

Global CM 231

Chapter 231: Immune Divine Pendant, Unexpected Harvest! (Two-in-one, 2/5)_1

"You've all heard what the Alliance said, haven't you? Everyone, go home and continue to prepare; there will be a new exam for you the day after tomorrow."

"Chen Mo, hang back. I have a few things to discuss with you." Just as Chen Mo was turning to leave, Shen Rulong called out to him.

The other students didn't yet know what was happening, so they didn't pay much attention.

As the other students gradually left, several teachers gathered around Chen Mo and curiously asked, "Chen Mo, what did the Alliance ask you about?"

"It's a bit strange. I don't know why they asked me if I knew why the instance was abnormal."

"Oh? Didn't you feel anything abnormal in the instance?"

"No. I had just assembled my team and finished the first floor. As we were about to enter the second floor, I suddenly received The Heavenly Path's Hint that there was a problem with the instance. Then, I was kicked out. I have no idea what happened."

"It seems there really was a problem with the instance." Only then did Shen Rulong and the others nod in understanding.

After all, they themselves couldn't achieve that kind of descent speed. Even if Chen Mo had a five-star profession, it would be impossible for him to be that fast. This could only be possible if there was a problem with the instance. And now that the instance was indeed malfunctioning, everything made sense.

It wasn't just them; even the upper echelons of the Academy Alliance thought so.

Even if they felt Chen Mo was strange, consider this: even a fifth-transition powerhouse, with their strength unrestricted, wouldn't dare claim such an absurd descent speed in this examination instance. So, for a child limited to Level 10—regardless of being two-star or five-star—achieving such an outrageous speed was simply impossible.

Therefore, after careful consideration, the only conclusion was that the instance had malfunctioned. Naturally, no one harbored significant suspicions about Chen Mo anymore.

However, the fact that probing Chen Mo yielded no information still piqued the Alliance Hierarchy's curiosity. The Alliance Hierarchy hadn't received any message from The Heavenly Path's Hint like "Investigation Level Insufficient" or "Unable to Investigate." This suggested the target's concealment level wasn't particularly high. It was just that when he probed, he could only perceive a patch of chaos, indicating Chen Mo might possess something like a Chaos Stone.

The grade of such items was difficult to assess, but they could be found all over the world. Legend had it that when the Chaos Origin Land was forcibly torn apart by the Gods, some fragments scattered across the world. Finding one was purely a matter of luck. The Alliance had no way to verify where someone might have picked one up, as these things appeared with extreme randomness. In various Mutated Lands in the wilderness, pieces would sometimes appear in a corner as the lands underwent changes. Consequently, the Alliance Hierarchs didn't pay Chen Mo too much mind.

If they truly wished, they could thoroughly investigate Chen Mo's ancestry back eighteen generations. Information about Chen Mo had already been completely investigated when his abnormal descent speed in the instance occurred. The findings: an unmistakable two-star Skeleton Mage and a bona fide Terran.

Only after clearly explaining this anomaly to his teachers was Chen Mo able to return home.

On his way home, Chen Mo's Pioneer abilities sensed two people secretly tailing him. While following, they remained vigilant of their surroundings; it appeared they were intentionally there to protect him covertly.

I'm just a mere two-star Skeleton Mage. Do I really warrant the protection of two experts? The Alliance's upper echelons are truly magnanimous.

Chen Mo wasn't particularly bothered by being tailed and protected. After all, with his abilities, he could easily ascertain all the capabilities of his two followers, and he wasn't afraid of them seeing anything they shouldn't.

Pretending not to have noticed anything, Chen Mo went straight home.

At home, Liu Yiyi couldn't sit idle. She was trying her hand at some elaborate desserts, planning to let Chen Mo taste them once she succeeded.

"Sister Yiyi, what are you making? It smells wonderful." As soon as Chen Mo stepped inside, he was drawn by an enticing aroma, following the sweet scent directly to the kitchen.

Liu Yiyi smiled and said, "Just some little desserts. I'm still experimenting." Only then did she seem to realize and asked in surprise, "Weren't you at the college entrance examination? How are you back so soon?"

"The college entrance examination instance had some issues. The Academy Alliance said they'd prepare a new one for us the day after tomorrow, so they let us return home for now."

"The college entrance examination instance can actually have problems?" Liu Yiyi turned back to her desserts, a puzzled look on her face. "This examination instance has been used for so many years, hasn't it? How could it suddenly malfunction?"

However, this wasn't her primary concern, and she soon became engrossed in developing her new dessert.

Chen Mo tiptoed over, intending to sneak a taste, but Liu Yiyi playfully slapped his hand away.

Seeing Chen Mo's eager expression, Liu Yiyi chuckled, "These are all failed attempts. Once I get them right, I'll let you taste them. Go rest for a bit; I'll call you when they're ready."

"Alright then." Chen Mo smiled and returned to his room.

Back in his room, Chen Mo began to examine the Harvest from this instance run.

Seeing his current 10 Divine Power points, Chen Mo couldn't help but marvel at the might of Divine Power. The difference between having it and not was like night and day.

The efficacy of Divine Power wasn't just in augmenting All Attributes; it also boosted abilities applied to others. However, this boosting effect could be mutually counteracted.

Take, for instance, the time-stop Chen Mo had used. Its base effect was a 3-second time stop. Each point of Divine Power could increase its effectiveness on others by 1%. Chen Mo currently possessed 10 Divine Power points, which, if fully effective, could enhance the duration by 0.3 seconds.

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If an opponent also possessed Divine Power, it could be neutralized.

Take Liao Xuebing, the fifth-transition powerhouse from Venue Two in this instance, for example. His Divine Power was 50 points. If Chen Mo had no Divine Power, the effects of any abilities Chen Mo used on Liao Xuebing would be reduced by 50% for Liao Xuebing, effectively halving their impact. However, because Chen Mo had 10 points of Divine Power, these could counteract 10 points of Liao Xuebing's Divine Power. Consequently, Liao Xuebing could only effectively use 40 points of Divine Power for defense, meaning Chen Mo's time-stop ability would affect him for an additional 0.3 seconds.

While 0.3 seconds might seem short, for a fifth-transition powerhouse, this duration was enough for several exchanges of blows.

Of course, because Chen Mo's Divine Physique had not been significantly activated, his Divine Power could only exert one-tenth of its original effect. So, his 10 points of Divine Power were essentially equivalent to just 1 point. The amplification to his abilities was only 1%, and the Divine Power that could be used to counteract others' also only counted as 1 point, which could be completely ignored.

This was why Liao Xuebing hadn't noticed anything unusual. Only 1 point of his 50-point Divine Power effect had been negated by Chen Mo. At that time, Liao Xuebing's attention was entirely focused on the Alien. As soon as the time-stop ended, he immediately moved to subdue the Alien. Being time-stopped for an additional 0.03 seconds naturally didn't catch his attention at that moment.

Most importantly, there was no prompt when Divine Powers neutralized each other. Everyone would only receive The Heavenly Path's Hint for the basic effects of abilities; if the difference caused by Divine Power was too small, it would be difficult to perceive.

Due to this effect, those with Divine Power could essentially do whatever they wanted when facing those without it.

Liao Xuebing, a newly advanced fifth-transition powerhouse, had been sent back to provide covert protection and assist in eliminating the Aliens on Earth precisely because he was somewhat weaker in combat power.

If it were a fifth-transition powerhouse with over 100 points of Divine Power, then any ability used against them by someone below the fifth transition would have its effects reduced by over 100%. In that case, practically no effects would manifest at all; they would be utterly crushed.

After marveling at the strength of Divine Power, Chen Mo took out the two items he had obtained from the instance: an SSS-level Gift Pack and an Almighty Divine Fruit.

This is the fruit that adds 100 points to All Attributes when eaten. I wonder what it tastes like?

Chen Mo looked at the purplish fruit. Its surface was lumpy, making it look rather ugly and unappetizing. He hesitated for a moment before popping it into his mouth and taking a bite.

He didn't taste anything; the fruit simply melted the moment it entered his mouth. Then, a surge of energy seemed to materialize within his body and was instantly absorbed completely.

[The Heavenly Path's Hint: You have consumed the Almighty Divine Fruit. You have gained 100 points in All Attributes. Due to possessing the Divine Physique, which exhibited its additional absorption capability, you have gained an extra 100 points in All Attributes!]

Wow, an unexpected bonus!?

He had originally thought the Divine Physique was of little use before activation, but now Chen Mo had to revise his opinion. The Divine Physique could actually double the effect of attribute fruits! This was a huge gain. One hundred points in All Attributes was no small sum; it was equivalent to 500 raw attribute points. Now, he had gained an additional 100 points, meaning another 500 raw attribute points for free. It was simply incredibly satisfying.

After eating the fruit, Chen Mo, feeling joyful, immediately turned his attention to the SSS-level Gift Pack beside him.

I wonder what I'll get. Anything but a divine-grade component, please.

After all, obtaining another divine artifact component would trigger a special task. If the other individuals possessing divine artifact components were monstrous powerhouses above the fifth transition, he would be as good as dead. Chen Mo naturally did not wish for such a thing to happen.

As the Gift Pack opened, Chen Mo's worries proved unfounded. After all, divine artifact components weren't as common as cabbages; with so many categories of SSS-level items, how could he coincidentally get one?

[The Heavenly Path's Hint: You successfully opened the SSS-level Gift Pack. Congratulations on acquiring the bound equipment: Immune Divine Pendant - Artifact Level!]

[Immune Divine Pendant - Artifact Level]

[Profession Restriction]: None

[Equipment Requirement]: None

[Equipment Attribute]: Immune to all Sealing Effects and negative aura effects.

[Equipment Special Effect]: Immunity Divine Ring

[[Immunity Divine Ring]] : Grants all friendly units within a radius of 'Player Level x 100 meters' the same immunity effect. After being active for 60 seconds, it consumes 1% of your maximum energy value per second. Cooldown: 100 seconds.

[Equipment Description]: A powerful necklace providing continuous immunity. It was once the favorite accessory of the Combat Goddess. Perhaps by wearing it, you too can become invincible!

Immunity to Sealing Effects and negative auras!

Seeing this ability, Chen Mo felt this necklace was absolutely incredible. Those various immunities to one debuff or another, in fact, weren't effective against persistent negative auras. For example, even if you had immunity to blindness, if the blindness was caused by an aura, your immunity would be nullified. As long as you entered the range of the blinding aura, you would be blinded, regardless of any immunity. The same applied to an Extreme Poison Aura. Even with immunity to extreme poison, entering the aura's range meant you would still be severely poisoned.

Although it seemed somewhat baffling, this was simply a matter of priority under the Heavenly Dao's rules. Negative auras had higher priority than regular immunities, which was why negative aura abilities were so potent. This was also why negative auras appeared so infrequently.

Yet, the Immune Divine Pendant could outright nullify the effects of all negative auras. This effect alone was enough to classify it as god-grade!

Moreover, it also possessed immunity to Sealing Effects. Sealing Abilities were somewhat similar to negative auras in this regard. For instance, even if you had immunity to various status effects, you could still have all your abilities sealed because Sealing Effects had higher priority than your immunities. The Immune Divine Pendant, however, thoroughly resolved such priority issues. Whether it was Sealing Abilities or negative auras, the Immune Divine Pendant could directly nullify all of them. Furthermore, the Immune Divine Pendant could even be activated to grant its effects to a group.

Although this necklace didn't have any other overtly powerful effects, for Chen Mo, it was an invaluable life-saving magic weapon. It also compensated for some of his significant weaknesses.

Quite pleased with obtaining such an item, Chen Mo immediately put the Immune Divine Pendant around his neck.

Having done all this, Chen Mo began to check his current attribute strength. With the boost from Divine Power, his current attributes were incredibly powerful. After all, it was a twofold increase to all attributes, including those from titles. All of them were doubled. The attributes Chen Mo had initially gained from titles were already explosive. Now, enjoying the Divine Power augmentation ahead of time, his strength had skyrocketed. His attributes were comparable to those of Level 60 second-transition powerhouses who had yet to undergo their third transition.

[Name]: Chen Mo

[Grade]: Seven Stars (Two Stars + Five Hidden Stars)

[Profession]: Skeleton Mage (Initial Profession), Infinite Fusion Master (Hidden Initial Profession)

[Level]: 15

[Experience]: 8,247,338 / 149,600 (Third-Tier Bottleneck)

[Attributes]:

Constitution: 12,439 = Life: 483,176, Physical Defense: 73,196, Life Recovery: 12,439/10 seconds (140% per second)

Strength: 12,030 = Physical Attack: 36,091

Agility: 12,030 = Critical Damage: +12,030%

Wisdom: 14,308 = Magic Attack: 44,624

Spirit: 14,308 = Energy: 715,400, Magic Defense: 82,540, Energy Recovery: 15,158/10 seconds (240% per second)

With these attributes, summonable Skeleton Monsters would have: Health: 343,392; Physical Attack: 103,018; Magic Attack: 103,018; Physical Defense: 0; Magic Defense: 0. Traits: Bomb, Revival, Corpse Poison, Invisible, Sacred, Unity.

His Level 15 attributes were comparable to those of a Level 60 character; Chen Mo had effectively bridged a four-fold level gap. This was the result of being decked out in top-tier treasures.

At this moment, Chen Mo glanced at the Sage's Ring in his hand. He now had the Tears of the Goddess for mana recovery and Divine Flicker for teleportation. Besides adding 100 points to All Attributes and providing 100% health recovery, the Sage's Ring didn't offer much else. And this 100-point All Attributes bonus wasn't as appealing as upgrading his current profession's star level to five stars.

After all, many bonuses from his equipment were linked to his profession's star level. With the Alien Teleportation Land destroyed and the recent assassination attempt bound to cause a significant upheaval for the Aliens, they would likely need to lay low for a while to avoid being completely uprooted. This meant Chen Mo could afford to be a bit bolder.

Crucially, he now possessed the Chaos Tester title. With it, even those whose detection abilities surpassed his concealment couldn't find out anything about him.

Thinking this, Chen Mo decided to use the Sage's Ring immediately.

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The only five-star initial hidden profession... I wonder what professions similar to the Skeleton Mage could achieve such a level. I've never heard of such a grade before.

Chen Mo searched for information again, confirming there was nothing online about a unique five-star initial hidden profession.

He found plenty of information about subsequent five-star hidden profession advancements, but not a single one about initial five-star hidden professions.

[The Heavenly Path's Hint: You are activating the Great Sage's Blessing effect of the Sage's Ring. Once activated, the Sage's Ring will shatter and disappear. Please confirm!]

[The Heavenly Path's Hint: You will lose a "Divine-Tool Grade Ring of Wisdom". Please confirm again!]

Following Chen Mo's double confirmation, the Sage's Ring in his hand emitted a CRACKLING sound, then shattered, disintegrating into fine powder.

As the Sage's Ring shattered, a faint gray, strange light flew out from within it and directly entered Chen Mo's body.

Chen Mo felt a tremor in his soul, as if the power of countless Heavenly Dao rules was continuously weaving into his body.

These rule powers were so immense they felt capable of effortlessly tearing his body to shreds.

This formidable power surged chaotically within Chen Mo. Mere moments later, the sky over Haibin City—no, over the entirety of Wangchuan City, all of Jiangnan Province, the whole of China, and even across the entire Earth—underwent a startling transformation.

A terrifying Energy enveloped the sky above every part of the globe.

Lightning flashed and thunder rumbled as dark clouds blotted out the sky, creating a truly apocalyptic scene.

MWAHAHA!!!

Ethereal, faintly glowing phantom forms of Ghosts suddenly materialized, looking as if they were about to descend from the heavens to slaughter all life!

Ghosts of all shapes and horrifying appearances swarmed the sky above people's heads, their piercing shrieks and roars echoing throughout the heavens and earth.

Countless children were instantly terrified into wails and tears.

ROAR!!!

It wasn't just Ghosts; there were also gargantuan Zombie beasts, and even Ghost Dragons and Bone Dragons, charging and soaring through the void.

The Bone Dragons were stark white bone, and the Ghost Dragons were wreathed in pale blue spectral fire. Their eyes glowed with an eerie, phantom blue light. As they opened their mouths, they unleashed Death Dragon Breath—a torrent of pale blue flames mingled with black fire—that scorched everything on the ground below.

This sudden, terrifying spectacle sent people on the ground scrambling in panic to Dodge.

Fortunately, these were merely phantom images.

They were not real, substantial attacks.

Whether it was the breath of the Bone Dragons and Ghost Dragons, the Lich King's Forbidden Apocalypse Curse, or the vast, boundless Undead Army that blanketed the skies of Earth.

They were all just illusory visions.

They looked incredibly terrifying, oppressive, and overwhelming, but they posed no actual danger.

Yet, this bizarre spectacle terrified everyone on Earth.

From the common folk to the societal elite.

Whether they were natives of Earth or the outsiders from the Yongming Star System.

No one had ever witnessed such a strange and horrifying sight.

Instantly, forces across the globe launched urgent investigations.

Countless people began to discuss in dread.

"Wha-what's happening? What is this celestial phenomenon? Is a Disaster descending upon us?"

"Idiot! How could a Disaster manifest signs above a populated area?"

"Then what do you think these obviously malevolent signs in the sky mean?"

"Stop arguing! I'm afraid a real Disaster is coming, and it's a kind we've never known. I just heard from friends in other countries; they're seeing this phenomenon too. This looks like a global, destruction-level Disaster. Something terrible is about to happen!"

"What?! Is it really a sign of a Disaster? And it's covering the entire globe? Is it going to destroy our whole Earth? This is outrageous!"

"What about the Academy Alliance? The experts from the Academy Alliance will protect us, right?"

"How can they protect us? The entire Earth is enveloped! Can they possibly protect it all? Forget it, we might as well accept our fate."

"I don't believe it! Why does our generation have to suffer such an absurd Disaster? I haven't even awakened my profession yet! I'm not even an adult! I don't want to die! I refuse to accept this!"

"Oh, no! I'm still a virgin! I haven't even held a girl's hand!" a young man cried out.

"WAAAAH! I've never even been in love, never even kissed anyone! I don't want to die!!!" a young girl wailed.

People from all walks of life, everyone, had a thousand thoughts racing through their minds.

There were red-named individuals, hiding in the wilderness, who felt a sense of liberation.

There were those with unfulfilled dreams who wept in despair.

There were those who had achieved little and had already contemplated starting over, now feeling a flicker of excitement.

There were hardworking people who felt heartbroken that they hadn't had the chance to spend their earnings.

And there were the young and innocent, directly scared into tears.

The full spectrum of human experience was on display at that moment.

People all over the globe were thrown into chaos by this terrifying phenomenon.

「At the same moment, at the Global Academy Alliance Headquarters...」

The three Alliance Hierarchs of the Academy Alliance stood together on the rooftop, gazing at the horrifying and bizarre celestial phenomenon. Even they, seasoned and knowledgeable as they were, couldn't help but feel an inexplicable sense of dread at this strange sight.

"No way... Has the Disaster arrived ahead of schedule?" the blonde female Alliance Hierarch muttered, looking at the sky in disbelief.

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"Impossible. While the Disaster was indeed global, it only turned the sky a strange red. A situation like this has never occurred before." The black-haired young Alliance Hierarch shook his head, finding it impossible.

"What exactly is happening? I heard this phenomenon has appeared everywhere globally. Setting aside whether every Disaster turns the sky red, there's a fundamental rule when a Disaster arrives: it doesn't manifest directly in the safe zones! But now, even the skies above the safe zones are showing this strange sight! It's genuinely puzzling." The curly-haired black Alliance Hierarch was also at a loss.

"Could this be a catastrophe even more terrifying than a Disaster? Should we recall the experts from the Tower of Eternity ahead of time? Given the scale and terrifying nature of this phenomenon, if a catastrophe does strike, I'm afraid it will be apocalyptic!" The blonde female Alliance Hierarch felt the situation was extremely critical.

The other two couldn't help but fall into deep thought at her words.

With the current situation, we indeed need to call people back for assistance. This is an unprecedented, terrifying phenomenon—something unheard of before. If an apocalyptic catastrophe truly descends and Earth lacks its powerful protectors, the very foundation of our planet might be destroyed in an instant! After all, this time it's originating directly from the safe zones. There won't be enough time to purge it. It's truly horrifying! The safe zones are home to countless individuals who represent Earth's future. Not even they are spared? This is a complete attempt to sever Earth's roots!

"What on Earth did our planet, our Solar System, do to deserve this? Why would such an unheard-of, terrifying Disaster descend!?" The black-haired young Alliance Hierarch looked up at the sky and sighed in despair.

...

「Meanwhile, on the Alien side.」

At first, they all felt a wave of horror. However, upon learning this was a global-level Disaster phenomenon, they immediately began to cheer and jump for joy.

「Inside the Aliens' hidden headquarters.」

Rangu watched the phenomenon reports, sent back by his subordinates from all over the world, on a display screen. He was indescribably ecstatic.

"Excellent, excellent, excellent! I've witnessed many Disasters, but I've never seen a Disaster phenomenon as terrifying as today's! It even covers the safe zones! The people of Earth must be utterly distraught now."

"Hahaha, Sir! We don't even need to lift a finger. This terrifying Disaster alone is enough to force their experts in the Tower of Eternity to return and provide aid; otherwise, the entire Earth will be destroyed!"

"By the way, has anyone ever seen a Disaster of this level?"

Suddenly, someone asked.

That question stumped everyone.

Nobody had ever seen such a terrifying Disaster phenomenon.

Rangu immediately checked but found no record of such an outrageous Disaster phenomenon ever occurring within the three Life Planets of their Yongming Star System.

"I wonder what kind of heavenly retribution the people of Earth have incurred. It's probably payback for sealing the Teleportation Ground. This time, let's thoroughly enjoy observing the Earthlings' reactions. We can also use their peculiar Disaster as an opportunity to gain some Experience in dealing with calamities of this magnitude."

Just as Earth's leaders lamented their planet's misfortune, while the Aliens eagerly anticipated its impending doom, suddenly, after an absence of more than ten days, a familiar sound of the great path once again echoed throughout the globe!

Instantly, everyone worldwide was shocked and excited beyond measure.

"Congratulations to the Solar System for the emergence of a professional who has awakened the unique five-stars Initial Hidden Profession! As a result, special rewards will be distributed to all professionals in the Solar System. Henceforth, when native professionals in the Solar System awaken their professions, their chance of awakening a combat profession will increase by 50% over the original probability, and their chance of awakening a high-star profession will double!"

"Congratulations to the Solar System for the emergence of a professional who has awakened the unique five-stars initial hidden profession. This is the first time such a professional has appeared in the Solar System. An additional SSS-level title reward, 'First Transcender,' will be specially bestowed upon this professional!"

The sound of the great path echoed three times in succession, leaving people worldwide shaken and finding it difficult to calm their agitated hearts for a long time.

Even the three Alliance Hierarchs of the Academy Alliance were visibly shocked.

As the sound of the great path faded, the terrifying phenomenon also gradually receded.

Evidently, just as the sound of the great path implied, this phenomenon was not a Disaster, but an Awakening phenomenon!

But an Awakening phenomenon that enveloped the entire globe... that was truly unheard of!

"The unique five-stars initial hidden profession! Does such a profession even exist? On our Earth, since the Heavenly Dao descended and we entered the new era, not a single five-stars initial hidden profession has ever appeared, right?"

"That's right. We've certainly never heard of it. Even from the three Life Planets in the Yongming Star System—and we've been dealing with them for so long—we've never received any such information."

"Regardless, it's enough that the Heavenly Dao has confirmed this phenomenon is a good thing. Earth's fortune has truly arrived! I never expected such a heaven-defying individual to appear. This person is ten thousand times more critical than the one who previously triggered the sound of the great path three times! We must dispatch people immediately to investigate and protect this individual with all our resources!"

"Your students in China just finished their Awakening. Neither of our other two nations has organized collective Awakenings for students recently. Therefore, the one who awakened this five-stars initial hidden profession is likely not an Academy student. That leaves members of the aristocratic families, or perhaps someone from a smaller, independent settlement. This actually narrows down the search considerably."

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"We need to move quickly. If the target is too easy to investigate, the Aliens will certainly not be slow either. We can't let them find them first. Once they find them, they'll really spare no expense this time."

"Right, start notifying all parties immediately!"

The three Alliance Hierarchs simultaneously started contacting various parties, pressing forward with their investigations! They wanted to know which child had awakened their profession at this particular time. Generally speaking, only children from aristocratic families awakened at such a time. After all, those from academies usually underwent concentrated awakenings.

The primary reason for this focused investigation was that the sound of the great path clearly stated it was an initial profession. Therefore, anyone above Level 1 could be immediately ruled out. After all, individuals above Level 1 had already awakened their professions, so how could they still possess an initial profession? They truly had never encountered an ability that could directly change one's initial profession.

While Earth's upper echelons transitioned from grief to joy, the Aliens experienced the exact opposite. They had only just begun to revel in their success when they were all struck dumb, as if by a bolt from the blue, frozen in place. This time, the sound of the great path was undeniably a huge blow to them! This was more devastating to them than learning that one of their Life Planets in the Yongming Star System had exploded.

To think someone on Earth had awakened such an inexplicably bizarre profession!

A profession capable of causing phenomena that spread across the entire world—they had never heard of, let alone seen, such a thing!

With such terrifying phenomena, just how monstrously powerful must the awakened initial profession be!?

"Impossible! How could there be such a thing as an initial hidden profession? We've never heard of it before! Across our three Life Planets, through so many generations and countless awakenings, never have we heard of an initial profession having a hidden version. Could the sound of the great path be mistaken?!"

"Impossible. Even if the sound of the great path were mistaken, the phenomena wouldn't be. This time, the phenomenon enveloped the entire world; it's definitely not something an ordinary five-star initial profession awakening could achieve. Such phenomena absolutely match the caliber of a never-before-seen five-star initial hidden profession!"

"For such a figure to appear on Earth, and precisely when the Teleportation Ground is being sealed... What do we do now?!"

Rangu's expression was extremely grim. This was a stark contrast to his gleeful demeanor from moments before. His earlier glee hadn't vanished; it had merely been transferred. Teleported to the other camp, one might say. His brow furrowed as he struggled to make a decision!

"Quickly notify all our personnel across the globe! Mobilize immediately and thoroughly investigate this individual! Since we already know it's an initial profession, finding information on this person will be ten thousand times easier than for those who triggered the sound of the great path the previous three times! At any cost, regardless of the losses, we must find and kill him before the powerful figures on Earth can protect him!"

Rangu, who had just resolved to lay low again, was now utterly frantic. After all, with such an astonishing event unfolding, it was impossible for him to calmly think through a plan to handle it. Both sides had received the news in a state of complete shock, and furthermore, the information itself was extremely easy to trace. It was now purely a contest of speed between their respective personnel. Under these conditions, how could the Aliens possibly conduct a covert investigation? He was now willing to risk exposing a large number of his people to quickly get to the bottom of this matter.

Meanwhile, all over Earth, the populace, initially thrown into a state of confusion and panic by the bizarre celestial phenomena, instantly transitioned from chaos to elation after the sound of the great path made its three announcements. This was especially true for those who had previously been lamenting that they hadn't awakened a profession and didn't want to die. At this moment, they were the happiest group of people on the planet.

Because of this unknown individual who had awakened the unique five-star initial hidden profession, their chances of awakening combat professions and high-star professions in the future would significantly increase. They considered themselves to have encountered a truly opportune moment. It wasn't just them; even adults who had already awakened their professions were discussing this development with great excitement and joy.

"This is wonderful! We thought something terrible was happening, but it turned out to be an immense blessing! It seems Heaven still favors us Earthlings."

"Exactly! The one who triggered the sound of the great path this time is far more incredible than those from the previous three times. This person can increase the global probability of future combat professions and high-star professions appearing. It's truly an unprecedented, monumental contribution!"

"After this, as long as we can withstand the Aliens' harassment, our Earth will surely enter a golden age rapidly!"

"This young one's awakening is truly a blessing!"

"But speaking of luck, this is truly heaven-defying! Awakening a unique five-star initial profession already involves incredible odds, but who would have thought a unique five-star initial *hidden* profession could also appear? This is genuinely an unprecedented achievement!"

"Who knows if it will become more common in the future? As they say, where there's a first, there's often a second."

"It's already wonderful that its appearance this time has brought benefits to the entire world; we shouldn't be greedy and ask for a second. I was originally worried that my child, after being born, would

also become a lifestyle professional like me. Now that the chances have significantly increased, I'm not as anxious as before. Suddenly, I have great expectations for his future."

"Haha, your child isn't even born yet! My child is about to attend the awakening ceremony next year; they've really caught this lucky wave! I hope this first group to reap the benefits next year will all perform well and give our spirits a good boost!"

While the crowd was joyfully discussing, a certain group of people, however, was not quite so cheerful.

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These were the students who had awakened at the same time as Chen Mo. Among them, those who hadn't awakened any combat professions, or high-star professions, couldn't help but lament their bad luck.

Because they had only awakened for about ten days or so, and suddenly these benefits appeared.

If they had awakened just ten-odd days later? Wouldn't they have caught this opportunity?

Many of them complained and grew angry, feeling they had suffered a great loss.

"Damn it! If I had awakened just ten-odd days later, I might have awakened a combat profession, maybe even a high-star combat profession! As a lifestyle profession, is there nothing to look forward to in the future?"

A male student at home was so dejected he felt like crying.

His mother, hearing him, comforted, "Silly boy, everyone has their own destiny, and things are predestined. A lifestyle profession isn't a dead end. Strive to find a wife sooner. You didn't catch this wave, but your children might!"

What else could he do but try to console himself this way?

The boy said nothing more.

「At Seaside Second Middle School」

The teachers hadn't left yet. When they heard the news, they couldn't help but look at each other in dismay.

Shen Rulong said with deep feeling, "Even without this benefit, our Seaside Second Middle School has performed so impressively this year. If we had caught this wave, wouldn't our school have soared to the heavens?"

Su Tianxin added with a hint of regret, "Chen Mo has always been top in his training; he should have awakened a better profession. If he had been able to catch this wave of benefits, he probably wouldn't have ended up as just a two-star Skeleton Mage."

Su Tianxin felt quite aggrieved that such a hardworking and excellent student hadn't received the results he deserved.

"He didn't seem to mind before; he probably spent some time inwardly suppressing his feelings about it," Su Tianxin continued. "But now that this news has suddenly come out, I'm afraid when he hears it, he'll be upset for quite a while."

"And it's not just him. This news is a huge blow to every child who didn't awaken an ideal profession. It's unimaginable how many of them might not be able to cope."

Shen Rulong's assessment was accurate.

Indeed, at this very moment, some who couldn't handle the news began to contemplate ending their lives.

Originally, if everyone's circumstances had been the same, they would have resigned themselves to their fate even if their awakenings weren't good. But now, for those who awakened just slightly later,

the conditions had changed. It was only a difference of ten-odd days; anyone who learned of it would feel terrible.

As the saying goes: "It is not scarcity that is to be feared, but inequality."

If their own awakenings were poor, they could still console themselves that everyone before them had been in the same boat, and those after them would be too. But that wasn't the case anymore. From their cohort onwards, others would have double the chances!

This huge psychological disparity delivered an absolutely disastrous blow.

Consequently, many people with weaker mental fortitude found themselves unable to accept it; they either cried their eyes out or began to contemplate reincarnation.

「Meanwhile」

Chen Mo, the one who had caused this entire incident, was himself stunned speechless where he stood.

He never imagined that his reawakening of the initial profession would trigger such an outrageous phenomenon! When he saw the sky outside his window transform into such a terrifying sight, he himself had been scared silly. Even he had almost thought some great Disaster was about to strike, until the sound of the great path emerged. Only then did he realize that such a horrifying and startling phenomenon was actually caused by his awakening of the sole five-star initial hidden profession. And that his awakening of this profession had actually granted a wave of benefits to all future generations worldwide! An incredibly huge benefit, at that! So much so that the vast majority of people around the world were praising him.

Watching the sky outside gradually return to normal, Chen Mo found his emotions in turmoil, unable to calm down for a long time.

He had never, ever imagined he would cause such an outrageous commotion!

KNOCK, KNOCK, KNOCK!

Before long, a knock sounded at the door.

Chen Mo opened the door and was momentarily taken aback to see Sister Yiyi looking at him with some concern. "Sister Yiyi, what's wrong?" he asked.

Liu Yiyi carefully observed Chen Mo's expression, then breathed a sigh of relief. "Nothing," she said, "I was just startled by the sudden darkness earlier, that strange phenomenon."

Liu Yiyi was a very perceptive person. After hearing the sound of the great path, she had immediately wondered if Chen Mo might be negatively affected by the news. Fearing that Chen Mo's young heart might be impacted, she had quickly come over to check on him, prepared to offer some comfort. To her surprise, Chen Mo seemed completely normal, which made her heave a genuine sigh of relief.

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Seeing that Chen Mo was fine, Liu Yiyi felt reassured and went back to what she was doing.

After closing the door, Chen Mo took another look at the sky outside, which had returned to normal, and called upon the Heavenly Path System to review the hint he had just received from it.

There was a new SSS-level Title added.

He immediately opened it to check its effect.

[SSS-level Title—First Transcender]

[Title Effect]: All Attributes increased by 500 points; gain a damage reduction effect with a percentage value equal to the number of 'Free Attribute Points' you can obtain per level.

[Title Skill]: First Transcender

[First Transcender·The Golden Passive]: Your Free Attribute Points corresponding to your star level are increased by one tier from their original basis.

[Title Description]: You are the first one in this world to transcend the ordinary; your abilities will definitely surpass others. May you not fall prematurely!

This is too strong, isn't it? Doesn't this mean my attributes have essentially jumped another tier?

As mentioned before, for each star in a combat profession, one gains 5 freely distributable attribute points upon leveling up.

When your combat profession's star level exceeds five, the Free Attribute Points obtained for each star become 10.

Ordinary people could only achieve this kind of attribute point bonus after their first-transition.

This is because an initial profession can only reach five stars at most; it's impossible to exceed five stars.

So, the free attributes obtained from five stars or fewer are referred to as first-tier free attributes.

Six stars to ten stars are called the second-tier. At this stage, the Free Attribute Points corresponding to each star are multiplied by the tier number, meaning $5 \times 2 = 10$ points.

Subsequently, eleven stars to fifteen stars are known as the third-tier. According to the rules, each star grants $5 \times 3 = 15$ attribute points.

And so on.

Because Chen Mo had a hidden profession, he was already in the second-tier while normal people were still in the first-tier.

Now, the First Transcender title elevated his attribute tier by another level, causing Chen Mo's free attribute tier to directly reach the third-tier even before his first-transition.

A single star was now equivalent to 15 Free Attribute Points.

His combat profession had now also become a five-star profession. With ten stars, this meant the attribute points he could obtain per level up had directly become 150.

The improvement was rather exaggerated. This gap would continue to widen after future class advancements. For now, it seemed acceptable.

However, this title also had another very strong effect: it allowed Chen Mo to gain damage reduction with a percentage value equal to the Free Attribute Points he could obtain per level.

Chen Mo could now obtain 150 Free Attribute Points per level, which meant the damage reduction effect he could gain was 150%.

Of course, under the restrictions of the Heavenly Dao, the maximum effective damage reduction was capped at 99%. Any excess damage reduction wasn't useless; it could be used to offset an opponent's increased damage effects.

This meant that under the effect of this title alone, if an opponent didn't have more than 51% increased damage, all damage they inflicted on Chen Mo would be offset by 99%. Only 1% would take effect.

And Chen Mo didn't just have one damage reduction ability; the previously acquired title, The Lonely God of War, also possessed a considerably strong damage reduction effect.

With both combined, an opponent would need an extremely explosive increased damage effect to have a chance of dealing effective damage to Chen Mo.

Of course, if their increased damage wasn't high, but their base damage was very high, that would also work.

After all, damage reduction was at most 99% effective. If you could deal 10 billion damage with one punch, even if 99% of that damage was reduced, 100 million damage would still land on Chen Mo.

That could still kill him with a single punch.

After looking at the incredibly powerful title, Chen Mo, full of expectation, opened the profession page.

I wonder what the five-star initial hidden profession looks like.

[Initial Hidden Profession-Combat]: Dominator of the Undead ★★★★★

[Professional Talent]: Lord of the Undead

[Lord of the Undead]: As long as Undead Units you summoned survive within a range of 'Level * star level * 100m' around you, you cannot die for any reason. You possess an Undead Containment Space within your body, capable of holding up to 'Level * star level * 100' undead. Undead stored in the reclusion space will ignore their duration and exist permanently. However, when released, their duration countdown will resume.

HISS! If there are Undead-Summoning Items around, I won't die no matter what happens! Isn't this talent damn insane? Isn't this equivalent to being invincible in a sense?!

Chen Mo found it incredible; he knew that the Heavenly Dao imposed extremely strict limitations on abilities related to death.

This unique five-star initial hidden profession actually came with such an outrageous talent.

It was downright inhumane.

What's even more outrageous is that the reclusion space provided by the talent can unconditionally store a large number of undead in advance. If it were filled to the brim and then all of them were released at once, the scene would be absolutely mind-blowing!

Damn, this is just a Professional Talent, and it's already so outrageous. A five-star profession comes with profession-exclusive skills. I wonder how insane this hidden five-star profession will be.

Chen Mo continued to read.

[Profession-exclusive passive skills]: Dominator's Appearance, Undead Rally, Death Summons, Locked (Unlocked when breaking through the fourth-tier bottleneck.)...

[Dominator's Appearance·The Golden Passive]: All your Undead Summoning skills can be instant-cast. Furthermore, they can ignore any summoning condition limitations (such as energy consumption or the need for special materials).

Chen Mo had heard that to summon top-tier summoned creatures, one needed to prepare corresponding high-level items in advance.

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Otherwise, one could only watch helplessly, unable to summon. This didn't just apply to Summoners; whether it was a Mage's forbidden curse or a warrior's forbidden attack, the principle was the same. None of these could be cast out of thin air. They all required casting materials to be prepared beforehand.

However, this Passive effect could directly ignore summoning conditions, requiring no Energy or material consumption. It was truly brazenly overpowered.

[[Undead Rally·Golden Passive]] : When summoning Undead, there is a $1/X$ chance to summon X times the number of Undead (where X is the multiplier. The calculation starts from the highest possible multiplier, checking every $10x$ increment downwards, up to a maximum multiplier of 'Level * 10').

This means, for a given multiplier X , there is a $1/X$ chance to summon X times the normal number of Undead. For example, if Chen Mo had a Skill that normally summoned 100 Undead, with this passive, each time he summoned, there would be a $1/150$ chance to summon 150 times that amount, totaling 15,000 Undead. If this $1/150$ chance wasn't triggered, as per the parenthetical explanation, the calculation would proceed to the next lower multiplier. It would then check for a $1/140$ chance to trigger

140 times the amount. If that still didn't trigger, it would continue to a 1/130 chance for 130 times, and so on, until a multiplier was triggered. If, after checking all the way down to a 1/10 chance for a 10x summon, none were successful, then he would summon the original amount.

Although it relied on probability, the fact that there were many chances to trigger it, coupled with the maximum multiplier increasing with his Level, made this Passive effect incredibly potent. This was a powerful talent capable of bringing a qualitative change to Undead summoning-type Skills.

After reading this, only three words echoed in Chen Mo's mind: Invincibly strong!

[[Death Summons·Golden Passive]] : All units killed by you or your summons will be resurrected as Special Undead, retaining their full strength from when they were alive, to serve you!

Special Undead can only be housed in the Special Containment Space. Outside of it, each Special Undead can survive for a maximum of 1 minute. However, housing them in the Special Containment Space allows them to survive permanently, and their external survival duration is refreshed each time they are summoned. A Special Undead housed in the Special Containment Space requires a 1-minute Cooldown before it can be summoned again. You gain one Special Undead Containment Space slot for every 10 Levels. Current slots: 0/1.

Clearly, the Special Containment Space differed from the talent's regular Undead Containment Space. While Undead housed in the regular Undead Containment Space were also permanent, if you repeatedly withdrew and stored the same Undead, its active duration outside would be continuously deducted upon each release. The Special Containment Space for Special Undead was different. Each time you summoned a Special Undead from it, its maximum sustainable duration would be refreshed.

Seeing this Skill description, a bold idea sparked in Chen Mo's mind. Take those god-grade BOSSes I killed before, for instance. If they can also be resurrected as Special Undead, and I house them in my Special Containment Space, wouldn't I be able to summon them anytime and be incredibly formidable? This is just ridiculously overpowered!

[Profession Exclusive Active Skills]: Undead Summoning●God, Order of Dominance, Dominator's Power, Locked (Unlocks upon breaking through the fourth-tier bottleneck).

[[Undead Summoning•God•Golden Active]] : Can be used once every 24 hours to summon a powerful Undead whose Level scales with your own.

There is a 100% chance to summon a mid-tier Undead, a 10% chance to summon a top-tier Undead, a 1% chance to summon a super-tier Undead, and a 0.01% chance to summon a god-tier Undead.

Summoned powerful Undead can exist permanently, but you can only have a number of permanently existing ones equal to 'your Level' active simultaneously. Powerful Undead that cannot be made permanent will be returned to the Undead Realm after 1 hour. (During summoning, probability is checked starting from the highest rank).

"If I trigger the god-tier Undead summoning and simultaneously trigger the highest multiplier of Undead Rally, wouldn't I just take off? Even if there are extras, I can store them in the Undead Containment Space first, so I don't have to worry about them disappearing immediately." Chen Mo's thoughts were quite optimistic. Triggering the 0.01% (one in ten thousand) chance for a god-tier Undead and then the 1/150 chance for a 150x summon—the odds were comparable to winning the lottery. Still, if he actually managed it, he could definitely accumulate an extremely powerful combat force.

[[Order of Dominance•Golden Active]] : Designate one target. Damage dealt to this target by all your summoned Undead is multiplied by 'your Level'! (Cooldown: 3 seconds).

"Such a short Cooldown! I can basically designate the next target immediately after killing the current one. And it doesn't seem to mention a duration. Does that mean it's permanently effective once designated?" he mused. "This is so much better than that trash Skeleton Mage talent that only doubled attack damage. That one even required me to deal damage first. With this, I can just designate the target directly. It's incredibly convenient and practical!"

[[Dominator's Power•Golden Active]] : You can absorb the power of all your summoned Undead Units to enhance yourself. This grants you mastery over their Active Skills and increases your own attribute values based on the tier and number of Undead absorbed (see below). Duration: 10 minutes. Cooldown: 30 minutes.

While Dominator's Power is active, you cannot perform any related summons. (Attribute value increase per absorbed Undead: low-level +1%, mid-tier +2%, top-tier +5%, super-tier +10%, god-tier +100%.)

"What a powerful Active Skill! If I ever face a situation I must handle alone, I can absorb all my Undead to massively boost my combat power! Even in a forced one-on-one fight, it would still be heaven-defying!"

After reviewing all the effects of the Dominator of the Undead, Chen Mo was filled with immense excitement and anticipation. With such a powerful profession by my side, I can truly soar to new heights now! I don't even need to be that afraid of Aliens anymore. After all, the talent's effect was clearly stated: as long as any Undead he summoned remained alive in his vicinity, he would not die for any reason. This range was vast. With Chen Mo's current Level and star-level, it already covered an area with a 15,000-meter radius centered on him. With such a large area, unless an opponent used a forbidden curse, it would be impossible for them to clear out all the Skeleton Monsters around him in one go. As long as my opponents don't know my abilities and can't find a way to counter them, I'll be unbeatable!

After reading the profession description, Chen Mo saw two Locked Skills awaiting unlocking. The condition wasn't difficult: break through the fourth-tier bottleneck. He was currently stuck at the third-tier bottleneck. However, his 100% SSS pass rate for the Level 15 Realm Breakthrough Assessment had already been calculated and verified, essentially meaning it was as good as passed. In reality, he just needed to clear the Level 20 Realm Breakthrough Assessment to be done with bottlenecks for now.

Now that my strength is even more insane, I don't even know how I could lose! Just the first six unlocked Skills were already this powerful; Chen Mo eagerly anticipated how strong the subsequent ones would be. He decided to proceed with the Realm Breakthrough Assessment immediately.

However, before starting the Realm Breakthrough Assessment, he sensed the situation of the two people protecting him nearby. After all, even though they aren't peeking at what I'm doing right now, what if they come to investigate during the minute I enter the Realm Breakthrough Assessment Space? Wouldn't I be exposed then? But after a quick scan, Chen Mo was surprised to find that the two individuals had left sometime without him noticing.

Of course, they had left. Protecting Chen Mo was now a trivial matter. Global forces were urgently mobilizing to find the youngster who had awakened the unique five-star initial hidden profession. That person was Earth's greatest hope for the future. Who had time to worry about the fate of a mere two-star Skeleton Mage?

Realizing this, Chen Mo gave a wry smile. He quickly guessed why the two had left. The current uproar was immense. Unlike the previous three occurrences of the sound of the great path, the clues this time made the target far too easy to locate. It wasn't like searching for a needle in a haystack anymore; they could simply conduct a global search for anyone who had just awakened their profession. Because it was

so straightforward, the situation was extremely urgent. After all, whether Aliens or people from Earth found this individual first would have a revolutionary impact on the future balance of power! Naturally, all available personnel had been mobilized for this task.

Seeing this, Chen Mo wasn't bothered. On the contrary, it was better this way. With no one paying attention to him, he could peacefully begin his Realm Breakthrough Assessment.

Chapter 239: The Power of the Special Undead! (Two in one, 2/5)_1

Before entering the assessment, Chen Mo examined his current attributes.

With his new title and the promotion of his Profession star level, his attributes had improved by leaps and bounds.

[Name]: Chen Mo

[star level]: Ten-star (Five-star Hidden + Five-star Hidden)

[Profession]: Dominator of the Undead (Hidden initial profession), Infinite Fusion Master (Hidden initial profession)

[Level]: 15

[Experience]: 8,247,338/149,600 (Third-tier bottleneck)

[Attributes]:

Constitution 15,540 = Life 591,189, Physical Defense 90,198, Life Recovery 15,540 points/10 seconds (40% per second)

Strength 14,528 = Physical Attack 43,583

Agility 14,528 = Critical Damage +14,528%

Wisdom 18,929 = Magic Attack 58,787

Spirit 18,929 = Energy 946,446, Magic Defense 107,145, Energy Recovery 19,929 points/10 seconds (140% per second)

The Skeleton Monster that can be summoned using these attributes has the following properties: Health 567,868, Physical Attack 170,360, Magic Attack 170,360, Physical Defense 0, Magic Defense 0, Characteristics — Bomb, Revival, Corpse Poison, Invisible, Sacred, Unity.

If Chen Mo's previous attributes could be compared to a standard Level 60 second-transition professional, his current attributes were now nearly equivalent to a high star level Level 60 second-transition professional.

Though still far from a Level 60 third-transition, his attributes at least ranked him among the top of second-transition professionals.

After confirming his current powerful attributes, Chen Mo selected the SSS-level challenge for the Realm Breakthrough Assessment!

[The Heavenly Path's Hint: This challenge will deduct 1,496,000 experience points. Please confirm.]

[The Heavenly Path's Hint: Warning! This assessment is extremely difficult. According to historical challenger death statistics, there is an extremely high mortality rate! Please confirm again whether you wish to proceed with the challenge!]

"Confirm!"

[The Heavenly Path's Hint: Experience deduction complete. You will soon enter the assessment space!]

[The Heavenly Path's Hint: You have entered the assessment space. The assessment mission has been issued!]

[Mission Hint: Assist the residents of Storm City in resisting the beast wave's assault on the city. Survive for 24 hours. A beast wave will attack every hour. The beast wave's intensity will increase every hour, and its numbers will double. Successfully repelling each beast wave grants city defense rewards based on the wave number and an opportunity to abandon the challenge!]

[The Heavenly Path's Hint: The first beast wave will arrive in 15 minutes. You have one opportunity to abandon the assessment. Do you wish to abandon it?]

A survival assessment? Is it that simple and brutal?

Chen Mo directly selected 'No.'

[The Heavenly Path's Hint: You have accepted the assessment. The assessment has officially started, and the survival countdown has begun...]

As the prompt ended, Chen Mo found himself in a small city.

As soon as he arrived, Chen Mo saw several soldiers with severed limbs awaiting treatment and many residents with sorrowful expressions. The entire town was permeated with a bleak death energy.

"Hero Lord, thank you for your support! We heard that you can summon a large number of undead to aid in battle. We entrust today's beast wave entirely to you! Our soldiers have suffered heavy casualties, and our combat strength is only a few thousand—a mere drop in the bucket. However, we still have many Blessing Masters who can bestow blessings upon you and your Undead Army!"

While Chen Mo was observing his surroundings, a man with one arm and a chunk of flesh missing from his face, revealing his frightening gums, lightly tapped him and informed him of the current situation.

"Were you attacked by the beast wave?"

"Yes, these brutes are extremely cruel. Look at what those beasts that broke in have done."

The Guard Captain pointed with grief and indignation at a mother and son nearby.

One could see that an unidentified beast had gnawed away half of both the mother's and son's bodies. The mother, in an attempt to protect her son, had shielded him with her own body and thus suffered more damage. Blood and intestines from both victims were spilled on the ground, a truly tragic and horrifying sight.

Chen Mo couldn't bear to look at this and averted his gaze.

It wasn't that he was afraid of the gore, but seeing a mother struggle so desperately to protect her child, only to fail in the end, filled him with an inexplicable sense of sorrow.

"Please take me to see the direction of the beast wave's assault."

The Guard Captain nodded to a young recruit beside him and said, "Lin Ke, take the Hero Lord to the city tower to have a look."

"Yes!"

"My apologies, Hero Lord. I need to receive treatment, so I won't be able to accompany you."

"It's alright. Go ahead."

Chen Mo nodded and looked at the young man standing beside the Guard Captain.

The young man was clearly new to such a place, a hint of fear visible in his expression.

"Hero Lord, please follow me."

As he followed the young soldier towards the city tower, Chen Mo saw bloodstains everywhere—some from Demon Beasts, others from humans. The city was littered with corpses, and everyone was too busy to even begin clearing them.

This is truly brutal! If a Disaster capable of breaching the city were to really occur, I'm afraid our Earth would become a living hell like this.

Human empathy allowed Chen Mo to deeply feel for the suffering of this city's inhabitants.

Soon, he ascended the city tower along with the young soldier.

Many able-bodied soldiers were still stationed here, guarding the tower. When they saw Lin Ke approaching with Chen Mo, everyone immediately looked at Chen Mo with curiosity. They had heard that a Hero Lord would arrive to help them resist the beast wave.

This newcomer indeed seemed to possess such an aura.

"Seniors, this is the Hero Lord who has come to help us defend the city. The Guard Captain asked me to bring him here to see the surroundings."

"Is he truly the Hero Lord?"

"The Hero Lord is really here!"

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"Mighty Hero, you will lead us to victory, won't you?"

After the previous beast tide, the entire city had been plunged into despair. Chen Mo's arrival was a much-needed shot in the arm.

They all turned to him, seeking answers.

"Rest assured, everyone. I will do my best," Chen Mo said with a nod. "I need a report on all your remaining combat forces and City Defense Equipment. Please gather it for me within the next 10 minutes."

Seeing how the Heavenly Dao had left him with so many combatants, Chen Mo couldn't help but wonder if this was because the city housed some formidable City Defense Equipment. Could that be the reason?

"Yes, Sir! I'll get on it right away!"

Two messengers immediately hurried out.

During the wait, Chen Mo surveyed the tower's situation while beginning to summon his minions in advance. After all, with a beast tide imminent, early preparations were essential.

As Chen Mo willed it, activating his Skeleton Summoning Skill, a Heavenly Dao Hint suddenly rang out.

[The Heavenly Dao's Hint: Congratulations! You have triggered "Undead Rally," multiplying your summon quantity by 50 for this instance!]

Due to the increase in his profession's star level, Chen Mo's Unity Undead Army skill could now summon an increased number of Skeleton Monsters. Its base capacity allowed him to summon four thousand Skeleton Monsters. Now, having triggered a fifty-fold multiplier, 200,000 Skeleton Monsters, all in an invisible state and stacked together, appeared by Chen Mo's side in an instant.

A five-star initial hidden profession is truly powerful!

Chen Mo marveled, sensing the vast legion of Skeleton Monsters.

Two hundred thousand should be more than enough, right? I previously achieved a 100% success rate even without this level of combat power.

Although his success rate was 100%, Chen Mo knew he couldn't afford to be complacent. After all, clearing SSS-level difficulty instances often required utilizing the inherent strengths and resources within the instance itself. If he acted recklessly simply because he knew he had a 100% success rate, it could easily backfire. This was why Chen Mo had requested information on the City Defense Equipment. In siege battles, City Defense Equipment is a critical component. It was highly probable that the City Defense Equipment would also play a significant role in this instance's mission.

His task might just be to protect the City Defense Equipment, rather than sending his Skeleton Monsters out to fight. This was a conclusion Chen Mo drew from his previous experience: he had managed a 100% success rate even when he could only summon just over three thousand Skeleton Monsters.

The term "beast tide" implied an overwhelming horde of monsters, far beyond mere hundreds or thousands. With only a little over three thousand Skeleton Monsters, Chen Mo found it hard to imagine achieving a 100% successful defense. Therefore, the City Defense Equipment had to be absolutely crucial. Relying on three thousand Skeleton Monsters to kill all enemies might be impossible, but using them to defend some vital City Defense Equipment was still plausible.

Of course, Chen Mo was different now. He could now summon 200,000 Skeleton Monsters at once. Perhaps he really could just steamroll this instance. However, to be on the safe side, Chen Mo felt it was best to follow the instance's intended progression as much as possible.

Satisfied for now with the fifty-fold summon quantity he'd triggered, Chen Mo temporarily stopped trying to roll for a higher multiplier and turned his attention to the "Undead Summoning-Divine" skill.

This skill can only be used once a day. I wonder if Cooldown reduction effects apply to it.

Skill usage limitations generally fall into two categories: one determines how often an opportunity to use the skill is granted, and the other is a standard Cooldown period. The former type usually isn't affected by Cooldown reduction unless specifically stated. That was why Chen Mo felt a bit uncertain.

He decided to try casting it.

Summoning powerful undead was an entirely different spectacle compared to summoning mere Skeleton Monsters.

As Chen Mo pointed his Magic Wand, an energy imbued with the aura of death immediately surged above the city walls. Soon, massive, pitch-black rifts tore open in the surrounding void. This spectacle left everyone in the city utterly astounded.

"Enemy attack! Enemy attack!" a soldier immediately cried out in alarm.

"Don't panic. This is my skill," Chen Mo quickly explained, seeing the surrounding people in disarray.

"What!? This is the Hero's skill!"

"So powerful! Truly the Hero! A single skill can cause such a tremendous stir!"

"This is great! With the Hero's help, we can definitely defend this city!"

Chen Mo had only intended to test the skill, but it unexpectedly gave the City Guards a huge morale boost.

[The Heavenly Dao's Hint: Due to your actions, the City Guards' morale has increased by 100%. They have gained the 'Fearless Advance' BUFF for 24 hours!]

[Fearless Advance]: Attack speed +100%, all damage dealt +100%, all damage received -50%!

Well, now, that's a pleasant surprise! Chen Mo chuckled and continued to observe the sky.

At this moment, a total of twenty rifts had appeared in the sky. Streams of black fog, swirling with a terrifying aura, poured out from the pitch-black rifts and descended upon the city walls.

"KEKEKE...!"

Simultaneously, eerie shrieks and roars echoed from beyond the rifts, chilling to the bone.

As clouds of black fog, each over two meters tall and carrying unknown entities, flew out from the rifts, the twenty rifts finally began to close one after another.

[The Heavenly Dao's Hint: You have used "Undead Summoning-Divine" to summon the powerful, top-tier undead: 'Death Knight'!]

[The Heavenly Dao's Hint: Congratulations! You have triggered Undead Rally, multiplying your summon quantity by 20 for this instance!]

Following the two consecutive Heavenly Dao Hints, the black fog completely dissipated, revealing twenty imposing Death Knights standing on the city walls. However, they were all in an invisible state, perceptible only to Chen Mo.

Ethereal, blue spectral flames blazed around these Death Knights. Some wielded greatswords, others giant axes, and some long spears. All were clad in heavy armor, mounted on imposing Bone Horrid Warhorses, exuding an air of formidable might and dominance! The Bone Horrid Warhorses they rode were no less extraordinary. These steeds wore distinctive horned iron helmets and were also clad in heavy armor. Their eyes glowed with faint blue flames, while their hooves were wreathed in crimson fire so intense it seemed to warp the very air, as if they could trample foes into paste or incinerate them to ash!

[The Heavenly Dao's Hint: You can only maintain 15 powerful undead permanently. Please designate your permanent selections!]

Since these powerful undead could last for a full hour, Chen Mo wasn't in a rush to make his permanent selections. He decided to examine their attributes first.

[Death Knight-Top-Tier Undead]

[Attribute]: Health 1,703,604, Dual Attack 383,311, Dual Defense 668,877

[Skills]:

[Curse of Death]: Sacrifice 10% of own Health to restore twice that amount to a friendly target. If used on an enemy, inflicts double damage instead. Cooldown: 5 seconds.

[Shield of Darkness]: Creates a permanent shield of Dark Energy to protect a friendly unit. The shield can absorb damage equal to ten times the Death Knight's attack power. Casting also removes negative effects from the target. (Cooldown: 5 seconds)

[Cursed Blade]: Attacks reduce the target's attack speed and movement speed by 20%, while increasing the Death Knight's own attack speed and movement speed by 40%. This buff lasts for 5 seconds, and its duration is refreshed with each attack.

[Sign of Reflected Light]: Activation removes negative effects from the Death Knight and converts all damage received while the skill is active into an equivalent amount of healing. If the Death Knight's current Health drops below 10% and this skill is not on cooldown, it will automatically activate upon taking the next instance of damage. Duration: 5 seconds. Cooldown: 30 seconds.

[Special Skills]:

[Special Undead]: Shares all abilities associated with skills from the 'Skeleton Summoning' series.

[Shared Abilities]: Bomb, Revival, Corpse Poison, Invisibility, Sacred, Unity

So powerful! Truly befitting a top-tier undead. Its base attributes are more than double those of a regular Skeleton Monster. And unlike regular skeletons that have almost no defensive power, these possess high defensive power. The most incredible part is that they can directly share all abilities associated with the 'Skeleton Summoning' skill series!

Chen Mo was thrilled to discover that his Special Undead possessed such an ability. He had initially worried that the top-tier undead he summoned might be inferior to the regular Skeleton Monsters he had painstakingly enhanced through multiple syntheses. Now, however, he could finally rest assured.