

Global CM 131

Chapter 131: High-end Sparkle! (5/5)_1

A crack appeared, and waves of pure and surging Elemental Energy came pouring out.

At the same time, a large group of various colorful Element Sprites also emerged, fluttering their small wings. There were so many of them that from afar, it looked like a shower of colorful powder spilled from a massive crack.

With their arrival, the initially violent Elemental Energy, paradoxically, stabilized due to the influx of this enormous amount of Elemental Energy.

Chen Mo and Yan Yingyue were directly hit by this flood of Elemental Energy, prompting a hint from the Heavenly Dao.

As the Five Major Elemental Sprites previously disclosed, Chen Mo and Yingyue were expected to benefit during the Energy convergence when the channel opened.

After enduring an Energy onslaught, they indeed received a notification.

Both of them immediately opened The Heavenly Path's Hint to view it.

[The Heavenly Path's Hint: You have sustained a massive shock from converging elemental energies. Due to your Elemental Control, you have gained a portion of the power of Elemental Elves, and have mastered a new special skill, "Elf Flicker".]

[Elf Flicker]: You can blink instantly to any location within a range of your "Level*10 meters", ignoring any obstacles. Blink skill Cooldown time is 3 seconds!

Elf Flicker, this is one of the top-tier blink skills! It has advantages such as short Cooldown time, long blink range, and it can ignore any obstacle, Chen Mo thought, incredibly excited after finishing reading the skill description. He had yet another versatile skill for both offense and defense.

"Yingyue, I have acquired a blink skill. Did you receive any rewards?"

"I have acquired a summoning skill. It allows me to summon an Element Sprite for battle, but I don't know how potent it is yet."

"Well, give it a try."

Yan Yingyue nodded, waving her Magic Wand. A little ball of light immediately appeared before her.

When the light dissipated, an Element Sprite with vibrating wings appeared in front of Yan Yingyue.

This little Elf was fiery red, unmistakably a Fire Elemental Elf.

However, it didn't seem to possess much intelligence and merely fluttered up to Yingyue's shoulder and remained there.

Is that it? Yan Yingyue was a bit dumbfounded.

Chen Mo immediately invoked his Pioneer Perception for a check. "This Fire Elemental Elf is quite powerful," he assessed. "It has area damage and pretty good single-target damage. These summoned lower-level Element Sprites probably don't have much intelligence. You will need to direct them."

Yan Yingyue had no experience commanding a unit lacking independent consciousness, but Chen Mo was already an expert at commanding Skeleton Monsters.

With his explanation, Yan Yingyue attempted to direct the Element Sprite.

As expected, the Element Sprite was very obedient, doing whatever it was told.

"Does your skill mention that it only summons the Fire Elemental Elf?"

"No, it doesn't."

"Then try summoning another one."

"Okay, my skill will be off Cooldown soon..."

When the skill was off Cooldown, Yan Yingyue invoked it again.

As she released the skill, the Fire Elemental Elf promptly disappeared. In its stead, a new small light ball appeared in front of Yan Yingyue.

With the dissipation of the light ball, a new Element Sprite that was gray and surrounded by wind rings appeared this time.

Without a doubt, this was a wind-attribute Element Sprite, Chen Mo realized.

"I see. It's random each time," Chen Mo mused. "Although the strength of the Element Sprites summoned by this skill is decent, they can't be summoned at will. That's somewhat of a drawback. Otherwise, its tactical value would be higher."

"Oh well, something is better than nothing," Yan Yingyue said with a smile, not minding it much.

After all, to snag a skill for free is pretty good already, she thought. Opportunities to freeload skills are not always there. After all, most skills have Profession Restrictions. Such skills that disregard Profession Restrictions are rare to come across!

While the two were testing their skills, the gateway to the Elf realm started to close.

And there were already Element Sprites everywhere, bartering and trading.

I wonder what we can buy from the Elves, Chen Mo thought. He immediately sensed around with his Pioneer Perception. If he were to observe with his naked eyes, his eyes would surely be overwhelmed before he could see anything clearly. After all, the sheer number of tiny Element Sprites constantly fluttering their wings made them difficult to look at directly.

After sensing for a while, Chen Mo found that the Element Sprites were all selling items related to elements. Among them, there were even many elemental materials and elemental tools. However, the items were not very practical for him.

Nonetheless, while observing, Chen Mo suddenly thought of a freeloading method. The Elves are utterly defenseless against me now, he considered. I could simply snatch a pile of stuff and then use an Instant Teleportation Talisman to escape. Just, doing so would be somewhat unscrupulous. Moreover, it might leave a lingering problem. It would be one thing if I never interacted with them again. But what if I encounter these Elves again in some dungeon? That would be terribly disastrous. Taking such a risk for trivial benefits isn't worth it.

Looking around, Chen Mo only hoped to find a Five Elements Spirit Orb for sale, which would allow him to freeload a Legendary Level material.

Unfortunately, it was unlikely to freeload Legendary Level quality items, which were already of high quality.

As for Elemental Spirit Orbs, none were sold.

After all, these objects aren't worth much to the Elves themselves. They can conjure one whenever they want. Who would trade such a thing?

After scouring the area, Chen Mo only found a few useful items.

He tried approaching some Element Sprites to enquire about prices.

The prices were outrageously high, which left Chen Mo somewhat speechless.

The ones he liked, he couldn't afford, and the ones he could afford, he didn't like. It was a pointless endeavor.

However, after a thorough investigation, Chen Mo suddenly came across an interesting object.

Purple Gold Secret Key!

In some dungeons, you might encounter locked chests. These chests are protected by special energies and cannot be forced open. Still, if you have a key of the same or a higher tier, you can open the chest and obtain its contents.

This Purple Gold Secret Key could open all chests below a purple gold-grade.

This is a key with extremely high utility, Chen Mo noted.

"Hey, friend, how much is this key?" Chen Mo asked, imitating the tone in which Elves typically spoke.

"I got this decoration by chance; it's quite rare," the Elf said. "I think it'll look beautiful in your home. If you want it, you can give me 1 eternal silver coin."

Decorative item? Chen Mo was stunned momentarily before realizing that the Elf's perspective was based on its worldview. In their eyes, the Purple Gold Secret Key had no practical use; thus, it was merely seen as a gorgeous, shiny, purple-gold colored decorative item. It did not carry the value of a high-grade key.

Seeing this, Chen Mo, who was already short of money, decided to haggle.

The little Elf had never experienced the cunning bargaining tactics of humans and was left astounded.

In the end, after a flurry of haggling from Chen Mo, the baffled little Elf sold the Purple Gold Secret Key, which was worth hundreds of millions outside, for the mere price of fifty eternal copper coins to Chen Mo.

Even after selling it, the Elf felt that it had still profited from the deal. This was indeed absurd!

Chapter 132: Twenty Thousand Days! (1/5)_1

After finishing his business, Chen Mo took a moment to perceive his surroundings. There wasn't much else worth investing in. With the remaining time, he decided to hunt more Special Bosses, hoping to increase the odds of acquiring two SSS-level rewards in the final dungeon calculation. Yan Yingyue didn't have much money to begin with, so she was even less interested in participating in any trade fair. After bidding farewell to the Five Major Elemental Sprites, the two followed the activation points shown on the map to find BOSSes one by one.

Amidst their busy battles, a day passed in the blink of an eye. In that single day, Chen Mo and Yan Yingyue had slaughtered hundreds of Special Bosses. Neither of them had time for hidden missions. After all, only killing Special Bosses would increase their final settlement percentage and maximize their gains.

As the final countdown ended, The Heavenly Path's Hint promptly rang out.

"The Heavenly Path's Hint: Congratulations on surviving until the last moment. Your survival duration rewards will be doubled."

"The Heavenly Path's Hint: Your final survival duration is 2,739 (+690%), a total of 21,638 days!"

"Wow, twenty thousand days!" Chen Mo exclaimed.

"The Heavenly Path's Hint: This survival instance is Level 10. Under the reward rules, you'll receive 10 experience points for each day of survival. Your Level exceeds the instance Level by 1, so your experience gain per day is reduced by 1 point. According to your survival duration, you've ultimately accumulated 194,742 experience points!"

"The Heavenly Path's Hint: Congratulations, your Level has increased! Current Level: 12!"

"The Heavenly Path's Hint: ...Current Level: 13!"

Experience: 24,838/101,500.

Although the experience gain was somewhat reduced due to his higher Level, Chen Mo still received nearly 200,000 experience points at once, enough to raise him two full Levels.

The Heavenly Path's prompts continued...

"The Heavenly Path's Hint: As your survival duration has reached 2,880 days, and you are the professional with the longest survival duration in this instance, you will receive an SSS-level Gift Pack!"

"The Heavenly Path's Hint: Based on your survival duration, you have a 52% chance to receive an additional SSS-level reward. The Lucky Roulette is now starting for you. Please spin it yourself!"

After The Heavenly Path's Hint concluded, a large roulette wheel appeared on a semi-transparent floating window in front of Chen Mo. It indicated that 52% of the wheel was a 'Win' area, and 48% was a 'Lose' area. Basically, it was about fifty-fifty. Chen Mo had assumed the Heavenly Dao would automatically determine the outcome. However, since he had to spin it himself, he couldn't help but feel nervous. His luck now determined whether he would get an entire SSS-level reward. This wasn't a small matter at all!

While Chen Mo was conflicted and tense, Yan Yingyue beside him didn't have such worries. Although she had also survived for more than 2,880 days, her survival duration was unfortunately shorter than Chen Mo's. The SSS-level reward would only be given to the professional with the absolute longest survival duration among those who met the criteria. Yan Yingyue could only receive an SS-level reward. However, she wasn't in a bad position either. After all, for the chance to obtain an additional SS-level reward, every 180 extra days of survival increased the probability by 1%. Her current survival duration was more than enough to guarantee her a 100% chance of receiving an extra SS-level reward.

Chen Mo stared at the roulette wheel before him, took a deep breath, and clicked 'Start'! The pointer accelerated from slow to fast, eventually spinning so rapidly it became a blur to the naked eye. Only then did a 'Stop' button appear at the bottom of the wheel. At this speed, any attempt to cheat was impossible. Chen Mo could only click 'Stop' and leave it to fate.

After he clicked 'Stop,' the pointer spun for many more rotations, its speed gradually decreasing until it slowed to a crawl, looking as if it might stop at any second. Watching the pointer slowly edge its way out of the 52% 'Win' area, Chen Mo's heart leaped into his throat. Seeing the pointer get closer and closer to the boundary of the 52% area, Chen Mo cried out in his mind, Stop already!

Finally, the pointer's momentum waned, and it was barely moving. Yet, it stubbornly kept inching forward. Three seconds later, it finally stopped. However, when he saw where it had stopped, Chen Mo was flustered.

"What the hell! How is this decided?"

The pointer had stopped precisely on the dividing line between the 52% 'Win' area and the 48% 'Lose' area. Even looking closely, it was difficult to tell which side the tip of the pointer favored.

Luckily, The Heavenly Path's Hint promptly rang out.

"The Heavenly Path's Hint: Regrettably, you did not receive an additional SSS-level reward this time. However, you will receive an SS-level Gift Pack as compensation!"

Hearing he hadn't won, Chen Mo initially felt a twinge of regret. But then, to his surprise, there was an SS-level Gift Pack as compensation! This outcome wasn't too bad after all.

"How did it go? Did you get the second SSS-level reward?" Yan Yingyue asked, looking at Chen Mo, whose expression kept shifting between worry and relief, not quite understanding.

Chen Mo chuckled. "No, but I got an SS-level Gift Pack as compensation, which is pretty good."

While they were speaking, the Heavenly Dao's countdown ended! With a flash of light, the two of them were teleported out of the instance!

Outside, the rewards for the two had already been prepared. As soon as they stepped out, they saw several staff members already waiting in the instance hall.

"Congratulations! You've broken the record and set a new one that can never be surpassed!" As they spoke, they placed two flower wreaths around Chen Mo's and Yan Yingyue's necks.

"Please come with us to the hall. We will hold an award ceremony for you."

"Such a grand occasion?" Chen Mo glanced at Yan Yingyue beside him with some surprise.

Yan Yingyue, who had never witnessed such a spectacle, was naturally introverted. She appeared somewhat socially awkward and edged slightly closer to Chen Mo.

The two were then led by the staff to the Academy Alliance Hall. By this time, teachers, parents, and students had already gathered there. All the teachers were smiling at them. The teachers from Seaside Second Middle School, in particular, approached them with joyful expressions.

"You performed exceptionally well this time. After you receive the rewards from the Academy Alliance, our school also has additional rewards prepared for you," Shen Rulong said joyfully, coming over to pat Chen Mo and Yan Yingyue on their shoulders.

In the crowd, Shen Bingbing and Cai Xuqing, also from Seaside Second Middle School, felt a sense of shared honor, even though they hadn't had the chance to participate in the Five Spirits Gathering. However, as Shen Bingbing watched Yan Yingyue standing so close to Chen Mo, a complex emotion flickered in her own eyes. She still remembered that before entering the instance, there was a noticeable social distance between Yan Yingyue and Chen Mo. This 'social distance' refers to how people who aren't particularly close, even when standing together, instinctively maintain a certain gap between them. But now, Yan Yingyue was practically pressed against Chen Mo—a proximity not usually seen between people who weren't intimate.

Yue Yang, the overall coordinator for this Academy Alliance's joint assessment, walked over with a smile and said, "Both of you, please come to the front. For the record you've set, we have additional rewards and certificates to present to you."

Chapter 133: Time Stops! Act! (2/5)_1

Previously, no one was very confident that Chen Mo and Yan Yingyue could persist until the 30th day. However, ever since Chen Mo revealed his explosive monster-grinding speed after the 19th day, more and more people came to believe they could last until the 30th day.

Now, they had indeed done so.

Naturally, everyone expressed their fervent congratulations.

Just as the crowd began to celebrate and Chen Mo and Yan Yingyue were being led toward a high platform in the hall, a person slowly moved to the front row.

Everyone was celebrating, and some people moved forward to get a better look, so nobody noticed this man's unusual behavior.

At this point, Chen Mo and Yan Yingyue had followed Yue Yang onto the awards platform.

Yue Yang grinned and waved to the people nearby, signaling them to bring over the certificates and prize money.

Immediately, two people brought over two red plates. Each red plate held eleven eternal gold coins and two certificates.

As they stepped forward, continuous applause erupted from the crowd, obviously congratulating Chen Mo and Yan Yingyue for making history. Even if they weren't students from their own schools, it signified that China, Earth, and the Solar System had produced at least one more remarkable talent!

Just as everyone was eagerly watching Yue Yang present the awards, suddenly, the cheers, discussions, and all other miscellaneous noises ceased.

Chen Mo was shocked to perceive that, in an instant, everyone had frozen in place.

However, one person, contrary to the others, could still move. He drew a Longsword with incredible, blistering speed and slashed horizontally at Yan Yingyue.

Seeing the sword qi gathering, Chen Mo realized this person intended to kill him along with Yan Yingyue!

What's going on!? Has everyone been time-stopped?

Chen Mo was stunned for a moment but quickly understood.

Time-stop was a rare ability, usually achieved through single-use items, and its duration was typically very short.

Chen Mo possessed the most advanced mythical-grade equipment, and even that could only freeze time for a mere three seconds. Other single-use time-stop items were considered quite good if they could freeze time for one or two seconds.

One or two seconds might seem short, but for a master, it was more than enough time to kill!

From the moment Chen Mo sensed the crowd's stillness through his Precursor sense to the Alien assassin's attack, not even a full second had passed. The sword qi unleashed by the enemy was already grazing Yan Yingyue's face.

Given the Alien's high Level, Yan Yingyue would undoubtedly die if hit!

As for Yan Yingyue's life-saving abilities, Chen Mo suspected they would be useless. Since the attacker had so recklessly launched an assassination attempt within the Academy Alliance Headquarters, he must have considered all of Yan Yingyue's life-preserving methods. He wouldn't allow her to resurrect or mitigate the damage. There had to be some way to bypass them.

Seeing the critical danger, in the instant between his shock and his reaction, Chen Mo activated the Space-Time Pearl!

This time, the assassin was unexpectedly caught in Chen Mo's counter-control.

But even though Chen Mo reacted quickly, the enemy's sword qi was still about to strike Yan Yingyue's neck. It was just a fraction away from hitting, demonstrating the opponent's incredible speed.

Having successfully initiated his own time-stop, Chen Mo chose not to act personally. Instead, he released the time-stop affecting the nearby teachers.

Now, everyone saw the Alien suspended in mid-air, his unleashed sword qi about to strike Yan Yingyue.

Chen Mo didn't release Yan Yingyue from the time-stop, afraid it would scare her.

"Such audacity!" Although they had been plunged into a time-stop just now, the teachers were not entirely ignorant.

The instant they entered the time-stop, The Heavenly Path's Hint would inform them. The moment the time-stop ended, they would understand what they had just experienced.

Now, all the teachers knew, thanks to The Heavenly Path's Hint, that they had just been subjected to a two-second time-stop!

The Alien, meanwhile, had exploited these two seconds of time-stop to launch an attack, a sword qi slash aimed directly at Yan Yingyue's life.

Seeing this, Yue Yang was the first to react. A terrifying Dark Gold Spear, radiating a bloody aura, materialized in his hand and shot out like lightning.

HUM!

With a dull thud that resonated through the air, the sword qi Chen Mo had frozen mid-air was instantly dispelled by a single thrust!

The spear's momentum carried it forward, its fearsome piercing power surging toward the Alien assassin with destructive force!

BOOM!

The spear was so fast it compressed the air, causing a series of dull explosions!

In the next instant, the Alien assassin's head was directly pierced and obliterated by the spear!

Yue Yang was no ordinary individual; he was a fourth-transition powerhouse, significantly stronger than most of the third-transition teachers present.

The Alien who had just attacked was merely third-transition. It was entirely plausible for a third-transition professional to be instantly killed by a fourth-transition powerhouse's full-strength attack aimed at a vital spot, especially without any defensive measures.

Struck directly by the spear containing terrifying Energy, the Alien's body instantly began to disintegrate and explode, starting from his head.

Only a thick, dark reddish-brown pool of blood remained on the ground.

He died without even knowing how it happened!

Only then did Chen Mo release everyone, including Yan Yingyue, from the time-stop.

After a moment of bewilderment, everyone stared in shock at Yue Yang, who held the Dark Gold Spear, his face radiating killing intent.

"What... what just happened?"

"Look at that large pool of blood in front of Yan Yingyue! It looks like an Alien tried to assassinate her!"

"I don't know, but we were definitely caught in a time-stop."

"A time-stop? But isn't there an Anti-Time Stop Formation in the Academy Alliance?"

"Constructing an Anti-Time Stop Formation is very expensive, and the cost increases with its Level. Currently, the ones we can construct can only counter up to S-Level time-stop abilities. If the opponent used an ability beyond S-Level, then it's a different story!"

"HISS! Time-stop abilities beyond S-Level are incredibly rare! Imagine how useful that would be against difficult targets in the Stars Dungeon! This Alien actually wasted it on an assassination here! Five-star professionals emerge every year; can they kill them all? What an utter waste!"

While the crowd chattered, Yan Yingyue stood frozen, her face etched with lingering fear.

The potent smell of blood in front of her and the sight of the large pool of it overwhelmed her with nausea and made her heart pound.

As Chen Mo took her hand, Yan Yingyue unexpectedly felt a sense of security, and her discomfort gradually eased.

Although one assassin had been killed, the enemy had come dangerously close to succeeding. Yue Yang was still seething with fury!

Yue Yang knew Aliens might make a move, so he hadn't let his guard down, even within the Academy Alliance Headquarters.

But he hadn't expected the Aliens to be so utterly reckless!

To use an SS Level or higher time-stop ability for an assassination!

A five-star professional whose true strength isn't even clear yet... so what if she set a new dungeon record? Was it really worth this?

Yue Yang suspected these Aliens had been driven mad by the three consecutive occurrences of the sound of the great path!

However, more than the Aliens, he was now curious why the Alien assassin had been caught in a reverse time-stop, and why he himself had been freed from it.

Chapter 134: Maximum Extra Points! (3/5)_1

Yue Yang glanced at everyone, then said in a resonant voice, "Although I don't know who just dispelled the time-stop, I, Yue, wish to express my gratitude."

Indeed, Yue Yang needed to thank whoever intervened.

Otherwise, he would have lost major face today.

Not just him, but the entire Academy Alliance of Wangchuan City would have been embarrassed.

Having an outstanding student murdered at the Academy Alliance Headquarters—how could they show their faces if word got out!

Whoever was capable of counteracting an SS-level time-stop must possess extraordinary abilities.

Yue Yang had no intention of finding this person.

Otherwise, that individual might attract the Aliens' attention.

Yue Yang casually beckoned and picked up the backpack dropped by the just-killed Alien.

He discovered it contained quite a few good things.

Some of the items he saw made even him gasp.

He was certainly thoroughly prepared. If he had succeeded in killing his target, even if that target had possessed numerous countermeasures, they likely wouldn't have survived!

Yue Yang stowed away the backpack, ordered people to clean up the scene, then began preparing for the award ceremony again.

However, the mood of the crowd had already been ruined by the preceding incident.

Everyone had been jubilant, ready to celebrate Chen Mo and Yan Yingyue breaking the record.

Now, their enthusiasm had waned. After all, what happened earlier was just too dangerous.

What if the Alien had intended to kill everyone present after initiating the time-stop?

Just thinking about it made them shudder.

If they had been the target, they couldn't be sure they would have survived.

The Alien's frenzied assassination attempt caused the award ceremony to be hastily concluded.

Chen Mo wasn't too bothered; getting the reward was all that mattered.

Eleven Gold Coins! That was worth 1.1 billion alliance currency!

It was an enormous sum!

Even houses in the prime district adjacent to the Academy Alliance Headquarters had initially sold for only one billion.

However, prices had risen in recent years, nearly tripling.

After receiving his certificate and prize money, Chen Mo and Yan Yingyue prepared to return to their teacher.

But Yue Yang stopped Yan Yingyue.

"Yan Yingyue, hold on a moment."

After the attempted assassination, Yue Yang didn't dare let Yan Yingyue return to the crowd.

If the assassins were to strike a second time, that would be like sending the lamb straight to the slaughter!

Yue Yang's concern was very justified.

Even the now-slain Alien hadn't known that there was still another Assassin present!

Seeing my fellow Alien get instantly killed, everyone has temporarily relaxed their guard. I'll wait for Yan Yingyue to return to the crowd and then strike at close range to ensure success!

However, Yue Yang was unexpectedly cautious and kept Yan Yingyue on the stage.

Seeing Chen Mo return alone, the second Assassin didn't even spare him a glance.

A mere two-star professional wasn't worthy of the Aliens' attention.

Even if you possessed a set of top-grade equipment!

If this top-grade equipment could display extraordinary effectiveness on you, a Skeleton Mage, it would be just as effective on any other Skeleton Mage.

As mentioned before, even if an assassination succeeded, Aliens found it very difficult to take items dropped by Earth's professionals.

Killing would be pointless.

Why would they incur such great risk and cost to kill him?

Seeing herself stopped, Yan Yingyue couldn't help but worry if Chen Mo would be in danger walking back alone.

She immediately looked at Yue Yang and asked worriedly, "Then, Chen Mo... he?"

"Don't worry. Chen Mo is a two-star professional; he has no assassination value. No one would waste resources trying to assassinate him. The Aliens haven't become so irrational as to lose their minds to that extent."

Although Yue Yang was speaking the truth, Chen Mo felt a bit strange hearing it.

How can this man be so blunt? That's quite hurtful, you know!

Seeing Chen Mo's resentful gaze, Yue Yang grinned, looking like a cheerful older man, and said, "I'm not belittling you, don't misunderstand."

"It would have been better if you hadn't added that last part."

Chen Mo laughed bitterly.

Hearing this, the surrounding people couldn't help but laugh, and the gloomy mood created by the assassin earlier lightened considerably.

"Alright, since everyone has come out, let's announce the final bonus point allocations for this joint examination!"

As the image on the large screen flickered, the bonus scores for all candidates who participated in the joint examination were displayed.

Compared to the initial dense list of five hundred names, the current list was noticeably shorter.

Out of five hundred people, nearly one hundred and fifty had died.

As for how they died, no one knew.

At least, so far, no one had stepped forward to make an accusation.

Everyone looked up at the large screen; Chen Mo's and Yan Yingyue's names were right at the top.

They had both achieved the maximum bonus of 500 points!

Universities are divided into five tiers!

With these 500 bonus points, getting into a third-tier university would be a breeze.

Even a second-tier university was well within reach, requiring just a decent exam performance.

The thresholds were: 500 points for a third-tier university, 1,000 for a second-tier, 1,500 for a first-tier, 2,000 for a key university, and 2,500 for a top-tier university!

Generally, most candidates each year scored between four hundred and nine hundred points.

A small number might reach over one thousand, and those exceeding one thousand five hundred were very rare.

Those who could reach more than two thousand points were few and far between.

These 500 bonus points were effectively like jumping a tier in university admissions.

For example, if you were originally on track for a first-tier university, you could now directly aim for the admission line of a key university.

The gap was immense.

Behind Chen Mo and Yan Yingyue, the next top one hundred individuals also received bonus points, ranging from a high of four hundred to a low of one hundred.

The rest basically didn't get any bonus points.

Chen Mo saw that Shen Bingbing and Cai Xuqing performed well. Shen Bingbing got 200 bonus points, and Cai Xuqing got 100 bonus points.

At least, everyone in his school got bonus points, which was much better than other schools.

From the expressions of Shen Rulong and others, it could be seen that the performance of Seaside Second Middle School this time was outstanding.

The old fellow was grinning from ear to ear.

"That concludes this joint examination. The college entrance exam is in three days. Everyone should prepare diligently. The college entrance exam instance is a Level-balanced instance, similar to this joint

examination's instance, and will suppress attributes to Level 10. Therefore, your current Level is not important. When preparing, everyone should focus on equipment, Skills, and items."

After Yue Yang finished his announcement, the teachers and parents took their students and left.

Yan Yingyue was taken away by Yue Yang. She needed tight protection now.

In fact, the Aliens had already made preparations for a full-scale assassination. However, they wanted to wait a bit longer—for example, until after the college entrance exam. This way, they could more accurately verify if the data weightings they had collected on various four-star and five-star professionals were erroneous.

If the weightings were correct, they would carry out a full-scale assassination based on the current weightings!

Yan Yingyue's early assassination attempt had been independently proposed by the previously killed Alien. His superiors had approved it, giving him a chance to try. They had also additionally activated a sleeper agent embedded within the Academy Alliance as a secondary assassination measure.

However, Yue Yang's forceful protection made it difficult for the second assassination measure to be implemented!

After the second Assassin received confirmation from his superiors to temporarily abandon the strike, he continued to lie low.

Experiencing this assassination attempt reaffirmed Chen Mo's conviction that his initial decision to hide his unique abilities was absolutely correct!

Chapter 135: Void Pearl! (4/5)_1

If he had revealed himself too soon, Chen Mo could imagine it would have been akin to stirring up a hornet's nest. A horde of Assassins would swarm in relentlessly, regardless of the cost! Even with his various means at his disposal now, Chen Mo dared not imagine his survival odds in such a scenario.

As they left the Academy Alliance with their teachers, Shen Rulong turned to Chen Mo and said, "Chen Mo, the rewards haven't been officially given out yet. However, I'm awarding you an extra eternal gold coin in advance so you can prepare additional means before the college entrance examination! You now have a total of 1.2 billion, so make sure to utilize it well!"

Having said that, Shen Rulong gave Chen Mo an eternal gold coin.

"Thank you, Principal." Chen Mo grinned as he received it.

This was truly a windfall. He was naturally happy to receive additional gains that he had not considered before.

"Principal, this sudden gift of a hundred million leaves those of us who were prepared to give a little something in an awkward position, doesn't it?" Su Tianxin looked at the Principal, speechless. She had intended to reward her outstanding student, but now she felt she had nothing suitable to offer.

Chen Mo chuckled and said, "You don't have to, Teacher. Your previous care and guidance are the best rewards."

"Such a smooth-talker, aren't you?" Su Tianxin smiled and pinched Chen Mo's face. "When we get back, I'll treat you three little ones to a feast. Unfortunately, Yingyue is being targeted by Aliens and currently cannot easily go out."

Hearing this, Chen Mo indeed felt a bit guilty. The Aliens had stopped paying attention to him, but they had targeted Yan Yingyue instead. Hadn't he indirectly harmed her in the process?

Chen Mo simply assumed that Yan Yingyue, who had not been originally singled out, was now targeted because of him. Little did he know that the moment he triggered the sound of the great path, all the four-star and five-star professionals who had recently awakened had been added to the assassination list. Even without his and Yan Yingyue's amazing performances this time, she would have been on the must-kill list.

On the contrary, their outstanding performances led someone among the Aliens to propose an early assassination plan. This allowed Yan Yingyue to receive priority protection now. Otherwise, once a full-scale assassination broke out, it was uncertain if she would have survived.

Although global leaders had secretly been arranging contingency plans, as the old saying goes, while you can be a thief for a thousand days, you cannot be on guard against a thief for a thousand days. If the opponent is determined to assassinate, you can never truly guarantee foolproof protection.

The only way was to prevent Aliens from entering Earth. However, given the current situation, this was temporarily unachievable. But the higher-ups were already working on it.

The main issue was that there were too few life-supporting planets in the Solar System, putting it at a natural disadvantage. The Yongming Star System has three life-bearing planets. Even if all the people from Earth moved there, they wouldn't be enough to populate one planet, let alone stir trouble on their three planets. They could keep sending people over to wreak havoc, but Earth could barely manage its own affairs, let alone deploy forces to the Yongming Star System to cause destruction. Such meaningless retaliation would be a waste of time.

At present, the Solar System was utterly helpless, unable to retaliate. However, everyone was trying to expedite plans to prevent the Yongming Star System from invading. Although there wasn't a foolproof plan yet, some measures had taken effect. At the very least, the frequency of invasions from the Yongming Star System had decreased. This made them less arrogant than before. After all, the rate at which inhabitants of the Yongming Star System were being expelled from Earth was now faster than the rate at which they arrived. Naturally, they had to be more careful in their actions.

If not for the eruption of such an astonishing sound of the great path, the Yongming Star System would not have initiated such a desperate plan. A Level 5 professional challenging an SSS-level assessment was a feat the entire Yongming Star System had never witnessed. How could they not be alarmed!? The appearance of the first sound of the great path was enough to drive them to madness, let alone two more instances occurring within a single day.

Even if their frequency of entry had only decreased, or even if they could no longer enter at all, the remaining Aliens would still conduct a full-scale assassination! No matter how low the success rate! Such a boundless threat—how could they let it remain!?

Upon returning to Seaside Town, Su Tianxin immediately invited everyone to the Delicacy Tavern, the best in town, for a meal. The owner of the tavern was an auntie who had awakened as a four-star Chef,

and the food she cooked was by no means inferior to that obtained from food-themed instances. Of course, she was not the only chef in the tavern. Dining prices varied depending on the chefs' levels. If one specifically requested this God Chef auntie to prepare the meal, a table of dishes would likely cost no less than an eternal silver coin. Su Tianxin had indeed incurred a large expense this time.

After enjoying a sumptuous feast, Chen Mo, Shen Bingbing, and the others received further guidance from their teachers. The advice focused mainly on how they should prepare over the next three days. Since it was a level-balanced instance, the levels of professionals entering it would be forcibly balanced to Level 10. All gear and skills above Level 10 would be disabled. Only gear and skills of Level 10 and below, as well as those without level limitations, could be freely used. All of Chen Mo's current means were within the restrictions, so it wouldn't pose much of a problem for him.

After bidding his teachers and classmates farewell, Chen Mo returned home alone. Thirty days had passed in the instance, and ten days had passed in the real world. Returning to his empty home, he noticed dust had settled in many places. Chen Mo spent half a day cleaning up. After taking a bath, he sat on his bed, feeling refreshed, and opened his backpack to take out the two Gift Packs he had obtained from the instance.

Two more Gift Packs. I wonder what good things these will bring me this time.

Having opened Gift Packs before, Chen Mo was quite adept at it now. He directly chose to bind and open them.

[The Heavenly Path's Hint: You have successfully opened the SS-level Gift Pack. Congratulations on obtaining the bound item 'Void Pearl • Legendary'!]

[Void Pearl • Legendary]: Consumes 1 Energy point to activate. Upon activation, you can freely enter and exit the Void Realm. It has 10/10 Energy. Energy recovers at 1 point per hour. (Effect can be activated while in the backpack)

Oh? Isn't this somewhat similar to Jiang Jie's ability? But it seems even more convenient than his skill. As long as it's fully charged, its 10 Energy points allow me to enter and exit the Void Realm 10 times without a Cooldown. That's enough.

Jiang Jie possessed such an ability due to his class Skill, while Chen Mo needed an item to achieve it. This artifact is actually a great item for both offense and defense. You can hide from most attacks that do not affect the Void Realm once you enter it. And against enemies who can't detect the Void Realm, you can even launch a sneak attack from within. It is quite useful.

If this pearl wasn't bound, I'd really like to give it to Sister Yiyi. This artifact doesn't provide me with a significant boost, but if Sister Yiyi has it, she can enter the Void Realm directly when she's in danger, significantly ensuring her own safety.

Chapter 136: Amplification Divine Ring! (5/5)_1

Although Chen Mo currently possessed many survival abilities, having another Void Pearl wouldn't make a significant difference. However, an additional Void Pearl meant he had another option. Otherwise, as when he encountered people like Jiang Jie in the dungeon, once they escaped into the Void Realm, Chen Mo could do nothing even if he could see them. Therefore, something that covered both offense and defense couldn't be measured by its survival value alone.

Putting away the Void Pearl, Chen Mo took out the SSS-level Gift Pack. It was once again an exciting time to unwrap a gift pack.

Give me some offensive abilities; I don't need so many survival-focused ones right now.

Even though one could never have too many survival abilities, Chen Mo currently wanted to balance his capabilities.

[The Heavenly Path's Hint: You have successfully opened the SSS-level Gift Pack. Congratulations on receiving the bound equipment "Amplification Divine Ring · Artifact"!]

[Amplification Divine Ring (Artifact Level)]

[Profession Restriction]: None

[Equipment Requirement]: None

[Equipment Attribute]: Amplify all your basic attribute values by an amount equal to your 'star level * 10%'.

[Equipment Special Effects]: Group Attack Boost, Group Defense Boost

[[Group Attack Boost]] : Enable all friendly units within a radius of 'star level * 10 meters' around you to gain an attack power (including all attack types) boost equivalent to your 'star level * 10%'. This effect does not include yourself. Duration: 1 minute. Cooldown: 3 minutes.

[[Group Defense Boost]] : Enable all friendly units within a radius of 'star level * 10 meters' around you to gain a defensive power (including all defense types) boost equivalent to your 'star level * 10%'. This effect does not include yourself. Duration: 1 minute. Cooldown: 3 minutes.

[Equipment Description]: A Divine Ring containing special Rule Power. Wear it, and you will feel an enhancement of your inherent power!

What a treasure, strong in both offense and defense! It directly boosts All Attributes; what a powerful effect!

The basic attributes referred to Constitution, Strength, Agility, Wisdom, and Spirit.

With Chen Mo's current star level, he could gain an additional 70% boost to All Attributes. That was equivalent to a direct increase of 1.7 times in All Attributes! This was a pretty explosive enhancement. This meant that Chen Mo, who originally received 35 attribute points at Level 1, was now gaining nearly 60 attribute points each time he leveled up. One level up was almost like two. As expected of top-tier equipment, the effects it provided were truly astonishing.

Moreover, this wasn't the equipment's limit; it also possessed a group amplification effect that could bring tremendous benefits to his teammates. In other words, if the summoned horde of Skeleton Monsters benefited from the ring's effect, their total attack power could be multiplied by another 1.7 times. Their combat power would be greatly enhanced. Chen Mo was quite satisfied to have obtained such top-grade equipment. This piece of equipment, excelling in both offense and defense, was truly comprehensive!

Chen Mo put on the ring, then began to consider how to deal with the loot from the dungeon. Chen Mo rarely handled such loot from dungeons and hadn't inquired much about their prices. He immediately lay on his bed and started browsing the Heavenly Trade Market, wanting to see if there were any stalls selling these items. As he searched, he quickly discovered a shocking scene.

What the hell! Age-Preserving Holy Fruit is so expensive!?

Chen Mo was startled because he saw someone listing Age-Preserving Holy Fruit in the Heavenly Trade Market, and the selling price was more than 1 eternal gold coin.

Could it be that someone listed it randomly, not knowing the price?

Chen Mo, being cautious, didn't immediately assume the item was extremely valuable; he carefully filtered his search. He filtered out all the listed Age-Preserving Holy Fruit. To his surprise, he found that everyone who had listed Age-Preserving Holy Fruit had priced them all above 100 million. He was suddenly reminded of how he had casually eaten the Age-Preserving Holy Fruit after acquiring it in the dungeon. It turned out that what he had eaten wasn't just an Age-Preserving Holy Fruit, but 100 million in cash!

Chen Mo immediately felt a pang of heartache. He was still quite young and didn't need anything to preserve his youth. Yet, he had just gobbled up 100 million. Seeing how valuable Age-Preserving Holy Fruit was, Chen Mo quickly checked the prices of the other items. An even more shocking result appeared. The Gender Transformation Spiritual Fruit, which he had considered worthless, had a selling price as high as 1 billion, and very few people were selling it. This showed how rare this item was, but could it really sell for that much?

From these items that hadn't been instantly bought, it was evident that their listed prices were at least above the market price. Otherwise, merchants would have already snatched them up to resell. If most people were listing Age-Preserving Holy Fruit for over 100 million, then even at its cheapest, the price wouldn't drop below 50 eternal silver coins. As for the Gender Transformation Spiritual Fruit, Chen Mo estimated that it might sell for 5 eternal gold coins.

He really wouldn't have known he'd made such a fortune from this dungeon trip if he hadn't checked the prices. And the Life-Lengthening Fruit, which he already knew was expensive, was also not cheap, with each fruit priced at over 1 Gold Coin. The price of the Instant Group Teleportation Talisman was also not low; judging by current listings, the listed price had already reached 3 eternal gold coins!

Seeing these prices, Chen Mo couldn't help but wonder how much all the items in his inventory would ultimately be worth. However, those items that had been synthesized were all bound and couldn't be sold to others. But if he were to sell all the remaining miscellaneous items, the income would also be quite substantial.

However, more important than money were the shares Chen Mo had decided to reserve for his grandparents and Sister Yiyi; he would definitely keep those. No matter how important money is, family always comes first. Chen Mo naturally set these items aside separately.

After determining what to sell, Chen Mo tidied up and prepared to go out. He now had money, and he also had goods on hand. It was time to go to the auction house! The Myriad Heaven auction house often auctioned many legendary-level materials and similar items. Chen Mo previously had no money and could only obtain them himself from dungeons. But now that he had a considerable amount of money, he decided to attend an auction and see! He might even be able to gather everything he needed in a single auction. Then his combat power could increase significantly once more. Moreover, the abundant Holy Water needed to purify the tainted Heart of God also had to be acquired at the auction house. For these items alone, a trip to the auction house was necessary.

After confirming his needs, Chen Mo promptly changed his appearance using the Illusory Spirit Feather Boots. He once again took on the appearance of the handsome girl from last time. If he changed to a different appearance, he wouldn't be used to it. After all, changing his appearance meant he would have to convincingly play the part without giving himself away. Then he would have to establish new mannerisms, ways of speaking, and so on; these were complex matters. The slightest mistake could expose him. Chen Mo naturally chose an appearance he had assumed before, as it felt more natural and familiar.

Chapter 137: VIP Level! (1/5)_1

After leaving his residence, Chen Mo found a secluded place to alter his appearance before finally arriving at the Myriad Heaven auction house.

"Hello, Miss. This is the VIP auction house. Please present your VIP card."

A VIP card? Chen Mo was momentarily stunned; he hadn't known about such a requirement. After all, he had never frequented such establishments before.

"How can I obtain a VIP card? This is my first time here, so I'm not very clear on the procedure."

"Oh, so this is your first visit? It's quite simple. You can register for a VIP card at our counter by depositing 100 million coins. This deposit cannot be withdrawn after registration, but you can use the 100 million coins on the card for priority purchases. Afterward, you can freely deposit or withdraw any amount of money. Of course, if you don't have that much cash on hand, you can also obtain a VIP card by consigning rare items for auction. You just need the total sales from your consigned rare items to reach 100 million coins."

"In that case, please process one for me directly."

Chen Mo took out an eternal gold coin and handed it over.

"Okay, please wait a moment."

After guiding Chen Mo to a nearby seat and serving him tea, the receptionist promptly went to the front desk to fetch a registration form for him.

"Please fill in your information so we can register it in our records."

Chen Mo glanced at the form and wrote the name Zhao Min. He filled in all other information under the same alias. The appearance he had adopted was modeled after an actress from a movie he'd seen in his previous life. No one could possibly trace this back to me.

After he completed the form, the receptionist took it back to the counter. Soon, she returned with a brand-new, pure white VIP card and handed it to Chen Mo.

"Miss Zhao, this is your VIP card. Please keep it safe; otherwise, if it's lost, there's an additional fee for a replacement."

Chen Mo took the card, nodded, and asked, "Do you have a list or catalog of recent auction items for your auction house? I'd like to take a look."

"We do. Just a moment."

The receptionist quickly fetched a tablet and displayed the recently auctioned items.

Chen Mo glanced at it. There certainly are a lot of items up for auction today. There was an auction scheduled nearly every half hour; the entire day's schedule was packed.

"We have this many items auctioned every day. However, if your VIP Level increases, you'll have access to additional priority auctions, which typically feature fewer, more exclusive lots."

"What are the requirements for upgrading my Level?"

"If your transaction volume here reaches 1 billion coins, you can upgrade to a Silver VIP card. Reaching 10 billion coins upgrades you to a Gold VIP card, and 100 billion coins will get you Supreme VIP status. Of course, transaction volume doesn't just refer to your purchase amounts; it also includes the sales value of items you consign."

"In that case, if I consign something and then buy it myself, wouldn't I max out the VIP level quickly?" Chen Mo asked with a smirk.

The receptionist smiled. "Theoretically, yes. But we charge a transaction fee for consigning items. Miss Zhao, if you want to quickly max out your VIP Level that way, it would cost you a considerable amount of money."

Boosting VIP levels this way was essentially giving the auction house free money, so naturally, they wouldn't object.

"If I consign items, will they be given priority in the priority auction rooms?"

"Yes. Items are offered tier by tier, starting with higher-level VIPs. Any unsold items will then proceed to the regular VIP auction floor in an orderly fashion."

Chen Mo considered this. If I only participate in the regular auctions, the item I want won't be up for bidding until much later. I should upgrade my VIP Level first!

"I actually have a couple of items I'd like to consign. Could you find someone to appraise them?"

"Please follow me to the item appraisal room. We'll have specialists appraise your items there."

Chen Mo nodded and followed the receptionist into a modest room. Inside, three Appraisers were seated, examining items on a table.

The receptionist bowed politely to the three. "Masters, this is Miss Zhao. She has two items she wishes to consign for auction. Could you please appraise their value?"

The lead Appraiser, a woman with wavy hair, spoke, "Miss Zhao, please place whatever you need appraised on this table."

Initially, the three Appraisers hadn't paid much mind to what Chen Mo might produce. However, when he placed the items on the table, all three looked up at him in surprise. Even the receptionist standing nearby wore a shocked expression.

"Miss Zhao, are you sure you want to consign this Resurrection Cross!?"

Resurrection-type items were life-saving treasures, essentially priceless and rarely sold; almost no one would part with them unless, of course, they were desperately poor and had no other choice. But Chen Mo certainly didn't look like someone in such dire straits. The other item next to the Resurrection Cross, the Gender Transformation Spiritual Fruit, was also quite valuable. If he truly needed money, he could have sold that instead. That's why the Appraiser double-checked, to ensure he hadn't brought the wrong item by mistake.

Chen Mo currently possessed four Resurrection Crosses. He planned to keep three for Sister Yiyi and his grandparents. He himself already had a resurrection ability and also owned a Super Resurrection Cross, so his need for a regular Resurrection Cross wasn't high. After one was used, there was at least a one-month cooldown before another could take effect. Giving them to Sister Yiyi and the others prematurely

would be pointless. So, Chen Mo decided to sell this one and use the proceeds to enhance his combat strength first.

"I'm sure. Please proceed with the appraisal," Chen Mo said with a smile, then took a seat to the side.

The three Appraisers immediately began a meticulous examination. After several careful checks, the lead female Appraiser looked up. "Miss Zhao, we've thoroughly inspected them. You've provided one Resurrection Cross and one Gender Transformation Spiritual Fruit! A Resurrection Cross has previously sold for as high as 2 billion coins at auction. We suggest a starting bid of 1 billion coins, with minimum bid increments of ten million coins. The Gender Transformation Spiritual Fruit typically fetches prices over 1 billion coins on the market. The one we auctioned previously also sold for exactly 1 billion coins. We recommend a starting bid of 500 million coins, with minimum bid increments of five million coins. What are your thoughts on this? You can rest assured; we won't arrange for anyone to acquire your items at a low price. Firstly, we'll ensure they are advertised online before the auction. Secondly, if you're not satisfied with the final price, you can retrieve your items. We can draft a contract beforehand to this effect."

They're quite thorough; this is good, Chen Mo mused.

The female Appraiser continued, "Here are the terms of the contract. You can take a look."

Evidently, they had prepared and signed such contracts countless times before, so it was readily available. After they filled in some relevant details, they handed the contract to Chen Mo.

Chapter 138: Silver-Grade Membership! (2/5)_1

Chen Mo glanced over it. The contract was mostly as they had discussed.

Only one extra clause had been added: if an auction item reached its stipulated price, the consignor couldn't arbitrarily withdraw it from the auction; otherwise, they would be fined for breach of contract.

The stipulated prices for the Resurrection Cross and the Gender Transformation Spiritual Fruit were set at 2,000,000,000 and 1,000,000,000 respectively, which was reasonable.

Furthermore, items would not be sold in the high-level VIP exclusive auction house unless they reached these prices.

This rule was to prevent greedy individuals who, despite their item reaching a sufficient bid, might want to keep withdrawing it to auction it repeatedly. Such behavior would be a sheer waste of the auction house's time and negatively impact the customer experience. It also prevented people in the high-level VIP exclusive auction house from deliberately suppressing prices to acquire valuable items cheaply. The final rule was to protect the interests of both the auction house and the seller.

Adding this clause was understandable, and Chen Mo acknowledged its necessity.

Although he was confident that such a large corporate group wouldn't cheat him, Chen Mo carefully reviewed the entire contract several times before signing it.

"Good, we'll start marketing your two auction items now. Would you prefer a rushed or relaxed sale?" the receptionist asked.

"Rushed, please."

"All right, we'll showcase these items on our official website for a 30-minute notice period. Half an hour after the notice period ends, we'll start the auction."

"Okay, I'll wait here for an hour then."

Hearing this, the receptionist quickly said, "Miss Zhao, as the historical transaction rate for the two items you're consigning is 100%, we can upgrade your VIP level in advance."

"Really?"

The Appraiser next to her explained, "Yes, for auction items with a historical transaction rate of 100%, we can immediately grant the equivalent VIP experience points to the consignor after the auction contract is signed. Miss Zhao, you have just gained 30 VIP experience points."

After the Appraiser finished speaking, Chen Mo found the card in his hand had magically changed color to silver-white!

"Your card changes colors on the fly; that's impressive."

"You're flattering us, Miss Zhao. Now, if you like, you can start participating in auctions. This is the Silver Field auction list. For items here, with fewer participants, it's often more like buying than bidding. If you meet the price set in the consignor's contract, they usually won't reclaim the item."

Finishing her explanation, the receptionist handed Chen Mo the new auction list.

"Great, I see several items that I need. If no one bids for these five bottles of Holy Water, can I purchase them directly?"

"Yes, if you accept the fixed contract price for all five, you can get them for 100,000,000."

Chen Mo selected five different types of Holy Water. They had passed their notice period, had not been sold in the priority auction venue, nor had they attracted any bids in the Silver Field auction, eventually going unsold and being moved to the ordinary auction.

These were all the types of Holy Water Chen Mo needed that could be obtained by purchasing.

The remaining five types were binding Holy Water, and Chen Mo had to get them from instances himself.

He had already obtained a bottle of Elf Holy Water. If he bought these five bottles, he would only be four short.

"Alright, I'll take all five bottles."

"Very well, Miss Zhao. We will directly deduct the amount from your membership card balance. Please confirm your decision..."

"Yes, that's fine with me."

"We've marked the five bottles of Holy Water as sold. We'll bring the items over shortly. Please let us know if you need anything else."

"I'd like to participate in the auctions for the Dark Heart and the Holy Beast's Inner Core."

If I could get the Dark Heart and the Holy Beast's Inner Core, combined with the Five Elements Spirit Orb I got from the instance, I could rank up the Holy Corpse Army to a red skill of the top-tier rank! He was determined to get these two items!

"Very well. Is there anything else you need?"

"No, not at the moment."

"The auction for the Dark Heart will start in ten minutes, and the Holy Beast's Inner Core will begin in half an hour. I'll take you to the Silver Field to wait."

"Alright."

Chen Mo was quickly led by the receptionist to a small auction room that could accommodate a hundred people.

"Miss Zhao, there are quite a few bidders for this material. You'll be in seat number 86. Here's your bidding number; please keep it safe."

Typically, there are many bidders for legendary-level materials. After all, these materials are used in many formulas. Since consumption exceeds production, there are naturally many bidders.

Chen Mo didn't mind. He took his bidding number and sat down.

Before long, ten minutes passed.

The room was already filled with a hundred silver-grade members.

The competition is fierce, Chen Mo even spotted a teacher from his school.

Even teachers at this level, who had the ability to grind for materials, still struggled to be self-sufficient when it came to legendary-level materials.

As the auction time arrived, an Auctioneer in a long red dress appeared on the stage with her assistant.

Once the assistant placed the item on the display area of the auction stage, the Auctioneer held a microphone and began, "Thank you all for coming, members. Our item in this auction is a legendary-level material—Dark Heart! This item is essential for crafting many top-tier dark equipment, skills, and items. It is very useful and currently in extremely short supply. The last one sold for 70,000,000, almost reaching its historic high price! I'm eager to see what value this one will achieve in our auction house today."

She then uncovered a plaque held by her assistant and announced, "The starting bid is 40,000,000. Each increment must be at least 1,000,000. Let the bidding begin!"

"50,000,000!"

As soon as the Auctioneer finished speaking, someone immediately raised his bidding plate—a young man in the first seat. He seemed determined to win, increasing the bid by ten million in one go.

"51,000,000!"

At this point, the teacher Chen Mo recognized from school raised his number 89 bidding plate.

"55,000,000!"

"57,000,000!"

...

Various bids began to echo throughout the room.

"65,000,000!"

However, as the bid had just risen past 60,000,000, the young man in seat one immediately raised the price by another five million.

The competition for this one seems quite intense! Chen Mo glanced at the young man in the first seat, who was bidding very aggressively.

"The handsome gentleman in seat one has bid 65,000,000! Are there any further bids?"

As soon as the young man's bid of 65,000,000 was announced, the bidding in the room came to an abrupt halt.

Previously, one could secure a Dark Heart for around 60,000,000. But recently, with the scarcity of the material, prices had indeed risen. Sixty million was certainly no longer enough. However, some people who weren't in a hurry were willing to wait.

"Sixty-five million, going once!"

Seeing no further bids, the Auctioneer immediately made the first call.

"The restocking cycle for the Dark Heart is quite long, everyone. You should consider carefully. If you don't secure it this time, who knows how many more days you'll have to wait."

The Auctioneer continued to entice the bidders.

Seeing no reaction from the audience, she announced again, "Sixty-five million, going twice!"

Chen Mo had remained silent, gauging the competition. Seeing no further bids, he raised his paddle. Given that young man's aggressive bidding, seventy million probably won't be enough, he reasoned. Seventy-five million should be his psychological limit. He then announced his bid in a clear female voice, "75,000,000!"

Immediately, everyone in the room turned to look at him.

Chapter 139: Random Rift Dungeon! (3/5) _1

"Oh! The bid is now up to 75 million! The beautiful lady with paddle number 86 bids 75 million! Is there anyone else who wishes to bid higher?"

As expected, once Chen Mo outbid the young man's psychological price, a conflicted expression appeared on his face. At this moment on stage, the Auctioneer seemed to notice his hesitation.

Her tactics this time were completely different from the previous round. Last time, she had dragged out the bidding before calling the second price. This time, however, she quickly announced 75 million for the first and second calls. When it came to the third call, she deliberately slowed her pace.

"Sev-en-ty... fi-ve... mil-li-on... Third..."

She dragged out just those few words for tens of seconds.

After wrestling with his decision, the young man raised his paddle again.

"Eighty million!"

"As we all know, the highest historical price for a Dark Heart was 90 million, and this handsome gentleman has already bid 80 million! Does anyone wish to bid higher?"

This guy has hesitated for so long; this is probably his limit. Chen Mo pondered for a moment before raising her paddle and calling out, "Eighty-one million!"

If the woman outbidding him hadn't been so beautiful, the young man would have shot her a glare by now. He now strongly suspected this woman had consigned the auction item herself and was deliberately bidding on it to drive up the price.

"Eighty-five million! If you raise the price again, I'll concede."

The young man raised his paddle for a final bid. He was clearly implying that if Chen Mo raised the price again, she'd be stuck with a bid she couldn't honor, effectively ruining the sale.

Naturally, Chen Mo understood his meaning. With a dismissive smile, she raised her paddle again. "Eighty-six million!"

If he didn't desperately need just one more Dark Heart right now, the young man wouldn't have pushed the bid this high. Yet, even after he did, Chen Mo still outbid him.

While 86 million wasn't an astronomical sum for this young man, the item itself simply wasn't worth that much. Having money and an item actually being worth the price were two entirely different matters.

But thinking of the record high price, the young man raised his paddle again. "Ninety million!"

"Ninety million! The handsome gentleman with paddle number one bids 90 million, matching the historical high! Could our auction today set a new record price?"

The Auctioneer and the other bidders all turned to Chen Mo with intrigued expressions, eager to see if this beautiful lady would bid again.

"One hundred million!"

Ignoring everyone's stares, Chen Mo simply raised her paddle.

"Whoa! This lady is seriously wealthy. Which prominent family is she from?"

"Not sure. I heard an attendant call her Miss Zhao earlier. She's probably from the Zhao Family."

"She might even be a young lady from the Zhao Corporation. I heard the head of Zhao Corporation has three daughters, none of whom have ever made a public appearance. She could be one of them."

"Back when those dark dungeons first opened, the drop rate for Dark Hearts was quite high. You could get one for just 50 million back then. Now that the drop rate has decreased, I never expected the price to double!"

"Well, she's a young lady from a major family. She probably doesn't care much about this kind of money."

Seeing Chen Mo raise the bid to 100 million, and overhearing the surrounding discussions about her identity, the young man decided to give up. Firstly, he figured that with her apparent wealth, she could likely continue bidding without issue. Secondly, he didn't want to offend her. He planned to have a proper talk with her later.

Sigh, if I had that material to craft the right item, I'd have a 100% chance of clearing this dark-type Random Rift Dungeon. Now, I probably only have a 70-80% chance.

Random Rift Dungeons are a special type of dungeon that appear unpredictably in various locations across the world. The exact time and location of their appearance are unknown. Even their duration, once they manifest, is a mystery. One might materialize right in your home or out in a remote forest. It could persist for a month or vanish within an hour.

Information about these Random Rift Dungeons can be obtained by simply touching them. Subsequently, one can access detailed information about the Rift Dungeon—including its specific difficulty, potential rewards, and other details—at any time through the Heavenly Path System.

While venturing into a Random Rift Dungeon is quite dangerous, the rewards often surpass those from other dungeons of comparable difficulty. They are fortuitous opportunities that many aspire to encounter. However, these chances are rare, come with entry restrictions, and not everyone is fortunate enough to stumble upon one and gain access.

The young man was so desperate to acquire the Dark Heart precisely because he wanted to enter the Random Rift Dungeon that had appeared in his home. But now that the item's price had been driven so high, he had no choice but to concede.

Ultimately, after the Auctioneer's third call, Chen Mo successfully acquired the Dark Heart for 100 million.

"Congratulations to the beautiful lady of paddle number 86 for successfully acquiring the item! The next item for auction will be the Holy Beast's Inner Core. Interested guests, please take a short break and enjoy some refreshments. The next auction will commence shortly."

As soon as the Auctioneer finished speaking, quite a few people rose and departed.

Meanwhile, the young man approached Chen Mo and said, "Miss, could you possibly sell me this Dark Heart? I need it urgently, and I'm willing to offer you 110 million for it."

The prospect of earning 10 million instantly by reselling it was genuinely tempting for Chen Mo. However, considering her goal of achieving better results in the college entrance exams, she still declined.

"I'm truly sorry, but I also need it urgently. Otherwise, I would have let you have it."

"Well, never mind then..." From how aggressively Chen Mo had bid, the young man could already sense that she must need it desperately.

"May I ask why you're in such a hurry for this Dark Heart?" Seeing his dejected expression, Chen Mo asked curiously. It's just a material, after all. It's not like I won't be able to find another one later.

Seeing Chen Mo's interest, a glimmer of hope rekindled in the young man. Perhaps if he explained his situation clearly, she might agree to sell it to him after all.

The young man immediately explained his reasons in detail. "You see, the Random Rift Dungeon appeared in my own home, so I'm not worried about others trying to seize it. The Academy Alliance has long-established regulations: if a Random Rift Dungeon appears in someone's home, it's considered their property. Others can negotiate to purchase entry rights, but they cannot seize it by force. Anyone who discovers a Random Rift Dungeon in their home is advised to report it to the Academy Alliance promptly. The Academy Alliance charges a certain guardianship fee to help protect it, preventing it from being coveted by opportunistic individuals. Of course, not reporting it is also an option. If someone forcibly seizes it, one can still seek arbitration from the Academy Alliance for compensation. However, by that point, the dungeon would likely have already been exploited. My family has already reported the Random Rift Dungeon in our home, and the Academy Alliance has dispatched personnel to guard it. Therefore, I'm not worried about discussing it openly. Random Rift Dungeons are excellent, you know! Plus, they contain many hidden missions. While these missions can be very difficult, completing them can yield top-grade rewards!"

After he finished his explanation, Chen Mo's interest was piqued. "How many people can enter this Rift Dungeon of yours?"

"Five, I think," the young man said subconsciously, "but the more people there are, the more insanely difficult it becomes."

"To be honest," Chen Mo said, "I have a certain resistance to dark-elemental anomalies. You might not actually need this Dark Heart. If you're agreeable, I could team up with you to enter. The difficulty shouldn't increase too drastically with just two people, right?"

Chapter 140: The Original Star, Unfair Rules! _1

"Well, that's feasible, but bear in mind the Random Rift Dungeon is pretty challenging; it's a first-transition-level dungeon! How many stars have you made it to in the first transition?"

Upon hearing this, Chen Mo laughed and said, "Around seven stars, I guess."

"Seven stars, same as me. We could try it then," the young man replied, sounding surprised.

"When should we do it?"

"The Random Rift Dungeon can disappear at any time, so the sooner we enter, the better."

"I need one more Holy Beast's Inner Core. Let's go after I have successfully bid for it. The auction is about to start."

"Sure, I was originally going to bid for this Holy Beast's Inner Core as well, but since you've snatched the Dark Heart, there's no need for me to bid for this anymore."

After agreeing to tackle the dungeon together later, the young man naturally started conversing with Chen Mo while they sat together.

Chen Mo learned that the young man's name was Lin Ranhai. His initial profession was a four-star profession, he took on the three-star challenge in the first transition, and is now a seven-star. He is studying at a top-tier university and is living quite well.

When Lin Ranhai asked about Chen Mo, she casually claimed to be a first-transition Undead Mage.

"No wonder you said you have some resistance to the Dark attribute—it turns out you're an Undead Mage who mainly uses dark magic. It's not easy to pass the five-stars challenge in the first transition. It seems like your family has a deep foundation."

Chen Mo laughed and said, "It's okay."

Since Chen Mo's identity had been discussed before, Lin Ranhai never questioned the reason behind her impressive achievements. Having profound family influence could make challenging higher-tier difficulty much easier than it is for ordinary people, who often see no hope at all.

At this moment, in his eyes, Chen Mo was a unique aristocratic lady—daring, and always pushing her limits!

After the two chatted for a while, the Auctioneer returned to the stage. The hall was once again filled with a hundred people.

The limit for the Silver Field is a hundred people. If you arrive too late, you can only wait until next time.

With the Auctioneer's introduction to the rarity of the Holy Beast's Inner Core, the auction soon began. The starting price of the Holy Beast's Inner Core was 50 million, with each increase not less than 2 million.

Wanting to hasten her entry into the Random Rift Dungeon, Chen Mo didn't hesitate and raised her sign as soon as the auction started!

"One hundred million!"

Immediately, the entire venue fell silent. Even the Auctioneer was stunned for a moment. She had seen bidding before, but never this kind of bidding. This price was already higher than that of the last Holy Beast's Inner Core.

Even Lin Ranhai sitting next to Chen Mo couldn't help but envy her. How nice it is to be a wealthy lady, casually shouting out prices in hundreds of millions without even blinking an eye. If not for the knowledge of their difference in status, he would have even entertained the idea of pursuing the beautiful woman before him.

Following Chen Mo's extreme bidding, those who were originally interested in this Holy Beast's Inner Core instantly lost interest. Those who had remained from the previous auction session were now buzzing with discussions about Chen Mo.

This discouraged those nearby who had initially considered bidding, causing them to completely abandon the idea. After all, she had spent one hundred million in the last auction for the Dark Heart. Therefore, one hundred million was definitely not her limit for a Holy Beast's Inner Core. It was best not to get on the bad side of an aristocratic lady with an impressive background, as she might have many devoted admirers. Annoying that group could be quite troublesome.

Even though everyone here had the ability to enter the Silver Field, it didn't necessarily mean they all had profound backgrounds. Some, like Chen Mo, got lucky by selling some items they had acquired. Wealth does not equate to power. So, someone who spends money without blinking an eye and whose family name matches a few aristocratic ones is worth paying attention to. In the eyes of everyone, that person was Chen Mo.

As no one competed for the Holy Beast's Inner Core, it was won by Chen Mo for a price of one hundred million.

After paying for it and picking up all the goods she had bought, Chen Mo spoke to the Receptionist. She requested that after her consigned items were sold, the money be transferred to her card, and she would collect it later.

The Receptionist immediately nodded in agreement. She was also amazed by Chen Mo's boldness. Leaving such expensive items without keeping an eye on their prices was quite daring.

After leaving the Myriad Heaven Auction, Lin Ranhai looked at Chen Mo and asked, "You should have some flying tools, right?" In his opinion, it was normal for an aristocrat's daughter to have such equipment. Even he had managed to get one.

"Yes, I do."

Chen Mo nodded.

Seeing her confirmation, Lin Ranhai had no further doubts.

"Then let's fly back. It's much faster. Follow me."

As soon as he finished speaking, Lin Ranhai ascended into the air.

WHOOSH!

Chen Mo immediately sped up to keep up with him.

"So fast!?"

Seeing Chen Mo's extremely fast speed, Lin Ranhai was shocked. Although he also had flying tools, his were completely speed-limited and couldn't accelerate. But this young lady had just sped up in an instant! Her speed was so fast that it even surpassed the instantaneous flying speed of some second-transition powerhouses. From this speed alone, one could tell how top-tier her flying tool was!

Being sure of Chen Mo's extraordinary background, he felt even more confident about clearing the Random Rift Dungeon together with her.

Although Lin Ranhai's flying speed was not fast, it was much faster than walking. In a short while, the two flew back to Lin Ranhai's home.

Lin Ranhai's home was located a little outside the center of the town. It was not extraordinarily wealthy, but it was certainly affluent.