

I CAN CONTROL RESOURCES

Chapter 211 - 188: 7th Princess, Beauty and the Beast (2)

This felt incredible.

So, the question was, should he go back and report first, or press forward to mine?

The answer was simple.

The light was right in front of him; mining was the priority.

As for finding the main group to report back to... in this vast Underworld, it wasn't that he didn't want to find them, but that he truly couldn't. He'd already been traveling underground for over ten hours.

He had no idea where he was now.

'Forget it. I'll finish the mission first. Reporting back is important, but for now, I'll have to leave it to chance. Besides, my phone lost signal ages ago. I couldn't send a message even if I wanted to.' With his mind made up, Gao Neng continued burrowing toward the light.

He burrowed and burrowed...

And burrowed and burrowed...

The light ahead grew brighter and brighter...

An unknown amount of time passed.

The constant burrowing had turned Fang Tangtang's initial excitement to a daze. In the end, she dozed off again and closed her eyes.

"Wake me when we get there."

Gao Neng was speechless.

'What kind of nonsense is this?'

'Am I Kuafu chasing the sun?'

'It's clearly right there, but I've been burrowing for so long and still haven't reached it?'

Gao Neng felt that something wasn't quite right.

But the light before him was definitely changing. What had started as a single beam of light had now become a vast expanse of it, like a Galaxy.

'Dammit!'

'I refuse to believe I can't reach you!'

Gao Neng gritted his teeth and sped up again. He stopped caring about the time; he had only one goal: find that light and complete the mission.

Finally, after what felt like an eternity.

The light transformed from a Galaxy into countless brilliant suns.

The Underworld seemed to have turned to day, the light so piercing he could barely keep his eyes open...

"CRUNCH!"

With a soft crunch, the Earth Dragon broke through the final barrier.

The world before him was no longer dark, but filled with a brilliant light.

It was a massive crystalline cavern, dotted with ores that shone like stars. The smaller ones were the size of a fist, while the larger ones were as big as a human head.

'The energy here is so rich.'

Gao Neng's body shuddered instantly.

His continuous burrowing had taken a huge toll, but the moment he entered this crystalline space, he felt every pore on his body open up in relief.

An immense amount of energy enveloped him, seeping into his body through his skin.

"Whoa, what is this place? Whoa... I feel amazing!" Fang Tangtang didn't need Gao Neng to wake her this time; she was already wide awake.

It wasn't just her; Gao Xiaomeng had also opened her eyes.

Her deep blue eyes scanned the surroundings, filled with an intense craving, as if she had just spotted a mountain of food.

SWOOSH!

Gao Xiaomeng immediately leaped out of the backpack.

"Meeeoow..." She let out a cry like a cat, then began to continuously lick a crystal in front of her, looking utterly blissful.

Fang Tangtang was just as excited.

Seeing that Gao Xiaomeng had beaten her to it, she didn't hesitate any longer. She immediately wriggled out of Gao Neng's arms and leaped onto a nearby crystal.

KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK!

Fang Tangtang tapped her fingers repeatedly against the ore.

"It's crystal ore! All of it is crystal ore! We're going to be rich! If we can get all this out of here, it would be an absolute fortune!"

'An absolute fortune?' Gao Neng didn't know about that, but he did know one thing: the quality of these ores seemed to be about the same as the one he'd found before.

Magnetic Crystal Ore!

He had once given a piece of Magnetic Crystal Ore to Shen Fei.

And what had Shen Fei given him in return?

Two tons of silver ore!

'How many pieces of ore are here now? At least a thousand...'

'A thousand pieces of Magnetic Crystal Ore.'

'This is insane, isn't it?'

'What is this place? How could the Dark Night Elf Clan just leave a huge pile of Magnetic Crystal Ore like this, completely unattended?'

"Gao Neng, should we start digging?" Fang Tangtang licked her lips, her eyes shining. As she spoke, she had already pulled out a shovel.

'No idea where she was hiding that shovel.'

"Of course we're digging!" Gao Neng was here for treasure, so of course he'd brought a shovel. It was an essential tool, tucked away in his backpack, and a pretty good quality one at that.

'I just need to dig up a hundred ores.'

'That should be enough to complete the mission, right?'

'Too easy.'

Gao Neng started digging at once.

He'd already seen Gao Xiaomeng with a crystal in her mouth. He couldn't tell if she had swallowed it or was just tasting its "sweetness."

CLANG! CLANG! CLANG!

CLANG! CLANG! CLANG!

"We're the best little miners, you and I!"

"We dig for ore beneath the sky! We dig for ore, we control the ore...!"

...

'I'm not going to worry about what Gao Xiaomeng is up to,' Gao Neng thought. 'I'll dig my own ore and leave none for anyone else. A hundred pieces? How is that enough? I'm going to strip this place clean.'

'At least a thousand pieces of ore...'

'Just thinking about it is enough to make a guy cry tears of joy, you know?'

'From this day forward...'

'The word 'poverty' will be erased from my dictionary forever. From now on, call me 'Gao Neng the Mine Magnate'.'

His second attribute, the 'Ore Control Excavation Technique', unleashed its incredible power at this moment. His shovel and pickaxe would perfectly avoid any part of the rock that might damage the ore.

Any piece he unearthed was guaranteed to be whole.

One swing, one ore!

Another swing, another ore!

Perfectly intact.

Not a bit of energy was lost.

'What a great skill.'

While Gao Neng was happily digging away, Fang Tangtang was moving just as quickly. Gao Xiaomeng, meanwhile, was continuously swallowing and spitting out the crystal ores.

However, they had no idea that far above their heads, a grand banquet was currently underway.

「In the Dark Night Elf City, where chrysanthemums bloomed everywhere.」

More than twenty delegations of suitors stood praying beneath the Ancient Elf Tree. Separated by a frigid pool, they gazed up at the verdant green that towered into the clouds.

"Sha'na're, sha'na're, shal'an..." (Elvish)

"GRAK-TOK-GREE-GREE-GREE..." (Beast Tongue)

"GHRUM-GHA, GHRUM-GHA, GHRUM..." (Hill Giant Tongue)

...

A cacophony of different languages filled the air. Every suitor praying had a sacred expression, for no race would dare blaspheme the great Ancient Elf Tree.

Even though they came from different peoples.

After a full ten minutes of prayer, Elf Queen Una, dressed in black royal attire, emerged. She was barefoot as she stepped from beneath the Ancient Elf Tree into the frigid pool.

"I, Elf Queen Una, on behalf of the God of Nature, thank you all for traveling so far. As dusk falls, my daughter, Wu Dingxiang, shall, under the watch of the God of Nature, publicly choose a husband!"

The crowd erupted!

The Elf City cheered.

The twenty-some delegations of suitors cheered.

"Presenting the Seventh Princess of the Elves, Wu Dingxiang!" a loud voice announced.

All eyes focused once more on the frigid pool.

A figure was slowly rising from the water. Her beautiful black hair was slick with water, and her fair, rosy face gave off a faint, chilly aura.

She was a young woman of such exquisite features it was hard to believe she was real.

Her dark eyes were bright, crystalline, sparkling, and full of life. A single glance was enough to be utterly captivated, unable to look away.

If the Elf Queen was the bright moon in the sky...

...then Seventh Princess Wu Dingxiang was the goddess who lived on it. Every glance, every smile, every little movement—she was beautiful to the point of unreality, as breathtaking as a landscape painting.

And now, she stood in the frigid pool.

Bathing in its most sacred waters.

This was the engagement rite of the Dark Night Elf Clan: a bath of purification. Only the Prince chosen by the Seventh Princess would be allowed to enter the frigid pool and stand beside her.

At this, the Princes from all the suitor delegations stepped forward.

They were a motley crew.

They were unbearably ugly.

For example, the Hill Giant Prince had a deadpan, perfectly square face. His body was a mass of bulging muscles, he stood a full five meters tall, and his eyes glowed like lanterns.

The representative from the Beastman Race was even more ridiculous.

He was truly a half-beast.

He had two horns like a bull, wore a large red cape, and constantly snorted mist from his two upturned nostrils.

A real-life Beauty and the Beast.

Chapter 212 - 189: I, the King of the Forest

But through it all, the Seventh Princess of the Elves, Wu Dingxiang, didn't even frown. She simply blinked gently at the princes who had stepped forward.

The sacred water of the cold pool clung to her long white dress.

She stood there in the cold pool, gazing at the princes of other races by the water's edge. Without uttering a single word, she put her beauty on full display.

Finally, a prince spoke up.

"I, the king of the skies, Fourth Prince of the Southern Winged People Clan, wish to take the beautiful Seventh Princess as my wife!" a youth with a pointed head and a pair of bird wings stepped forward.

"I, the king of the swamps, Fifth Prince of the Western Dragon Lizard Clan, also wish to take the beautiful Seventh Princess as my wife!"

"I, the king of the Underground City..."

"I, the king of the hills..."

"I, the king of the glaciers..."

"..."

Once one prince took the lead, many more stepped forward. One after another, they began to profess their love for the Seventh Princess in the pool.

When they had all finished speaking, the Seventh Princess finally broke into a smile.

It was like a shy blossom in the cold pool suddenly unfurling. The beauty that radiated from her very core captivated every prince present.

"I, Wu Dingxiang, Seventh Princess of the Dark Night Elf Clan, sovereign of the forest, am willing to accept your love. However, I require the approval of my mother, the Elf Queen!" Wu Dingxiang's voice was crisp and clear, like a bird's song in the trees, and its beautiful sound sent another tremor through the princes.

"Please, Elf Queen, tell us your requirements!"

"Yes, indeed!"

"We have all come with the utmost sincerity. We ask that the Elf Queen treat us in kind!"

"..."

The princes began to speak again.

The Elf Queen's gaze swept over the crowd before landing on the Seventh Princess in the cold pool. After the latter gave a slight nod, she took another step forward.

"My daughter, Wu Dingxiang, Seventh Princess of the Elf Race, acknowledges but one word: Warrior! Only a true Warrior may wed my most beloved daughter!"

"A Warrior?!"

"I am a Warrior!" one of the Winged People declared, stepping forward.

"You call yourself a Warrior? You're just a coward who only dares to fly! How dare you call yourself a Warrior in front of a prince of the Beastman Race! What a joke..." the Beastman Prince scoffed.

"Does your Beastman Race dare compare valor with the Hill Giant Race?" the stolid Hill Giant Prince stepped forward as well, his face a mask of contempt.

"Mere strength doesn't make you a Warrior."

"A warrior is defined by victory. Without it, no one can claim the title!"

The princes began to bicker, each presenting their own arguments and boasting of their own valor. Soon, the area around the cold pool was filled with clamor, and the atmosphere grew tense.

Elf Queen Una and Seventh Princess Wu Dingxiang watched this unfold, both with smiles on their faces and no intention of stopping the princes.

Finally, one of the princes from another race resorted to spitting.

It was a prince of the Long Xi clan, the kings of the swamp. His saliva shot out like a sharp arrow, hitting another prince squarely in the face and drenching him.

And then, the two princes were at each other's throats.

One spat a mouthful of water, and the other spat one right back.

Faced with this spectacle, the Elf Queen and the Seventh Princess still said nothing.

Soon after, the spitting match escalated into challenges to duel.

"Come and fight me one-on-one if you have the guts!"

"Bring it on! You think I'm afraid of a winged thing like you?"

"..."

The scene began to descend into chaos.

Two princes had already started trading blows, while the others crowded around them—arguing, brawling, and shouting—making the scene increasingly chaotic.

But even as the situation devolved, the Elf Queen still showed no sign of intervening.

Not until an urgent dispatch was brought before the cold pool.

"Urgent report from the front line!"

"Urgent report from the front line! The Human Alliance's army has captured the Celestial Eagle Camp on our second line of defense! Two thousand of our Warriors at the camp have been killed or wounded!"

"Stop!" Elf Queen Una finally spoke.

The princes all stopped in their tracks.

And Seventh Princess Wu Dingxiang, who had been perfectly calm until now, suddenly looked anxious and distraught, a mist gathering in her beautiful eyes.

"Those detestable humans! How dare they slaughter my brave people!" Her voice was sharp with grief as two tears streamed down her cheeks and fell into the cold pool.

"Ding Xiang, today is the day of your betrothal, and your mother has proven incompetent, letting the humans invade our lands... Guards! I will personally lead the army to war!" Elf Queen Una was also filled with immense grief.

"No, Mother! I swear I will not marry until these detestable humans are driven out!" Wu Dingxiang flung herself down in the water, clutching the Elf Queen's leg.

"Death to the humans!"

"Defend our home!"

"..."

The Warriors of the Elf Race began to shout.

The princes, too, were filled with righteous indignation, shouting that they would fight the humans to the death and that the other races would not tolerate such insults.

However, not a single prince actually made a move to lead their troops out.

They all stood by the edge of the cold pool, shouting slogans while watching the performance put on by the Elf Queen and the Seventh Princess.

Just as the moment turned awkward, the Third Prince of the Elves, who had been standing at the back, stepped forward and knelt before the Elf Queen with a THUD.

"Mother, Your Majesty, you must remain calm! The Human Alliance came prepared this time, launching a surprise attack on our territory. We need to gather proper intelligence before we devise a plan!"

"Please, Her Majesty the Queen, think this through!"

"Please, Her Majesty the Queen, think this through!"

Immediately, Warriors from the Elf Race echoed the sentiment.

"The humans have assaulted our Elf Race, and now they've even occupied the Celestial Eagle Camp, burning, killing, and pillaging! How can we possibly wait any longer?" the Seventh Princess, Wu Dingxiang, immediately retorted.

"Seventh Sister, don't be rash!"

"Third Brother, if you don't dare to go, I will!"

"Seventh Sister, you can't!"

"No, don't try to stop me! I must go and avenge my people!"

"Quick, stop the Seventh Princess!"

"..."

After a brief struggle, the Seventh Princess was restrained by two elven women.

"Alright, take the Seventh Princess away for now. I will personally lead the army into this battle." Elf Queen Una wiped away her tears, quickly regaining her noble composure.

"Mother! Your Majesty!..." The Seventh Princess screamed until her voice was hoarse, but she was ultimately led away.

Silence returned to the scene.

The princes all looked at one another, helplessness in their eyes.

'The courtship contest is only halfway through, and now it's canceled? What the hell?'

They had traveled from far and wide to be here. It was only halfway done, and the Seventh Princess had been taken away. How was the courtship supposed to continue?

Of course, with the Elf Race's lands under invasion, they couldn't very well say much.

"Princes, this open call for suitors by our Dark Night Elf Clan was made with the utmost sincerity," the Third Prince spoke again. "However, it has been temporarily delayed by recent events. Please, do not be offended. The contest will resume. We have already arranged suitable accommodations for all of you. Once we have driven out the humans, we can proceed!"

"Hmm, I suppose we can only wait, then."

"Yes, let's wait."

"Thank you for your hospitality, Her Majesty the Queen and Third Prince!"

The princes began to offer their salutations one by one.

But just then, another twist occurred.

Another elf came running over, his face a mask of panic.

"Her Majesty the Queen, this is terrible! The Seventh Princess injured us and left the city with a few of her attendants!"

"What?!" The Elf Queen was aghast.

"Say that again! What happened to my seventh sister?" the Third Prince asked, equally panicked.

"The Seventh Princess said she had to defend her people! We couldn't stop her. She broke free and took her attendants... She's going to the front lines to fight the humans!"

"Quickly, assemble the army!" the Elf Queen shouted.

"We can't! Because of Seventh Sister's public courtship, all soldiers are on leave today. Even if we recall them now, it will take at least an hour to fully assemble the army." The Third Prince's face was red with anxiety.

"Ah... Xiang'Er!" Upon hearing this, the Elf Queen fainted dead away.

"Her Majesty the Queen!"

"Her Majesty the Queen!"

"..."

The scene erupted in panic.

"Warriors of the Beastman Race, on my command! Follow me to rescue the Seventh Princess!" Seeing this, the Beastman Prince could no longer stand by and roared.

"Yes, sir!" two hundred Beastman Warriors immediately answered.

"We of the Beastman Race cannot stand by and watch the Seventh Princess come to harm! My love for her is as clear as the sun and moon! Charge! For the Seventh Princess!"

"Charge!"

"We of the Winged Race cannot lose to the Beastman Race! Everyone, charge with me!"

"Charge!"

"Warriors of the hills! Our valor can move mountains and fill the seas! This battle will be the proof of your courage! Let Her Highness the Princess see who the true Warriors are!"

The Hill Giant Clan charged out as well.

Following their lead, more and more princes began to give orders.

The remaining princes, who had been hesitating, saw that the majority had chosen to act. They finally cast aside their doubts and began shouting their own battle cries.

"The North Mountain Cave Race fears no death! We swear to protect the Seventh Princess!"

"Protect the Seventh Princess!"

"Charge, Warriors..."

"..."

...

While the princes in the Elf City were shouting their calls to charge, far beneath their feet, Gao Neng and Fang Tangtang were happily mining ore.

Seventy-three pieces!

Seventy-four pieces!

Seventy-five pieces...

"Oh, sky, you are so very blue... Oh, earth, you are so very yellow..." Gao Neng hummed happily as he swung his iron shovel.

With every few swings, another crystal ore would fall into his grasp.

This feeling of getting rich overnight...

He felt he could get used to this.

It was just too wonderful.

He was so immersed he couldn't pull himself away.

He prayed he would never wake up, that he could just keep digging like this and strip this entire, massive crystal deposit clean, leaving not a single scrap behind.

Just as he was getting into the swing of things...

Fang Tangtang suddenly cried out.

"Whoa, Gao Neng, come look! It's the Spring of Life! There's actually a Spring of Life here! We're not just going to get rich this time... we might become immortals!" Fang Tangtang was so excited she was practically dancing, her eyes glued to the ground at her feet.

"The Spring of Life? No way, there's something this good here too?!" Gao Neng was just as surprised. He immediately ran over and looked down at Fang Tangtang's feet.

Chapter 213 - 190: Forced Breakthrough, Danger, Danger...

He wouldn't know if he didn't look. But one glance sent a jolt through him.

Below Fang Tangtang...

There really was liquid!

Gao Neng stared, his eyes wide.

A golden liquid was slowly spurting out from beneath Fang Tangtang, not in a huge quantity, but it was definitely authentic "liquid." It looked just like a small fountain.

"It's a tree root! Fang Tangtang, are you sure this golden liquid spraying from the root is the Spring of Life?" Gao Neng quickly found the true culprit behind the fountain—a root extending from somewhere, continuously spraying the golden liquid.

"Of course I'm sure," Fang Tangtang said with certainty.

"So, this is a tree root that can spray the Spring of Life..."

"That's right!"

"Then what kind of tree is this?" A bad premonition suddenly surfaced in Gao Neng's mind.

"Duh, a tree that can spray the Spring of Life has to be the Elf..." Fang Tangtang trailed off, suddenly clamping her mouth shut.

"The Ancient Elf Tree!"

"We found the Ancient Elf Tree, and it's right under her?"

"So, we're in the Dark Night Elf City right now..."

The two of them exchanged a sharp glance. The initial pleasant surprise instantly morphed into sheer horror.

Had the two of them actually dug their way beneath the Ancient Elf Tree?

Gao Neng was genuinely terrified.

But he soon figured it out. 'The mission the melon rind system gave me was to find the largest ore deposit.'

And the largest ore deposit within the Dark Night Elf Clan's territory...

Where would it be?

Naturally, right under the Elf City!

RUMBLE!

Just then, the tree root trembled.

Then, a terrifying scene unfolded. The root, as if alive, shot toward Fang Tangtang and instantly coiled around her right leg.

"Ah, help! Gao Neng, save me!" Fang Tangtang screamed.

"Don't shout! Calm down! This is the Dark Night Elf City! If you keep shouting, you'll attract the elven guards!" Gao Neng tried to silence her as he lunged forward.

He grabbed the root, trying to pull it away.

But he couldn't budge it at all.

The root clung tightly to Fang Tangtang, continuously winding its way up from her calf to her thigh, and then to her waist.

"Let me go! Let me go, you stupid tree... I'll fight you to the death!" Fang Tangtang struggled frantically, but her voice was noticeably quieter than before.

But the more she struggled, the tighter the root coiled.

The golden liquid sprayed out continuously from the root, splashing onto Fang Tangtang's body, onto Gao Neng's face, and onto Gao Xiaomeng's fur.

Gao Neng subconsciously licked it off.

A little sweet.

The taste was pretty good.

Moreover, just from that tiny lick, he felt his exhaustion completely vanish, replaced by an unusually pleasant sensation.

However, now was obviously not the time to be thinking about the taste...

Because after that root had entangled Fang Tangtang, another one burst out from the crystal ore and instantly wrapped around her other leg.

Soon, Fang Tangtang's two legs were being pried apart?!

The Ancient Elf Tree...

It was going to tear Fang Tangtang in half!

Fang Tangtang thrashed her hips in a panic, trying to break free. She pulled with all her might, but the roots were just too strong.

She couldn't break free at all.

Gao Neng also grabbed a root and pulled with all his might, but it was still useless.

Seeing another root emerge, Gao Neng could no longer worry about anything else. He swiftly drew the Horse-Cutting Saber from his back.

'Draw blade, sever root...'

THUD!

The root didn't break?!

With Gao Neng's current strength, combined with his Sword Drawing Technique, a single slash could kill a Tier Three Late Stage expert. Yet, when his blade struck the root, it only left a gash.

Golden liquid sprayed out again.

Splashing him right in the face.

He took another lick. It really was sweet.

This was Gao Neng's instinctive reaction. After all, this was the Spring of Life. Although saving her was urgent, the virtue of not being wasteful could not be abandoned.

Gao Neng frantically licked up the liquid while continuing his frenzied attack.

"Half-Step Kill!"

"Sword Drawing Technique plus Half-Step Kill!"

"Another Half-Step Kill!"

"..."

After a flurry of wild slashes.

The two roots had at least a dozen gashes on them, and the golden liquid rained down, but the roots showed no signs of letting go.

Fang Tangtang's legs were horizontal in the air, already forced into the splits.

"Save me, Gao Neng... I can't... can't take it anymore!" Fang Tangtang tried to draw her weapon, but by then two more roots had already wrapped around her hands.

Her arms were stretched out as well.

Her entire body was completely immobilized.

"Meow!" Just then, Gao Xiaomeng let out a cry, then pounced onto the root, opened her mouth, and took a bite.

GULP GULP GULP!

Gao Xiaomeng actually began to madly suck up the Spring of Life.

RUMBLE!

RUMBLE!

The root trembled violently.

This was clearly a much more intense reaction than when Gao Neng had hacked at it.

"Bite it! No, suck it! Suck its Spring of Life!" Gao Neng immediately understood. Gao Xiaomeng was forcibly siphoning the Spring of Life.

Seeing this, Fang Tangtang also realized what was happening.

"You want to kill me, Death God Fang Tangtang?! I'll suck you dry first! AWOO!" Fang Tangtang turned into a "little beast," twisting her head to bite down on the root wrapped around her hand.

Gao Neng didn't hold back either.

He lunged forward, grabbed onto the spot spraying most violently, and started sucking.

'It's so sweet!'

A large mouthful of the Spring of Life flooded his mouth, like the sweetest honey.

Gao Neng sucked frantically. As the Spring of Life entered his mouth, it transformed into a thick, warm current, continuously nourishing his body.

The Ancient Elf Tree seemed unable to bear being sucked like this.

It trembled madly.

But Gao Neng, Fang Tangtang, and Gao Xiaomeng held on with their teeth, refusing to let go.

RUMBLE!

Some of the crystal ore was smashed to pieces.

Gao Neng sucked more and more, and more and more...

He had only one sensation: his whole body felt like it was being roasted over a fire. The energy in his two magnetic cores was instantly filled to the brim, and even their colors began to change.

The first magnetic core, originally blood-red, was now slowly turning purple.

And the silver second magnetic core was also expanding continuously. Its volume swelled, growing by a third in just a few breaths.

What potent Spring of Life!

Gao Neng suddenly had a bold idea...

'If I keep sucking like this, can I absorb my way to a high tier, or even... become one of the super Strongest?!

The answer should be yes.

He could at least absorb his way to a high tier, provided his body could withstand it.

Because right now, he felt like his whole body was about to explode. This was no longer like being roasted on a fire; it was as if his internal organs were being incinerated.

It wasn't just him...

Fang Tangtang's face was also flushed as red as blood.

Her once-clear eyes were now turning crimson.

As for Gao Xiaomeng,

her whole body was swelling, and her silver fur flowed with a shimmering light, faintly looking like it was about to turn transparent.

'I can't suck anymore! If I keep going, I'll definitely explode!' Gao Neng thought, but he didn't loosen his mouth.

It wasn't that he didn't want to stop.

It was that he was now tangled up too.

Two other roots had wrapped around his body, lifting him into the air, and even his legs were being pried apart.

At a time like this, he couldn't stop at all. He could only grit his teeth and keep sucking!

If they didn't suck the Ancient Elf Tree into submission, neither he nor Fang Tangtang would survive.

A battle of wills!

The commotion underground grew louder and louder.

"Ding! Detected an excessive accumulation of energy in the host's body. Unable to accumulate further. Host is about to explode and die. Force a breakthrough to Tier Three?" a mechanical voice rang out.

"Wait, can I ask a question first? What does 'force a breakthrough' mean? Does it mean I won't explode?"

"Initiating breakthrough!"

"???"

BZZZZ!

Before Gao Neng could even react, an electric current shot through his body.

This current was completely different from normal body magnetization.

If normal cultivation was a gradual process, this breakthrough was like forcibly remodeling his torso with electromagnetism.

That kind of transformation, starting from the bone marrow and moving to the muscles...

It really hurt!

"AHH!!! Fuck you, you useless melon rind! I was just asking a question..." Gao Neng gritted his teeth in pain, his peerlessly handsome face twisting in agony.

But curses were just curses. The speed of the system's forced breakthrough and transformation was ridiculously fast.

In just a moment...

He felt that the magnetization of his torso was almost complete.

And the feeling of being about to explode had eased just a tiny bit, but only a tiny bit. There was no major improvement.

Gao Neng glanced at Fang Tangtang again.

He remembered that Fang Tangtang, like him, had also reached Tier Two Late Stage. He could rely on the system to force a breakthrough and relieve some of the pressure, but what about Fang Tangtang?

'Is Fang Tangtang going to die here?'

Just as he was thinking this, he saw Fang Tangtang release her bite.

"Gao Neng, suck faster! You suck a little more, I'm full!" Golden liquid was still overflowing from Fang Tangtang's mouth, her eyes filled with anxiety.

Moreover, like a qualified merchant...

She was actually still catching it with her mouth!

Catching the Spring of Life with her mouth, but not swallowing it.

"I'll... fuck you!" Gao Neng really wanted to curse.

He had been worried that Fang Tangtang would burst from the Spring of Life. But it turned out she was thinking, 'You suck a little more, I'll suck a little less. That way I won't explode, and only you will... What a great idea.'

Of course, there was likely another reason Fang Tangtang hadn't exploded yet. She had bitten the root open with her teeth, while Gao Neng was sucking from the largest gash, the one he had cut open with his saber.

Comparing the two...

Gao Neng was sucking down at least ten times more Spring of Life than Fang Tangtang.

"I'll risk it all! I can force a breakthrough! I'll suck, and suck, and suck some more..." Gao Neng could no longer worry about Fang Tangtang and continued to suck for dear life.

"Ding! Detected excessive energy accumulation in host... Host has not yet broken through to Tier Three Late Stage. Unable to initiate another forced breakthrough at this time!" said the mechanical voice.

"Ding! Foundation is unstable. System cannot initiate another forced breakthrough."

"Ding! Foundation is unstable. System cannot initiate another forced breakthrough."

"Ding..."

"Danger!"

"Danger!"

Chapter 214 - 191: New Ability: One Glare at You

...

Dark Night Elf City.

The Ancient Elf Tree shook continuously. The cold pool rippled, and the ground split open.

"What's going on?!"

"The God of Nature is angry! But why?"

"Could it be... Oh no! Another race has broken into the forbidden underground area!"

The Warriors guarding the Ancient Elf Tree quickly realized what was happening. They felt the tree's rage and thought of the gravest possibility.

Some other race had used the marriage proposal as a distraction to sneak into the forbidden grounds!

They never considered it could be humans...

After all, the Human Alliance's army had only just broken through the Celestial Eagle Camp. How could they have possibly reached the Elf City so quickly, let alone infiltrated the forbidden grounds?

"Her Majesty the Queen is still unconscious. What do we do?"

"We don't have time for that! All guards, with me! Charge into the forbidden grounds!"

"Yes, sir!"

A Great Elf quickly gave the order.

...

Underground Forbidden Zone.

BOOM! A loud crash rang out.

Just as Gao Neng was about to give out, the Ancient Elf Tree finally loosened the roots wrapped around him. But as it let go, it whipped them against his body.

The massive root, like a whip, slammed Gao Neng and Fang Tangtang into the cavern wall.

"Ugh!" Gao Neng spat out a mouthful of blood. His chest felt tight and his head was spinning. If he hadn't been wearing inner armor, that single lash would have shattered his bones.

'This tree...'

'It's pretty damn tough!'

It wasn't just Gao Neng; Fang Tangtang looked like she was in bad shape, too.

In fact, she seemed even worse off than him, coughing up mouthfuls of blood as her face turned from flushed to pale. It was obvious she was seriously injured.

However, their injuries didn't last for long.

Their bodies were suffused with the energy of the Spring of Life, allowing them to recover quickly. After taking that hit, they actually looked a little better.

Gao Neng and Fang Tangtang glanced at each other, the same thought popping into both their minds.

'The Spring of Life is truly amazing!'

'Maybe we should let the Ancient Elf Tree whip us a few more times?'

Just as they were thinking this, Gao Xiaomeng leaped over. Her body was puffed up like a round ball, every strand of her silver fur standing on end, and her eyes glowed with blue light.

"MEOW!!" Gao Xiaomeng pounced at the Ancient Elf Tree's root.

CRACK!

The Ancient Elf Tree lashed out, striking Gao Xiaomeng.

Just like Gao Neng, Gao Xiaomeng was sent flying like a rubber ball, smashing into the cavern wall before bouncing off and rolling to one side with a RUMBLE.

"Huh? Your cat's just like a ball!" Fang Tangtang's eyes lit up.

"What do you mean, 'a ball'? Go let the Ancient Elf Tree whip you a few more times to stall it. I'm going to dig up a few more ore chunks!" Gao Neng knew they were in the Dark Night Elf City. A commotion like this was bound to alert the Guard Army above.

Time was short.

He had to dig up a few more ore chunks, and fast.

Otherwise, if he failed the mission, he'd lose a skill.

"You're still going to mine?!" Fang Tangtang thought she was audacious, but hearing Gao Neng's words still gave her a shock.

To still be thinking about mining at a time like this...

'He really is...'

'Commendably courageous.'

Gao Neng didn't waste any words. He picked up his shovel and started digging. He only needed five more pieces; he couldn't give up now. He'd grab the ore and bolt. They couldn't stay here any longer.

He started digging.

CLINK!

A crystal ore fell into his hand.

Meanwhile, the sound of footsteps approached from not far away.

"MEOW MEOW MEOW!" Gao Xiaomeng fought with the Ancient Elf Tree, buying time.

Fang Tangtang had already drawn her Scythe of Death and was swinging it wildly, but she was still getting whipped around by the Ancient Elf Tree's roots.

Even so, she managed to land a few hits, causing the golden liquid to spray through the air.

"I'm hurt, but I healed again! Wow, this is great... Wait, I think I'm about to break through! Gao Neng... I'm about to reach the third rank! Are you scared?"

"After absorbing so much, it'd be weirder if you didn't break through. I broke through too... Crap, the Elf Race's Warriors are here! Quick... Run!" Gao Neng dug out the last piece of crystal ore and didn't dare to linger. He didn't even have time to put away his shovel, just tossing it aside and grabbing Fang Tangtang as he sprinted away.

"Meow!" Gao Xiaomeng immediately leaped back and dove into Gao Neng's backpack.

The Ancient Elf Tree was furious.

She wanted to ensnare Gao Neng and the others with her roots again.

However, Gao Neng wasn't about to give her the chance.

He bolted.

At the same time, a loud shout rang out.

"Who dares trespass in the forbidden zone?! Halt!"

"Crap, the elves are here!" Gao Neng's expression changed. The Earth Dragon appeared in an instant, grabbing him by the back and carrying him and Fang Tangtang into the tunnel they'd come from.

"Quick!"

"They're getting away!"

"Stop them! What is that thing?!"

The Elf Race's Warriors arrived.

However, they didn't get a clear look at Gao Neng or Fang Tangtang. All they saw was a "beetle-like" monster diving into the tunnel.

"After them!"

The elves shouted.

They wanted to give chase.

But the moment he entered the tunnel, Gao Neng threw a punch, collapsing the entrance behind him.

BOOM!

The tunnel collapsed.

The lead Great Elf's face was grim. His gaze fell upon the Ancient Elf Tree, still spraying the Spring of Life, and a look of intense hatred crossed his face.

The God of Nature was furious!

It was their failure to protect it!

This time, if they couldn't catch the "culprits," they were as good as dead.

"Go after them! If we don't catch the 'thieves,' we will all atone with our lives!" the Great Elf roared, slamming a fist into the collapsed tunnel entrance.

BOOM!

The forbidden grounds shook.

A rock fell from the ceiling.

THUD!

It crashed onto his head.

The rock shattered, but the tunnel before him was now completely blocked.

He wanted to strike again, but one of the Ancient Elf Tree's roots whipped out and struck him, sending him and more than a dozen guards behind him flying.

BOOM!

BOOM!

...

The Ancient Elf Tree was utterly enraged.

She didn't care if they were friend or foe; anyone who entered was sent flying.

"Damn it, damn it all! Dig! Start digging! Even if you have to dig three feet deep, dig them out for me!" The Great Elf scrambled up from the stone wall, spitting blood. He was both furious and frantic.

But it was no use.

The Ancient Elf Tree had truly gone berserk this time.

It was even attacking him.

Most importantly, as a member of the Dark Night Elf Clan, he wasn't skilled at digging tunnels.

'So infuriating!'

...

Gao Neng could feel the commotion behind him, and cold sweat beaded on his forehead.

They had been a hair's breadth from being entangled to death by the Ancient Elf Tree, and then another hair's breadth from being captured by those Elf Warriors.

'That was way too dangerous!'

'Thankfully, this looks-obsessed world showed me a little warmth. Being handsome really does come with privileges. My luck is just too good, surviving even that.'

"Gao Neng, I'm so hot... I feel like I'm going to explode..." Fang Tangtang's face was flushed, and being held in Gao Neng's arms only made her feel hotter.

"Just hold on a little longer! We have to escape the city first!" Gao Neng truly understood now. The Earth Dragon's burrowing speed wasn't slow at all; on the contrary, it was incredibly fast.

His calculations had been wrong.

If he wasn't mistaken, the moment he saw the forest, he had already entered the Dark Night Elf Clan's territory; it wasn't the small forest on the battlefield.

Still, they had managed to escape in the end.

'The Dark Night Elf City...'

'I actually went and mined under the Ancient Elf Tree in the Dark Night Elf City?! If I told anyone about this, no one would ever believe me, would they?'

Just as he was thinking this, the notification for mission completion sounded in his ear.

"Ding! Congratulations, Host, on completing the mission: 'Find an ore vein in the Dark Night Elf Clan's territory or on the battlefield! (The system will automatically provide one hint.)'"

"Received one chance at the Lucky Prize Wheel!"

"Would you like to spin the wheel now?"

"Duh, spin it!"

'The mission is finally complete. That's a decent consolation, at least.'

'Otherwise, my poor heart really wouldn't have been able to take it.'

The Lucky Prize Wheel appeared before him and began to spin...

Spin!

Spin!

"Beep! Congratulations, Host, you have obtained the special ability 'Give You a Glare'!"

"'Give You a Glare'?! What the hell is that?" Gao Neng had always known this melon-rind system was a bit of a scam, but this name really left him speechless.

'Can it get someone pregnant with just a glare?'

'If it really works like that, won't I have endless descendants in the future?'

Gao Neng really didn't have time to check what this skill did. Escaping the Dark Night Elf City came first.

Besides, the most important thing was that he also felt hot enough to explode.

He had to let off some steam.

Preferably by getting laid.

Otherwise, he might actually explode and die.

"Gao Neng... go a little faster, put some more power into it! I... I can't take it anymore..." Fang Tangtang kept shouting, constantly tugging at her collar.

"Nghhh!!!" Gao Neng's eyes practically popped out of his head.

Because, under Fang Tangtang's constant pulling, her small collar was torn open, revealing a sliver of crystal-clear, snow-white skin. And she kept pulling it further down.

"Gao Neng, hurry up!"

"I'm going as fast as I can!"

"Go faster!"

"Can you please fix your clothes first? Stop tearing them!"

"I'm hot..."

"I'm fucking hot too!" Gao Neng really was hot. He had absorbed far more of the Spring of Life than Fang Tangtang, and now he was forced to hold her in his arms.

And on top of that, the chick was taking off her clothes.

Who could possibly stand this?

If he weren't desperately fleeing for his life, he'd have the urge to pin Fang Tangtang to the ground... and give her a good, hard spanking to blow off some steam!

"I can't take it, I really can't! Quick... break through to the surface... If this goes on, I'm really going to explode! I have to get out and fire off a couple of rounds!" Sweat poured off Fang Tangtang like rain. Her eyes had turned red, and she was unconsciously grinding against Gao Neng's body.

"We haven't gotten that far, have we? If we surface now, we'll probably be discovered!" Gao Neng was also drenched in sweat, his teeth clenched tight.

"Go up! Hurry up and go up! I'll fire off a couple of rounds and then we'll leave!"

"Fine!" Gao Neng didn't refuse this time, because he was about to explode too. If they didn't surface and vent some of this energy, both he and Fang Tangtang might just burst underground.

This time, there was no easy relief.

After all, his current energy level had reached an unprecedented peak.

BOOM!

Carrying Fang Tangtang, Gao Neng burst violently from underground.

Chapter 215 - 192: It's This Super Cat Again

The famous modern novelist Xin Yi once said when accepting the Best Outstanding Youth Award: "There's a type of coincidence I call 'manufactured.' If I say it's a coincidence... then it has no choice but to be one!"

Just like Gao Neng's current situation...

What a coincidence!

The spot where he and Fang Tangtang burst out was, by sheer coincidence, directly beneath the feet of one of Seventh Princess Wu Dingxiang's personal guards.

As the Elf Queen's most beloved Princess, and one who was still unmarried, it went without saying that her personal guards would be female. There was no doubt about that.

Moreover, this personal guard was in a hurry.

Her attention was completely focused on the Seventh Princess, Wu Dingxiang.

Naturally, she never would have imagined...

...that someone would pop out from under her skirt, would she?

Right?

BOOM! A loud explosion rang out.

Gao Neng charged out, bringing Fang Tangtang with him.

He looked up and saw two long legs right above his head, along with a layer of thin gauze that obscured the sky, hazily blocking the setting sun.

'What the?!' Gao Neng was startled. 'There's someone above me? No, an elf?! This is a colossal screw-up.'

'Luckily, I can still fix this.'

So, upon sensing danger, he instinctively controlled the Earth Dragon's scythe-like claws and sliced forcefully between the two long legs.

"AHHH!"

A bloodcurdling scream rang out, accompanied by a spray of fresh blood.

The Seventh Princess's personal guard hadn't even had time to react before a piercing pain shot through her, boring into her very marrow and relentlessly assaulting her brain.

And then...

...there was no "and then."

Because she had been sliced in two.

"???" Fang Tangtang.

"Meow?" Gao Xiaomeng.

"..." Gao Neng.

'The world after the Great Cataclysm really is treacherous.'

'The moment I get out, it's a bloodbath I can't even avoid. All I wanted was to come up for some fresh air and fire off a few shots to blow off some steam.'

'Why does it have to be so intense right from the start?'

Gao Neng was a little dazed.

Meanwhile, Seventh Princess Wu Dingxiang and her other three personal guards were stunned.

'We were ambushed?'

'And right outside the gates of the Dark Night Elf City?!'

'Most importantly, we just left the city, not even a kilometer away... The enemy was actually lying in ambush underground this whole time. How long were they hiding?'

'And one more critical question: how did they know I was leaving the city?!'

"Why is this happening?!" Even if she racked her brains, Seventh Princess Wu Dingxiang couldn't figure it out. She knew this trip out of the city would be dangerous, but she never imagined the danger would come so quickly.

'They killed a Tier Four female guard in a single blow?!'

'They're so strong!'

The white dress on Seventh Princess Wu Dingxiang fluttered gently. Her eyes were fixed on the man, woman, and cat that had just emerged from the ground.

'Such exaggerated energy fluctuations! Even from five meters away, I can feel that immense energy! The man's energy fluctuations are incredibly strong, and so are the woman's. Even that cat... is no exception!' Seventh Princess Wu Dingxiang's

thoughts raced as she recalled how they had just killed a Tier Four guard in one hit.

She was now certain...

...that the man, woman, and cat before her were not opponents she and her remaining guards could handle.

"It's humans!"

"There's an assassin!"

"Seventh Princess, run!"

The three guards immediately moved to block Wu Dingxiang.

Wu Dingxiang had thought about running.

But Gao Neng and Fang Tangtang were blocking the way back to the Elf City gate. Where could she run at a time like this? Forward?

"Wow, we ran into a Princess?" Fang Tangtang was equally astonished when she heard the guards' words.

'The Seventh Princess? The same one Fang Tangtang impersonated before?' Gao Neng was genuinely speechless. He hadn't just run into a group of elves; it was the Seventh Princess herself?

'What are the odds!'

'How could it be this coincidental?'

As Gao Neng thought this, he glanced at the young elf maiden behind the three guards. In an instant, he was struck by her otherworldly beauty.

Ethereal, transcendent, with features as delicate as a painting.

If not for the faint trace of seductiveness at the corners of the Seventh Princess's eyes, he would have said her beauty was nearly on par with Shen Ning'Er's.

'So, that raises the question...'

'They seem to think I'm really strong. Should I scare them off, or finish them off?'

Gao Neng hesitated.

'The Seventh Princess!'

'Plus three personal guards... they can't be that weak, right?'

Just as he was thinking this, the mechanical voice of the Silly System suddenly sounded in his ear.

"Enemy detected. Activate 'Stare at You' ability?"

'I can use 'Stare at You' on enemies?' Gao Neng was surprised. He hadn't even had a chance to read the ability's description yet, but a prompt was already appearing?

'Might as well activate it!'

'Let's see what this 'Stare at You' ability can do!'

"Activate!"

"Activating 'Stare at You'!"

"Deducting Alliance Coins: $10,000 \times 4 = 40,000$ Alliance Coins total."

"!!!" Gao Neng.

'It used up forty thousand just like that?!

'For a single stare!'

'What the hell is this thing?'

Gao Neng was certain the Seventh Princess wasn't pregnant, because he had subconsciously glanced at her abdomen—it was flat, not looking pregnant at all.

'Besides, I'm not that fast, am I?'

Just as he was thinking, a line of information appeared above the Seventh Princess's head.

Name: Wu Dingxiang

Identity: Seventh Princess of the Dark Night Elf Clan.

Strength: Tier Four Early Stage.

Mastered Skills: Swift Body Technique (Beginner), Frostbolt Archery (Adept), Acting (85 points).

Strengths: Ranged assassination.

Weaknesses: Weak in close combat. (Due to a strictly formal training regimen, her defense of vital areas such as the chest and thighs is poor.)

It wasn't just the Seventh Princess who had information above her head.

The other three personal guards had similar information panels above their heads as well.

'Seventh Princess Wu Dingxiang is Tier Four Early Stage, and the other three guards are two Tier Four Mid Stage and one Tier Four Late Stage... They're all Tier Four?!' Gao Neng was genuinely shocked as he read this information.

However, that wasn't the main point.

'The main point is that 'Stare at You' can directly reveal an enemy's information?!'

'And it even shows their strengths and weaknesses? This is basically a bug-level ability! I never thought 'Stare at You' would be this powerful.'

'Let's do it! Four Tier Fours... We can take them!' Gao Neng's hesitation vanished. Now that he knew their strength and weaknesses, and he himself had already broken through to Tier Three, running now? That would be unmanly.

'I have to take them out!'

'And while I'm at it... blow off some steam!'

"Fang Tangtang, quick, take a Seed Burst Pill! There are four Tier Fours! We need to end this fast!" Gao Neng shouted, simultaneously popping a Seed Burst Pill into his own mouth.

The energy consumption of a Seed Burst Pill was immense.

Right now, his body was overflowing with energy, making it the perfect time to vent it.

As soon as he swallowed the Seed Burst Pill...

...Gao Neng felt the stored energy in his body begin to combust, like a pile of dry wood set ablaze, and immense power radiated outward.

"Four Tier Fours?" Fang Tangtang froze for a moment. She actually wanted to ask, 'How do you know that?' But in the end, she didn't say it.

Because she felt like she was about to explode.

When she heard Gao Neng tell her to take a Seed Burst Pill, she immediately thought of it as a solution.

'That's right, a Seed Burst Pill!'

'Won't that accelerate my energy consumption?'

'I'll take it first and worry later.'

Fang Tangtang quickly swallowed the Seed Burst Pill and, at the same time, took out her weapon.

The latest product developed by the Celestial King Group.

The No. 4 Electromagnetic Cannon!

"Seventh Princess, run!" the three personal guards shouted.

Seventh Princess Wu Dingxiang finally snapped back to reality. Without any more hesitation, she immediately turned and fled, sprinting away from the city.

At that moment, Fang Tangtang hoisted the No. 4 Electromagnetic Cannon onto her shoulder.

"I, Death God Fang Tangtang, will fire five shots today!"

"BZZZT!"

Blue currents of electricity flowed over her body, forming a massive Electromagnetic Protective Shield. Then, a pillar of blue light shot out.

"BOOM!"

One of the guards was pierced through the body.

Her eyes were wide with disbelief, even in death.

The other two guards were also terrified. They quickly scattered, then charged toward Fang Tangtang, intending to kill her in close combat.

Gao Neng wouldn't give them the chance.

He was at his peak right now.

Drawing his Horse-Cutting Saber, he slashed down at the remaining Tier Four Mid Stage guard.

"BOOM!"

The guard was sent flying back by the strike.

Gao Neng, meanwhile, activated his Lifeform Transformation again.

He sheathed his saber, then drew it again.

Another slash!

This strike directly brought the Tier Four Mid Stage guard to her knees.

Just then, the Tier Four Late Stage guard reached Fang Tangtang. Sharp, vicious claws grew from her hands.

"SWOOSH!"

Fang Tangtang didn't even have a chance to reload before she was forced back.

"Gao Xiaomeng, make your move! Go help Fang Tangtang and end this fight quickly!" Gao Neng couldn't afford to hide his strength anymore. He was certain they were not far from the Dark Night Elf City.

Firing a cannon in a place like this...

...would definitely be noticed by those inside the Dark Night Elf City.

They had to end this fast.

'Otherwise, if you're dead, what's the point of hiding your strength?'

"MEOW!" Gao Xiaomeng immediately shot forward. Her body puffed up like a rubber ball, and she pounced right onto the face of the Tier Four Late Stage guard.

"MEOW MEOW MEOW MEOW!"

"SLASH! SLASH! SLASH!"

A few meows, mixed with a few swipes of her claws.

The Tier Four Late Stage guard's face was instantly shredded.

'No way... Gao Xiaomeng got this strong?' Gao Neng had originally just wanted Gao Xiaomeng to buy some time. After all, Gao Xiaomeng was a ball, an indestructible ball.

But he never expected Gao Xiaomeng to be able to injure a Tier Four Late Stage guard head-on.

This was truly a bit beyond his expectations.

'Trouble!'

'Gao Xiaomeng is this strong?!'

'How am I going to explain this to Fang Tangtang?'

'Should I say she's a super-duper cat?'

"Whoa, Gao Neng, your cat is amazing! What kind of cat is she?" Fang Tangtang had also noticed how special Gao Xiaomeng was by now. The speed of that pounce was truly fast.

(Thanks to our first Alliance Leader, DaoLiangRen, for the 100,000 Qidian Coin donation! I'll stay up late to release one bonus Chapter tonight, and another tomorrow, for a total of two!)

Chapter 216 - 193: Princess 7

'Just as I thought!'

'Have we been found out?'

Gao Neng knew that once you reached the intermediate tiers, your physical constitution would take a qualitative leap. This was especially true for the Dark Night Elf Clan, whose bodies were extremely tough.

Just like Ye Ying, whom he had met before.

Her butt was spankably firm!

And now, Gao Xiaomeng had just clawed up the face of a Tier Four Late Stage guard with a few swipes. If you told anyone that Gao Xiaomeng was an ordinary cat after that, who would believe you?

"What kind of cat do you think one that drank from the Spring of Life would be?" This was the only excuse Gao Neng could think of. Gao Xiaomeng had drunk from the Spring of Life.

So, she was powerful.

'Makes perfect sense!'

"The Spring of Life?! You stole the Spring of Life!" The Seventh Princess, Wu Dingxiang, who had been running, came to a screeching halt when she heard Gao Neng's words.

"That's right, we stole the Spring of Life. A lot of it, actually. Want a taste?" Gao Neng hadn't expected his words to actually make the Seventh Princess stop.

'What a pleasant surprise!'

So, he immediately added another line without the slightest hesitation.

"Despicable humans! You blaspheme the God of Nature! I'll kill you!" The Seventh Princess, Wu Dingxiang, produced a longbow from somewhere and swiftly drew it to a full moon.

SWISH!

An arrow shot toward them.

It was incredibly fast.

A frosty aura flickered on its surface.

'Ice archery?' Gao Neng was startled.

But at that very moment, Gao Xiaomeng moved again.

Her speed was clearly faster than the ice arrow's.

She took a flying leap.

She jumped off the guard's body, darted in front of Gao Neng, opened her mouth, and snatched the long arrow out of the air before landing on the ground.

The series of movements was as smooth as flowing water.

"..." Gao Neng was a little dumbfounded.

He remembered Gao Xiaomeng's performance back in the Forgotten Land being rather mediocre.

'How did she get so strong?'

'I asked you to show off a little, but you don't have to go *this* hard, do you?'

'If you keep this up!'

'Not even drinking from the Spring of Life would logically explain this! You're a bit too strong! Tone it down, even just a tiny bit.'

"Meow!" Gao Xiaomeng looked up at Gao Neng.

Her expression didn't look like she'd understood his thoughts at all. Instead, it screamed, 'I've been holding back for a long time, and you're the one who told me to show off.'

BOOM!

Just then, a pillar of blue light flashed once more.

Fang Tangtang had finally seized the opportunity to fire the Electromagnetic Cannon again.

With one shot.

The Tier Four Late Stage guard fell to the ground.

All that remained were the kneeling Tier Four Mid Stage guard and, in the distance, the Seventh Princess, Wu Dingxiang, with her longbow drawn.

'So the three of us are this strong together?' Gao Neng had originally thought this would be a tough battle, but with Gao Xiaomeng's help, it had turned into a complete rout from the start.

'It seems...'

'Did I waste a Seed Burst Pill?'

'But I can't let it go *completely* to waste!'

'I have to at least kill one elf to make it shine one last time.'

"Seventh Princess, quick... run!" The kneeling guard saw that the Seventh Princess had stopped again and immediately shouted. She could already tell that all three of their opponents were incredibly strong, far beyond what they could handle.

And faced with a Tier Four opponent who had no will to fight...

Gao Neng didn't show much courtesy.

He drew his blade and slashed!

BOOM!

The guard was knocked back three steps by the blow.

He drew his blade again!

And slashed!

And slashed!

Gao Neng didn't pause for a moment. The energy in his body was surging like a great sea, just waiting to be unleashed.

He delivered eight slashes in one breath!

The Tier Four Mid Stage guard finally collapsed to the ground.

"Easy peasy!" Gao Neng let out a breath. At least he'd taken care of this one himself, so he hadn't lost too much face.

Now, only the Seventh Princess, Wu Dingxiang, was left.

Just as he was about to charge, he saw Fang Tangtang pounce on the body of the Tier Four Late Stage guard she had blasted to death. What's more, her hands were frantically patting down the guard's body.

Gao Neng's eyes went wide.

'Looting the body?!'

'So this is something you can do after killing an enemy on the battlefield, huh?'

'Why didn't I ever think of that?'

Moreover, one look at Fang Tangtang told you she was a veteran looter. In the blink of an eye, she had already frisked the entire body of the guard.

Gao Neng could clearly see Fang Tangtang stuffing some items into her clothes.

'I do the fighting, you do the looting?'

'Classmate Fang Tangtang, you're doing a great job!'

"Gao Neng, hurry and chase the Seventh Princess, she's getting away!" Fang Tangtang shouted when she saw Gao Neng looking at her. Then, she pounced on the other body, the Tier Four Mid Stage one.

Looting.

And looting!

Fang Tangtang was having a great time looting.

'As expected, she's a merchant at heart. Every merchant is a crook!' Gao Neng didn't copy Fang Tangtang's move because the Seventh Princess, Wu Dingxiang, was indeed running away.

After her arrow missed.

Wu Dingxiang had turned and fled, and she was running very fast.

But could she really be faster than Gao Neng?

Ghost's Sorrow, Second Realm, Ghost Foot Realm, activate!

Phantom feet flickered beneath Gao Neng's legs, and he ran like the wind. Just as the fairy tales say, he was a man as swift as the wind.

And he was chasing a princess.

'How romantic.'

"Mother, save me!!! It's me, Ding Xiang! Come save me!" the Seventh Princess shouted as she ran. Her voice was crystal clear and had a powerful, piercing quality.

'Not good. She's shouting so loudly, is she trying to attract the other elves? The Seventh Princess's mother... wouldn't that be the Elf Queen?' Gao Neng had no doubt that the Elf Queen of the Dark Night Elf Clan was powerful.

Even if the Dark Night Elf Clan had no one at the level of the Strongest.

The Elf Queen's strength could definitely obliterate someone like Gui Zian in an instant.

"Gao Xiaomeng, go! Stop her!"

"Meow!"

Gao Xiaomeng charged forward.

She swiped with her claws.

The Seventh Princess, Wu Dingxiang, was forced to do a somersault on the spot.

Gao Neng immediately seized this golden opportunity, pouncing without hesitation and pinning the Seventh Princess, Wu Dingxiang, beneath him.

"Don't kill me! Please!" The Seventh Princess, Wu Dingxiang, was terrified. She tried with all her might to push Gao Neng off, but she couldn't budge him at all.

Gao Neng was very strong.

At least, a little stronger than the Seventh Princess.

"Hand over your treasures!" Gao Neng thought of Fang Tangtang looting the bodies earlier and decided this was the first thing he should do.

"Huh?" The Seventh Princess seemed unable to process the situation.

"Your treasures! If you don't hand them over, I'll do you in!" Gao Neng's gaze turned cold.

"Ah... what do you want? I... all my treasures are here..." The Seventh Princess subconsciously pointed a finger at a necklace on her chest.

"Oh? A Space Necklace?" Gao Neng didn't stand on ceremony. He snatched the necklace away, feeling a surge of delight.

'Fang Tangtang is so short-sighted, after all.'

'What can you get from looting a few Tier Four guards?'

'Robbing a princess is so much better!'

However, this princess supposedly had an acting skill of 85. Although Gao Neng had no idea how "giving someone a glare" could be considered a display of acting...

...he still figured that since she was an 'actress', the Seventh Princess was probably hiding something else on her.

So, after snatching the necklace.

He began to pat her down again.

Er...

This time, something felt a little off.

'Did I... touch the wrong place?!

Gao Neng felt a strange sense of unease, but for the sake of grabbing the treasure as quickly as possible, he felt that an occasional sacrifice was no big deal.

'A real man doesn't sweat the small details.'

"Ah... what are you doing?! Don't touch me... Let go of me! Don't touch there!" The Seventh Princess was horrified. She never thought that he would continue after she had handed over the necklace.

THUD!

A muffled thud rang out.

Gao Xiaomeng appeared at Gao Neng's side.

In her paw, she held a giant iron hammer that she had produced from who-knows-where. It was a truly miraculous feat.

"Noisy! For this kind of seductive slut, just use a hammer!" Gao Xiaomeng tilted her head back and snorted with disdain. Although her voice was quiet, it reached Gao Neng's ears.

For a moment, Gao Neng was speechless.

'A hammer.'

'That was once the symbol of my own glorious combat record.'

'Sure enough, since entering the Eastern Capital Military Academy, I've gotten a bit carried away. I didn't even prepare a devastating weapon like a hammer.'

'And now I'm being lectured by Gao Xiaomeng.'

'I have to change my ways in the future!'

'I must get a hammer.'

But now things were better. The Seventh Princess had fainted.

This made his looting much more convenient. With a flurry of pats, the Seventh Princess couldn't possibly struggle anymore.

Soon, he found several more treasures: a ring on the Seventh Princess's finger, two earrings on her ears, a belt made of some unknown material, and finally, a short sword hidden at her waist.

This short sword was extremely sharp.

Moreover, it exuded a cold aura.

'It must be something good.'

'I wonder if I missed anything. I haven't checked under her thighs, and I haven't had a chance to take off her boots. I wonder if there's anything hidden in there?' Gao Neng thought to himself, preparing to search again.

But just then, Fang Tangtang's terrified scream came from behind him.

"Gao Neng, reinforcements are here! They're here... and there are so many of them!!!" Fang Tangtang was clearly scared out of her wits, running over with her No. 4 Electromagnetic Cannon in hand.

"Reinforcements? This fast?" Gao Neng didn't think reinforcements could have arrived so quickly.

He hadn't delayed for long. From tackling the Seventh Princess to finishing his full-body search, it had been less than a minute in total.

'How could they get here so fast?'

'Fang Tangtang isn't trying to trick me, is she?'

'So she can loot the Seventh Princess's treasures after I leave?'

"There really are reinforcements!" Gao Xiaomeng also said in a low voice at this moment.

"Ah, it's the marriage proposal delegations... They're all here!" Fang Tangtang shouted again.

"Marriage proposal delegations? Wh... the hell! Don't tell me... these delegations are all here for the Seventh Princess?" Gao Neng's mind worked quickly.

He quickly thought of a terrible possibility.

If these marriage proposal delegations were really here for the Seventh Princess, then this matter had just become a little more complicated than he had anticipated.

Chapter 217 - 194: It Can Actually Fly

First of all, why did the Seventh Princess leave the city?

And why leave with only four guards?

Most importantly, why was she followed by so many delegations seeking her hand in marriage? What on earth was the Dark Night Elf Clan up to?

These were all important questions.

Of course, there was an even more important problem right now... The pursuers had arrived!

As Gao Neng looked toward Fang Tangtang, he saw dozens of familiar figures behind her. Giants, each five, six, or even seven meters tall, were stampeding toward them.

"The Hill Giant Race!"

"And the Northern Cave Race!"

"The Beastman Race?!"

"There are other races flying in the sky too! Is that the Winged Race?!"

"..."

There were too many to count.

Far too many. At least twenty different races were charging at him.

"The scent of blood!"

"A battle up ahead? Those are... the Seventh Princess's guards!"

"Oh no, the Seventh Princess is in danger!"

The princes of the various races all had their own unique abilities. Even from a distance, they could still spot the bodies lying on the ground far away.

They roared in a frenzy.

Bellowing!

They charged toward Gao Neng and Fang Tangtang at top speed.

"Run!" Without a moment's hesitation, Gao Neng scooped up the Seventh Princess and bolted. Not running in a situation like this was no different from suicide.

Fang Tangtang was running too.

What's more, she had consumed an Angel's Wings pill.

On her back, a pair of wings condensed from light flapped continuously, propelling her at incredible speed as she flew like crazy just above the ground.

Gao Neng, likewise, activated his Ghost Foot Realm.

But even so, the two of them couldn't shake off the other races.

In fact, they were getting closer and closer.

In terms of power, these marriage proposal delegations were basically all mid-rank or higher. Some were even high-rank, and there were races that specialized in speed.

For example, the members of the Winged Race flying in the sky.

"Those two look like they're from the Celestial Race! I recognize them, they're both from the Celestial Race! Why did they capture the Seventh Princess?!"

"The Celestial Race? What are they trying to do?!"

"Are they trying to snatch the bride?!"

"I heard the Celestial Race's Fourth Prince, Fifth Prince, and Sixth Prince all want to marry the Seventh Princess! Are they pulling a feint, trying to snatch her midway?"

"It's possible, damn it! They deliberately schemed to get the Seventh Princess to leave the city alone, then sent people to snatch her, while we charge the front lines and die for them?"

"How despicable! We have to get the Seventh Princess back!"

After confirming Gao Neng and Fang Tangtang's identities, the other races were all shocked.

The Celestial Race was snatching the bride!

Is there no law anymore?!

Fang Tangtang was now three meters behind Gao Neng. Seeing him still carrying the unconscious Seventh Princess, she was a bit dumbfounded.

"Gao Neng, hurry up and drop that Seventh Princess! Why are you still carrying her? Are you planning to marry a seductive bitch like her?"

"Marry my ass! Didn't you hear them say we're from the Celestial Race? Besides, I just thought of a serious problem. This Seventh Princess is most likely the target of all those marriage proposals!" Gao Neng shouted as he ran.

"Huh? The Seventh Princess is the target of their marriage proposals?"

"Yes! Don't you think this whole thing is a little weird? Have you thought about why the Seventh Princess left the city? And have you thought about why so many other races are following her?"

"You mean... they proposed to the Seventh Princess, so she deliberately left the city... Wait, I don't quite get it. Let me think... Are you saying... the Seventh Princess intentionally put herself in danger to lure these marriage proposal delegations into attacking our Military Department?!"

"That's probably it!" Gao Neng nodded quickly, then continued, "So, if we hand the Seventh Princess over to them now, she'll definitely identify us as humans when she wakes up. At that point, she'll still lead them to attack the Military Department. With so many mid-rank and high-rank fighters, if they really attack, the Military Department probably won't make it back this time!"

"Then what do we do? Just kill her! If we kill her... the problem's solved, right? Without the Seventh Princess, what marriage proposal is there to make? They'll definitely just scatter!" Fang Tangtang immediately shouted.

"No, we can't kill her now... They think we're from the Celestial Race. If we kill the Seventh Princess now, wouldn't we be exposing ourselves?" Gao Neng was well aware of the relationship between the Celestial Race and the Dark Night Elf Clan.

If they were truly from the Celestial Race...

Snatching the bride was a possibility.

But killing the Seventh Princess was absolutely out of the question.

Wait!

'Snatching the bride?!'

"I have a plan!" Gao Neng's eyes lit up.

"What plan? Hurry up and tell me!" Fang Tangtang was so anxious she was about to say something nasty.

"See those big trees up ahead? When we get there, we'll break their line of sight and split up. I'll use an Earth Dragon to take you underground!"

"Then what about you?!"

"I have to act as a decoy first. As long as I have the Seventh Princess, they'll definitely chase me. After you've escaped, I'll have the Earth Dragon come back for me."

"Okay, but you have to lend me this cat. I won't feel safe otherwise!" Fang Tangtang nodded immediately, but her gaze shifted to Gao Xiaomeng.

"..." Gao Neng was truly speechless.

'I'm sacrificing myself for the greater good, and what does she do? Fang Tangtang tries to take my cat?' he thought. 'What a pain-in-the-ass teammate. If I had a choice, I really wouldn't want her on my team.'

However, after a moment's thought, he still nodded.

He and Gao Xiaomeng shared a special connection.

This was clear from how Gao Xiaomeng had managed to find his home and then his dorm room. So, leaving Gao Xiaomeng with Fang Tangtang would allow them to regroup later.

"Gao Xiaomeng, you go with her!"

"Meow!" Gao Xiaomeng seemed a little reluctant.

"Protect her and help her escape first. Then, once it's safe, you can bring her to me, understand?" Gao Neng had no choice but to make this decision.

If he really let Fang Tangtang run off by herself...

...he actually wouldn't be able to rest easy.

"Meow!" In the end, Gao Xiaomeng nodded.

"The forest is just ahead. Fang Tangtang, are you ready?" As Gao Neng spoke, he began to command the Earth Dragon to grab hold of Fang Tangtang.

Meanwhile, Fang Tangtang hugged Gao Xiaomeng tightly.

"Don't worry. I, Death God Fang Tangtang, may not be able to beat you in a fight, but I have my own tricks when it comes to escaping! Also... here's an 'Angel's Wings' for you!" While speaking, Fang Tangtang quickly tossed a pill over.

"Didn't you say you only had one?!" Gao Neng clearly remembered Fang Tangtang saying she only had one Angel's Wings, but right now, she had a pair of light wings on her back.

"Alright, fine, this one isn't actually called Angel's Wings. It's called Demon's Wings. They're two different things!" Fang Tangtang immediately came up with an excuse.

"You're so honest!"

"Of course!"

"Split up, now!" Gao Neng paid no more attention to Fang Tangtang's petty tricks, because they had already reached the edge of the forest.

A few large trees blocked the view of the pursuing races.

Fang Tangtang immediately ducked under a large tree and dove headfirst toward the ground.

Gao Neng thought that if he were to command the Earth Dragon to return now, Fang Tangtang would probably dive headfirst to her death.

However, he didn't do that. He immediately commanded the Earth Dragon to start burrowing, taking Fang Tangtang and Gao Xiaomeng underground.

At the same time, he quickly swallowed the Angel's Wings pill.

The Angel's Wings went down.

It was cool and refreshing.

Then, he felt a massive amount of energy gathering behind him. In an instant, a pair of light wings sprouted from his back.

'Demon's Wings, my ass. These are clearly Angel's Wings, okay? That shameless Fang Tangtang.'

Gao Neng didn't have time to dwell on this. He immediately took flight, since his speed would be greatly reduced if he tried to weave through the forest on foot.

Of course, you could argue that the forest provided cover, and that wasn't wrong.

The problem was...

...the forest was full of other living creatures.

And in a primeval forest like this, no one knew how many hunting traps had been set by its inhabitants. One wrong step, and you wouldn't even know what killed you.

After taking the Angel's Wings, Gao Neng's speed increased dramatically.

"WHOOSH!"

He flew rapidly just above the treetops.

Ghost Step Realm plus Angel's Wings.

His current speed was simply terrifying.

Of course, the energy consumption was just as terrifying.

But even now, he was still full of energy.

Forget being weak; he felt strong enough to pin down the Seventh Princess and give her a few "injections" right then and there.

"Hahaha, you idiots! The Seventh Princess belongs to a prince of our Celestial Race! How could she ever marry into your lowly races? Dream on!" Gao Neng shouted.

He was actually quite grateful now that he had drunk a relatively large amount of the Spring of Life. If not for that, this level of exertion would have forced him to tap into his second magnetic core long ago.

And the other races behind who witnessed this scene naturally became even more certain of Gao Neng's identity.

"It really is the Celestial Race snatching the bride!"

"Damn you, Celestial Race! Let go of the Seventh Princess!"

"Catch him! I'd like to see how the Celestial Race explains this one!"

"Huh? Where did the other one go?"

"Who cares about her? Let's catch this one first and rescue the Seventh Princess!"

The princes of the other races roared and charged into the forest.

The tall members of the Hill Giant Race were by no means slow when they ran. In fact, they were quite fast, still moving with great strides even within the forest.

The members of the Beastman Race leaped between the trees.

Every race had its own way of traversing the forest.

As for the Winged Race...

...like Gao Neng, they flew directly into the air.

Their speed was not slow, either.

Even after taking the Angel's Wings, Gao Neng was still unable to shake them.

「And so it went, one chasing, one fleeing, for a full ten minutes.」

Just as Gao Neng was preparing to run on, he suddenly felt something was wrong. The Angel's Wings condensed on his back were faintly starting to dissipate.

'That damn Fang Tangtang said the Angel's Wings only last for three minutes, but it's been ten! As expected... you can't believe a word she says!' Gao Neng's thoughts raced.

And now, a problem arose.

With the Angel's Wings dissipating, his speed would drop by nearly half, and he wouldn't be able to keep flying. If nothing changed, he would be caught very soon.

'What should I do?'

Chapter 218 - 195: The Heaven-Defying 3rd Attribute, the Mystery of Darkness

'I have to find a place to go underground!' Gao Neng quickly came up with a plan. He had no desire to sprint through the forest; not only was it dangerous, but he could also be caught at any moment.

There were high-rank individuals in the alien army behind him.

Without the speed boost from Angel's Wings, he definitely couldn't outrun a high-rank opponent relying solely on his Ghost Foot Realm abilities.

However, there was one small problem with going underground...

The Super-Duper Earth Dragon was gone!

Gao Neng and Fang Tangtang had agreed that after the Earth Dragon dropped her off, he would summon it back. But he had underestimated his speed with the Angel's Wings boost.

To put it simply, the Earth Dragon was controlled by his Spiritual Power, but because he had run too fast, it was now far outside his range.

The natural result was...

Super-Duper Earth Dragon Number One, offline!

He had to manifest another Earth Dragon.

"What a pity. Earth Dragon Number One had already evolved to the Pig Iron-grade, and its two scythe-claws were even starting to turn into steel. If I manifest a new one, I'll have to start all over again," Gao Neng sighed.

He'd lost his Earth Dragon while running for his life.

'I hope Fang Tangtang doesn't get buried underground and end up stuck.'

Gao Neng shook his head and stopped thinking about Fang Tangtang. He was the one in real danger now and needed to manifest another Earth Dragon as fast as possible.

'Focus!'

'Imagine...'

'Imagine!'

'The form of the Super-Duper Earth Dragon!'

CRACK! The high-dimensional capsule used to store various energies was crushed.

Gao Neng moved extremely quickly. Taking advantage of the moment he plunged into the forest, while the aliens behind him couldn't see him, he rapidly gestured and condensed the energy.

In less than five seconds, the embryonic form of the Earth Dragon had materialized.

"Come forth, Earth Dragon Number Two!" Gao Neng shouted softly. Immediately, a figure began to slowly materialize before him.

But it was somewhat different from when he'd manifested Earth Dragons before.

This figure seemed to be stepping out of darkness itself.

And as the figure appeared, the sound of an eggshell cracking, incredibly distinct, seemed to echo in his mind.

'What's happening?'

Gao Neng was a little dazed.

'Something doesn't feel right...'

Just as he had that thought, the Earth Dragon before him revealed its true form.

It stood a full three meters tall!

It still had two sharp, scythe-like claws, but now the blades had new, serrated edges.

Furthermore, the Earth Dragon's lines had become extremely fluid. Its original eight legs had become twelve, and its hindmost pair of legs had noticeably bulging muscles.

It gave off a sense of explosive power.

That wasn't all...

The Earth Dragon's body was now covered in strange, silver patterns. They felt ancient and exuded a peculiar aura.

Most importantly, a carapace had appeared on its back. The carapace was slightly open, and two huge wings stretched out from within.

The two wings spread wide.

They spanned a full ten meters.

This Earth Dragon hovered in mid-air, its two blood-red eyes glowing.

"The Super-Duper Earth Dragon changed? Wait, I was thinking of a Super-Duper Earth Dragon... so why did I manifest this thing? What the hell is it?" Gao Neng was genuinely stunned.

This was just absurd.

'What the heck...'

'It just evolved?'

'Wait!'

'Evolution?!'

'The Super-Duper Earth Dragon evolved!'

A possibility suddenly struck Gao Neng. He quickly opened the system's Attribute Panel and looked at the third attribute.

Sure enough, the third attribute had changed.

The egg that was originally shrouded in darkness... was gone.

In its place was an icon identical to the Earth Dragon right in front of him.

And it had a new name.

Flying Earth Dragon! (Evolved from Super-Duper Earth Dragon. Speed +200%, Strength +200%, Defense Power +200%, Attack Power +200%. Capable of flight!)

"The third attribute is evolution! Does this mean that from now on, anything I manifest can be evolved by the third attribute?! Wow, this third attribute is kinda heaven-defying!" Gao Neng was ecstatic after seeing the new name and description.

'It can actually evolve manifested species?'

'This is fucking awesome!'

"Ding! Flying Earth Dragon evolution complete. 1,000,000 Alliance Coins have been deducted!" a mechanical voice announced.

"I'll kill you, you dumbass!" If the dumbass system could be manifested into a person, Gao Neng would absolutely kick it without a second thought.

'Serves you right for being so cheeky!'

'A million Alliance Coins, you think you can just deduct that whenever you want?'

'Whatever.'

'A Flying Earth Dragon...'

'It really is worth a million.'

Gao Neng was more or less used to it by now. This dumbass system was powerful, but at some point, it had developed a greedy streak.

It charged him for everything.

"Flying Earth Dragon, burrow!" Gao Neng already had an escape plan in mind. Now, with the Flying Earth Dragon, his chances of success were much higher.

He connected his Spiritual Power.

The Flying Earth Dragon took off swiftly and grabbed Gao Neng from behind.

Then, Gao Neng saw a crystalline shield appear in front of him and the Seventh Princess, enveloping them both.

PLOP! With a soft sound.

The Flying Earth Dragon dove underground.

'Thankfully, after evolving...'

'It didn't lose its burrowing ability.'

...

Less than five seconds after Gao Neng dove underground, the pursuing aliens arrived.

"Where did he go?!"

"That Celestial Race member is fast. He must have run ahead!"

"No, there's no movement up ahead. He probably hid. He must be trying to use the trees for cover. Everyone, split up and search!"

"Look... there's a hole here!"

"A hole?! The Celestial Race can dig holes...? That guy is trying to escape underground! What a joke. How fast can a Celestial burrow?"

"When it comes to burrowing, leave it to us, the Lizard Race!"

Soon, several aliens with pointed heads that resembled lizards stepped forward. Without any hesitation, they dove into the hole.

"He's heading back!" a voice called out from inside.

"Heading back?!"

"What a treacherous bastard! Quick... back to Elf City!"

The alien Princes quickly turned around.

Their goal wasn't to help the Dark Night Elf Clan defend some line; their target was the Seventh Princess. Naturally, they would go wherever the Seventh Princess was.

Besides, with the Lizard Race scouting underground, they weren't worried about Gao Neng escaping.

Several thousand aliens had chased after him in a massive horde.

Now, that same massive horde was running back toward Elf City.

This was the first step of Gao Neng's plan.

'Lure the army back!'

Only by luring the army back could the people from the Military Department escape danger.

Of course, Gao Neng's original plan had relied on the Super-Duper Earth Dragon's speed. Now that he had the superior Flying Earth Dragon, he was naturally even faster.

After chasing for two minutes underground, the Lizard Race members felt that something was wrong.

Their target was too fast.

They had been relentlessly chasing through the tunnel for two minutes without even catching a glimpse of their target's tail. Moreover, the tunnel ahead was getting deeper and deeper.

"What's going on? The Celestials have an expert burrower like this? Could it be a high-rank?" The dozen or so Lizard Race members were all a bit shocked. Then, one cursed under his breath, "To actually send a high-rank to snatch the bride, and then try to return to Elf City... this trick... it's utterly shameless!"

As they continued the chase...

There was a commotion on the surface.

An army was charging out from Elf City.

Their bright armor, sharp daggers, and the longbows slung across their backs all proved one thing: this was a well-trained Dark Night Elf Army.

And at their head was none other than Elf Queen Una.

"Where is Ding Xiang?! Where did my daughter go? Why are her guards dead? The Seventh Princess... where in the world is my Seventh Princess?!" Elf Queen Una's royal robes billowed as she spoke, her face filled with rage.

The Princes, who were following the Lizard Race's lead back, were momentarily stunned. Then, one by one, strange expressions appeared on their faces—a mix of disdain, anger, and contempt...

"Doesn't the Queen know what she herself has done?"

"Exactly!"

Two of the more straightforward Princes spoke up.

"What did you say?! I'm asking you, where is my daughter, the Seventh Princess!" Elf Queen Una's brow furrowed. If she hadn't heard the Seventh Princess Wu Dingxiang's cry for help, she wouldn't have pursued them so quickly, nor would she have lost her queenly composure in front of these Princes.

"She was kidnapped, of course!"

"Kidnapped? Who?! Who kidnapped the Seventh Princess!"

"Why does the Queen feign ignorance? Wasn't it you who colluded with the Celestial Race to deliberately have the Seventh Princess kidnapped as she left the city?"

"What are you talking about? The Celestial Race kidnapped the Seventh Princess!" The Elf Queen clearly hadn't processed what they were saying.

"We all saw it!"

"Yes, we clearly saw two members of the Celestial Race kill the Seventh Princess's guards, kidnap her, and now they're fleeing back toward Elf City!"

"That's right, Queen. You need to give us an explanation for this!"

The Princes all nodded in agreement.

"Nonsense!" Hearing this, the Elf Queen could finally no longer maintain her noble bearing. Being accused by a group of Princes of arranging her own daughter's kidnapping?

How was that possible?

'How could the Celestial Race possibly be the ones to snatch the bride!'

She had clearly planned it with the Celestial Race: use the Seventh Princess as bait to attract suitors from the other clans, and then deal with the elites from the human Military Department together.

So why would the Celestial Race kidnap her?

But if it wasn't them...

...why were all the Princes saying the Celestial Race had kidnapped the Seventh Princess?

"Whether we're talking nonsense or not, the Queen should know perfectly well in her heart. Are you deliberately blocking us here to stop us from catching that Celestial?"

"Does the Queen need to be so obvious?"

"Do you really take us for fools!"

"Even if it's an act, could you at least make it a little more convincing? We were in hot pursuit, and you just happen to show up... and block our path? Does it have to be such a coincidence?"

The Princes had been chasing for a long time.

While they respected the Elf Queen, they were Princes themselves. Having been aggravated like this, it was impossible for them to just hold their tongues and say nothing.

Chapter 219 - 196: Perfect-Grade: Conquest

"..." Una's brows furrowed tightly.

As the dignified Queen of the Dark Night Elf Clan, she couldn't possibly argue with these princes. Besides, there was a more critical issue at hand.

Rescuing the Seventh Princess!

"Her Majesty the Queen, as long as we find the Seventh Princess, this misunderstanding should be cleared up!" A Great Elf standing guard behind Una stepped forward.

"Saving the Seventh Princess is the priority, Your Majesty!"

"Princes, please calm down. There's something strange about this. Are you certain the person who captured the Seventh Princess really headed toward the Elf City?" the Great Elf asked, turning back to the princes.

"Of course. The Lizard Race is pursuing them underground. How could they be wrong?" one of the princes replied.

"Her Majesty the Queen, what is your decision?" Hearing this, the Great Elf turned back to Una, awaiting her command.

"Rescue Ding Xiang first!" Una delayed no longer.

Just as the Great Elf had suggested, as long as they rescued the Seventh Princess and caught her captor, the truth would naturally come to light.

"Yes, ma'am!"

"Turn around! Back to the Elf City!"

"Then... what about the Celestial Eagle Station?"

"We'll deal with that after we save the Seventh Princess!"

"Yes, ma'am!"

The grand army turned around.

The princes stopped arguing as well. First, they couldn't truly afford to have a complete falling-out with the Dark Night Elf Clan. Second, they also wanted to see how the Dark Night Elves would play out this charade.

"Pursue!"

The two armies merged into one.

They began to give chase at high speed in the direction Gao Neng had fled.

But after a short while, they realized the direction seemed a little off.

They had predicted that the culprit would return to the Elf City after capturing the Seventh Princess, but his escape route just happened to skirt around the Elf Royal City.

"He went around it!"

"He didn't enter the Elf Royal City!"

"Where is he trying to go?!"

The Lizard Race continuously relayed Gao Neng's escape route to the surface.

And the princes grew more and more confused.

He wasn't going to the Elf Royal City.

'Where is he going?'

'Could it be... he was never fleeing toward the Elf Royal City at all!'

"Her Majesty the Queen, this is not good!" The Great Elf had now noticed something was amiss.

If the culprit had truly taken the Seventh Princess back to the Elf City, they might have been able to explain it. But if he took her somewhere else...

...then it would be truly impossible to explain.

"That's impossible!" Elf Queen Una's expression changed as well, because she knew exactly where one could go after bypassing the Elf Royal City.

The territory of the Celestial Race!

Where the White Tower stood!

"Her Majesty the Queen, it couldn't really be someone from the Celestial Race..."

"Silence!"

"..."

...

Underground.

Gao Neng held the Seventh Princess, moving swiftly underground.

With his previous experience, he knew the precise location of the Elf Royal City. However, his target this time wasn't the Elf Royal City, but another cluster of light behind it.

The White Tower of the Celestial Race!

According to the map Fang Tangtang had given him, the territory of the Celestial Race was located directly behind the Dark Night Elf City. As long as he bypassed the Elf City, he could go straight into the heart of the Celestial Race's lands.

...

The sun began to set.

Night fell.

The guarded territory of the Celestial Race was met with the arrival of two massive armies.

One contingent was led by the Elf Queen herself, while the other was led by more than twenty princes from other races. The two forces merged, their presence overwhelming.

The Celestial Race guards were clearly stunned.

'What's going on?!'

'Are the Dark Night Elves rebelling?'

"Halt! This is the territory of the Celestial Race! No other race may trespass!" a guard shouted sternly, raising his spear.

"The territory of the Celestial Race?!"

"I get it now! He wasn't taking the Seventh Princess back to the Elf City, he was bringing her to the Celestial Race! So that's the truth!"

"Charge! No matter what, the Celestial Race and the Dark Night Elf Clan must give us an explanation this time!"

"That's right! We came all this way; we can't just let this go!"

The princes were truly furious this time.

Regardless of how the Elf Queen tried to dissuade them, they had to catch that "Celestial" who had crashed the selection. Otherwise, they would never be able to stomach this insult.

"What do you think you're doing?!"

"How dare you! You dare to force your way into Celestial territory! Stop them!"

"Stop us?! What gives you the right?" The princes were not so weak. How could a few Celestial guards possibly stop the elites of more than twenty different races?

The Celestial guards posed no threat to them at all.

They were knocked unconscious and left on the ground.

The great army pushed straight through.

The Elf Queen couldn't stop them even if she wanted to.

...

「Two hours later.」

Underground.

Gao Neng was still moving stealthily.

The light from the White Tower grew ever brighter. He knew he couldn't rush any further. If he actually charged to the base of the White Tower, he'd be as good as dead.

Still, he was very close to the source of the light now.

'If nothing goes wrong...'

'I should have reached the heart of the Celestial Race's territory, right?'

'Better to be cautious.'

Gao Neng stopped and extended his Spiritual Power to scout ahead. Soon, he could see the scene on the surface.

This was indeed the heart of the Celestial territory.

It was still some distance from the White Tower, but he had already reached the Celestial Race Royal City. Celestials passed by on the surface from time to time, and the security seemed rather tight.

Moreover, it looked like there was a palace up there.

'Since I've already reached the heart of their territory, this should be close enough, right? As for whether the plan will succeed... I can only leave that to fate.' Gao Neng had no intention of infiltrating the White Tower.

Because the Celestial Race was not like the Dark Night Elf City.

There were some of the Strongest here.

Gao Neng didn't know how powerful the Strongest were, but he absolutely did not want to find out.

PFFT!

With a soft sound, the Flying Earth Dragon burst out from the ground, carrying Gao Neng and the Seventh Princess.

They emerged right on the first floor of the palace.

The sound was very faint.

But the Celestial guards protecting the palace still heard it.

And it wasn't just the Celestial guards.

In an exceptionally lavish room, an unusually handsome young man also frowned at that moment and then stood up.

He walked out of the room.

He made his way down from the third floor to the first.

The surrounding guards bowed respectfully one by one, then fell in behind the young man, following him all the way to the first floor.

Soon, a guard came to report.

"Your Highness the Sixth Prince, an unconscious Dark Night Elf woman has been found on the first floor!"

"A Dark Night Elf woman?" The Sixth Prince, Mueller, frowned slightly. 'The Celestial Race and the Dark Night Elf Clan are on good terms, but there's no reason a Dark Night Elf woman would dare trespass in my palace.'

"It seems she infiltrated from underground!"

"Hmph. Bring her here!"

"Yes, Your Highness!"

Soon, an elven woman in a white dress was brought before the Sixth Prince, Mueller.

Surprise quickly appeared on Sixth Prince Mueller's handsome face. The woman was simply too beautiful. Even with her face smudged with dirt, he still recognized her at a glance.

"The Seventh Princess?!"

...

The alliance between the Celestial Race and the Dark Night Elf Clan could be traced back many, many years...

And by "many years," it was a truly incalculable amount of time.

At least, for as long as Sixth Prince Mueller could remember, the Celestial Race and the Dark Night Elf Clan had been allies. And as the prince and princess of the two clans, there were naturally some sweet stories between them.

Sixth Prince Mueller had grown up in the White Tower.

The White Tower was a palace.

This palace not only had living quarters but also grounds for training and studying.

The Seventh Princess, as the Elf Queen's most beloved daughter, had naturally also studied in the White Tower. Moreover, she had studied alongside the princes of the Celestial Race.

It would not be an exaggeration to say they were childhood sweethearts.

It was just a pity that...

...the Seventh Princess wasn't just his childhood sweetheart. She also had an extraordinary relationship with his Fourth and Fifth Brothers.

And of them all, the most special was his Fourth Brother.

The Fourth Prince of the Celestial Race was exceptionally talented and one of the strongest contenders for the future position of Clan King. Unlike him, the rather overlooked Sixth Prince, the Fourth Prince still lived within the White Tower to this day.

But even so, his love for the Seventh Princess... had never wavered!

This matter was hardly a secret among the Celestial Race.

The Fourth Prince, the Fifth Prince, the Sixth Prince...

The story of how the three of them had developed feelings for the Seventh Princess while studying and training together since childhood, and their subsequent rivalries born of jealousy, had long since spread throughout the Celestial Race Royal City.

As for why Gao Neng delivered the Seventh Princess to the Sixth Prince's palace?

That could only be described as a coincidence.

Yes...

A very convenient coincidence. No arguments will be accepted!

"Seventh Princess? Seventh Princess, wake up! Why are you here? Weren't you selecting a suitor at the Elf Royal City today? Could it be, you were unwilling... and

you came looking for me?" Sixth Prince Mueller immediately snatched the Seventh Princess from the guard's arms.

He was, of course, aware that the Seventh Princess was publicly seeking a suitor. Not only was he aware, but he had also once considered whether he should take this opportunity to propose marriage himself.

But his father, the King... had stopped him!

But now, the Seventh Princess had appeared in his palace?

This made his heart burn with passion once more.

If the Seventh Princess really married him, he would gain the full support of the Dark Night Elf Clan. Returning to the White Tower would then be a matter of course.

And it wasn't just about returning to the White Tower.

He might even have a chance to inherit the position of Clan King.

"Mmm..." A soft murmur escaped the Seventh Princess's lips. She had been having a long dream, and a pleasant one at that.

She dreamed she was enveloped by a warm flame.

As the Seventh Princess of the Elf Race.

She had actually spent most of her life in a cold pool...

Surrounded by ice since she was a child.

Even with her special constitution, deep down, she still held a strange longing for those two words: "warmth."

It was a wonderful feeling.

But she also knew she was being hunted.

'No!'

'I'm being assassinated!'

"Ah... Let go of me! Let go! You beast! I'll fight you to the death... Don't even think about defiling me!" The moment she awoke, the Seventh Princess struggled violently, a biting cold aura erupting from her entire body.

But would Sixth Prince Mueller let go?

Absolutely not!

"Seventh Princess! Seventh Sister... it's me! It's me, your Sixth Brother!" Not only did Sixth Prince Mueller not let go, he held on to the Seventh Princess even tighter.

'What in the world happened?'

'Why did the Seventh Princess appear in my palace?'

'And what's the deal with that hole in the floor?'

'Can the Seventh Princess dig holes?!

(Author's Note: I have to fix my sleep schedule, I really do! I can't keep pulling all-nighters, otherwise, who knows when I'll just keel over... The next Chapter will be out before midnight! From now on, it's sleep after 12. The second bonus Chapter for the Alliance Leader supporter tier will be slightly delayed; I'll try to get it out within three days!)

Chapter 220 - 197: Chaos, the Great War Breaks Out

"Sixth Brother? Is... is that you, Sixth Brother?!" Seventh Princess Wu Dingxiang's eyes slowly cleared, and she soon recognized the face before her.

It was none other than the Sixth Prince of the Celestial Race, Mueller.

A flood of indignation and shame washed over her.

"Waaaah..."

The Seventh Princess burst into tears, which streamed down her face. She had almost died! Died at the hands of a despicable human—and that human had groped her all over.

In that moment, she sobbed inconsolably.

But she quickly realized something was off.

"Sixth Brother, was it... was it you who saved me?!"

"Er... me? Saved you?" Sixth Prince Mueller was confused. 'Didn't you just dig your way into my palace?' he thought. But then, an idea struck him.

'Could it be that the Seventh Princess was in some kind of danger?'

'If that's the case...'

'...then this might be a good opportunity.'

"That's right, I saved you!" Sixth Prince Mueller nodded quickly. 'No matter how it happened,' he thought, 'if I take the credit, I should be able to win a sliver of her affection, right?'

BOOM!

Just then, another figure charged out of the hole in the ground.

A Lizardman.

And then, a second, a third...

"Sixth Prince, look out!"

"How dare you! Who trespasses in the Sixth Prince's palace!"

"Protect the Seventh Princess!"

The guards cried out at once.

"The Sixth Prince? You're the Sixth Prince of the Celestial Race?!" When the Lizardmen heard the guards, their expressions changed slightly, and their gazes turned icy cold.

"That's right. I am Mueller, the Sixth Prince of the Celestial Race. Where have you come from?" Sixth Prince Mueller nodded, pulling the Seventh Princess behind him protectively.

"Aha! So the Celestial Race was behind this all along!"

"To think the great Sixth Prince of the Celestial Race would stoop to something so shameless!"

"I heard him loud and clear just now. He admitted it! He's the one who abducted the Seventh Princess!"

The Lizardmen were furious.

"What are you talking about? You've trespassed on Celestial Race territory! Seize them!" Sixth Prince Mueller didn't care what race they were; trespassing deep into the heart of Celestial lands was more than enough justification to capture them.

"Are you trying to kill us to silence us? Are you prepared to face the wrath of the Lizard Race?" Startled, the Lizardmen began to back away.

"Enough talk! Seize them!"

"Yes!"

"Bad news, Your Highness! A large army is attacking from outside!" Just then, another guard rushed over, shouting frantically.

"What army?" For a moment, Sixth Prince Mueller was confused.

"It's the Elf Army, led by the Elf Queen! And... and armies from other races, too! They look... like the delegations that came to the Elf Race to propose marriage?"

"What?"

"Hahaha! Since the Celestial Race's Sixth Prince dared to abduct the princess, you owe all our races an explanation! Don't think we'll let this slide just because you're an out-of-favor prince. Even if your Celestial Race's Clan King were here,

we wouldn't let this matter rest. And you still want to kill us for silence?" Hearing this, the Lizardmen burst out laughing.

"Abduction? What abduction? When have I ever abducted anyone! Are you saying..." Sixth Prince Mueller finally realized something was wrong.

"We all heard it loud and clear. Plus, the abductor's tunnel leads right under your palace. The Seventh Princess is here as well. Your Highness the Sixth Prince, are you still going to deny it?"

"Sixth Brother didn't abduct anyone, he was just saving me!" The Seventh Princess started to get anxious when she heard this. The Sixth Prince wasn't the abductor at all.

'No, that's not right. It wasn't an abduction, and the person trying to kill me wasn't the Sixth Prince!'

'It was a despicable human!'

"Are you still trying to defend the Sixth Prince, Princess? We're not buying it! We followed the abductor all the way here. The evidence is conclusive!" Of course, the Lizardmen didn't believe her.

"It's true, I'm not lying! It really wasn't Sixth Brother who abducted me... No... someone was trying to kill me, and then... then... Sixth Brother just happened to save me?" As she reached the end, for some reason, even the Seventh Princess felt that what she was saying didn't sound quite right.

"Your Highness, you've been deceived by him!"

"Exactly, Princess! You said someone was trying to kill you? Then how are you still alive? And how did you end up, of all places, inside the Sixth Prince's palace?"

"There's no such thing as a coincidence like that!" The Lizardmen were clearly not buying it.

Moreover, they were already preparing to escape. As they spoke, one of them took advantage of a moment when the guards weren't looking and slipped back into the tunnel.

He was going to tell all the suitor Princes from the other races.

He was going to expose the Sixth Prince's true colors.

"Sixth Brother, where did you save me?" The Seventh Princess was panicking. She understood the gravity of the situation perfectly and knew she had to get their stories straight with the Sixth Prince.

"I... saved you... right here in my palace?" Sixth Prince Mueller's expression changed, but he gritted his teeth and said it anyway.

"Your palace? That's impossible. That human knocked me unconscious outside the Elf Royal City. How would I have ended up in your palace? Don't tell me you didn't send someone to rescue me from outside the Royal City?"

"I didn't..." Sixth Prince Mueller shook his head vigorously.

"Princess, he really has fooled you!" a Lizardman interjected again. "We all saw it clearly. The one who attacked you was from the Celestial Race! We chased them from the Elf Royal City all the way into the forest, and we saw it with our own eyes! It was definitely a member of the Celestial Race—they had wings and could fly! Plus, they admitted it themselves, said they were under orders to carry out the abduction!"

"Ordered to abduct me? He... he had wings?"

"Yes, Your Highness! You can choose not to believe us, but you can't possibly disbelieve the eyes of all our Princes, can you? The one who attacked you was, without a doubt, from the Celestial Race!"

"A member of the Celestial Race attacked me?" The Seventh Princess was confused.

'But wasn't it a human?'

"How dare you falsely accuse me! When did I ever order someone to perform an abduction?!" Sixth Prince Mueller was enraged. He couldn't tolerate such a blatant frame-up.

"We saw it with our own eyes, Sixth Prince. Your excuses are useless! Princess, you suffered a head injury, so it's normal that you can't remember certain things. But the one who attacked you was definitely a member of the Celestial Race!"

"Outrageous! Seize them already!"

"Yes, sir!"

The guards immediately moved to attack.

The men from the Lizard Race tried to run, but only two managed to escape.

The remaining few were immediately surrounded.

Just then, the Seventh Princess finally turned to look at the Sixth Prince. "Sixth Brother... was it really you who sent someone to kill my personal guards and bring me here?"

"I didn't! Seventh Sister, you have to believe me!"

"But you just admitted with your own mouth that you saved me. If these Lizardmen hadn't followed the trail here and told me all this, would I have been completely deceived by you?" The Seventh Princess was clearly no fool.

"I just... I just thought..."

"Sixth Brother, if you really did abduct me, I... I would still be grateful. That you would take such a risk for me... But... why did you have him kill my personal guards?"

"What abduction?! What killing personal guards?! How could I, Mueller, be so reckless about the grander scheme of things? I knew perfectly well that this was all a plot to get the other races to attack the humans..." Sixth Prince Mueller trailed off, then abruptly stopped.

'Oh no!'

'I let it slip!'

"Hahaha, he admitted it! Bravo, Sixth Prince! And bravo to your Celestial Race! You dared to set us up? I will report this to our Prince! No... we will announce this to all the races, so everyone knows the vile intentions of the Celestial Race and the Dark Night Elf Clan!" The Lizardmen laughed, their voices laced with fury.

"Kill them!" Sixth Prince Mueller's gaze turned cold.

"Your Highness, you can't!"

"Kill them! That's an order!"

"Hahaha... You want to kill us? With just these guards? Don't you know... we are the most elite soldiers of the Lizard Race's Guard Army!" The Lizardmen finally understood the whole picture.

'He's trying to kill us to silence us!'

'It won't be that easy!'

Among them, four were fifth-tier and two were sixth-tier.

If it really came to a fight...

...the Sixth Prince's guards here wouldn't be enough to take them down quickly.

"Kill!"

"Hahaha, now that the truth is out, brothers, there's no need to hold back! Let's give it everything we've got!" The Lizardmen began to fight back, their desperation lending them surprising strength.

RUMBLE!

RUMBLE!

The Sixth Prince's palace itself began to tremble.

The guards all charged forward.

The Seventh Princess had no choice but to retreat.

And just then, another figure emerged from the tunnel. This was also a Lizardman, but he was different from the previous ones.

His skin was a silver-white color, covered in faint golden markings.

A High-tier Lizardman.

"Your Highness the Sixth Prince, is this how the Celestial Race treats its guests? In that case, don't blame the Lizard Race for being unreasonable! Charge!" The High-tier Lizardman's presence was overwhelmingly powerful.

He threw a punch.

A dozen palace guards were instantly brought to their knees.

What's more, as the High-tier Lizardman appeared, even more Lizardmen swarmed out of the tunnel, drawing their weapons one by one.

"The Fourth Prince has given the order: no one may bully the Lizard Race! We do not fear even the Celestial Race! They have their Strongest, and so do we!" The races that dared to come and propose marriage were all independent, and they shared one common characteristic.

They each had a Strongest protecting them.

They feared nothing.

And so, a great battle erupted within the palace.

「Meanwhile, outside the Celestial Race Royal City.」

The armies of over twenty different races saw the Lizardmen fleeing from the Sixth Prince's palace.

"It was the Celestial Race's Sixth Prince who abducted the Seventh Princess!"

"We saw it with our own eyes! The Seventh Princess is in the Sixth Prince's palace right now! And the Celestial Race's Sixth Prince tried to kill us to silence us!"

"It's a good thing we ran fast!"

This was the second group of Lizardmen to escape, and they had heard more.

Then, a third group of Lizardmen emerged.

They brought even more shocking news.

"The Celestial Race's Sixth Prince admitted it himself! This was all a plot! They deliberately arranged the marriage proposals to lure us into attacking the humans, while they seized the opportunity to abduct the Seventh Princess!"