

Elite Mages' Academy Novel

Chapter 701 - His Own Choice

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The entire lunar eclipse, Xiao Lin spent it in pain and helplessness. The blood moon looked very beautiful, but it hurt his eyes to look at it. The memories in his mind started to frantically rise like a raging tide, and it could not be controlled.

He was incredibly scared. He felt that those memories completely belonged to someone else. However, it seemed like a voice was telling him in his mind that it was his real life, his true life.

The blood moon continued, and slowly reached its end.

When there was only a small crescent moon left, Xiao Lin was much calmer than earlier. Those surging memories came quickly, but also left quickly. It was as if the memories in his mind were affected by the lunar eclipse, and also disappeared along with the eclipse.

Xiao Lin had felt like his chaotic thoughts were due to the lunar eclipse, and he hoped that the end of the eclipse would allow him to not feel the torture anymore. However, he felt somewhat reluctant. Those memories seemed to feel incredibly precious to him, and once he missed them today, he would never get them back.

What could he do?

In his helplessness, Xiao Lin recalled the dream he had that night all those years ago. The Dawn Academy in his dreams seemed to be similar to the memories that were rising up within him. The various connections caused his mind to think about it more and more, and he could no longer be sure that those dreams and his memories were not real.

Xiao Lin's head started to hurt again with the clash of reality and his memories. He was already incredibly weak from all that torture, and he collapsed into the mud, his eyes suddenly losing focus.

In his trance, Xiao Lin could not help but be thankful for the fact that, if he could really experience that dream, and could really go to Dawn Academy and the New World, would that not be a better choice?

However, what could he do?

How could he actually experience the completely new life that he dreamed about?

An admittance letter!

He needed an admittance letter!

At that moment, a voice suddenly reverberated in his heart. It was a voice that belonged to him, but even he was shocked.

That was right! He did receive an admittance letter in his dream, which led to all the memories. So, all of that started from that thin piece of paper. However, after he woke up, Xiao Lin remembered that he had looked all around, but never found the letter.

If there was no letter, then he should just write it himself.

In the darkness, that vague voice could be heard again. Even though it was very similar to his voice, it was still obviously not his. This time, Xiao Lin was more awake than earlier, and he shouted loudly, “Who’s talking?! Who are you?!” He suddenly opened his weak eyes, but was immediately shocked by the scene in front of him.

At some unknown point of time, he was no longer on that mountain. He was surrounded by multicolored lights, and the lights constantly changed, as if he was dreaming. Xiao Lin tried to reach out, but he could not feel anything physically. He seemed to be surrounded by clouds and was drifting softly. The lights never stopped moving, and seemed to be flowing in a certain direction like water, while he seemed to be carried along with the flow.

“I am you, and you are me.” The voice answered him. This time, Xiao Lin noticed that, even though the voice sounded like it came from inside him, the source was actually the radiant lights. He wanted to push the bundle of light away to see who was talking, but other than flowing with the light, there was nothing he could do at that moment.

“Where is this place?! Where are you taking me?” Facing that mystical and unknown situation, Xiao Lin felt like his entire world view had been rewritten, and he asked the question with some fear.

“This is a point in time. You’ll naturally understand what this place is in the future. I want to bring you to a crossroads in time.” That voice lightly sighed.

After it spoke, Xiao Lin suddenly felt like the flow of the light in front of him started to speed up, and the bundle of light started to disperse, and like a movie that was suddenly being fast forwarded, the chaos in front of his eyes caused him to go dizzy. He shut his eyes, and once he felt like his surroundings had stopped moving, he reopened them again, but he was once again stunned.

The lights had completely disappeared, and what replaced them were dim yellow street lamps. He was standing in front of a red security door, and the narrow passage was a small and dirty. This place was incredibly familiar to him. Back when he had just graduated and was still looking for a job, the room he stayed in was right behind the door.

No, it was not the past — the sound isolation was not great there, and Xiao Lin could hear the sounds of games being played inside. That voice that was scolding his teammates was clearly his own voice.

There was another Xiao Lin behind the door! Before Xiao Lin could say anything, that mysterious voice could be heard again.

“The future, you can choose it yourself! This is your final chance. Once you make your decision, you’ll only be able to face the reality, no matter if it’s good or bad. A crossroads in time is something incredibly rare in the river of time, so you won’t be able to change it anymore.”

After that, the voice disappeared. Xiao Lin felt like the other person had completely disappeared from his side. In his right hand, at some point, materialized a very thin piece of paper. He looked at it, and under the yellow glow of the street lamps, the paper had a few large words on it.

‘Dawn Academy Admittance Letter. Admission — Xiao Lin!’

“What do I do?!” Xiao Lin loudly asked, but there was no response. That voice had already left him, and the final choice was in his hands.

Xiao Lin did not ask anymore. He knew what he had to do, and what consequences there would be. In his chaotic memories, he actually already had the answer in his mind.

Tearing apart the letter would mean that this life would be back to normal. He would be a normal and ordinary working class man, passing his life just like that. Furthermore, he believed that those strange dreams and memories would never appear again. Just like that mysterious voice said, once he missed out on this, he would never have the chance to change it again.

Xiao Lin should have torn the letter apart. That normal but peaceful life was what he had been fighting for the past few years, but his hands trembled holding the letter, and the familiar yet foreign people in his memories flashed in his mind.. Tearing that letter apart would be completely saying goodbye to that dream, and he would forever forget it.

Chapter 702 - The End Of An Era

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The choice was ultimately in his hands.

Would he rip the letter apart, or hand the letter to himself?

Would he choose a comfortable and peaceful life, or a future filled with turbulence?

Xiao Lin struggled and hesitated. The thin letter in his hands felt incredibly heavy at that moment. The scenes in his mind constantly flashed, and finally settled on that vague figure.

In a flash, Xiao Lin suddenly calmed down. Not for his future, and not for his past; for that figure that he could never remember clearly, yet never forget, he knew what he should do.

Xiao Lin stepped forward, knocking on the red door as he said, “Open the door! Delivery!” After that, he left the letter at the front of the door.

He had still been wondering if he needed to hide anywhere if the him from inside came out, but the moment the door opened, Xiao Lin did not even have the chance to see his other self when his entire body was once again swallowed up by the light.

It was as if he was falling into the abyss; a complete sense of weightlessness caused him to quickly lose his bearings. Then, everything slowly turned into a blur as he fell unconscious.

This time, he was dreaming again, and this stream was extraordinarily clear. He dreamt that he opened the letter, entered Dawn Academy, learned various skills and headed into an alien world. He met even more people, and the vague figure in his start slowly started to clear up. He then took part in the semi-finals of the tournament, met Asabanor, entered the river of time, and drifted into space after Myth ended.

No, this time it was not a dream; they were all things he had actually experienced. It was definitely not an imagined dream!

When he opened his eyes again, Xiao Lin noticed that he was floating in the river of time, and countless golden sands of time were surrounding himself. In front of him stood the figure of an old man with white hair and a pale expression, but it did nothing to hide the sharp glint in his eyes.

“Dean!” Xiao Lin cried out in surprise, but he quickly noticed that he could not talk. In the river of time, after losing his Myth state, there was no way for him to transmit his voice. The old man in front of him was Dawn Academy’s dean. Even if he was only the former dean, strictly speaking, in Xiao Lin’s heart, he would forever be the dean.

The dean smiled and sighed, and his voice quickly reached Xiao Lin’s ears, “Stupid child. You still chose this path in the end.”

Xiao Lin suddenly remembered that dream. After waking up, he already treated the scene where he did not get the letter earlier as a dream. Even though he was full of questions, it seemed to be related to the dean.

The dean saw Xiao Lin’s confusion, and slowly said, “That was not a dream. It was a divergence in time. The river of time is limitless, and each river diverges. Those are also branches of reality, and it was a reality where you did not come to Dawn Academy. You could have chosen to live peacefully in that world, and it was the only chance you had to choose again. Are you sure you don’t regret it?”

Xiao Lin understood it then. He silently looked at the dean’s bright eyes, but did not say anything. His gaze already said all he could.

He did not regret it.

“I understand.” The dean sighed. “Since that’s the case, I’ll send you back. However, after this, it will all be up to you.”

Xiao Lin's eyes suddenly felt a little wet as he seemed to understand something, because the dean's bright eyes were dimming. He seemed to feel the life in the dean's body rapidly dispersing.

"Stupid child, don't think too much. I was already a dead man, and if the last bits of my life can save someone who still has a future, I can die happy. You have to remember that, when you go back, the New World and Earth's benefits are one and the same. The enemies we have to face are the same, which is why I've always tried to resolve the hate between the two parties. It's unfortunate that I couldn't do enough. I'll have to leave it to the future generation now. There are still those with the same ideals in Dawn Academy. Go look for them, then go look for what Ivan left behind. Find the very fabric of this world, and when the time comes, all your questions will be answered, not only in the New World, but even on Earth..."

The dean's words were speeding up, and in the end, they suddenly stopped. He still had a lot to say, but he did not have enough time. His life was just like a candle that was on its last legs. He finally reached the end, and he took a deep breath, summoning his long staff and waving it at Xiao Lin. A ray of light shot out from the three gems on the staff and enveloped Xiao Lin within.

...

At the same time, Gu Xiaoyue was at the end of breaking the code. Even though the Reverse God Sealing Array was complicated, she still managed to forcibly unlock the formation's core through coding.

Boom!

Outside, a suddenly shocking sound caused Chen Dao and Cheng Ming to jump with shock. When they looked up, in the sky, a gigantic formation slowly formed. The center of the formation was a golden passage.

"Gu Xiaoyue, you succeeded! The Reverse God Sealing Array is activated again!"

"Even the wormhole was activated!"

As the two of them cheered, Gu Xiaoyue was at a loss. She climbed out of the dark room, and when she looked at the lights in the sky, her expression was confused. She might have reactivated the Reverse God Sealing Array, but she could do nothing about the wormhole. Even just now, she felt that someone had helped her even with the Reverse God Sealing Array, or it would not have been so smooth.

However, no matter what the reason was, they succeeded.

"Will Xiao Lin come out?" Cheng Ming asked.

Gu Xiaoyue shook her head. It was already outside her scope of understanding.

"Look!" Chen Dao suddenly cried out, his eyes fixed on the sky.

In the middle of the formation in the sky, in the wormhole, a black figure suddenly shot out. It was very fast and very vague, but it had still caught Chen Dao's attention.

However, the figure did not drop nearby. Like a meteor, it rapidly fell somewhere far away instead. It was just a flash, and practically no one noticed it that night.

At seemingly the same time, within Dawn Academy, the news quickly spread. The former dean had passed away that night. Considering the fact that Dawn Academy was in a state of war, the new dean chose to keep the news a secret.

An era had ended just then.

Chapter 703 - Meeting Song Junlang Again

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Unending darkness... An endless slumber.

When Xiao Lin reopened his eyes, the dazzling sunlight forced him to narrow his eyes. He wanted to sit up, but felt a soreness all over his entire body. It was so painful that he did not even dare to move his fingers. He quickly recovered his blurry memories. Asabanor and himself being trapped in the river of time, as well as the strange dream he had when he was on the brink of death. In the end, he met the old dean before appearing where he was.

Thinking about that, Xiao Lin could not help but sigh emotionally. That admission letter had actually been given to him by himself; he just never expected it would be in that method. He did not know what a crossroads in time was, so it could be some power the old dean had. As for that mysterious voice, it could only be himself, his future self. Only, those things would only be known by him in the future.

Xiao Lin looked around. It was currently noon, and he was lying in a sandy alley. It was very windy nearby, but he happened to be in a dense forest. It was Spring in the New World, so there was still quite a lot of greenery.

Xiao Lin felt a bit strange, as he did not have any memory of what happened after he left the river of time. He had thought that he would have dropped back into the cemetery, but he ended up in a completely foreign place instead. He did not know what had happened to Gu Xiaoyue and the others. Just as he was filled with confusion, a blurred figure appeared in the sandstorm, walking toward himself and causing him to get nervous.

“Oh, you’re awake? That was quick, the potion was more effective than I thought!” Before the person could be seen, his lazy voice could already be heard.

Xiao Lin finally relaxed himself. If he met an opponent at that moment, he would have been easily exterminated by them. Thankfully, it was someone familiar, so he struggled to sit up, but he gave up in the end and sighed. “Department Head Song, why are you here?”

The person was Dawn Academy’s Logistics Department Head, Song Junlang. He had simple, casual attire on, a linen shirt with long pants. He had a straw hat on his head, and looked like a local

native farmer. After looking at Xiao Lin, whom he had not seen in a long time, Song Junlang was not that enthusiastic. He shrugged and lamented, “Why am I here? That’s a long story, and I don’t think it’s the time to talk about that. You should hurry up and drink this. This road is used by quite a few people, so if you’re found by the dean’s people, it’ll be a lot of trouble.”

Xiao Lin was immediately on alert, and finally noticed the flask in Song Junlang’s hand. Inside was a reddish-green liquid, and when he saw that Department Head Song was planning on forcing him to swallow it, remembering all the past experiences he had, he hurriedly shouted, “Hey hey hey! What do you mean by hurry up and drink that?! You need to tell me what that is first; I won’t drink it if you won’t!”

“That’s not something you can decide. Do you really think the river of time is a place you can come and go to as you please?” Song Junlang’s lazy look suddenly became very stern, and his voice lowered. “Entering it with a normal person’s flesh body will result in many side effects. You won’t understand if I explain it, but it’s like being exposed to radiation. If you don’t treat it in time, it will cause irreparable damage to your body, and it might even cause your whole body to be paralyzed, so don’t regret it when that happens!”

“Ah!” Xiao Lin was dumbfounded. Fine, he was clueless when it came to space and time, so Song Junlang’s terrifying words caused him to be rendered speechless.

Song Junlang nodded with satisfaction, and took advantage of Xiao Lin’s distracted state to walk over and force Xiao Lin’s mouth open. He then poured the potion inside.

Xiao Lin almost gagged, but he still forced himself to swallow it. After smacking his lips, he realized that the potion tasted better than he thought. It even had a faint sweetness to it, and the effect was very fast. The soreness around his body quickly diminished and he could at least move his body a little after that. He managed to force himself to sit up.

“Oh, the potion is really effective. I thought that you would take at least half a day before you could stand up. Could it be because your body has been directly exposed to the power of law?” Song Junlang mumbled to himself, looking like Xiao Lin as if he was looking at a lab rat.

Xiao Lin got goosebumps when he saw that. He felt like a lab rat that could do nothing about his situation, so he quickly shifted the topic, curiously asking, “You said that I absorbed the power of law. Did you know what happened that night? Who told you?”

Song Junlang looked at him like he was an idiot. “I didn’t hear anyone say anything about it. I saw it for myself, so I naturally know what happened!”

“What?” Xiao Lin was shocked, and wanted to lunge forward, but his body was still sore, so he widened his eyes as he asked, “Do you mean you were present then? Why didn’t you do anything?!”

Song Junlang raised his hands innocently, asking, “Do you think I’d have been able to help in that situation? Furthermore, even though I was around, I was quite far from you. That was a Reverse God Sealing Array! Do you think I’d have been able to even get close with my current power levels?”

Xiao Lin fell silent, he knew that Song Junlang was right. Song Junlang might have been very strong in the past, but he would not have been able to do anything with his current level. Xiao Lin asked, “What about Gu Xiaoyue and the others?”

“Don’t worry; they were quickly saved by the academy’s people.”

Xiao Lin nodded. He did trust Song Junlang a lot when it came to that. Thinking about it, he said, “I saw the old dean in the river of time. He...”

His words stopped there, and Song Junlang helped him finish with a calm tone. “The old dean has passed.”

Xiao Lin had a long moment of silence after that.

“It’s not because of you. He did not have much longer anyway. Saving you here was just something he did on the way. Furthermore, I think that saving you allowed him to depart happily.” Song Junlang somberly consoled him.

“I’m not that important.” Xiao Lin smiled bitterly.

“Who isn’t? The wheels of fate had slowly begun to turn again, and all of us are a cog in that wheel. We can’t miss out on anyone!”

“Then what should I do?” Xiao Lin remembered the old dean’s words about wanting him to look for what Ivan left behind, but he did not know what it was, or where.

“You should just recover for now. I wasn’t scaring you earlier. This is a road that heads to the Weier Union, so the dean’s people might walk past. Oh, I forgot to tell you, we’re currently in a state of war with the Weier Union.” Song Junlang explained the overall situation.

Xiao Lin was stunned. Having learned the history of the New World, he naturally knew that the Americans and the British were the ones behind the Weier Union!

Chapter 704 - Heading For Weier Union

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“Has the dean gone mad? Does he not know that the ones behind the Weier Union are the Americans and the British?!” Xiao Lin shouted in disbelief

“Of course he knows.” Song Junlang had an emotionless expression as he continued, “Do you really think he’s declaring war on the Weier Union?”

Xiao Lin understood. “He’s targeting Judge Academy and the Royal British Academy?” He remembered the earlier rumors he had heard. Unlike the old dean, the current dean seemed to be more interested in fighting over the territories with the other colonists. However, it was

reasonable if one thought about it further. In the current era of colonization, the resources of the New World were no longer enough to be divided. If they wanted to continue expanding their profits, they would have to look after themselves.

Only, due to the alliance regulations, no one dared to make any public moves. Of course, there was no shortage of conflicts in the dark. That was not limited to Dawn Academy. For instance, Xiao Lin was almost killed when he went to Judge Academy, but public confrontations like that had never been seen before.

It was no longer just a conflict. It was a declaration of war.

The new dean wanted to start an internal war!

“What were the reactions from the Americans and the British?” Xiao Lin hurriedly asked. He thought of Lilith, that woman who was called the Demon Queen, and also the only person other than him who was an SS-rank talent holder, and her skills far exceeded his. If their academies declared war, then he would be enemies with Lilith.

“The higher-ups are still deliberating it and the British’s foreign affairs department is talking up a storm, but there are still no concrete movements. However, they do not have any other choice. This time, the British really encountered a string of rotten luck. Not only did their rookies with potential all disappear, their main officials seemed to have been on Earth recently, and ended up being cut off by the closure of the wormholes. Now, their internal departments are in disarray, so they don’t really have the ability to bother about us.” Song Junlang seemed a bit thankful at their misfortune.

Xiao Lin was stunned again. He did not know about the closure of the wormholes, but he was more concerned about the Americans. Sure enough, Song Junlang quickly sighed. “Judge Academy is a bigger problem. I’ve heard from some information networks that there are many cries for battle internally. Even though they haven’t declared war, they’ve already started to mobilize their forces, including Lilith.”

Xiao Lin’s mood was a bit complicated. Even though he had not interacted that long with Lilith, the two of them had still gone through the Final Lands together. Furthermore, that woman was incredibly straightforward, so they had some sort of friendship with one another, and because of that he found it hard to imagine what he would do if they became enemies.

“Don’t worry. That won’t happen.” Song Junlang cleverly saw through Xiao Lin’s doubts. “We might be going to the Weier Union, but I won’t make you participate in the war. With your current state, there’s nothing much you can do anyway, and we have other matters to attend to.”

Even though Song Junlang did not explain any further, Xiao Lin trusted him quite a lot. Not having to face Lilith caused him to breathe a sigh of relief. Of course, Song Junlang was right. With how he was at that moment, he would just be dominated by Lilith if he faced her.

After resting for a moment, Song Junlang’s potion was incredibly effective, and Xiao Lin started to regain his ability to walk. Even though he was still not that fast, under Song Junlang’s insistence, the two of them departed.

Song Junlang found Xiao Lin the night before, and the two of them were already there the whole morning. After Dawn Academy's declaration of war, that road would definitely see people moving past it very soon, so it was dangerous to stay there.

Song Junlang also gave a description of the situation at the academy. After the incident the night before, Gu Xiaoyue and the others were quickly saved. In Song Junlang's words, the speed that the rescue team showed up was amazing. Xiao Lin could understand the hidden meaning behind those words. It meant that the dean had already placed his men there. What happened the night before, including to Xiao Lin, was definitely the result of the dean and Asabanor's deal, even if even Song Junlang knew nothing of the contents of the deal.

Yet, they did not find Xiao Lin, and did not cause Gu Xiaoyue and the others that much trouble. The dean sent out an internal order, ordering for a search for Xiao Lin in Dawn Academy and the colonist territories nearby. It was under the guise of rescuing Xiao Lin, but Xiao Lin could tell that it was not that simple.

He already knew of the dean and Asabanor's secret deal, so the dean would naturally not allow himself to run amok outside. Even if he had an SS-rank talent, the best result Xiao Lin could hope for was probably eternal imprisonment, only being used when needed.

So Xiao Lin could definitely no longer return to the academy. Thankfully, even though the old dean was dead, the new dean still did not have complete control of the academy. Even though he had done some cleaning up before, Song Junlang had said before that the academy still had many people who carried the old dean's will, so they would not truly obey the dean's orders, and would at least merely go through the motions.

Comparatively, Xiao Lin was more worried about another problem, which was the shutting down of the wormholes. It was something that he heard from Song Junlang, and no matter if it was from the New World or the academies, all the wormholes heading to Earth had been sealed off. The connection between the academies and the New World was still fine, and no one knew the reason for the closures.

Xiao Lin had nothing to hide from Song Junlang, so he gave an overview of what had happened in the river of time. Song Junlang fell silent for a long time after that, and he finally shook his head and said, "I can't tell right now if you have anything to do with the closure of the wormhole, but I suspect it's some arrangement by Asabanor. Of course, that would definitely have something to do with our new dean, but that's no longer something we're worried about right now."

Xiao Lin nodded. Song Junlang had been bringing that up from the start, so everything else, even the dean's passing, was treated with indifference, so Xiao Lin could not help but be curious.

"The Shards of Creation... How many do you have right now?" Song Junlang asked calmly.

"What?" Xiao Lin was taken aback. He had never told anyone about that before, but since it was Song Junlang, he was too lazy to ask how that guy knew. He thought about it and said, "Not many. I've never gone looking for them. However, I managed to get quite a few from Asabanor in the river of time."

"Are you saying that what Ivan left behind that the old dean mentioned are the Shards of Creation?"

“Yes, and no.”

Xiao Lin was confused, and asked in exasperation, “We’re already at this stage. Can you stop playing around?”

Song Junlang was helpless. “That’s because I don’t know either. The shards aren’t important. What’s important is what will happen after you finish collecting them. That’s not something that I know.. Yes, once we find a safe place, let me check out how many shards you have already.”

Chapter 705 - Aftereffects Of Myth

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Xiao Lin and Song Junlang followed the path to a nearby forest. As it approached the evening, there started to be more and more people on the path. All of them were fully armored, and the ones heading to Weier Union all obviously looked like people from Earth. They were all Dawn Academy’s troops, and the ones heading out were all Weier natives.

Song Junlang told Xiao Lin that, because the Royal British Academy and Judge Academy did not react immediately, everyone in Weier Union was very pessimistic about the war, so a large number of commoners were escaping, and even the merchants wanted to run. However, even with the wealth they had, Dawn Academy quickly sealed off the borders, and strictly prohibited merchants from escaping.

“The dean’s intentions are obvious. This war had two goals. First, they want to drag the British and the Americans down, and if they fail to do that, then they intend to take over the businesses within the Weier Union in order to bolster the finances of our academy.”

“With a better economic state, it will be easier for us to prepare for war.” Xiao Lin sighed. After Song Junlang’s explanations, it was easy to see that, no matter if it was the New World or Earth, war was fought with the might and money of a country. War meant using various equipment and large amounts of magical tools. They all used up large amounts of money.

Dawn Academy’s financial power was considered average among the academies. Back then, the war against the orcs had consumed too much of Dawn Academy’s resources, and allowed a lot of other academies to catch up to them. After Dawn Academy managed to recover, the territories that they should have gone after had already been snatched away by others.

Song Junlang nodded helplessly. “So, the British and the Americans are quite passive now, not knowing whether to fight or not. I can’t help but admit that, even though our new dean is quite heavy-handed, he’s quite an effective leader. If it was the early stages of colonization, having a dean like that might not have been a bad thing for Dawn Academy.”

Xiao Lin looked at Song Junlang with some suspicion. Was that guy not part of the old dean’s inner circle?

Song Junlang shrugged. “I’m not defending him. I’ve never participated in the academy’s politics. I’m only telling the truth. It’s a pity that the new dean is in the wrong era. If he continues doing what he’s doing, it will cause the New World and the academies to weaken, and when that time comes...”

Song Junlang suddenly stopped speaking, causing Xiao Lin to clench his teeth. He could not help but say, “What would happen then?”

Song Junlang no longer wanted to continue, shaking his head as he said, “I don’t know; it’s all just the old dean’s speculation. Now that the old dean is gone, there’s probably no one left who knows the whole truth, and we’ll only be able to know more after gathering all the Shards of Creation.”

The two of them moved toward the Weier Union, and their journey was quite smooth. Xiao Lin changed into the native clothes that Song Junlang had brought along. The Weier Union’s attire was not that much different from Earth’s, so no one noticed anything odd during their journey.

Xiao Lin’s body recovered very quickly, causing Song Junlang to be very intrigued. With how the guy’s eyes sparkled, Xiao Lin was worried that he would be experimented on while he was asleep.

However, Xiao Lin quickly suffered a new blow. His power seemed to be completely gone! In truth, he had felt it when he woke up, but he had just left the river of time, and was still incredibly weak after his brush with death, so he did not dwell on the matter too much, thinking that he would quickly recover. However, with his body slowly recovering, that weakening feeling became more and more pronounced. He finally understood that that was how it felt to lose his power.

“Is it a side effect of your potion?” Xiao Lin stared at Song Junlang.

“Powerless people will never feel this sense of weakness, but if someone powerful loses their original power, they will feel that they’re weaker than a normal person,” Song Junlang said with a sense of self-mocking.

Xiao Lin paused for a moment, remembering that Song Junlang was once a Gold-ranked warrior or maybe even higher. His fall to his current situation was also a result of him losing his power.

Song Junlang did not look back as he continued with a calm tone, “Didn’t I already explain the reason to you very clearly? Such an immense power like your Myth ability means sacrifice. I warned you before, but you still ended up using it.”

Xiao Lin was stunned again. Of course he remembered Song Junlang’s warning. After the first time he used Myth, even though he managed to gain back the lifespan that he lost with Song Junlang’s mystical potion, the guy had sternly warned him that using Myth again would lead to irreparable consequences.

“You’re actually quite lucky. Based on my speculations, if you used Myth, your best results would still have been complete death. Remember, it’s complete death; not even your soul would remain. However, you actually managed to live. God knows why, but losing your power is already the best result you can get.”

“Are they lost forever?”

“I don’t know.”

“Is there a way for me to start over?”

“I don’t know.”

“Is there really no way this time? I don’t mind regardless of how disgusting or how bad the side effects of the potion are!”

“I don’t know.”

This time, Song Junlang could no longer give a clear answer. It had exceeded the scope of his research, and Xiao Lin naturally understood that. In truth, he had not planned on surviving after using Myth, so being alive was already incredibly fortunate to him. However, without his strength, even if he really returned, he was no different from a cripple.

“I’ve already looked into it while you were unconscious. You should be around Black-Iron rank in strength right now, but all the powers you had have probably all disappeared. As for your talent, I’m not sure about that,” Song Junlang continued.

Xiao Lin asked, “Didn’t you say I lost all my powers? How did I manage to stay at Black Iron rank? Surely that’s not what a regular person from Earth should have.” As for his talent, he had no way of checking at that moment.

Song Junlang raised his hands up and said, “That’s hard to explain, but I’m guessing that it has something to do with the power of law. Black Iron-rank is the barest minimum in this world, and you absorbed a portion of the law back then, so it might have caused you to seep into this world’s laws, allowing you to maintain the lowest level of power allowed in this world.

“Basically, nothing is certain, because there are absolutely no prior examples to refer to. You might be able to rely on the power of law, including the Shards of Creation, but don’t hold out too much hope. After all, the more hope you have, the greater the disappointment.”

Xiao Lin’s head swam as he listened, but no matter what, it was better than having no hope at all.. As for the Shards of Creation that he did not care much about before, he finally started to place a lot of importance on them.

Chapter 706 - Frontier Town

Chapter 706: Frontier Town

The Weier Kingdom was a kingdom that was rich with history in the New World. Thousands of years ago, that kingdom had been constantly expanding, taking up an immense amount of territory. Only, later on, there were various internal problems, causing their majestic country to not even manage to hold on for a century before they were overturned by a military coup.

However, the Weier Kingdom had been quite fortunate. During the rebellion, one of the members of their royalty managed to escape. After a few twists and turns, they managed to establish a new country. Even though it was not as strong as it used to be, it was still an impressive story, and it formed the current Weier Union. After that, they constantly met a lot of tribulations, and the country had been on the brink of annihilation countless times, but that weak country mysteriously managed to survive.

And then, the colonists from Earth appeared, exhibiting extraordinary combat skills, complete with mystical technology, finally giving the Weier Union's royalty a chance.

It could not help but be said that the country's people were all very astute. They knew how to survive in the cracks that the strong left behind, and protect themselves in the biggest way possible. That was the main reason they managed to survive destruction.

The Weier royalty had thought that they made an intelligent choice. In the recent years, they had also been researching the colonists from Earth, and they knew very well that the British and American academies did not have much of a relationship with Dawn Academy, and determined that Dawn academy would not dare to offend them easily. However, they were wrong this time, and incredibly so. Dawn Academy did not mobilize easily, and when it did, it shocked everyone.

Even though it was only the second day after the declaration of war, the Weier capital had already been surrounded. Dawn Academy had made a lot of preparations, and had established various magical posts around the city, never allowing anyone out of the royal capital. Anyone who dared to venture outside would be immediately dealt with, but the academy did not rush to attack the city. Even though the two sides had a very unique difference in ability, and they would be able to conquer the city in two days at most, or even induce a surrender earlier than that, Dawn Academy's goal was obviously not that simple, so they never attacked.

Song Junlang and Xiao Lin's target was not the royal capital, as they were not dumb enough to head into a web that would capture them immediately. Their final goal was a little town that was all the way at the border that was called Frontier Town.

Frontier Town was not big, and was only the size of a low-tier country back at Dawn Academy. The population was not that large either, and the little town was considered a meaningless existence in Weier decades ago. It was distant and devoid of any valuable resources, nor did it have any special products.

However, after the power of the colonists stabilized, the town slowly gained the attention of the colonists. There was not much of a reason other than the fact that Frontier Town was an ancient town, and the town had thousands of years of history. It was the only town in Weier Union that still preserved the remnants of the kings back in the past.

Of course, that did nothing to change the old and desolate state of the town, and the local natives did not really have much respect for cultural objects. In their eyes, broken down things should be replaced with the new. The fact that Frontier Town could be preserved for so long was just because many of the ancient buildings had deep foundations, meaning getting rid of them needed large amounts of money and manpower, something that the poor town could not afford. So, it was slowly preserved.

To the colonists who were fascinated with history and culture, Frontier Town was a very valuable place to explore. Not only that, but those scholars who wanted to research the history of the New World placed a lot of importance on Frontier Town.

The Weier Union's royalty that was slowly becoming accustomed to the way of life of Earth had a stroke of genius, and decided to spend some money in converting the place into a tourist destination. In recent years, they had managed to make quite a lot of money from the colonists from the small town.

During the journey, Xiao Lin quietly listened to Song Junlang talk about the town, and could not help but remark that this kingdom was filled with talented merchants. He also slowly guessed why Song Junlang was bringing him to that town.

"Does Frontier Town have a Shard of Creation?"

"It's very strange, though. Even though I haven't found out how to determine the location of Shards of Creation, how did you find out?"

"Did the old dean determine the locations beforehand and tell you?"

Xiao Lin asked a few questions, as if he had turned into a curious baby who had just entered the academy. Song Junlang was a little exasperated, but he did not complain. Even though Xiao Lin did not say it, Song Junlang could acutely feel Xiao Lin's disappointment.

It was the disappointment of losing his power. It was something only people who had experienced power knew about, especially those who were incredibly strong; it dealt a far greater blow to them.

Xiao Lin was trying to shift his attention to something else, not wanting his disappointment to affect their travels. So, he tried to understand as much as possible, trying to see where he could help.

"Not shards, just a vessel," Song Junlang answered after thinking about it.

"The shards require a carrier, and that would also let me know how many of the shards you've collected. This was actually something that the old dean had gotten some historians to look into quietly years ago. They practically looked into all of the New World's history before finally locking into the Weier Kingdom thousands of years ago. It's a pity that the only place that really held onto their history in the country is Frontier Town. So, hopefully we'll be able to find what we want there, or the research from all those years would have been wasted."

"I thought I was the vessel?" Xiao Lin somewhat jokingly said.

"That's right, and wrong as well. More precisely, after thoroughly grasping the power of law, you can actually turn into the vessel, but you're not currently one. Even the state you were in when you activated Myth and absorbed the power of law was not it either."

Song Junlang fell silent for a moment before continuing, "I don't really know much of the general information. There are many things the vessels are called, but since we're in the Weier Union, we

should just use their term. A few thousand years ago, it was called the Holy Grail; that was the phrase we found the most of in their history books.”

“That’s our target for this journey. If something like that exists in Frontier Town, then we must find it! If it doesn’t, then we will look into other ancient sites until we find it!”

Chapter 707 - Museum

Chapter 707: Museum

Xiao Lin and Song Junlang arrived at Frontier Town in the evening. The little town was quite a remote place in the Weier Union, but thanks to the development of their tourism in recent years, the place had all the facilities needed. New hotels, clean streets, various shops, and even eye-catching merchandise.

Only, due to the declaration of war by Dawn Academy, the shops around had all chosen to close up. In truth, over half of the people around Frontier Town were those from various Earth academies, but Dawn Academy’s motives for the war this time were vague, and could be targeting the other academies as well, so the people there could not help but be wary.

As was the case for most territories under the colonizers, the Weier Union was completely covered with resurrection towers, so no one was particularly worried about dying, but it was not impossible that they would be restricted in some other way. Furthermore, it was entirely possible for Dawn Academy to be even more ruthless, sending their troops to guard the resurrection towers and killing everyone after they resurrected until they ran out of lifespan, essentially spawn-camping them.

Under such a horrifying atmosphere, Frontier Town was quite a depressing place, as if night was about to fall. Of course, Dawn Academy’s own scholars looked much more at ease, eating and drinking away like nothing was happening.

Xiao Lin had thought that they would be staying in a hotel, but Song Junlang had other arrangements. They were not in much of a mood to admire any tourist attractions. So, when it got a little later, at the southeastern part of the town, they entered a museum that looked very aged.

The museum was in a state of closure, and Song Junlang had brought Xiao Lin the long way around before entering through a small door on the side, and they walked through the place in a familiar manner.

Even though it was during the night, the lights in the museum were all on. They were all high-level magical lamps. When Xiao Lin hastily walked past, he glanced at a few of the objects on exhibit. They were mostly objects from thousands of years ago in the New World. The museum’s target audience was naturally the people from Earth since the locals did not seem to be interested in things like that.

Xiao Lin had once heard in a lecture before that the natives of the New World kept track of history as well, but due to the large amount of races and countries, as well as various forms of information being missing, their true history had actually been compiled by the colonizers from Earth, and the various museums were the proof of that research.

“Later, you’ll meet someone. It’s the curator of this museum. Be mentally prepared. You’ll probably need to spend some money.” Under the magical light, Song Junlang said coldly.

“What?” Xiao Lin’s head was full of sweat.

Before he could ask anything else, Xiao Lin met the curator. They were completely different from the image of museum curators in his mind. He was not some well-mannered historian, nor was he some archeologist that had various equipment to look at antiques on his body.

He was an incredibly well-built, and bald Russian man. It was still early in spring, so the New World’s temperature was quite low, but the man’s upper body was bare as he held a bottle of unknown liquor. Xiao Lin could smell the thick smell of alcohol from far away, and possibly, because the Russian man had drank too much, his entire body emitted hot air.

“Oh? Song Junlang! You little brat, how dare you come here! You haven’t paid your tab from last time! How dare you come here?!” The Russian man immediately widened his eyes when he saw Song Junlang. His pronunciation was very good, and even had a bit of a northern accent, but the heat around his body started to redden like flames. It was the sign of a flame battle aura.

Xiao Lin immediately jumped in fright, as he had thought that the curator was Song Junlang’s friend, but the curator seemed prepared to fight the moment he saw Song Junlang. Xiao Lin got ready to defend himself, but he could only smile wryly when he felt nothing. He was a powerless person.

Song Junlang did not look scared at all, and did not make a move to avoid anything as he opened his hands up and smiled. “My old friend, you won’t be able to get any money if you kill me. Aren’t I here to return the money?”

“Oh? Return the money? You came here to pay me back? Let me tell you, the interest rate is very high!” The bald man laughed coldly, but the fire around him dimmed a little.

“Don’t worry! I’ll make sure I return all of your money. Not only that, I even found you a new business – something that will make you earn a lot of money!” Song Junlang winked before moving aside, pushing Xiao Lin forward.

The bald man narrowed his eyes and measured Xiao Lin. The flames around his body completely dispersed. He looked up curiously, nodding, “Your academy’s intelligence department has reached out to me, and I’ll get quite a sum if I capture this guy. Even though it’s not a lot for me, it’s still better than nothing!” Saying that, he motioned to capture Xiao Lin.

Xiao Lin widened his eyes. Why did he feel like he had been sold out to make up for a debt?

Song Junlang hurriedly stood between the two of them awkwardly, pulling away the man’s hands before lowering his voice in a stern expression, “Alexei, stop playing the fool. You know why I brought him here. Just tell us now. We need the Holy Grail.”

The bald man, Alexei, had a look of surprise when he heard the words ‘Holy Grail’. He seemed to sober up quite a bit as he swept his gaze over Song Junlang and Xiao Lin again. He said with some exasperation, “Song Junlang, you really are a rat. Only a handful of people know about that. Whatever, come in and we’ll talk.”

Alexei’s office was very small and messy. The air was filled with the stench of alcohol, and the empty bottles on the floor were evidence of how much of an alcoholic that man was.

Xiao Lin remained on alert as he was observing Alexei. Logically speaking, Weier was at the border of Dawn Academy, and had the Royal British Academy and Judge Academy as backers, so it was very strange for a Russian man to have a museum there. The Russian Voyna Akademiyaya was very, very far away from the Weier Union. However, it looked like that guy had adapted himself quite well, and from his fluent Mandarin, it was obvious that the man had been there for a long time.

“Give me back the money from last time first, then we can talk business. Forget it otherwise!” Alexei gulped down more alcohol as he shouted loudly.

Song Junlang took out a card and threw it on the table as he said, “Swipe it yourself. The extra money will count toward the rewards of this job.”

Song Junlang looked like it was nothing, but Xiao Lin widened his eyes. However he looked at it, that card was his own; he had left it at the academy before going for the tournament!

Chapter 708 - Alexei

Chapter 708: Alexei

“Yes, you’re not mistaken, that’s your card.” Song Junlang was honest about it. Seeing Xiao Lin’s anger in his eyes, Song Junlang did not hesitate to admit it.

Xiao Lin was actually quite rich; he had a few hundred thousand New Dollars in his card. As the sole form of currency of the colonists, New Dollars were very valuable. His few hundred thousand was already equal to a few million back on Earth. Even the local natives were perfectly willing to use New Dollars as a currency.

However, Xiao Lin’s anger quickly disappeared. That money was just a number to him. He knew that he would definitely be noticed by the new dean if he went back to use it, and he would end up getting tracked down. In this world, unlike on Earth, there were many things more valuable than money, and anything that could be solved with money was not a big issue at all.

Additionally, it was obvious that Alexei was someone that could be solved with money. He picked up the card Song Junlang handed over and put it into his computer. After some motions, his eyes lit up, and a vibrant smile appeared on his face.

After looking up again, Alexei took out two tall glasses from his cabinet, and with his bottle that he had never let go of, he filled up the glasses before filling up his own empty one. After that, he pushed it over, smiling as he said, “Friends! Let’s drink first!”

Xiao Lin was surprised. That man had just been glaring daggers at them, and in a few minutes, he was enthusiastically calling them friends. He really was a man who loved his money. However, Xiao Lin was not a good drinker, and that full glass of liquor made him tipsy just looking at it. As he hesitated and prepared to reject it, he suddenly saw a glance from Song Junlang, as well as the slight shake of his head.

“The guy makes friends through drinks, so it’s best that you don’t reject it. Drink up!” Song Junlang said in a low and steely voice.

Xiao Lin immediately understood, and under the gazes of the other two, he clenched his teeth and closed his eyes, taking up the glass and finishing it in one go. He gulped it all down into his stomach. He had been prepared to be unused to it and to even start coughing, but he did not seem to feel anything after gulping down the alcohol, not even the reddening of his face.

Could that alcohol be fake?

Was that Russian man drinking fake alcohol? Did they not all love their liquor?

Or did he suddenly become good with alcohol?

Xiao Lin’s mind was filled with confusion, and Song Junlang gulped down the alcohol as well. His face was unphased in just the same way, and he even had a polite smile on his face. Alexei was very surprised, and gave them an impressed thumbs-up gesture, laughing as he said, “The Chinese are really good friends! This feels great!”

After that, Alexei did not hesitate to gulp down his liquor, but unlike Song Junlang and Xiao Lin, he seemed to have some difficulty getting it down, and was much slower. His face reddened as well.

Xiao Lin curiously glanced to the side, and noticed that Song Junlang had taken advantage of Alexei’s drinking to slip a small white pill pack into his pocket before slapping the pocket closed, like nothing had happened.

So there had been some tampering done!

Xiao Lin sighed as he rubbed his temples; it was obvious that he had been able to down that liquor thanks to the medicine. Who knew when that guy had given him the medication.

Alexei finished his drink, not knowing that he had been tricked. However, he was not in as good a state anymore, and started to sway a little. However, his consciousness was still very clear as he happily smiled. “I should properly have a good drink with both of you one day! This isn’t any regular alcohol; it’s a very high concentration liquor that Voyna Akademiya had researched. Song Junlang, you should know well that with the increase in our skills, the regular liquors back on Earth aren’t as effective anymore, so the academy has gotten a few professors to research it.”

Song Junlang smiled and nodded. “That’s right, but the other effect of the liquor is to increase morale, allowing exhausted combatants to be able to fight to their full potential. Of course, this is all thanks to your academy!”

“You guys aren’t bad either! Our academies have always been the staunchest allies!” It was unclear whether or not it was the alcohol talking, but Alexei had a sympathetic tone to his words.

“That’s right. We’re forever friends!” Song Junlang walked up and hugged Alexei, smiling. “Then, old friend, can you tell us about the Holy Grail?”

“No problem! After all, I only chanced upon this information anyway, and I’ve never verified it. There’s no point in me trying to keep it to myself, so I’ll give it to you!” Alexei agreed before opening the back door of his office to retrieve something.

“That’s all?” Xiao Lin was stunned in the office.

“Remember, when it comes to the Russians, there’s nothing money and alcohol can’t solve. If there is, then just add more!” Song Junlang said in an educational matter.

“Was that few hundred thousand used just for the information?” Xiao Lin suddenly felt some regret for his money. He had thought that it would have gotten something more valuable.

“What else? Did you think that you could buy the Holy Grail with just that money? Furthermore, even now, what the thing looks like, whether it’s long or round, is something that no one knows. Information is already the best we can get.” Song Junlang shrugged.

The two of them did not talk for too long before Alexei quickly came out, still swaying and looking like he was about to fall over at any moment. He did not bring out much. Other than the bottle in his right hand, his left hand clutched a transparent glass bead.

The glass bead was very small, about the size of a marble, and it was not completely transparent either. There were traces of wear and tear on the surface, which reflected its age.

What was really surprising was inside the glass bead. In that small space, there was a vibrant and colorful glow to it. The glow came from a physical object. It looked quite sticky, and was a little like mercury. The object’s color constantly changed. When the bead moved, the liquid moved, and the color of the glow would change with it.

“This is it. I found it by coincidence last time. If you really want to know about the Holy Grail, then the information is within, but truthfully, I don’t think you’ll succeed! You’re not the first ones who have wanted to research this, but no one has succeeded before..” Alexei placed the bead on the table, and it was picked up by Song Junlang.

Chapter 709 - Forbidden Objects

Chapter 709: Forbidden Objects

Song Junlang put it in his pocket after a glance since it was not the time to conduct research. After that, he smiled and said, “Old friend, could you let us stay the night? You know as well that our little friend here is being looked for by a lot of people. You’re still from the Russian academy in the end, so they won’t easily search your place.”

“No problem!” Alexei seemed incredibly unrestrained.

“We might need some equipment, so could you help us with that as well?” Song Junlang pressed for more without a shred of embarrassment.

“That’s simple enough!” Alexei seemed to be drunk, and his eyes reddened as he slapped his chest. “You can take whatever you want from here! Friendship is the most important thing to us Russians!”

Song Junlang’s eyes brightened up before he produced a contract. He pushed it over and said, “You really are a true friend! However, even brothers have to be clear with their deals! Come, sign this document. I can’t just not give you any money!”

“You Chinese are so troublesome!” Alexei mumbled. In order to show his trust, he did not look at it in detail, and merely threw a glance over at it. He had a bit of doubt in his eyes, as if he felt something was off, but his drunken mind did not want to bother with it, and he signed his name.

Song Junlang finally left the office with Xiao Lin in satisfaction, leaving Alexei who was snoring loudly.

“I feel like he’ll definitely settle the score with you in the morning!” Xiao Lin finally spoke up, full of worry. That so-called document had been looked at by Xiao Lin.

Song Junlang said it was a deal, but it was more like robbery.

There were various high-level equipment and potions and scrolls, and Song Junlang bought it all for merely ten percent of the price. The prices were as good as robbery. Even though they needed to use all of those things in the end, Xiao Lin still sympathized with that Russian. Trusting Song Junlang too much never ended well.

“It’s not just me; he’ll look for both of us!” Song Junlang corrected Xiao Lin unhappily, clarifying that they were accomplices now.

After a pause, Song Junlang waved the paper in his hand, not hiding his pleased expression as he said, “Furthermore, the contract is clear; he has to complete the deal whether he wants to or not!”

Xiao Lin said, “I don’t think that Russian guy will recognize the deal.”

Song Junlang said, “Don’t worry. He won’t dare to cause a scene. Your current status is equal to a fugitive. He’s harboring a fugitive. If it gets reported, Dawn Academy might not do anything to him, but he’ll never be able to do any business near the academy ever again.”

Xiao Lin’s mouth twitched. “So you were using me as a shield. I feel like I really should distance myself from you.”

Song Junlang laughed out loud, slapping Xiao Lin's shoulder as he stopped smiling. He seriously said, "Alright, I'll quit joking around. Don't worry, Alexei won't be able to wake up for the whole of tomorrow. Do you think the alcohol he's drinking is anything ordinary? That's a super strong alcohol that Voyna Akademiya spent five to six years trying to research, it's extremely expensive. The money he's earned in the last two years has mostly gone into that. By the time he wakes up, we'll already have left this place."

Fine, even though it was not fair to Alexei, Xiao Lin had to admit that it was a good idea.

Alexei might have been a museum curator, but as a black market merchant, he had everything that he needed to have. To Xiao Lin, who had lost his powers, he needed equipment to protect himself. After all, even Song Junlang's sliver of power at that moment was far more than he had.

Song Junlang was quite familiar with the museum, and enthusiastically found a hidden door in a corner of the museum. Even though it was protected by a magical lock, Song Junlang actually knew the password as well. After opening the door, there was a moderately sized room behind it that had various consumable tools inside.

Watching as Song Junlang took out a leather bag meant to store those things, it was obvious that this had been planned for a long time. Xiao Lin was speechless, but he did not interfere too much. Song Junlang definitely knew better than him what potions or scrolls they needed.

In his speechlessness, Xiao Lin looked around the messy room, and he suddenly realized something as he said in shock, "These are all forbidden objects?"

Song Junlang was frantically shoving everything into the bag, and he did not even look up as he said, "Obviously. If this guy was a regular merchant, why would he need a museum as a front? Forbidden objects just means that they're forbidden from being sold publicly. No matter where you go, the black market has never stopped completely."

Just like forbidden spells and skills, forbidden tools were usually agreed on by the various academies. Most of those had higher effectiveness than other objects of the same rank, but they all had corresponding side effects, and some of the side effects were enough to cause death.

Even funnier was that, other than a small amount of them that had existed in the New World before, most of them had been developed by the colonizers through a mix of Earth technology and the New World's magic. During the early days of colonization, those forbidden objects did produce good results, but as the various colonies started to stabilize, and when the colonies moved more for peace, they were quickly restricted by the academies.

"The place we're going to will be dangerous, and I can't predict the level of danger. To you and me right now, we'll need these tools," Song Junlang saw the complicated expression on Xiao Lin's face, and said lightly.

Xiao Lin sighed, saying, "You don't have to console me. I understand. Power means sacrifice. This is all necessary." He felt like he understood those words on a deeper level.

That was right. Song Junlang and himself did not have much in terms of combat ability anymore, so regular potions and scrolls were limited in their use. Only those forbidden objects would be able to

temporarily raise their strength. Of course, those objects were incredibly expensive on the black market, so Song Junlang had probably already planned everything out long ago.

After emptying almost a third of the room away, Song Junlang finally left. As they closed that hidden door, Xiao Lin turned around and looked at the empty room.. He suddenly felt like he should never step into Frontier Town again, or he would really be beaten up by that Russian.

Chapter 710 - The Substance In The Glass Bead

Chapter 710: The Substance In The Glass Bead

Even though Song Junlang assured him again and again the alcohol's quality was assured, and that Alexei absolutely would not wake up until the next night, especially since it was universally known that the Russians were reliable when it came to their alcohol, Xiao Lin was still a little worried, and did not sleep well that whole night.

Thankfully, Song Junlang was not lying this time around. Before dawn, a blurry Xiao Lin was dragged out of bed by Song Junlang. Looking at Xiao Lin's sleepy face, he rolled his eyes, "I told you not to worry. Why didn't you believe me? When have I ever lied to you?"

Xiao Lin mumbled to himself silently as the number was too high to count.

Just as he was thinking about it, Song Junlang produced a potion from somewhere and stuffed it straight into Xiao Lin's mouth. Xiao Lin did not manage to put up a defense in his fuzzy state, and gulped down a few mouthfuls, swallowing most of the potion.

"You! What did you make me drink?!" Xiao Lin exclaimed.

"An awakening potion. It's meant to keep you up. Otherwise, with how you are right now, you'll definitely cause trouble later!" After pausing, Song Junlang added happily, "Don't worry, this potion is like a stimulant back on Earth. It never had many side effects before, and after my modifications, there are practically zero side effects."

It would have been fine if Song Junlang did not say that, but Xiao Lin's expression changed immediately. "What?! You've modified it?!" His sleepiness suddenly disappeared. He did not know if it was because of the effectiveness of the potion or because he had been shocked awake by Song Junlang.

Nevertheless, after ten minutes, the two of them left the museum right before the stroke of dawn after hastily packing up their stuff. They left the museum silently. When they walked past the office, they could still hear Alexei's thunderous snoring. That man was really dead asleep. When he woke up, Xiao Lin and Song Junlang would have long since left Frontier Town.

Frontier Town was the picture of silence before dawn. Even New Washington and Dawn City did not have shops that opened through the night, let alone such a remote city. Even though the Weier Union had invested greatly in that place, resources that consumed things like street lamps were still not widely used. The natives had a sense of fear for the dark.

Walking in the empty streets, Song Junlang said, “We should celebrate that the city still has a lot of people from the other academies. Other than the Americans and the British, there are many others from the Russian academy and so on. Even if our dean wants to start an internal war, he’s not dumb enough to fight all the academies at the same time, so in order to not cause any misunderstandings, not much has been done to Frontier Town.”

That was why they could walk on that road in broad daylight. The other main cities in the Weier Union had all long since been completely sealed off by Dawn Academy. For regular folk, even walking on the streets was being monitored heavily, let alone leaving town.

“What is that glass bead?” Xiao Lin did not care about all of that, and he had been looking at the glass bead the whole way. It was the clue on the Holy Grail that Song Junlang had painstakingly gotten from Alexei.

Of course, Xiao Lin’s power had been completely eradicated after using Myth, including all the skills that he had before. However, he was still at least at Black Iron-rank, and thanks to being at the weakest level of power, he was not worried that he would unleash too much energy and damage the glass orb.

Song Junlang understood what Xiao Lin was doing, and he curiously asked, “How is it? Are there any results?”

Xiao Lin shook his head.

Song Junlang paused for a moment. “Is there no reaction at all? Surely not. How many types of energy have you tried?”

Xiao Lin shrugged helplessly. “Even though I’ve lost all of my powers from before, I still have control of the three basic energies at Black Iron-rank. It’s a pity; all three energies did not cause any reaction with the substance. Of course, maybe it’s because my current level is too low, and the energy within the substance is too high for me to affect.”

There were three types of energy in the New World: death energy, life energy, and elemental energy. Xiao Lin had already grasped death energy and elemental energy. Even though his power had weakened, he still maintained a basic control of them. Thanks to absorbing the power of law, he had a connection with life energy as well.

Of course, it was meaningless for Xiao Lin to grasp those energies, because he was only at Black Iron rank. For instance, the life energy he had just grasped was something unique to the elves; it had the power to cure anything, but with Xiao Lin’s current power, he could not even cure an ant.

Song Junlang stopped, and the night sky did nothing to hide his shock. It was something incredibly rare on his face. After stopping for a long time, he said, “Do you know what that means?”

Xiao Lin shook his head. Even though he grasped the three energies, and understood what they meant, which was already rare among people his age, he still did not understand what Song Junlang meant.

“Every energy in the New World adheres to the law of attraction, meaning that two similar energies, unless they had been strengthened by a form of spell casting, in a natural state, those similar forms of energy will absorb each other. It’s a law in this world, like the laws of physics on Earth! Unless a god changed the laws of the world, this will never change!” Song Junlang explained seriously.

Xiao Lin finally understood, and he turned around with a shocked look on his face.

Similar forms of energy absorbed each other only if the energies came from the same source, and in terms of this world’s energies, the sources would definitely be either elemental, death, or life. Yet, since Xiao Lin had tried all three of them, and the glass bead’s mysterious substance did not react, there was only one way to understand it, and it was a fairly shocking explanation.

No matter what was in that glass bead, it was definitely not something born from the laws of this world! And because of that, the substance did not adhere to the law of attraction!

“Thankfully, we managed to obtain this thing first. No matter what academy gets this, it would definitely stir an even greater internal war! The legendary Holy Grail really lives up to its name.. Even I’m beginning to be filled with anticipation.”