.

"Boss...I...I don't mean that!" That guy's face turned pale at once as he hurriedly explained with a poor look.

Nobody wanted to hear his own explanation. In an organization composed of pirates and killers, of course, the boss had his own way to preserve his authority.

From several meters away, Bellus Ken directly punched out a fist with blue battle qi which was as large as one's head. In a split second, it had stricken onto that guy and exploded him into flying blood and broken flesh, which even splattered onto the others' bodies and faces; some of them were so scared that they dared not to make any sound at all while someone else looked nothing had happened. Dawson just gritted his gold teeth while stretching out his long tongue to clean off the blood that splattered onto his lower lip. He looked enjoying it very much.

"A wise person who knows how to stay away from a powerful enemy to preserve his own fighting strength is not equal to be afraid of his enemy!" After easily killing that LV 9 guy, Bellus Ken explained icily. After that he glanced at Dawson who was licking the fresh blood over his face and said, "Dawson, you go to Ice and Snow Wilderness tonight..."

"Yes, sir!"

...

Zhang Tie didn't know that after he left Saint Herner Island by Polar Light Huge Ship for less than 1 day, he had been chased after by a powerhouse assigned from Magical Snake Island. Whereas, this was in Zhang Tie's expectation. Besides not knowing what kind of person would be assigned to assassinate him by Magical Snake Island, he was not amazed about anything else as he had already taken this crisis brought by Magical Snake Island as a challenge.

As early as that guy from Magical Snake Island raved in Bluesea Castle to force Olina revealed the one who had killed their man, Zhang Tie had already prepared for this day.

With his current fighting strength, if he used sword, he was confident to kill that LV 9 guy from Magical Snake Island in 2 minutes. If he used any throwing weapons, he could narrow time into several seconds. However, Zhang Tie kept hiding his real fighting strength.

The reason was Zhang Tie knew that after he left Bluesea Castle, Magical Snake Island would definitely assign someone to assassinate him. As long as he didn't perform extremely powerful in Bluesea Castle, the people assigned by Magical Snake Island would not be the most powerful one; instead, they would just assign someone that they estimated to kill Zhang Tie definitely. After all, powerhouses above LV 9 were not easily found anywhere. In Huaiyuan Palace, such people were precious resources, let alone in Ewentra Archipelago! As the old Chinese saying goes, high-quality steel should be used to build high-quality blade.

Undoubtedly, a LV 10 powerful fighter was actually enough to deal with one person who could reluctantly defeat a common LV 9 fighter.

After experiencing being chased after by a strong fighter, Zhang Tie knew it clearly that even if the most average strong fighter had already lit over 55 surging points. Compared to a LV 9 fighter, a strong fighter would have lit at least 20 more surging points. On fighting strength, a strong fighter would at least be one time more powerful than a common LV 9 fighter. A strong fighter would cause Zhang Tie very embarrassed; facing fighting master, Zhang Tie could only directly jump into the sea to escape.

Of course, the killer being assigned by Magical Snake Island to assassinate Zhang Tie depended on Zhang Tie's performance in Bluesea Castle. Therefore, when Zhang Tie chose to shoulder the threat from Magical Snake Island bravely, he was actually driving himself forward greatly; meanwhile, he was gradually influencing the possible strategies which were taken by Magical Snake Island on dealing with him; additionally, it also spare a chance for him to jump into the sea to escape in the future.

Zhang Tie would like to see whether he could stand the attack from a possible strong fighter assigned by Magical Snake Island. He wanted to see whether the speed and fighting strength brought by seven-strength fruits could help him defeat that powerful enemy which was always his concern.

'If Lan Yunxi could make it, I could make it too. Albeit I could not match her on the most powerful blood line that she has awakened, my castle of black iron and that small tree could not be matched by anyone else either.

The most ideal result is that——in order to kill me, Magical Snake would assign all of its round table warriors one by another to assassinate me; finally I killed them all one by one, causing the rest b\*stards on Magical Snake Island not bring any trouble to the other people any more.

Zhang Tie had already made the decision when he embarked——now that I've left my home, I will change from an ant to a Chinese dragon. The first step was to step this poisonous snake Magical Snake Island under my feet...

Chapter 394: Devil's North Wind Area

The Polar Light had entered the devil's north wind area of the Oro Strait on the second day since it left Saint Herner Island. From then on, it started to cross the sea.

As a strait in the southernmost part of the Ice and Snow Wildness, the Oro Strait was the only route from the Ewentra Archipelago to the Ice and Snow Wildness in the north. Not until Zhang Tie came to Oro Strait did he understand why they could only enter the Ice and Snow Wildness by sea. The reason was that airships didn't work in this region at all because of the terrifying devil's north wind area in the Oro Strait.

During the past year in Hidden Dragon Palace, Zhang Tie had learned a lot. At least, he had read the creation of the devil's north wind area in Oro Strait from the textbook titled "Continental Geography"—a powerful air convection and cyclone between the subpolar low pressure area of the Ice and Snow Wildness and subtropical high pressure area of the Ewentra Archipelago.

The terrifying north wind originated from the air convections between different pressure areas over this star. This convection would not come to an end, neither would the terrifying north wind above Oro Strait. Being pushed by such a powerful north wind, an ocean current with the greatest flowing speed across Waii Sub-Continent formed in the sea of Oro Strait—"Ocean Current in the Wildness". Because of the same constant north wind, the airspace above Oro Strait also became a forbidden region for airships.

In that age, no airship could fly across this devil's north wind area. Perhaps the aircrafts before the catastrophe could do that, however, for an airship, although its huge body and great height, it was nothing different than a kite in the terrifying north wind area. The moment any airship drew close to this place, it would be blown away from the north wind and gradually fly towards the south instead of heading for the Ice and Snow Wildness.

Because of the devil's north wind area in Oro Strait, this strait became the forbidden area of all the air traffic vehicles in this age. Additionally, even Zhang Tie's passenger liner started to move forward slowly. The liner's normal speed was 18 nautical miles per hour. Since it entered this area on the 2nd day, its speed instantly dropped to 10 nautical miles per hour facing the surging waves over 10 meters in height.

Zhang Tie was told on board that it would take them 7 days of bumpy travel on the sea to reach Eschyle City in the southernmost part of the Ice and Snow Wildness. Eschyle City was a window for the Ice and Snow Wildness to exchange with the Ewentra Archipelago and the rest of the world as the only city in the Ice and Snow Wildness. Compared to the vast Ice and Snow Wildness, Eschyle City was not even a sesame on a pie on the pionnering map.

Zhang Tie bought a tourist-class ticket. For people who had to sail across the sea for 7 days, of course, they would not just stay in their own cabins. Instead, they could also enjoy themselves in dining rooms, bars and gambling houses on board.

It was very boring on the ship. Besides polishing his surge points and cultivation in trouble-reappearance situations, Zhang Tie also went out of his own cabin sometimes and ate something in the dining room. Meanwhile, he would take a look at the Oro Strait.

During these days of travel over the sea, Zhang Tie had become acquainted with some new friends—Sam, Gerri and Isle.

Sam and Gerri were pioneers and bosom friends. After being told that pre-catastrophe relics and pieces of the star of god were discovered in the Ice and Snow Wilderness, they had been heading for there to seek fortune. Isle was a businessman who specialized in trading furs and food between the Ice and Snow Wilderness and the Ewentra Archipelago.

Zhang Tie's cabin was linked to the other 3. Besides their own independent space, the 4 cabins shared the same narrow passage and a washroom. It felt like a dorm at school. After staying on board for 2 days, Zhang Tie had already acquainted with the other 3.

...

Under the impact of his powerful spiritual energy, the purple surge point uttered a booming sound in Zhang Tie's mind like a collapsing dam. Following that, the purple brilliance flew in all directions and gradually disappeared in Zhang Tie's body. Then, a red spark started to appear at the surge point before turning into a blazing flame.

With the warmth radiated from this surging point, Zhang Tie felt that part of the darkness that covered his body had been driven away. At the same time, the joint of the 15th vertebrae uttered a crisp sound like an opened metal lock, causing a numb, cool sense that was similar to that of an orgasm. This sense spread from his nervus centralis all the way to his brain, making Zhang Tie hum out of control due to excitement.

The 15th surging point on his spine was finally broken through by Zhang Tie's spiritual energy.

Not until that numb sense completely faded away did Zhang Tie let out a sigh before standing up from his bed. He stretched out his limbs before put the pyramid-based crystal into Castle of Black Iron.

Zhang Tie then felt that he had greater physical strength. Besides, he felt his limbs becoming more coordinated. Additionally, he felt something agile in the location of the qi sea where the soul fire entered and the shrine surge point as if some stones were moved away from a solid hinterland of a mountain.

Since the 14th surging point was lit, Zhang Tie had felt that slight changes would happen in the qi sea of his lower abdomen each time he lit a new surge point.

If it was in Blackhot City, Zhang Tie definitely didn't know what such changes indicated. However, at this moment, Zhang Tie knew that it was the prelude of opening his qi sea. The greatest difference between a LV 9 fighter who had lit at least 34 surging points and a LV 10 strong fighter who had lit at least 55 surging points lay in the fact that a LV 10 strong fighter had also opened his or her qi sea besides lighting all the surge points on his or her spine.

Qi sea, sea of battle qi, was the source of the greatness of a fighter.

The difference between a LV 10 strong fighter who had opened his or her qi sea and a LV 9 fighter was decisive. Their great difference in fighting strength and physical quality could be identified from the different numbers of surge points that they had lit which was even greater than the total fighting strength from LV 1 to LV 8. That was to say, from LV 10, each level higher would be a chasm that could hardly be exceeded by the likes of commoners. At this moment, the value of some top ancestral bloodlines among the Chinese would gradually stand out.



Zhang Tie knew that he was still far away from opening his qi sea. It would take him about 2 years to open his qi sea.

He needed to lit another 40 surge points. Each surge point had 7 barriers in different colors which meant 280 barriers in total. Zhang Tie knew that one leakless fruit could break through 3 barriers. In this way, he needed to consume at least 93 leakless fruits before reaching LV 10.

It took 93 weeks for 93 leakless fruits to grow mature, namely 651 days or 22 months.

However, at this moment, Zhang Tie didn't even know how to improve himself to reach LV 9 and LV 10 which were the most important stages. The cultivation knowledge after LV 9, especially the content on lighting surge points was the top secret knowledge. People had to spend a lot of clan contribution points and reach LV 9. Besides this, they had to pass a strict examination before being qualified to learn it. By now, Zhang Tie had not even reached any condition, of course, he was not qualified to learn it.

To improve from LV 7 to LV 10 in 2 years, which was a rocketing speed for commoners; however, for Zhang Tie, it was still too slow. His master Zhao Yuan told him that in many real powerhouses' eyes, LV 9 and LV 10 were only the beginning of the cultivation process.

Zhang Tie knew clearly that in the later stages, each level would require an exponential increase in the number of surge points to be lit. By contrast, the function of the leakless fruit would gradually become less observable. Additionally, the Third Holy War was drawing near. After the event in Heavens Cold City, Zhang Tie faintly felt that this holy war might be more miserable while demons might have greater power than the people could imagine.

After thinking for a second, Zhang Tie realized that he had not entered the Castle of Black Iron for over 2 weeks. After 2 weeks accumulation, there should be 2 more leakless fruits on the small tree.

Zhang Tie was slightly stretching his limbs in his cabin and intending to eat the 2 leakless fruits in the Castle of Black Iron so as to break through the 6 barriers of the 16th surge point on the spine when his hatch door boomed.

"Bang, bang, bang, Peter, are you in there..."

The moment Zhang Tie heard this voice, he had given up his thoughts of entering the Castle of Black Iron. With a helpless smile, he then opened the hatch door.

2 pioneers who looked a bit older than Zhang Tie were standing outside the hatch door. The one on the left looked a bit fatter with observable purplish hair while the one on the right looked thinner and taller. Besides brown skin, he had black hair, tall nose and gleaming eyes.

"Oh, hi, Peter!" At sight of Zhang Tie opening the door, the fatter one shouted.

"What's up, Sam?" Zhang Tie still asked kindly. He didn't feel unhappy about being disturbed at all.

"I haven't seen you step foot out of your door since yesterday afternoon. Don't you feel bored inside? Gerri and I are going for supper, therefore, we are here to call you out to head there together." After saying this, Sam gazed at Zhang Tie. "You look red, are you sick?"

"Argh, no, I was just sleeping!" Zhang Tie told a lie. Having lit a surge point, his qi and blood were all activated, causing his face to become a bit red in a short period as if he was exercising. However, Zhang Tie didn't think it necessary to tell the truth.

Sam was only LV 4 while Gerri was only LV 5. They had been extremely excellent among pioneers of the same age.

"Were you sleeping?" Gerri stealthily glanced at that narrow room which could only hold a bed and a desk with a weird smile. "Were you there doing something weird? I know, you feel bored all alone. When you do that, you would always be excited. I know, I know, but don't always do that, it's not good for your health!"

"What are you talking about it?" Zhang Tie asked out of doubt.

Gerri then held nothing in the air with a hand before moved up and down, which was familiar to almost every man. "If you are too bored, why not take a look in the gambling house after supper. I was told that many beauties were inside. Isle had won more than 2 gold coins in the gambling house yesterday, which was almost equal to half of his ticket price. He went there early this morning again and hasn't come back even now!"

Zhang Tie revealed a smile as he scratched his hair. He had not imagined that it had even arisen others' misunderstanding after cultivating for so long in his room. 'It truly is a bit weird. I will take a walk outside to get some fresh air. No matter what, the leakless fruits will not run away by themselves. I can eat them this evening.'

"Fine, let's go!" Saying this, Zhang Tie locked his door before walking out of the narrow passage which was paved with an anti-slip corrugated steel plate.

"I was told that the VIP cabins upstairs were much better than ours. They are like chartered rooms in high-end hotels. Besides, their passages are paved with carpets. There is also a club in the VIP area. I met a female blonde bartender there yesterday with a pair of ears of a bunny girl..." Sam said with an admirable look/ "When we become rich, we will also try the VIP cabins! If so, we will not feel tired of traveling here and there anymore!"

Gerri burst into laughter. "When you become rich and can afford 20 gold coins for a shipping ticket, will you still travel here and there for pioneering work?"

"That's it! When we have money, why would we look for pioneering work?" Sam also realized that as he patted his head. "Gerri, tell me about your ideal life after becoming rich."

"When I have money, of course I will raise a great number of beauties in my castle. I will create a great clan by sowing seeds everyday like a seeder!"

Hearing this answer, Zhang Tie also smiled. 'Cut it out guys.'

"Peter, what about you?"

"Me?" Zhang Tie pointed at his own nose.

"Yea, even if we are pioneers, we should also have dreams!"

'Dreams?' Zhang Tie recalled that dream——Lying on a pile of gold coins at an old age and watching a number of beauties dropping off tears in front of him. He then shook his head. Every man wishes for that life but in this motherf\*cking age, they should be able to survive first.'

"If I can live safely and steadily, I almost have the same dream as Gerri!" Zhang Tie told them honestly.

"Ha, you're too pessimistic. Do you only want to survive by yourself? The death and injury rate of pioneers are not too high, additionally, if there are truly urban relics in the Ice and Snow Wilderness, we will just follow the greater part of people there and share a bit. It should be safe." Sam comforted Zhang Tie.

"Trust me, you have me!" Gerri patted his own chest.

"Thanks!" Zhang Tie smiled.

"We're friends!"

...

The fact was that Zhang Tie's thought about "living safely and steadily" was not useless, especially in this age, on this mystical sea.

Soon after they finished their very average supper in the average dining room, they had heard a specific, rapid and transient frequency which was very jarring like a warning. None of them knew what this indicated.

However, before they asked others, an extremely terrifying sound screamed in the dining room.

"Class I warning. A super large dangerous creature is drawing close to our ship. Please hold fast to anything that is bolted down and stationary!."

Right after this voice, the ship quivered heavily, shaking off many tablewares from the tables onto the ground...

#### Chapter 395: A Huge Deep-Sea Monster

Every ship that could freely access the Oro Strait weighed tens of thousands tons.

So did Polar Light. With a length of 300 m, it could displace over 6000 tons of seawater when it had a full load. This was definitely the biggest ship that Zhang Tie had ever seen. Even in Huaiyuan Prefecture, it would be qualified as a huge ship.

At this moment, Polar Light was close to having a full load. Besides its over 4000 passengers, it also carried over 30,000 tons of materials.

Try to imagine the strength required to shock such a huge ship.

Most people inside the dining room were holding onto anything that was bolted down to secure themselves while Zhang Tie rushed outside at once.

"Peter, where are you going?" Sam screamed.

"Don't worry, I'm just taking a look outside..." Zhang Tie replied as he ran.

"What a crazy guy!" Saying this, Gerri made a gesture towards Sam, "Let's have a look at that thing. If something really happens to our ship, it is same both in and out the dining room."

Sam nodded as the 2 people ran towards the door of the dining room. Only a few stepped away after they moved, they were thrown onto the ground by another huge shock.

"F\*ck..." Sam swore.

...

At this moment, Zhang Tie had already rushed out of the dining room. Before the second huge shock, Zhang Tie had jumped off the ground. After stepping onto the wall of the passage, he immediately landed on the corridor outside the cabin.

Many people rushed out after Zhang Tie.

About half of the 4000-odd passengers in this ship were pioneers. Some of them didn't know what happened at all, they only wanted to see what was happening outside. Some of them were very bold. When they were told that Polar Light encountered an attack from some dangerous creature, they also ran out due to the excitement.

The north wind was whistling outside the cabin while waves were surging high. The moment Zhang Tie rushed out, he had heard a voice, "It's at the fore..." Zhang Tie then sped up towards the front of the ship before witnessing an extremely shocking scene.

Zhang Tie saw a terrifying tentacle stretching out of the sea which contained an immense number of suckers. It was dozens of meters in height and was twisting at the fore of the Polar Light. Shortly after that, it started to whip the board, causing the whole ship shake heavily like a fish being lashed.

Although the metal structure of the ship could not be easily broken, with this whip, Zhang Tie heard the jarring sound of twisting and squeezing iron and steel. At the same time, many buildings and facilities at the fore were broken by such an irresistible attack.

Broken materials flew in all directions, causing many people to wail mournfully. Some unlucky guys were even broken into pieces by the whip.

Although Zhang Tie was far away from that tentacle, he also suffered from the attack of some broken pieces flying towards him from the front. Thankfully, he dodged away from them.

After the tentacle's attack, another huge tentacle stretched out of the starboard as it swept across the shipboard. As a result, another 5 or 6 onlookers were rolled up by the tentacle. With miserable shrieks, their skeletons were broken at the same time while their innards burst out. With fresh blood spraying in the air, they were pulled into the sea...

At the sight of such a scene, many people who had just run out immediately turned around and rushed back in. They were outside here only to be the dimsum of the monster. By contrast, it was safer in the cabins.

Even the thinnest part at the tip of the tentacle was wider than 1 m. It swept across a spot less than 10 m in front of Zhang Tie, breaking a row of windows on the left of the shipboard. After rolling up one person, the huge tentacle instantly made a knot over his body in less than 1 second, causing his eyes pop out of his face.

"Huge Deep-Sea Monster, Huge Deep-Sea Monster..." Someone shouted loudly on the deck above Zhang Tie when bolts were shot into the sea from huge steam-driven crossbows.

Zhang Tie didn't know whether or not they had hit the huge monster with the bolts. The moment this question flashed across Zhang Tie's mind, a surging wave had risen into the sky suddenly while another huge tentacle several meters in width stretched out from the bottom of the ship. In a split second, Zhang Tie saw a steam-driven ballista, debris of buildings and more than 10 people were swept into the sea. Meanwhile, a loud sound and some shrill screams drifted from the starboard...

The monster in the sea seemed having been irritated by the huge bolts.

After rushing out of the passage after Zhang Tie, Sam and Gerri saw a tentacle as wide as several meters shrinking into the sea along with those pieces and people, their faces turned pale at once. They then instantly turned around and escaped back towards their cabins as they realized that they were only targets by standing by the shipboard...

Zhang Tie also prepared to run back into this own cabin. At the sight of it, Zhang Tie had realized that it was out of his ability to deal with this huge deep-sea monster. Although he kept moving towards the north in the sea, he had not seen such a terrifying monster before.

Zhang Tie didn't think he was a righteous swordsman, neither did he think that he could save others at the risk of his own life. If that huge monster destroyed the ship, Zhang Tie could escape by himself. However, he didn't know how many people could he save.

Thinking of this, Zhang Tie really heard 'helps'.

"Help..." A guy lying on the deck 7-8 m away from Zhang Tie was screaming miserably while a sharp metal strip penetrated his thigh, causing him to unable to move.

Soon after his scream, another wide tentacle stretched out of the sea and swept over the deck like a mop that was used to clean the deck and the shipboard. As a result, with the cracking sound of metal, the metal guardrails of the shipboard and the deck rolled up like instant noodles.

In a wink, that huge tentacle had been less than 10 m away from the person. That guy's face changed as he watched that terrifying black tentacle which rolled towards him like a tank with a despairing look.

At this moment, Zhang Tie rushed towards the man. He caught his clothes and rolled into a cabin on one side before the tentacle reached them...

After this round of attack, the door and the window of the cabin had been transformed and broken into pieces while one wall was cleaned. In the blink of an eye, the cabin had been destroyed as if it had been attacked by a tornado.

The moment Zhang Tie stopped rolling, he saw another surging wave from outside the shipboard while another huge tentacle stretched out of the sea, twisting in the air, and was going to hack downwards...

"B\*stard!" With a furious, grim voice, a blue sun appeared outside the cabin. Being stimulated by that brilliant, blue sword qi, Zhang Tie slightly narrowed his eyes. At the same time, Zhang Tie's heart palpitated while a powerful pressure rose from outside.

This powerful pressure reminded Zhang Tie of a familiar sense. Zhang Tie then immediately remembered the scene when he met the senior from Huaiyuan Palace on the airship. However, this person's powerful pressure was different from that of the senior from Huaiyuan Palace. The latter's powerful pressure was as steady as Mount Tai while the prior's powerful pressure felt like being pricked by numerous sharp long swords.

'Knight! How come a knight on this ship?' Zhang Tie was a bit shocked as he let out a sigh almost at the same time.

Before that huge tentacle fell down onto the deck, it had become cut into pieces while its blood sprayed over the sky. Being influenced by this, the rest of the huge tentacles that were surrounding the Polar Light withdrew back into the sea, causing a 100-m high water column at once. Meanwhile, a baby's high-pitched baby crying drifted from below the sea.

When that sound was produced, even Zhang Tie covered his ears with hands as he felt like vomiting.

Eyes widely opened, Zhang Tie watched the man standing in the air being covered with blue sword qi. When the knight shot into the sea like a bolt, Zhang Tie also made a decision and rushed out of his cabin.

Zhang Tie had never witnessed how a knight fought. As there was a chance, of course, Zhang Tie would not give it up.

Zhang Tie directly came to the fore of the ship and looked at the sea...

Huge tentacles stirred up the 100-m high water columns and surging waves, making the Polar Light bumpier. Among those water columns and surging waves, a huge black shadow which was 100 m in width was below the ship. At the sight of it, Zhang Tie felt chilly all over.

In a split second, the blue sword qi had cut off the tentacles of over 100 m in length which stretched out of the sea like cutting melons and vegetables like lightning bolts. After dropping into the sea, the twisting, broken tentacles also caused high sprays and surging waves. As a result, Zhang Tie was soaking wet.

At the same time, the monster uttered a shrill shriek.

There was a steam-driven ballista at the fore of the ship. Whereas, the sailor of this steam-driven ballista had already been hacked away by one tentacle. At this moment, when the blue sword qi was fighting the monster, Zhang Tie noticed that nobody was manipulating the ballista, therefore, he immediately ran towards it.

After rapidly checking the steam-driven ballista, Zhang Tie found that only the defensive armor plate of the steam-driven ballista was dented and twisted. The whole ballista was still in good condition. The steam pressure of the ballista was normal while a 2-m long triangular crossbow had been in place. The ballista was ready for launch at any time.

Without saying anything, Zhang Tie instantly sat in the seat of the gunner. At the same time, Zhang Tie forcefully rocked the steering driving wheel and aimed at that monster. At the same time, he held the hammer and prepared to trigger the bolt. Narrowing his eyes, Zhang Tie adjusted his shooting angle along with the rocking ship. Through the reticle window of the ballista, Zhang Tie observed the fight as he waited for the right chance.

Soon the chance arrived. Only after 1 minute, when the monster lost 2 tentacles, the seawater where it stayed instantly became as pitch dark as ink.

"You want to escape? Go die!" With a loud reproach, he hacked a crescent brilliance higher than 20 m into the sea.

In a split second, the seawater was frozen. Being split by that crescent brilliance, a 100-m long and deep vacuum groove was produced in the pitch dark water while a hill-like ferocious head of the monster was seen above the water...

Before being shocked by that knight's great strength, Zhang Tie had already stricken onto the trigger key with his right hand.

With a quake, a 2-m long huge bolt was sent flying towards the head of that monster from the ballista along the vacuum groove. When the crescent brilliance struck its head, the bolt also entered the monster's head.

Zhang Tie didn't know about the result, he only felt that his huge bolt directly entered the huge wound on the monster's head which was caused by that crescent brilliance.

After that, the seawater refilled the groove. Besides constant wind and waves, everything became quiet again...

After the blue sword qi disappeared, the person was standing still in the air above the sea where he had fought the monster.

Dozens of seconds later, an isle-sized body floated above the water while its lifeless tentacles started to bump over the sea.

It was 20 m higher above the sea although it was only a small part of its body.

The man standing in the air then flew back to the fore. After lowering his head and glancing at Zhang Tie, he didn't say anything. Instead, he walked towards the top deck where the VIP zone of the Polar Light was located.

Watching that man's back, Zhang Tie found he was an old man whose age was unidentified. That man looked like a bit older than 50 years old. However, he had no wrinkles. He also looked like he was 70-80 years old as he seemed to have experienced a lot. Besides well-combed silver-gray hair, his silver-gray pupils could bring a great pressure to people. Additionally, he had a raised forehead and a tall figure with a long sword in a sheath hung on his waist. All this radiated a great and sharp power.

When Zhang Tie recalled that old man's strike with his crescent sword qi which had even split the seawater and reached 100 m under the water, Zhang Tie felt that he was in a dream. If he stood in front of such a powerful person, the strike would have destroyed Zhang Tie 100 times.

'Is this the fighting strength of a knight?' Zhang Tie watched the old man's back with an admirable look. He didn't know when he would have such a powerful fighting strength— with only one strike, even gods and monsters would run over 100 m away.

"Star and Moon Sword Sage! Is that Samaranch, the Star and Moon Sword Sage?" Someone shouted on the top deck.

'Samaranch, Star and Moon Sword Sage!' Zhang Tie remembered this name.

At this moment, Polar Light had already anchored. The moment the crisis was solved, all the others staying in their cabins had run out while the sailors and seamen on the ship started to clean and repair the ship.

At the sight of the dead body of the terrifying deep-sea huge monster and the damaged parts of the ship, they were all struck dumb with astonishment. The whole fighting process lasted only 3-4 minutes from the deep-sea huge monster's appearance to its death. However, within such a short period, many people on the ship had experienced life or death situations.

From the hill-like part above the sea, Zhang Tie thought it was a mutated and evolved huge cuttlefish after observing it for a short while.

Zhang Tie then left the fore.

"Castle Lord, could you please collect a bit of its flesh? Just a finger-sized piece of it is enough!"

A familiar voice sounded in Zhang Tie's mind directly. It was Heller, the steward of Castle of Black Iron.

Zhang Tie was not used to talk with Heller in this way.

"Is that you, Heller?" Zhang Tie asked in mind.

"Yes, it's me, Castle Lord, I'm talking with you through the teleportation door of Castle of Black Iron. In this way, nobody could hear our conversation except for you. With increasing spiritual energy, you will get used to this way of communication. If you increase your spiritual energy a bit more, you will be able to talk with me directly without having to enter Castle of Black Iron!"

Hearing this explanation, Zhang Tie was reassured. "What will you use it for?"

"I will explain it to you when you come back. As the flesh of the huge deep-sea monster contains it's mutated and evolved gene, which is very valuable. This might be useful to Castle Lord. The gene can only survive for several hours after. Therefore, you have to send it into Castle of Black Iron before it loses its activity!"

...

When the Star and Moon Sword Sage destroyed a tentacle of the deep-sea monster, he cut it into many pieces which scattered everywhere on the ship. Therefore, on his way back into his cabin, Zhang Tie casually picked up a piece of glutinous flesh which was as size as half a fist and teleported it into Castle of Black Iron by putting it into his pocket.

Chapter 396: A Forgotten Option



"Peter..."

When Zhang Tie walked across the messy area intending to check the wounds of the guy whom he had saved, he caught sight of Sam and Gerri. At the same time, Sam and Gerri also saw Zhang Tie. With a scream, Sam then walked towards him with Gerri.

"It's great to know that you're safe!" Sam revealed a big smile. However, he also felt a bit embarrassed as he scratched his head. "When we came out just now, we saw the monster's tentacle right in front of us, so...so..."

Zhang Tie then smiled as he patted Sam's shoulder. "I know, it's okay, I was also out there to watch the fight instead of fighting the monster. Therefore, I didn't need your help as I could simply dodge the monster's attacks."

Hearing Zhang Tie's reply, Sam and Gerri both let out a sigh. No matter what, although Zhang Tie ran out himself, it was not a righteous deed for them to turn around and escape.

"Oh, where's the monster?" Gerri looked around out of curiosity...

Zhang Tie then pointed at the fore. Standing beside the guardrail of a destroyed shipboard, Gerri then pulled a fixed item as he looked outside before he screamed.

At this moment, more and more people poured out of their cabins and started to look out of the shipboard. At the sight of the dead body of that huge deep-sea monster, they all screamed one after the other. Someone picked up its broken tentacles and watched them carefully.

Seeing Sam and Gerri being that curious, Zhang Tie didn't talk with them too much. "Enjoy yourself, I've got something to deal with. See you later."

"Argh, okay!" Saying this, Gerri then ran towards the fore while pulling Sam's arm.

Zhang Tie then came to the position where the man he had saved was. Although this area had been completely destroyed, the man could already stand up reluctantly while a sailor and a doctor were dealing with his wounds. At the sight of Zhang Tie, the man immediately struggled to hold Zhang Tie's arm in an excited manner as he shouted, "That's him, that's him, this young man saved my life. If he wasn't here in time, I would've been smashed to pieces..."

Hearing his voice, all the people in the destroyed cabin glanced at Zhang Tie, including that sailor and that doctor who were tending to his wounds. Although saying nothing, they all looked at him with admiration. What Zhang Tie did at the critical moment was so noble and brave that everybody would praise him if they knew.

Hearing this praise, Zhang Tie felt a bit shameful. Although it was critical at that moment, before action, Zhang Tie had calculated the movement speeds of himself and the monster's tentacle. After knowing that he would not encounter any danger, he directly rushed towards the man and saved him. Therefore, although it looked very risky in others' eyes, Zhang Tie felt being safe.

However, it was unnecessary for Zhang Tie to clarify this to the public. Although he was not a righteous swordsman who especially did good things for the benefit of the average people, he wasn't an idiot either. Additionally, he had truly saved the man's life.

"Argh, I'm just here to take a look. It's good to know you're safe."

"Young man, do you know that you've just saved the life of Gelomof. May I know your name?" That man being saved by Zhang Tie asked solemnly.

"You can call me Peter."

Hearing Zhang Tie's reply, Gelomof instantly opened the collar of his coat. After that, he undid that heavy gold necklace and gave it to Zhang Tie.

"If encounter any difficulty in the Ice and Snow Wilderness, remember to find me in Bearman's Inn of Eschyle City. If I've already died, go to my sons, if my sons have died, go to my grandsons. I will tell them that anyone who presents this gold necklace is the savior of my family. I'm sure that they will exert their utmost efforts to help you!"

That man was so sincere that even Zhang Tie felt reluctant to refuse his good intentions. After glancing at that gold necklace with a bear head which was almost as heavy as 0.5 kg, Zhang Tie directly took it.

"I'll remember it. Bearman's Inn of Eschyle City. If I meet any difficulty, I will come for your help!"

Hearing Zhang Tie's words, the man burst into waves of laughter.

...

Because of the huge deep-sea monster's attack, the Polar Light anchored on the sea. At this moment, the sailors were all busy repairing the damaged parts of the ship and treating the wounded.

As the huge deep-sea monster only attacked them for a few seconds, only the exterior structures and the upper structure which was close to the shipboard were damaged. Therefore, after several hours' maintenance, all the passengers were told that they only needed to wait for one night before moving ahead.

Hearing this, all the passengers recovered their composes, especially when everybody was told that Samaranth, the Star and Moon Sword Sage was also on board, they finally felt reassured.

Besides damaging a part of the hull, the huge deep-sea monster also caused high casualties——over 70 people were killed or injured. Additionally, 20 more people were missing. Everybody knew that the alleged 'disappeared' was just a euphemistic way of speaking. Being attacked by that monster, they must have entered its stomach or have dropped into the sea and would not come back.

Those who lost their friends or relatives were extremely grieved at this moment. In contrast, all those surviving the attack changed the tragedy into a comedy——after being told that Samaranth, the Star and Moon Sword Sage was also on the ship, some passengers who thought they were influential then queued up in the VIP area. They wanted to appreciate this legendary figure and dreamed to befriend him.

In contrast, more average passengers, especially those who lived in economical and average cabins were queuing up at the fore. They were taking photos together with that floating dead body of the huge deep-sea monster on the sea. As a result, the price of a photo soon rose to 30 silver coins from 15 silver coins. Even then there were many people still excited about taking photos.

The photographer on the ship then benefited the most from this event.

Sam and Gerri were also posing a charming gesture at the fore.

Not until Zhang Tie, Sam and Gerri finished taking their photo did Zhang Tie see Isle, the one living next to him, coming back from the gambling house of the Polar Light. What made them speechless was that Isle didn't even know what happened till now.

When being asked why the Polar Light anchored, Sam widened his eyes at once. "You don't know what happened?"

"I truly heard warnings in the gambling house but nobody cared about that as we were so immersive. Additionally, those guys in the gambling house told us to not go out until the ship sank. What? Did it run on rocks or an iceberg?" The small furrier asked out of curiosity.

Gerri told Isle what happened briefly. Hearing that, Isle widely opened his mouth before running out. After a short while, he ran back with a pitiful look. "What a pity! Such a huge body would contain tens of thousands tons of flesh. Being similar to that of octopus, its flesh is very good food. Additionally, as the price of food on the continent grows day by day, if we could process this flesh into canned fish or store them, we would make a lot. When food is insufficient, we could even save a lot of people using its flesh."

Hearing this, Sam and Gerri both felt pitiful while an idea appeared in Zhang Tie's mind...

...

Although it was already dark, the clamour caused by the dead monster still didn't fade away. After ensuring that he would not be disturbed by anyone else, Zhang Tie returned to his narrow average cabin. He then closed the steel hatch door before entering the Castle of Black Iron.

As it was already dark outside, the Castle of Black Iron also became dark inside.

Some torches were burning around the small tree and the houses. The torches were not too dazzling but could illuminate the surroundings.

Heller had long waited for Zhang Tie's arrival respectfully. As per usual, the 3 coolies would go to bed the moment the night fell and got up to work the moment the sun rose.

"Castle Lord, welcome to the Castle of Black Iron." Heller bowed elegantly.

"Good work." Zhang Tie nodded.

"I know Castle Lord has a lot of questions to ask. Let's talk about them in the house." Heller stretched out his hand to invite Zhang Tie in.

"Fine."

Zhang Tie directly followed Heller in the only double-storey log cabin.

The parlor had been furnished. However, compared to that of Jinwu Castle, this was only a clean place which was suitable for deliberation.

A plate of strawberries and a plate of other berries were placed on the desk. At the sight of them, Zhang Tie realized that the Castle of Black Iron could provide him more and more materials now.

"Tell me about the function of the flesh of that huge deep-sea monster." Throwing himself onto a chair beside the desk, Zhang Tie grabbed 2 scarlet strawberries and threw them into his mouth. Tasting the refreshing and sweet strawberries, Zhang Tie instantly felt pretty good all over.

Hearing this question, Heller only replied with a smile as he put his hands in the air and separated them in a cool manner. Then, Zhang Tie saw a menu in the air.

——Basic Attributes of Castle of Black Iron

——Space and Terrain Transformation

——Living Beings and Species Administration

——Forming Special Seeds and Fruits of Manjusaka Karma Fruit Tree

This was the main menu of the Castle of Black Iron

"Have you remembered that?" Heller smiled as he watched Zhang Tie. He then moved one hand up in the air, causing the top 3 lines gradually fade away, leaving the last option that Zhang Tie had not used before.

——Forming Special Seeds and Fruits of Manjusaka Karma Fruit Tree.

Chapter 397: Flower of Life

Gazing at the last option for a while, Zhang Tie realized that he hadn't touched it for over a year. After skimming over this option when he obtained the Castle of Black Iron at the beginning, which almost made him suffer from a heart attack due to excitement, Zhang Tie had not checked this option at all.

Zhang Tie could still remember the astronomical figures of basic energy storage, merit values and aura values required by those "special seeds and fruits".

"Am I able to grow some special seeds and fruits now?"

Zhang Tie asked.

"The wealth accumulated in Castle of Black Iron has been able to grow a few special seeds on the small tree." Heller confirmed. "Why not give it a look."

Of course, Zhang Tie knew what the word 'wealth' meant coming from Heller's mouth. It actually referred to those basic data. Zhang Tie then pressed the last option in the air before seeing a wholly new interface.

Being the same same as the first time Zhang Tie opened the option, there were various rotating three-dimensional patterns and descriptions of strange seeds and fruits on the interface. The only difference was that a few of those patterns were bright as they were activated.

Heller then pointed at one of those activated seeds. Zhang Tie then touched its pattern. In a split second, its three-dimensional pattern became enlarged and clearer.

——Seed of Flower of Life

——Aura Values: 530000

——Basic Energy Storage: 1358000

——Merit Values: 90000

——Planting Area for LV 1 Flower of Life: A Square with a side length of 66 m.

——Flower of Secret, also the flower of taboo which was usually mentioned by some human clans. It figured out the fundamental secrets of the existence of life. With one bioactive cell, the flower of life could clone another living being.

The seed of this flower of life required astronomical amounts of aura values, basic energy storage and merit values which were out of Zhang Tie's imagination.

"What's clone?" Zhang Tie asked Heller.

"Simply put, a clone is a duplicate of another living being."

"Duplicate a life?" Zhang Tie was shocked by this answer greatly.

"That's it. It could duplicate a new life, including flesh and blood. If you have learned a lot about the scientific development of mankind before the catastrophe, you would know that people have already mastered the technology of cloning technique before the catastrophe. It's one of the most high-end techniques that people have mastered during that age."

"What do you mean by taboo?"

"With only one drop of your blood, the flower of life will clone a person who looks the same as you, including all the physical features and genes. If so, can your parents identify which one of you was the original if the both of you stood in front of them at the same time?"

"Of course I'm the real one!"

"Yes, you are the real one. But who will be the one who looks the same as you? From bloodline, as he originates from you, he also originates from your parents!"

Zhang Tie was then confused.

"As this technique would bring a huge impact to human ethics, it has been treated as a taboo. Actually, for many human races and living beings in the universe, they could not accept this."

"Wait, you mean a few races and living beings didn't think it was unacceptable. Don't they treat this as a taboo?" Zhang Tie figured out something from Heller's words.

"The reason lies in the difference in understanding the essence of life among different races and living beings. If you think that this body which contains various elements, blood and flesh is all of you, you will then take the cloning technique as a taboo. Whereas, if you take this body as a garment, will you treat those people who wear the same garment as you on the streets as taboo?" Heller said meaningfully.

"You mean it's nothing to worry about that?"

"I've told you that this depends on your understanding of life. If this body is all of you, then, will you think that you are different from those people with incomplete bodies essentially? When you see them wearing ragged clothes, do you think they are still as same as you? If this body is all of you, then, who's the one in the trouble-reappearance fruits? Is that just your illusion and conscious activity?"

Heller stared at Zhang Tie who was slightly frowning his forehead, "Don't worry about that anymore. Everything in Castle of Black Iron now exists for you. You are the absolute ruler here. Therefore, you don't need to change your world outlook to adapt to the things here. On the contrary, they will adapt to your existence and viewpoint! If you feel that you could hardly accept them, you can't choose them. If you feel it is nothing different than a garment worship, it is a garment workshop!"

After thinking for a short while, Zhang Tie ridiculed it. 'What a bullsh\*t taboo! I've not planned to do anything weird with it at all. I'd better consider something more realistic.

"Therefore, you asked me to bring in a piece of flesh of that huge deep-sea monster?"

"Yes. That powerful mutated living being is very valuable. If you can afford it, with the help of the flower of life, you could constantly produce huge deep-sea monsters in the Castle of Black Iron."

"I don't think it is very powerful at all. The Star and Moon Sword Sage killed it in only a few minutes. Additionally, what do I need that disgusting thing for?" Zhang Tie crooked his mouth.

"Based on my analysis of that piece of flesh, I find that the huge deep-sea monster was going through puberty. Such a creature has a great potential for growth. If it was an adult monster, it would be at least twice the size of the one you saw. If so, it would not be killed by people so easily as an adult deep-sea monster is one of the most powerful lords in the sea. What's more, as these cloned creatures sustain their lives by consuming your resources, they will be closely related to you and treat you as their owner."

"You mean I can treat these cloned things as my pets?"

"As you will, they will definitely be much more docile than average pets." Heller confirmed.

Hearing this, Zhang Tie's heart raced. With his eyes fixed onto that seed of flower of life, Zhang Tie suddenly thought of something.

"You mean people have already mastered cloning technique before the catastrophe? Is this flower the product of human science at that age?"

Heller replied with a smile, "Besides the human race, there were numerous living beings and species in the universe. The flower of life is just a living being. Humans always dreamt of conquering the whole world with high-end science. Did you ever imagine that some other races and living beings could

conquer everything by planting various plants? Those plants were born to have all the functions required by the human race, which were more senior than the top achievements of human science."

"That's unbelievable!"

"Fishes are born to swim and dive. However, how many difficulties have humans experienced diving deep into the sea? Birds are born to fly, however, how long had humans spent before being able to fly in the air? Treatment of water and soil pollution was a hot topic of human society even till the catastrophe, however, many plants are born to be able to purify water and revitalize the soil, which is much more powerful than human's scientific civilization. Humans are always dreaming about eternal prosperity through sunlight, however, plants are born with that ability."

"When did humans start transmitting messages through electromagnetic signals? All the plants in a forest naturally have the ability to transmit threatening warnings of invaders thousands of kilometers away through electromagnetic signals in a second. Receiving their signals, their partners would respond to it as soon as possible. Do you feel their instincts are strange? Do you feel that human civilization before the catastrophe is really that powerful? Living beings are born to have various strange instincts. Now that plants are born to have unimaginable super instincts, how could there not be a plant that could accomplish duplication and clone of life?"

Hearing Heller's words, Zhang Tie touched his head. 'This steward not only dwarfs me in looks but also has excellent eloquence and wisdom.' Compared to Heller, Zhang Tie found that he was totally an innocent kid.

"Wait..." Zhang Tie suddenly recalled that in many Chinese myths and legends, many people and living beings were bred in flowers. Are those myths and legends real?" Zhang Tie then told Heller about these myths and legends.

"Human myths and legends contain many memories and knowledge from far ancient times. Of course, many of them were fully fabricated by descendants based on their imaginations. As for the myths and legends that you mentioned before, I could only tell you that some of the Chinese might have a flower of life on this star long time ago." Heller explained to Zhang Tie seriously.

"What? You mean there's another Castle of Black Iron?" Zhang Tie was slightly stunned.

"There is only one Castle of Black Iron. But the flower of life is only a single member of a huge special plant population."

"Why could the small tree bear the seeds and fruits of the flower of life?"

"Because the Manjusaka Karma Fruit Tree is the king of that huge special plant population, which carries the life potentials of all the members of this population. When the conditions became mature, the Manjusaka would release all the life potentials of those members. This is its fate and instinct. You can also take the flower of life as a subordinate of the Manjusaka Karma Fruit Tree."

"You mean the option 'Forming Special Seeds and Fruits of Manjusaka Karma Fruit Tree' is essentially the reproductive channel through which the small tree releases the life potentials of that huge special plant population?" Zhang Tie widened his eyes.

"You can take it as a contract or an appointment, based on which, you bring them into this world through your own efforts and they serve you as a payment instinctively. The most perfect and harmonious relationship in the universe is established on this reciprocity, cooperation, and interdependence." Heller confirmed.

"You mean, this space of the Castle of Black Iron might be a big botanical garden at the beginning which would bring various subordinate strange flowers and plants to that small tree while I am that diligent gardener who's selected to look after this botanical garden?" Zhang Tie pointed at his own nose.

"I don't think you are wrong. Because I'm also a subordinate of this space, I could only tell you that as I've told you, the most perfect and harmonious relationship in the universe is established on this reciprocity, cooperation, and interdependence. The fundamental rule in the universe is that one party could not casually determine the life or death of the other party, casually harm the other party or pay with no gain, which is applicable anywhere, especially in people's social life. Any relationship that violates this fundamental principle can't be sustained. However, relationships that violate this principle exist everywhere, like friends that become enemies, regime changes and the changing relationships between nations." After saying this, Heller asked Zhang Tie, "Do you think that mysterious existence who created the Castle of Black Iron has not considered this simple thing?"

Zhang Tie was numb...

#### Chapter 398: Making Progress

Of course, the powerful flower of life which could clone a new living being was very useful for Zhang Tie. With the genes of huge deep-sea monster, the moment he realized that he could have such an "assistant" in the sea, Zhang Tie was very excited.

Certainly, the flower of life's ability was limited. In order to clone a living being, the flower of life could only clone one time with one gene although it required an astronomical amount of basic energy storage, aura values and merit values. Being similar to most plants, it would not produce 2 flowers that were the exact same. The creature produced by the flower of life was also unique.

Therefore, with the gene of the deep-sea monster, Zhang Tie could only clone one huge deep-sea monster. If he wanted more, he had to obtain the genes of other huge deep-sea monsters.

However, Zhang Tie was already very satisfied with this.

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"To produce a seed of the flower of life, you need 53000 aura values, 1358000 basic energy storage and 90000 merit values. Do you agree to produce the seed of the flower of life on Manjusaka Karma Fruit Tree or not?"

"—Yes or No"

After seeing the familiar words once again, Zhang Tie instantly chose "Yes". The moment he touched the button, Zhang Tie felt that the small tree started to radiate a faint but colorful light that covered its



leaves. Meanwhile, the small tree's leaves slightly shook and uttered the sound of "Ring ring ring...", which was pleasing to Zhang Tie's ears.

Zhang Tie felt that the small tree was very happy at this moment.

Zhang Tie knew that plants had emotional responses. It was said that the human race gained inspiration from plants' emotional responses while studying lie detectors. It was really out of his imagination that this small tree's emotional response could be that intense.

Feeling that the small tree was happy, Zhang Tie also became happy himself. In the past year, Zhang Tie had picked off so many fruits from it, yet, he didn't give anything to the small tree at all. Realizing that the small tree was very pleased with his choice, Zhang Tie was secretly overjoyed.

Although Zhang Tie input the largest amount of basic energy storage, merit values and aura values in producing the seed of flower of life he had ever saved up in the past year, he felt it worthwhile.

Perhaps in others' eyes, this was just a marvelous tree, however, for Zhang Tie, the small tree was his best friend and close partner as it had accompanied him throughout his growth.

"How long will it take the small tree to create the seed of flower of life?" Zhang Tie asked Heller.

Enjoying the sound of the small tree, Heller closed his eyes until he heard Zhang Tie's question. "It would take the Manjusaka Karma Fruit Tree 1 hour and 40 minutes to breed a seed of flower of life. It's a seed, a fruit and the first subordinate of Manjusaka Karma Fruit Tree."

"Oh, what's the name of that strange plant species that the flower of life belongs to?"

"You are familiar with it as you even registered your exclusive label with it." Heller looked serious.

"You mean that strange plant species is called Manjusaka?" Zhang Tie widened his eyes.

Heller then nodded, "You got it. It is!"

"But isn't it a strange flower of legend?"

"The Manjusaka flower truly exists. As it is also a member of the strange plant species known as Manjusaka Karma. Just like the flower of life, the Manjusaka flower is born to enable people to seal their memories or memorize what happened. It could enable you to forget your sadness and comfort you."

If Zhang Tie was told this by others, he probably wouldn't believe them. But since it was told by Heller, Zhang Tie believed it deeply.

Before the small tree bred its fruit, Zhang Tie checked his accumulated resources in the Castle of Black Iron by touching the basic attributes panel.

——Castle of Black Iron

——Length: 1 Kruso

——Width: 1 Kruso

——Aura Values: 111598

——Merit Values: 45127

——Basic Energy Storage: 1529100

——Special Output: Basic Reiki Yeast.

Only a few aura values were left while only 1/3 of merit values were left. What made Zhang Tie a bit reassured was the basic energy storage. After consuming 1358000 values of basic energy storage, there were still more than a half left in the Castle of Black Iron. This indicated Zhang Tie's fruitful achievement when he traveled in the sea for consecutive 3 days.

During the 3 days, Zhang Tie's basic energy storage surged 3 times. This also indicated indirectly that all the payment was valuable.

After checking these items, Zhang Tie checked the logs of merit values. He found that the merit values during this period mainly came from those sand scale fish that he employed people on Hidden Dragon Island to set free.

Nowadays, the slave responsible for setting free sandscale fish on Hidden Dragon Island was Paul, the alternate muling of the Sun Dynasty whom Zhang Tie bought from Stars Viewing City.

Without explanation, Zhang Tie just told Paul to buy some sandscale fish from the fish market on the wharf of Hidden Dragon Island before pouring them into the sea. Although Zhang Tie left Hidden Dragon Island, he didn't arrange anyone to supervise Paul's work every day. However, Zhang Tie could see Paul's work every day in the Castle of Black Iron.

If Paul set free sandscale fish, Zhang Tie's merit values would increase on the same day. As it was Zhang Tie who spent money and employed people to set free the sandscale fish, the merit values all belonged to Zhang Tie like how he arranged people to set free earthworms in Blapei.

By the way, Zhang Tie would like to test whether that person is reliable in an unconstrained environment. If that person could finish this job very meticulously even in such a scenario, it indicated that he was valuable. As was appointed between Zhang Tie and him, if that person could show his value to Zhang Tie, he will get Zhang Tie's support for his revenge plan.

The latest 2000 merit values came from Glomof whom Zhang Tie had just saved from the terrifying tentacle of that huge deep-sea monster. As an old Chinese saying went, "To save a person is better than building a 7-story pagoda[1]"

The small tree was still gleaming while playing a nice score of music with its shaking leaves. Zhang Tie then left the house together with Heller and walked towards the small tree.

It would take some time for the seed of flower of life to come into being. Zhang Tie then planned to eat fruits during this period. Before eating fruits, Zhang Tie walked around the small tree. When he caught sight of the trouble-reappearance fruit, Zhang Tie threw his glance at Heller.

Of course, Heller knew what Zhang Tie wanted to know.

"Right, this trouble-reappearance fruit contains the scene where Castle Lord fought that huge deep-sea monster. The very living being that could be activated inside is the huge deep-sea monster. You've had good fortune today. Closely after Star and Moon Sword Sage opened its head, your bolt directly

penetrated through that wound on the monster's head and gave it a fatal strike. Without your strike, that huge deep-sea monster could still stand for 2 minutes before dying.

"Ha...ha..." Zhang Tie became excited as he burst out laughing. What a fortune! He only thought about sealing the huge deep-sea monster in the trouble-reappearance fruit at that time. He hadn't imagined that he was that lucky and had really made it.

Zhang Tie could not obtain such a precious chance to fight a huge deep-sea monster at sea anymore no matter how much he spent. Although Zhang Tie knew that he had rare chance to fight the huge deep-sea monster with his current ability, he still wanted to strengthen his swimming and fighting skills through fighting such an unrivaled opponent.

Additionally, after killing that huge deep-sea monster, he saw a huge passenger liner in the trouble-reappearance scene. With this super great toy, Zhang Tie could really enjoy himself.

Zhang Tie was thinking about removing the huge deep-sea monster and replacing it with some sea serpents.

Zhang Tie felt that it was his lucky day as so many achievements were waiting to place themselves before him.

...

He then constantly digested 4 fruits under the small tree.

Being affected by the 2 leakless fruits, the 16th surging point gradually turned from red to blue. With 2 barriers left, it would be ignited.

After eating the new trouble-reappearance fruit, Zhang Tie gained a new scene and an unrivaled opponent.

After eating that fruit of redemption——gratitude from sandscale fish, Zhang Tie's sensitivity to cold and water flows rose by 8.7% respectively, which was over 12 times greater than that of commoners respectively.

This made Zhang Tie more curious. After setting free earthworms, he gained the preliminary recovery body. Zhang Tie really wanted to discover how his body had evolved after setting free so many sandscale fish.

After eating 4 fruits, Zhang Tie went off the stages from that high platform where the small tree was while Heller was waiting for him to the side.

The fruit of flower of life was still hanging over the small tree. It seemed to be growing fast while the small tree was still gleaming with swaying leaves.

"How long has it been?"

"It only took Castle Lord 1 hour and 20 minutes to digest the 4 fruits. 20 minutes are left before the fruit of the flower of life grows ripe." Heller watched that latest fruit with an eager look.

Zhang Tie then recalled a question that he had considered outside the Castle of Black Iron just now.

"Do we have a place to store food in here?"

"Yes, we have. But it's almost fully loaded. I'm thinking about having Agan to build another warehouse to store food these days. The daily grains supply in Castle of Black Iron could support the daily demands of one hundred. We need to solve the problem of lack of laborers and arable land."

"That huge deep-sea monster is still floating at sea. What a huge piece of flesh! Its body weighed at least thousands of tons. I was told that its flesh was a top food material. It would be a great waste to leave it floating at sea in this way. Do you have any method to deal with it?"

Zhang Tie asked this purely out of his sense of crisis. Zhang Tie knew that when the holy war broke out in the future, food would be in urgent demand. Since the event in Heavens Cold City, the prices of grains across Waii Sub-Continent had been surging rapidly. Everybody had a sense of urgency as they increased their stockpiles. Now that Zhang Tie knew that food would be very scarce in the future, he would feel uncomfortable by just leaving it flowing away at sea based on his personality. Given Zhang Tie's family background in Blackhot City, he would definitely treat it as a great waste if he just watched such a big piece of flesh floated away.

"You want to bring the flesh of huge deep-sea monster inside?" Heller narrowed his eyes. From his look, Heller seemed to be interested in Zhang Tie's thought.

"Right. If it was on land, I might not be able to bring it inside; but, as it is at sea, I could bring it in. However, the problem is how to store them?" Zhang Tie scratched his head, "If we just put it in Castle of Black Iron, it would go bad in only a couple of days!"

"I don't think it would definitely go bad in Castle of Black Iron. Have you forgotten about the space and topographical transformation function?"

Being reminded, Zhang Tie instantly thought up something as he looked at Heller in surprise. "You mean..."

"We can enlarge the northern area of Castle of Black Iron. Why not directly create a huge ice cave underground to store those flesh? Additionally, reproduction and growth of microbes and bacteria which can cause food to go bad will be restrained in the icy cave. In this way, we can store the flesh underground as long as possible..."

Hearing this, Zhang Tie directly jumped up from the ground.

"You will be responsible for building an underground ice cave and breeding the flower of life. For the ice cave, the larger, the better. I have to go out to get the flesh back now!"

After saying that, Zhang Tie left the Castle of Black Iron immediately...

## Chapter 399: Collect the Booty

In the evening, the wind grew heavier with the surging waves. It became colder outside. Sailors were busy repairing the damaged facilities. As the greater part of the metal guardrail on the left shipboard of Zhang Tie's floor had been destroyed, sailors were knotting nets with ropes in case that someone fell into the sea.

Given the low temperature of the sea in the Oro Strait, if commoners were to fall in, even if they could swim, they would be freeze to death in only 5 minutes.

After being anchored, the Polar Light was bumpier than when it was in motion. Therefore, sailors were very careful on deck.

Tonight, the stars were sparse while it was pitch dark over the sea. The fluorescent lamps hanging on the shipboards could only illuminate the area within 10-odd meters. The surging waves were blocking people's vision like the rising and falling of large black mountains.

Certainly, darkness only affected commoners. For Zhang Tie, after activating his night vision, he found nothing different between the day and night. The only difference was one layer of golden light when he activated his dark vision.

Now, Zhang Tie could not see the dead body of the huge deep-sea monster and its 100-m long tentacles that were floating not too far from Polar Light several hours ago. Due to the heavy northeast wind and the surging waves, it had been blown away.

Zhang Tie came downstairs to the bottom deck from the left side of the top deck.

At this moment, a manager was surrounded by 50-60 infuriated passengers at the entrance of the bottom deck. It took Zhang Tie a lot of effort to push through the crowd.

It was really noisy over there. Many people were screaming loudly while some were weeping.

"I'll say it again. No insurance service is provided for any ship that heading for the Ice and Snow Wilderness from Saint Herner Island. No business group or insurance company would be able to guarantee the safety of ships and passengers on this most dangerous route. This custom remains unchanged for hundreds of years. For those passengers who were killed, we can only give our condolences. We can't compensate them anything they've encountered. Your shipping tickets don't include insurance fee. You can see it at the ticketing center."

The manager was explaining loudly which was soon drowned by furious voices.

Zhang Tie could not give any help to the relatives and friends of those victims, neither was it related to him. Therefore, he just kept walking downstairs. Those above floor 3 were common cabins while those below floor 3 were economy class cabins and cargo cabins.

The hull below floor 3 was also attacked by the huge deep-sea monster. Thankfully, the damage wasn't as severe as that above floor 3.

It was the same as above, the bottom area was also very noisy. A great number of sailors were gathering in the center of the ship as they were pulling up a 50-m long tentacle by tower cranes, steel ropes, and pulley blocks.

Among those tentacles, this one was the shortest as it was only half of its full length even though Zhang Tie found that it still weighed over 100 tons.

Many people living in economy class cabins were watching them work. Some even gave them a hand. Therefore, over 100 people were busy working over there.

A fat man in a chief's uniform was commanding them.

"Take care, guys. The huge deep-sea monster's flesh is a top seafood ingredient. It's much more delicious than any octopus you've ever eaten. Those rich people prefer to spend much money on this. What a pity! Our ship is already at full capacity. Even if it wasn't, it would go bad in a couple of days on the ship. If we can move its body back, we will be rich!"

"Chief Hegel. Is the flesh of this huge deep-sea monster really as delicious as you've said?" A sailor asked loudly.

"Of course!" The fat chief said proudly. "Although its tentacle is sturdy, it tastes as tender and fresh as a sea cucumber. Additionally, the flesh of this huge deep-sea monster is high in nutritional value. Additionally, its qi and blood are very beneficial to people's health. If one always eat the flesh of huge deep-sea monster, one could be very robust. I was told that some powerhouses in Slav tribes like Mr. Samaranth would regularly hunt for huge deep-sea monsters and cultivate powerful fighters with the flesh of huge deep-sea monsters!"

"Haha, we will have yummy food!"

"Come on boys! I will show you my skills on roasting sea monster, trust me, you will bite off your tongues..." The chief waved his hands. Hearing this, all the sailors cheered up and started to work harder.

Hearing Hegel's words, Zhang Tie made up his mind. If he just let the food float away in front of him, it was no different than committing a crime.

The engine room was under the deck at the stern of the Polar Light. It was so noisy inside the room while the air was filled with stimulating smell of turpentine. Therefore, few people would usually come here, especial in the evening. There were only 2 dim fluorescent lamps at the stern, which reluctantly illuminated a small piece of area, leaving the surroundings shrouded in darkness. Almost no one was close to the deck and shipboards at the stern. Surging waves collided against the stern as sprays flew over the shipboards and fell onto the deck.

Zhang Tie came to the stern. After checking that nobody was there, he directly jumped into the sea without making a sound.

The moment Zhang Tie dived into the sea, he had activated a rune of the rapid moving skill. Meanwhile, he felt an undercurrent being pushed by the powerful north wind.

In a small range, when the undercurrent flew southwards, some other undercurrents were flowing oppositely as compensation.

Although it was an interesting circulation of water flow in such a small range, Zhang Tie knew that in a wider range, being opposite to the most famous flow driven by north wind was an ocean current that moved northwards.

The ocean currents here also formed a system. Under big ocean currents, there were medium-sized ocean currents, under these there were also small undercurrents. Under small undercurrents, there were smaller ones. Although of different sizes, these ocean currents formed an organic entity as they

were linked with each other. Additionally, they had the same structure. Ocean currents that lasted thousands of miles and small undercurrents behind Zhang Tie both presented the same feature.

At this moment, Zhang Tie had a strange feeling. He thought about the Taichi pattern, which was from traditional Chinese culture. Zhang Tie felt that the circulating ocean currents formed a perfect Taichi pattern. Additionally, such circulation presented weird geometrically fractal laws.

'Some secrets seems to be hidden inside.' some thoughts flashed across Zhang Tie's mind.

However, when Zhang Tie wanted to considerate it, he lost his inspirations at once. Therefore, he could only give up temporarily.

Although Zhang Tie was wearing a thin piece of cloth, he could still freely move like a fish. After slightly sensing the surrounding sea flows, Zhang Tie turned around and dived towards the south.

The huge deep-sea monster was a territorial creature. Generally, no other sharp monster would be seen within hundreds of miles from a huge deep-sea monster. Therefore, Zhang Tie was brave enough to dive in the sea at this moment.

Although Zhang Tie was very confident about his great swimming speed in the sea and didn't think it was possible to see any sea monster swimming faster than him, he didn't know what surprise this mysterious ocean would bring him. Perhaps, this monster was a male while there was a female near it. Zhang Tie really didn't want to meet another huge deep-sea monster.

With this thought, Zhang Tie became alert as he started to look for the dead deep-sea monster.

He started from the stern and searched towards the south in the shape of a "Z". Based on his intuition, Zhang Tie judged that the dead body was at most dozens of miles away at this moment. Additionally, the huge deep-sea monster and its tentacles were so great in size and length. If Zhang Tie kept searching towards the south along the wind and ocean current, he definitely wouldn't miss it.

Zhang Tie moved very fast. After leaving the Polar Light for several minutes, he had already been moving as fast as when he traveled in the sea several days ago. After eating a lot of fruits, his endurance had increased a bit. Gradually, Zhang Tie's moving speed exceeded the maximum that he reached several days ago.

Zhang Tie felt like he was driving a supercar in the sea while his body was that supercar. Similarly, the size of the sea flow that he absorbed into Castle of Black Iron with his spiritual energy was like an accelerator. It felt pretty cool. Additionally, with the help of his night vision, he could see this colorful underwater world. The whole ocean was golden while various fishes and shrimps and other marine life passed by him.

Although there were heavy winds and surging waves over the sea, it was relatively peaceful underwater.

Only after swimming a couple of minutes in the sea, Zhang Tie had already heard Heller's voice in his mind—Space and Topographical Transformation of Castle of Black Iron is completed.

After using up the basic energy storage, merit values and aura values of Castle of Black Iron, Heller had already built an ice cave which was about 600 m in length and over 100 m in width and height.

Because this ice cave was purely for storing food, Heller adopted regular geometrical patterns for this standard building. The whole ice cave was a square warehouse, the inside of which was divided into 21 rooms with different sizes. The temperature inside was kept lower than -18 degrees Celsius while the other indicators like moisture inside the ice cave were most suitable to store food.

After faintly sensing it through the teleportation gate of the Castle of Black Iron, Zhang Tie had known the situation inside.

"Oh, do we need lots of energy to sustain this ice cave?" Zhang Tie asked Heller in his mind. After using the Castle of Black Iron so many times, Zhang Tie had learned one law—there's no free lunch in this world.

"It only requires a bit of energy. Because the Castle of Black Iron has a relatively closed and efficient energy circulating loop, absorption, and release of energy both happen in the Castle of Black Iron. I mean, you only need to throw some bricks into the Pool of Chaos. The energy converted from these bricks would enable this super large underground ice cave to run for hundreds of years with this low temperature. It is similar to the magma cave which was used to plant the fiery-flame red lotus."

Hearing Heller's explanation, Zhang Tie finally understood.

Only after a few minutes, Zhang Tie had noticed a broken tentacle of the monster, half of which was floating on the sea.

That tentacle was almost 100 m. Its thickest part was even greater than Zhang Tie's height. With a glance, Zhang Tie knew it weighed at least hundreds of tons.

Back on the continent, Zhang Tie could never bring such a huge thing into the Castle of Black Iron as he could not carry it at all. However, he had a much easier solution in the sea. After locking onto the huge tentacle with his spiritual energy, Zhang Tie grabbed one end of that huge tentacle. After that, he opened the teleportation channel of Castle of Black Iron and absorbed that huge tentacle in together with a great amount of seawater.

Zhang Tie obtained this technique when he traveled in the sea several days ago. If an object could float in or on the sea, it meant that its weight equaled to its buoyancy. Although it was there, it was in a special state of zero weight for the Castle of Black Iron. Therefore, Zhang Tie could move it into the Castle of Black Iron using this method.

When seawater poured into the Pool of Chaos, that huge tentacle was thrown into the largest room in the underground ice cave.

As it was his first time to move such a long tentacle into the Castle of Black Iron, Zhang Tie felt it a bit difficult to do despite his great physical strength.

However, everything he did for this was worthwhile. The moment he thought that he could add hundreds of tons of flesh into the warehouse of the Castle of Black Iron, Zhang Tie would be very energetic in doing that.

In the next half an hour, Zhang Tie found another 2 broken tentacles and teleported them into the Castle using the same method.



1 hour later, Zhang Tie saw the hill-like body of the huge deep-sea monster 70 km away to the south of the Polar Light.

Some of its 8 tentacles had been broken while its body was covered with wounds caused by the Star and Moon Sword Sage. Only 5 tentacles of different lengths were left with it. Zhang Tie took a look at the huge deep-sea monster and found that its eyes had been dug out. Zhang Tie didn't care whether its eyes had special functions, he only cared about its flesh.

It was so huge. Even with the method that he used before, Zhang Tie could still hardly move it into the Castle of Black Iron. Staying in water, Zhang Tie thought about it for a short while before taking out of his double-carp swords. He firstly chopped off all the tentacles and teleported them into the Castle of Black Iron, leaving a hill of flesh.

It was the most tiring thing that Zhang Tie had ever done since he was born. It took him 4 hours to dismember the huge deep-sea monster and move them into the Castle of Black Iron.

After doing this, Zhang Tie was exhausted. It was really a great test for Zhang Tie both spiritually and physically to teleport all of its flesh into the underground ice cave of the Castle of Black Iron.

Commoners could never make it. During this process, the sharp and long double-carp swords helped Zhang Tie a lot. Holding the swords' handle, as long as Zhang Tie released sword qi several meters in length, he would leave a huge wound on its body and tentacle. After circling around a tentacle with his double-carp swords, Zhang Tie would soon break it off. If it was a shorter sword, it would be much harder.

After doing this, Zhang Tie felt pretty satisfied and safe. This time, Zhang Tie finally understood the old Chinese saying, "With grains in hand, one would not be flurried". 'Old Chinese sayings are really wise!' Zhang Tie sighed inside. He estimated that the flesh as high as a hill in the Castle of Black Iron and would weigh at least 4000 tons. No matter how long the holy war would last, Zhang Tie knew that he wouldn't worry about meat to eat anymore. This huge deep-sea monster would enable Zhang Tie, his family members, and friends to survive longer than 100 years.

'What a worthwhile trip!'

Thinking of that trouble-reappearance fruit and the flesh as high as a hill, Zhang Tie burst into peals of laughter.

...

After leaving the Polar Light more than 5 hours, Zhang Tie silently climbed back onto the deck of the Polar Light wearily from the gangway ladder. He was wet all over.

When he was aboard, some passengers on the deck were almost stunned to death. They even took Zhang Tie as a monster in the legend. Otherwise, who could climb on board from the sea in the middle of the night? Pointing at Zhang Tie, one of them even stammered, "Who...who...who are you?"

"Don't worry, I'm also a passenger of this ship. I dropped off into the sea just now. Thankfully, I'm good at swimming and survived..." Zhang Tie said with a fearful look as he took off his shoes and poured out the sea water. After that, he lifted his shoes and returned to his own cabin in wet clothes under the amazing looks of those people, leaving them glaring at each other.

When Zhang Tie was out of his cabin, he found Isle going out to the washroom. At the sight of Zhang Tie, Isle widened his eyes and seemed to be wake up instantly. "Peter, what are you doing?"

"I dropped into the sea just now when I was sleepwalking, so I swam for a while in the sea." Zhang Tie smiled, revealing his white teeth. Before Isle replied, Zhang Tie had opened his door and entered his room. Closely after that, he shut up his door, making a loud sound, "bang".

"Dropped into the sea while sleepwalking and swim back?" Looking at Zhang Tie's door, Isle muttered, "Lunatic!"

...

In the next 5 days, Zhang Tie ate food made of the flesh and tentacles of the huge deep-sea monster in the dining room. To tell the truth, it was really fresh, yummy and tender. Although it was not the staple food, after eating it for 5 days, Zhang Tie still liked it. Especially when it was cooked with spices, Zhang Tie felt it was pretty good.

Thinking about his storage in the Castle of Black Iron, Zhang Tie almost burst out laughing in his sleep.

On the 6th day, the scarred Polar Light finally arrived at Eschyle City, the only city on Ice and Snow Wildness, one day later than the estimated time of arrival.

During these days' travel by ship, Zhang Tie was told that Eschyle meant "The place where my lord is coming!" in the local language, which was hilarious and strange.

On August 2nd, 890th year of the Black Iron Calendar, it sprinkled in Eschyle, making the port hazy.

After taking a deep breath, Zhang Tie left the deck of the Polar Light and landed on the Ice and Snow Wildness on foot after 8 days of bumpy travel on the sea.

#### Chapter 400: Being Tracked

At the sight of Eschyle City, Zhang Tie began to recalled Kalur City. As the only city in the Ice and Snow Wildness, Eschyle was qualified to be a magnificent city.

Eschyle was also a huge city being built against a mountain. Standing at the wharf, Zhang Tie caught sight of the tall grey city wall in the drizzling rain while facing the special wild feeling from the Ice and Snow Wildness.

Besides being shocked by the size of Eschyle City, Zhang Tie also sensed something tough and wild.

Those pioneers disembarked and rapidly left the wharf, boosting the taxi industry and animal-driven vehicles industry present in the city. Some high-end black cars were parked by the gangway. The moment some influential figures disembarked, they had rushed into the black cars. With a slight shake, those cars disappeared in the drizzling rain.

Watching the Star and Moon Sword Sage leaving by car, Zhang Tie narrowed his eyes. "Can pieces of the Star of God truly be found in the underground of Haidela Glacial Cracks in the south of the Ice and Snow Wildness? If not, how come even legendary figures like Samaranth came here from afar?"

Samaranth's intention here had been spread all over Polar Light these days. Everybody believed that Samaranth was here for the pieces of the Star of God. Additionally, Samaranth didn't deny it, which made more or less confirmed the speculations.

Zhang Tie felt the turbulence of the airflow through the fine hair over his neck as he also heard the familiar footsteps. Therefore, Zhang Tie didn't dodge, instead, he stood still and waited for the hand being placed on his shoulder.

"Peter, how about going together with us?"

Sam and Gerri carried a high pioneering luggage and wearing a waterproof cloak respectively as they walked out from behind Zhang Tie.

"Are you going to Haidela Glacial Crack?" Zhang Tie asked.

"Of course. Aren't all the pioneers coming here for the relics and the pieces of the Star of God?" Sam answered confidently.

"I'm afraid that we cannot share any of the pieces of the Star of God, but if we can find the relics, we might able to earn a bit!" Gerri added.

"I want to improve my fighting skills in some other places! As Haidela glacial crack is too boisterous now, I might not able to make any gains if I went there." Zhang Tie smiled. As he was already the target of Magical Snake Island, he didn't want to bring dangers to his new friends.

Additionally, he was not here for any relics or pieces of the Star of God at all. Although they were very attractive, especially the pieces of the Star of God which had many marvelous effects, Zhang Tie knew that he could not share any part of the pieces of the Star of God with his limited abilities. The moment he watched Samaranth's great fighting strength, Zhang Tie had known that it was no different than seeking death by competing with Samaranth.

'If Samaranth is here, the other powerful ones who are as powerful as Samaranth might also come. If so, it's not the business of a newbie like me. I'd better focus on forming seven-strength fruits. People can't always survive on luck.' Zhang Tie mumbled inside.

"All right. Hope to see you later. We will go to Haidela Glacial Crack now. When we finish our task there, we will come back to Eschyle City and stay here for a long time. Sam and I both plan to breakthrough to LV 6 before leaving the Ice and Snow Wildness. Therefore we'll be heading to some entrances in Ice and Snow Wildness leading to the underground world where we can form our battle qi! If you want to look for us, just go to the Pioneers' Bar in Eschyle City!"

"Wish you good luck. Oh, here are my gifts for you!" Saying this, Zhang Tie took out 2 vials of all-purpose medicament and gave 1 to each of them. Considering that the all-purpose medicament had been sold across the continent, Zhang Tie was not afraid of exposing his real status by gifting 2 vials of all-purpose medicament.

"What's this?" Sam and Gerri looked at them with curious looks.

"All-purpose medicament gifted by my friend!"

"All-purpose medicament?"

The two young pioneers' faces were filled with doubts. At the sight of their looks, Zhang Tie knew that they must not have heard about all-purpose medicament at all. For most of the pioneers, all-purpose medicament was still a bit far from their daily lives as a new medicament. If not Zhang Tie, they might have to wait several months before knowing this new medicament.

"You can take it as a preliminary antidote. When you are wounded or need to increase your physical strength or when you catch a cold, you can use it!"

"Hehe, sounds great. Its package is also not bad. Thanks, buddy!"

Sam and Gerri then put away the medicament as they were still dubious about Zhang Tie's words. They felt that Zhang Tie was boasting to a certain degree. However, considering Zhang Tie's kindness, they extended their thanks to him.

They then bid farewell at the wharf. Isle was still dealing with his goods and could not disembark at the moment. As Zhang Tie had said goodbye to him just now, he didn't wait for him anymore.

Most of the pioneers directly called a car nearby the wharf and left.

Haidela Glacial Crack was in the south of the Ice and Snow Wilderness on the map. It was in the wild 2000 km away to the northwest of Eschyle City. There was a small town called Sciatta about 300 km away to the west of Eschyle City. It was the farthest place that wheeled vehicles could reach in Eschyle City.

All the pioneers who dreamt of wealth in the Haidela Glacial Crack chose Sciatta as their first destination after they reached the Ice and Snow Wilderness. From Sciatta, they would then set out for the Haidela Glacial Crack based on their own abilities. As for whether they could survive there or not, it depended on them.

As it was only 300 km away from the wharf to Sciatta, if everything went smoothly, they would arrive at Sciatta at night.

Zhang Tie watched Sam and Gerri and 10 more pioneers bargaining with a truck driver and getting on his old truck before disappearing into the rain.

Soon after Sam and Gerri left, the rain became heavier. The drizzling rainwater flowed down along Zhang Tie's neck, causing him to shiver. After glancing at that high city wall of Eschyle, Zhang Tie tightened his waterproof cloak and left the wharf...

...

5 minutes later, Zhang Tie queued up outside the south gate of Eschyle City. After being checked, he paid the entrance fee.

Despite the heavy rain, all the people were still queuing up orderly outside the city gate because of the 2 lines of fully-armored robust soldiers standing outside the city gate who were all taller than 2.2 m.

The soldiers were wearing eccentric iron bear-head helmets, making them very terrifying.

A tall fighter was standing in front of Zhang Tie, who was also carrying a leather container which contained 6 metal javelins.

The 2 lines of soldiers seemed to pay special attention to this person who was carrying a container of metal javelins. Zhang Tie noticed that many people among the soldiers had already focused on this fighter since the guy queued up.

Feeling this, the fighter became a bit nervous as he glanced at himself several times to see whether something was not wrong.

Compared to that fighter who was carrying a container of javelins, Zhang Tie was in a worse situation. The moment he left the Polar Light, Zhang Tie had found that he was watched by someone. The man kept spying on him all the way from the harbor to their present destination. Although hiding among the crowd, the spy still didn't move his eyes away from Zhang Tie.

As he was queuing up, Zhang Tie touched the ring with common look on his fourth left finger. If not for this ring, Zhang Tie might not have realized that he was spied on by someone the moment he disembarked.

The finger ring was gifted by Olina when he left Saint Herner Island. It was a rare rune equipment which was called the "Ring of Awareness".

2 rune effects were added onto the Ring of Awareness—an 8% increase of Zhang Tie's sensing ability, gaze alert. As long as someone looked at Zhang Tie with bad intentions for over 20 seconds from behind, this ring would warn Zhang Tie.

Few people would gaze at someone from behind for over 20 seconds, strange or not. Additionally, people's eyesight was a media possessed special spiritual energy which could carry one's emotions and mentality. With this ability, the ring could receive and sense this spiritual energy thrown from others before warning the one being gazed at.

This was a very rare effect, which created an invisible security blanket over Zhang Tie. With this effect, Zhang Tie knew that this rune ring must be very precious. Rune equipment like this one which could grant the wearer with some special ability were always rare goods which could even be hardly seen in auction houses.

When he left the dock, Zhang Tie's finger with the Ring of Awareness felt numb. He then realized that he was spied on. The person in question was very skilled and knew how to hide in different situations. If not for the ring, Zhang Tie wouldn't even notice he was being spied on at all.

However, after being warned by his finger ring, Zhang Tie sped up. When he arrived at the city gate, he finally found out who was following him.

With a wisp of cold smile over his mouth corners, Zhang Tie realized that the spy must be from Magical Snake Island. If not, how could such a trivial person like him be followed by someone the moment he landed in the Ice and Snow Wilderness?

'Based on the power of Magical Snake Island, it's normal for them to arrange some assistance and intelligence centers in Ice and Snow Wilderness. When he was on the Polar Light, Magical Snake Island must have notified their people here through long-distance communication means. It's not difficult for them to find a person who looks like me from the passengers.'

Those b\*stards!

When it was that fighter's turn to be checked, one head-like guy walked towards him from the 2 lines of soldiers and glanced at him carefully.

"Is it your 1st time here?" The man's voice sounded oppressive yet kind, which was in sharp contrast to his personality. In Zhang Tie's opinion, this guy should roar as he might always do.

"Yes!" That fighter replied.

"What are you here for?"

"I was told an animal tide occurred somewhere in the Ice and Snow Wildness, therefore, I came here to improve my fighting skills and make some money!"

"Hmm, you can enter for free!" After glancing at the fighter for a short while, the head waved his hands.

That fighter was stunned for a second. Holding a silver coin, he didn't know whether he should put it inside the box in front of him, "You mean...I don't need to pay the entrance fee?"

"Right. All the warriors with javelins would enter Eschyle City for free from then on. This rule was made several days ago!"

Receiving the confirmation, the fighter revealed a big smile as he said, "Thanks!". Anyone in any place when receiving such special treatment would be very happy.

"If you are confident about your throwing skill, you can attend the eagles hunting meeting on Ural Lake a few days later. The winner would win a set of rune javelins made of aerolite!" Before that fighter left, the head added.

Hearing this, the fighter turned around with his eyes widely opened as he forcefully swallowed his saliva, "What? You mean a set of rune javelins made of aerolite?"

"Right."

"Anybody could attend it?"

"Yes, anybody, regardless of age and race. If you think you are able to do that, you can attend it. Additionally, I was told that the winner might even gain the favor of the holy virgins of the tribes in the Ice and Snow Wildness!"

Hearing this, even Zhang Tie had realized that the head was urging him to attend it. However, that fighter only took a deep breath twice before nodded and left with his container. He seemed to be contemplating participating.

A set of rune javelins made of aerolite and being favored by holy virgins! The rewards were really attractive. Any man who liked money, women, privilege or sharp weapons would be restless as they heard this news.

Even Zhang Tie's heart raced as he was thinking about having a look at the throwing skills of those powerhouses.

'He said this special treatment was released a few days ago. But why? Ice and Snow Wildness is really boisterous these days!'

However, Zhang Tie could never imagine that this might be related to him.

When it was Zhang Tie's turn. The head glanced at Zhang Tie with a frown as Zhang Tie's boy-toy face and pioneering look made him disgusting.

"You are a pioneer?"

"Yes!"

"4 silver coins!" The head replied in a cold voice.

"What? why do you ask for 2 silver coins from others, someone free, yet 4 from me?" Zhang Tie rebutted loudly.

"All the pioneers are here to make money. You only want to take away goods away from here without contributing nothing to us. How come that happens! Therefore, all the pioneers need to pay twice the entrance fee!" After saying this, that man waved his head impatiently while those surrounding soldiers were staring at Zhang Tie with malicious looks. It seemed that as long as Zhang Tie dared to jump up, they would beat him up.

Zhang Tie then threw 4 silver coins into the box silently. After that, he sped into Eschyle City without even looking back.

When Zhang Tie left the city gate, he heard someone muttering behind him, "Why such a young man prefer to be a pioneer? Are they dreaming of gold coins dropping off the sky, humph!"

"These pioneers are no different than hyenas. When they find rotten meat, they would rush over there. However, when they meet troubles, they would escape as soon as possible. I should suggested to the lord that he should forbid these pioneers in from then on. These guys are nothing but crap!"

"I don't agree with you. These guys contribute to the improvement of maps. As so many remote areas are waiting for them to explore, they are not useless!"

"If not, I truly think that we should not allow any pioneer to step in Ice and Snow Wildness..."

"Mind our own business!"

Zhang Tie then started to run. He looked like seeking a shelter. Therefore, he was far away from those comments very rapidly. After leaving 50 m away from the city gate, he saw another figure hurriedly following in through his eye corners.

Zhang Tie then narrowed his eyes. At the sight of an alley not far from him, Zhang Tie directly flashed inside...

In half a minute, another figure arrived and flashed into the same alley without any hesitation...

It was a very heavy rain while the day turned gloomy!

Rainwater fell down from the roof and eaves of the buildings on both sides of the alley, forming 2 fine waterfalls. The ground of the alleyway had been covered with 1 cm high rainwater.

Zhang Tie was standing against the wall under the eaves in the corner. Narrowing his eyes, he watched the waterfalls pouring off the eaves over his head.

With a lightning bolt across the sky, it turned white in a split second in front of him. After a few seconds, a series of booms drifted from afar. At the same time, with a series of rapid footsteps, a guy flashed in this alley...

The moment he flashed in, he saw Zhang Tie while the latter was also watching him with a smile. The man's face instantly changed as Zhang Tie launched his attack...

Along with spraying raindrops, Zhang Tie moved as fast as lightning bolt...

That person was also good at fighting. Zhang Tie estimated that he was about LV 6. However, compared to Zhang Tie, he was nothing but crap.

Zhang Tie moved both in both a quick and fierce manner. Two seconds later, with a muffled harrumph, Zhang Tie had already grabbed his neck and fiercely threw his back onto a stone wall on one side of the alley.

Feet in the air, that person sprouted a mouthful of blood when he was pounded onto the wall by Zhang Tie. After the blood fell into the rain water on the land, it was soon flushed away into the drainage system with swirls.

Not until then did the thunder disappeared...

"Don...don't kill me, I...I will give you all of my money!" Before Zhang Tie asked, the guy had already started to explain in a flurried look like when a commoner met a bandit.

Zhang Tie then replied with a smile, 'What a smart guy! He has long thought about fabricating a lie!'

"Who else is in Eschyle besides you are from Magical Snake Island?" Zhang Tie put it bluntly.

"I...I don't know what are you talking about!" That man looked innocent until he heard "Magical Snake Island" when his pupils narrowed out of control.

Although people could tell a lie through mouth, they could not cover it with their eyes. This was how Donder taught him before. If this guy had nothing to do with Magical Snake Island, when he heard Magical Snake Island, his pupils would remain unchanged or enlarge. Instead, his pupils narrowed, which meant that he was extremely nervous inside.

"I'll ask you one last last time. I don't want to waste time on you. Who's sent from Magical Snake Island to kill me? Tell me all of their names. Then, I will save your life. After that, you can escape from Eschyle without worrying about MSI's revenge on you..." Zhang Tie said calmly.

"I really don't understand what are you talking about, my money..." Before he finished, he looked extremely anguished. He looked down as he saw Zhang Tie poking a dagger into his body from below his left armpit. He wanted to groan yet he couldn't as his neck was being held by Zhang Tie. Before he closed his eyes, he glanced at Zhang Tie regretfully and amazingly. He didn't seem to believe that Zhang Tie had seen through his trick, made up his mind, and mind and was that merciless.



"I've told you that I don't want to waste time on you!" Zhang Tie loosened his grip while that guy slid onto the ground like a pile of mud. At the same time, a lot of blood flew off his body and dyed the ground.

Zhang Tie then quickly disappeared in the curtain of the heavy rain...

Several minutes later, another person flashed into the alley. The moment he flashed in, he had caught sight of that guy being killed.

"Damn it!" That person swore loudly...