

God level 101

Chapter 101: Luring and Killing Hidden Enemies

Looking at the big red dot appearing on the mini-map radar, Da Fei immediately commanded the army to be on alert while pulling out a telescope to look up at the sky. This red dot appearing here now, out of all times, was obviously up to something.

In the telescope, a vague and massive figure appeared. Da Fei's eyelid twitched in shock; such a large being, was it a boss?

Just as he was astonished, the figure vanished, and the red dot on the radar disappeared as well. Da Fei was suddenly startled. How could it disappear? Demon teleportation? Stealth?

Regardless of what it was, the key was that this creature was at the top of who-knows-how-high tree roots, the Jungle Hunter's range was insufficient, and the Crossbow Cannon couldn't hit the top overhead. Was he supposed to send the airborne Flower Demon Charm Emperor? But the opponent was definitely a BOSS, right? What kind of BOSS hovers overhead? Could it also be airborne?

While he was in shock, the massive figure appeared again! At the same time, the red dot on the mini-map reappeared!

Da Fei finally saw it clearly; it was a giant spider the size of a house! Then, it vanished after just a fleeting moment!

Da Fei's eyebrows jumped, it was Stealth! Even with his God-level Reconnaissance Skill and telescope, it was still hard to see, indicating the opponent's skill level was extremely high in stealth! Of course, it could also be the dim light or obstacles underground affecting it. The appearance of a spider here meant?

Da Fei hurriedly called over the Flower Demon Instructor, "Let me ask you something, how did the demons capture you?"

The Flower Demon Instructor sighed, "We didn't know what we hit while patrolling in the air, then we were powerless and lost consciousness. When we woke up, we were already captured."

Oh my gosh! This spider is good at charming unsuspecting youths, huh? I thought the Flower Demons were captured by demons as part of the plot, but it seems there's some basis.

This purification mission is indeed not that simple. Besides countless bugs, there's also this spider, a significant threat. Fortunately, with God-level Reconnaissance, I found it first. Otherwise, I'd have been ambushed when I least expected it.

The question is how to eliminate it? Fly into the sky? There certainly must be webs up there, right? If one touch means being captured, that's a huge loss! Flying up is not an option, not to mention the Flower Demons are weak, and there's no way for me to support them from the sky. If the opponent is plotting against me, I can only lure it down.

Da Fei immediately lifted the alert, letting the Jungle Hunters on deck rest and the Flower Demons continue playing at the barracks.

After waiting for a while, the red dot remained faintly visible but didn't come down. Was it still apprehensive?

Da Fei sent all Jungle Hunters from the deck into the cabin to rest while moving the Flower Demons into the barracks to sleep and recover mana. Such an undefended stance should work, right?

Da Fei waited again for a while, but nothing happened! Damn it! My time is precious! I still have to infiltrate enemy lines to save people; how can I waste time with you?

Does it have to wait for me to sail away before it takes action? Very likely, ambush-type creatures are usually very patient and wary, not acting easily. This is frustrating!

Does it mean once it attacks the barracks, I sail back to offer support? Damn it, this isn't a flying ship, once it appears, it'll escape without leaving a trace! The Crossbow Cannon is definitely unreliable!

Da Fei fell into deep thought, time ticked by, and Da Fei's frustration built up.

Actually, there is a way, and that's to see whose Phantom March or Stealth is stronger? But I don't know how strong the opponent is. It won't take me down instantly, right? Didn't they say strong creatures can't enter this barrier? I believe I can hold my ground, right?

In conclusion, there's no other way, only hand-to-hand combat!

Da Fei called Catherine and Selvia to discuss tactical details. Catherine expressed no problem, but Selvia looked uneasy and said, "Do I have to go underwater?"

Hey, hey, as the daughter of a sailor, whose dream is to sail with her father, it's not possible you can't swim, right? At the very least, you're a hero! Are there heroes who can't swim? Da Fei solemnly patted her small shoulder, "Yes, right now, you're the captain's solid support. I need you."

Selvia's face blushed, "But if I go underwater, I might get pregnant..."

—Apu!!! Da Fei spat out a mouthful of blood! Is this the bizarre worldview of a nun? This is the Pool of Radiance, not an insemination pool filled with tadpoles! What are you thinking?

Catherine laughed so hard, her laughter sparkling.

Damn it, what's so funny! To a nun, this is a very serious issue! No laughing, or I'll make you demonstrate how to get pregnant with me as an example!

Da Fei patted her small shoulder again, "It's okay; you won't get pregnant. If you do, it'll be on me!"

Selvia nodded, "Alright!"

Da Fei said satisfied, "That's better. Alright, we set off."

"Okay! Alright! Let's go!" Catherine laughed as she wobbled into the pilot cabin.

The Flying's magic sail raised, catching the weak wind of the Ancient Wind, sailing far away from the Flower Demon barracks, while Da Fei and Selvia quietly dove into the water midway. Da Fei activated Phantom March, and the two quietly swam back to the barracks, hiding underwater at the roots of the barrack's trees. The two Charm Emperors stealthily hovered in the air as well.

Yes, it's a contest to see who can hide better. Once that spider thinks it's safe to strike, I'll suddenly jump out and challenge it one-on-one!

Selvia's specialty was Sea Hymn, which enhanced the effect of Light Magic when used at sea as her level increased. Since she was level 22, it amplified by 22%, plus the effect of the Ancient Wind, though unknown, provided additional benefits. Her magic only aided me, greatly reducing mana consumption. Not aiming to win, just resisting and stalling until Catherine's giant cannon returns to finish it—then the battle is won. For stalling purposes, the Misfortune Hourglass was a big no-no; players suffering halved damage under Misfortune was better than a monster scoring critical hits under good fortune.

Now, Da Fei fixed his gaze on the red dot on the map, anticipating it nervously to take the bait.

Finally, the opponent lived up to expectations and moved! The red dot began moving slowly and steadily toward the barracks.

Ha ha ha! You think you can play with me at God-level Reconnaissance, kid, you're still too inexperienced! Now comes the critical moment, if I can't hold out, everything is in vain.

Closer now, a gigantic spider descended like an elevator with a thick silk thread trailing from its rear. Seeing its massive and peculiar body, Da Fei's heart couldn't help but shudder, could it just squish me directly?

It settled quietly on the barracks and began to spin webs—oh no, not happening, attack!

With a splash, Da Fei burst out from the water, spear in hand, as a gold light fell from the sky above him!

—System Prompt: Your Vice Hero Selvia casts Master-level Light Magic "Power of Tenacity" on you, increasing your Defense by 19 points.

Ha ha ha, now my Defense is 44 + 19 points, come try and take me down!

The spider glared with a row of red eyes, waving its huge claws at Da Fei, and at that moment Da Fei noticed a dark halo beneath it!

Da Fei was stunned! Damn it! This beast turned out to be a hero! So, there's non-human heroes in the game? What kind of hidden race with hidden heroes is this? Only in that moment, Da Fei realized how deep the waters of this Epic Quest really were.

No room for more thoughts, if it's a hero, it means its skills are limited to level 30, especially having invested so much in Reconnaissance Skill, its combat skills are more limited—I've got nothing to fear!

The battle began!

Da Fei thrust his spear first, as if stabbing into an iron plate, "-3!" "Poison immune!"

Da Fei's eyes narrowed in shock! Only a quarter of the normal damage, its Defense is around 100? Is it full-level Defense Skill? My Anemone poison is ineffective against it!

Then, the huge claw swiped down, blood flashing, Da Fei's body swayed, and a -51 popped up above his head! A +3 popped up above its head!

—Apu! Da Fei spat out old blood! I only have a little over 100 HP, and it took out half of it in one hit! How much damage does it cause? Full-level Attack Skill? Is it capable of life-stealing? How many skills does it have? Including its intrinsic racial Professional Skill as a bizarre race, it's got 4, right?

—System Prompt: Your Vice Hero Selvia uses Master-level Light Magic's Healing Skill on you, recovering +51 life!

Ha! Ha ha ha! I don't care how much damage or skills you have! Try finishing me off! I'm at full health again! I'm an expert because I always prepare for the worst while hoping for the best!

Come on, let's battle to the end!

Chapter 102: Killing the Spider Demon Hero

The mutual full-health hack-and-slash battle went on for several rounds.

Da Fei was not going to deploy the Flower Demons from the barracks or the Charming Emperor in the sky to help. Against the opponent's iron-solid defense and bloodsucking skill, low-damage troops posed no threat and might scare it into running away. If it escaped now, Da Fei wouldn't be able to stop it. That would mean his hard efforts went to waste.

The key was, this was a hero, not an ordinary monster boss, whose tactical level was better than the player's, at least in terms of operation. There was no telling about intelligence. If it was intelligent and Da Fei failed this time, he might never get another chance to lure and kill it. This threat could affect the entire success or failure of the epic quest.

Therefore, this time Da Fei had to succeed in luring and killing it, no room for failure!

The spider used its massive size to steadily press forward, seemingly trying to push Da Fei back into the water.

Bah! I never won against the computer at chess, don't think I can't see what you're doing! You want to target the healer! Da Fei immediately commanded Selvia in the water to stay away from the shore.

As Selvia moved away, the spider flashed all over with a red light, its massive claws suddenly accelerating — Da Fei was astonished!

It turned out to be the signature professional skill Fury of the Beastmen! It was taking advantage of the healing lapse to attack! Damn, a brilliant two-bird strategy! If the healer doesn't move, you target the healer. If it does, you kill me in seconds!

However, I have another healer! The Forest Goddess, hidden in the sky, took action! Although her advanced healing technique lacked the support of magic power, it was enough to sustain me for a while.

“-52” “+30” “-62” “+30” “-71” “+30”

Each strike faster than the last, each blow more vicious, seeing things getting dire,

— System Prompt: Your Vice Hero Selvia cast the Master-level Light Magic Healing Skill on you, you recovered 109 health points!

(Note: Basic Healing Skill restores health = $10+5\times\text{Magic Power}$, Intermediate = $20+5\times\text{Magic Power}$, Advanced = $30+5\times\text{Magic Power}$, Expert = $40+5\times\text{Magic Power}$, Master = $50+5\times\text{Magic Power}$)

Haha! Hahaha! Did you really think I'd take a risk without my tricks?

— System Prompt: Your Intelligence Analysis Skill discovered the opponent's weakness, your current attacks will ignore 25% – 50% of the opponent's defense.

Da Fei laughed heartily! This wasn't me finding your weakness, you exposed your weakness yourself!

Fury naturally lowered defense and reduced stamina as a side effect, then got exploited by my god-level skill, developing a new weakness. This was a double weakness! That's right, a fly won't bother an egg without a crack. Normally, the Intelligence Analysis Skill doesn't directly kick in, but once the opponent has a negative status, this skill will hit them where it hurts.

Da Fei thrust his spear, “-22!”

It was a hit twice the normal damage! This was the result of a 20-point attack, meaning its defense was reduced to zero! Hahaha, what else have you got?

Clearly, the Spider Hero also realized it was out of tricks. Its big butt hiked up, and with seven hands and eight legs, it turned around while grabbing the thick silk on its butt, starting to ascend the elevator, trying to flee!

Da Fei's eyelid twitched in shock! Even if I have to sacrifice all the Flower Demons, I can't let you escape!

Da Fei waved his hand; "All troops attack!"

Over a hundred Flower Demons swarmed out from the barracks, and a dark cloud of them appeared above its head. A swarm of Flower Demons surrounded it in three layers, pollen flying everywhere!

— System Prompt: Your Flower Demon Army's Swarm Magic Skill had no effect on the hero!

— System Prompt: Your Flower Demon Army's Flower Pollen Strike Skill had no effect on the hero!

— System Prompt: Your Charming Emperor's Army's Seduction Technique had no effect on the hero!

Crap! High attack, defense, and bloodsucking might be tolerable, poison immunity might be tolerable, spirit immunity might be tolerable, but immune to the Flower Demons' lifeline, the swarm and pollen — it was acting like it had me figured out! How could I let such a formidable enemy slip away!

Without hesitation, Da Fei leapt forward and hugged one of its hind legs, "You want to leave, not so easy!"

But the Spider Hero was determined to go. Even with Da Fei as a hindrance, and surrounded by Flower Demons, its silk elevator still slowly ascended! Damn!

Da Fei looked around frantically, the Flying was rushing back at full magic sail, but no matter how fast it rushed, it wouldn't make it in time! Maybe it was escaping because it had a panoramic view and saw the Flying returning? So cunning, so cautious!

What to do, what to do! Selvia didn't catch up! If it drags me to some lair in the sky to fight, without healing, no amount of troops could beat it!

In the Demon King's presence, with scant forces, I defeated a powerful force and even a high-level epic hero! As a glorious god-level master, leading so many troops now, I can't even handle a mere level 30 lone spider!

How could I endure this! Is my epic quest's bright future going to be ruined by this spider? Am I not a master?

I'm not convinced! Elevator prohibition number one: no jumping!

I, however, must jump!

Da Fei bounced fiercely holding its thick leg, but it was useless!

Uh? Wait a minute! What's the point in me jumping alone? Let's all do it together! Da Fei promptly called out to the Flower Demons, "Stop attacking, let's all play your favorite game of swinging! Come on, let's push forward together!"

Aren't the Flower Demons fond of chasing each other and swinging on vines in the air? You're fairytale fairies, you understand what I mean? At least, your program should understand the word "swing," right?

Sure enough, the Flower Demon Instructor, intelligent as it was, was the first to understand, calling out to the Flower Demons, "Come on, let's swing together!"

In that instant, the battlefield's murderous aura vanished, and the Flower Demons giggled and pushed the spider's huge body off its vertical angle. The spider's climbing speed suddenly slowed!

It worked! Da Fei laughed long and loud and bounced vigorously a few more times, "Swing! Swing hard!"

The Flower Demons worked even harder. The spider swung back and forth like a pendulum, swinging more fiercely and lower, the silk stretching longer and longer, and it seemed it couldn't climb anymore! Why don't you jump into the pool water, ha ha, wa ha ha ha!

— Combat Information Prompt: The target has entered the range of your Phantom Crossbow Cannon!

Great! You're impressive enough for me to send you off with the Phantom Crossbow Cannon! Da Fei promptly dismissed the swing-pushing Flower Demons and excitedly shouted, "Fire at me!!!"

From afar, two crossbow arrows shining with white light arced beautifully up, howling. The Phantom Crossbow Cannon arrows indeed curved!

Closer! Da Fei felt the freezing frost approaching, with a wind pressure so overwhelming it stifled his breath. Being hit by a crossbow cannon felt like this!

Bang! Bang! Icy blasts and blood splattered! The giant spider's massive body exploded in mid-air, and Da Fei, clutching its thick hind limb segment, fell into the sea.

— System Prompt: Congratulations! You killed epic hero "Aging Nokes," you gained 230,000 experience! You acquired Nokes' Hero Inheritance Scroll, you acquired B-grade strategic treasure "Spider Demon Armor"! You acquired C-grade strategic treasure "Cliff Walker Backpack"!

— System Prompt: Congratulations! You achieved the "Fourth Battle Victory" achievement, rewarded with Command Power +10.

— System Prompt: You completed the hidden side quest of the epic quest "Pool of Purifying Light," "The Hunter in the Shadows," in advance, gaining 200,000 experience, unlocking race reputation with the Flower Demon Race, your current reputation with the Flower Demon Race is "Adoration"! You obtained intelligence on the Spider Demon Race, your reputation with the Spider Demon Race is "Hatred"!

— System Prompt: Congratulations! Your Vice Hero Selvia leveled up to 23!

...

Kill! Not defeat?

Da Fei, who was eagerly watching the system prompts, was suddenly moved as he saw the two words “kill” highlighted in red by the system.

Aren’t heroes immortal? Don’t they just respawn at the tavern or altar when they die? I actually killed a hero? Aging Nokes? Could it be that this hero was set by the quest to be at the end of life? Damn, to explode with the legendary Hero Inheritance Scroll, for sure it was dead, this was like beating up the nursing home of South Mountain!

Chapter 103: Peddling the Legacy of Heroes

“The hero was indeed an immortal presence; as long as they died in battle, they would reappear in the city’s tavern or at the Hero Altar. But being a hero didn’t mean they wouldn’t die; heroes also had lifespans. Players naturally had no concept of lifespan, but some game-background special NPC heroes, like the Elf Hero Grandma Anwen accompanying the ship, were set to be elderly heroes. This setting usually appeared only during missions, and their level might also decrease due to aging. So, this was probably the reason why Anwen and the elderly Nokes could appear in the barrier.

And elderly heroes would usually record their life’s insights on a scroll, the so-called heroic legacy.

Now, Da Fei, without a shred of guilt, eagerly examined the acquired spoils of war. After all, it was really hard for Da Fei to associate such a gigantic spider with the word ‘elderly.’

—Nokes’ Heroic Legacy: Bloodthirst. The hero and the hero’s melee units would gain the ability to absorb life, restoring 8% of the damage dealt—

Whoa! Life-stealing ability! And it affected the whole army! Didn’t this mean the whole army turned into knock-off vampires? Da Fei’s eyes nearly popped out in shock! As he was overwhelmed with joy, the next part read:

—Usage Requirement: The hero and the hero’s units must have mixed Demon Race bloodlines, such as the Beastman Race, Spider Demon Clan, Sub-dragon Race.

Oh, it was like a bucket of cold water poured over him, extinguishing Da Fei’s overflowing joy.

What the heck, Spider Demon Clan, Sub-dragon Race, I've never even heard of them before! Well, I've heard of the Sub-dragon Race; they're the sixth-level soldiers of the Beastman troops, the Two-legged Flying Dragons, known for their self-healing. So this scroll was meant specifically for Beastman Players! Damn, that's a bummer!

No, no, no, it's not a bummer at all; this is actually great! I can sell it! As a professional player, what kind of professional player hasn't made a single transaction? The money I earn in my pocket is the real deal. If I had found something I could use, I'd be torn between selling it or keeping it for myself, which would be the real bummer.

Now it's time to ponder the value of this scroll. Ugh, ponder my ass; I'll go online, show the image, and let those experts bid on it, ha-ha-ha!

Da Fei couldn't wait to log onto the forums to stir things up.

Let's introduce the Beastmen first.

In the game, the Beastmen were a very unique and, of course, a famous race. They were the hybrid descendants left behind when demons invaded the land ten thousand years ago, residing on the vast plains of the continent's east. Their mixed blood gave them a strength even more unique than pure demons, which even pure demons dared not underestimate.

The specialty of the Beastmen was their inability to learn Light, Dark, Destruction, or Arcane Magic. Their spellcraft was uniquely Shamanism, specializing in lightning and storm, and the spirits of elements. Then there were the frustrating anti-Light, anti-Dark, and anti-destruction skills, minimizing the effects of these three types of magic on enemy troops; the Shaman's magic power only increased the counter-magic effects.

The professional skill of beastman heroes was Blood Rage, which continuously and significantly increased the physical damage resistance of the beastman troops as battles progressed. The most famous two sub-skills under Blood Rage were Frenzy and War Cry; their effects were known only to those who used them.

In short, the beastman's army in the later stages was an extremely tough dual-resistant force. When battling the beastman's troops, no small tricks or strategies would work; it required big moves, army

against army, mighty generals against mighty generals. So for players not skilled in magic or troop configuration, a brainless beastman loaded with passive skills was undoubtedly the best pick.

Beastman level 0 soldiers were goblins, level 1 soldiers were Goblin Warriors, level 2 soldiers were Centaurs, level 3 soldiers were Wolf Knights, level 4 soldiers were Shamans, level 5 soldiers were Frenzied Beastmen, level 6 soldiers were Two-legged Flying Dragons, and level 7 soldiers were One-eyed Giants.

In the situation where the Dark Camp's level 2 soldiers were generally garbage dragging down progress, the highly characteristic level 2 centaurs of the beastmen formed the core of the beastman's mobile strike force. This unit's special skill was "Mobile Shooting," a skill unique across the entire Hero Continent, to which even the sharpshooting elves had to bow down, for ranged troops must stop and shoot from a stationary position. Moreover, this unit had decent melee capabilities even up close.

More appallingly, ordinary players could choose the centaur's unit specialty when creating their character! After all, since it was a level 2 unit specialty, there was no need to draw a lottery! Imagine what this meant. In the hands of high-end players, centaurs could easily harass and eliminate high-level melee wild beasts, making Beastman Players' leveling speed second only to elves.

Of course, the centaur's drawbacks were equally appalling! It was a large-sized creature! And it was a large-sized creature with only 15 health points! While 15 health points was considered mid-to-high level for a level 2 soldier, players could hardly imagine such a large centaur having only 15 health points; where did its muscle go? The answer was, it had two hearts, one in the human body and one in the horse body. The two hearts endowed centaurs with outstanding athletic ability but also meant that critical weaknesses increased by half.

At the same time, as a large-sized creature, the centaur couldn't move freely once it left the plains! Even the one-point skeleton archers of the undead first-level soldiers, who had pitifully miss/hit rates, could completely overpower centaurs in duels, not worrying about missing. The skeleton's special skill was Hollow Skeleton, reducing long-range damage by 50%, making the strongest archer centaur truthfully no match for the weakest archer skeleton in duel scenarios.

In contrast with the equally glaring merits and demerits of the centaur, the beastman's level 3 soldier, the Wolf Knight, was dazzlingly bright. The so-called Wolf Knight was a goblin riding on a wolf, a troop with speed only second to the Hellhound among the first three levels of regular troops, also being useful in forests and mountain battlefields. The astonishing part was that, as "cavalry," while humans struggled over the number of warhorses, armor production, and the most pivotal aspect of knight-horse rapport, the beastman's wolf knights achieved wave after wave of mass production—too many wolf packs

roamed the plains to count, and the Beastman's Wolf Tamers could barely keep up with the demand. The difference in familiarity between humans and horses compared to beastmen and wolves spanned countless streets.

In short, the combination of the high attack, speed, high production, ranged-melee integration of the centaur and Wolf Knight established the beastman's dominance of the plains. Once the Blood Rage maxed out, a Frenzy unleashed would mow people down like grass, wind sweeping down the countless fallen.

Thus, Beastman Players confidently claimed the notion of level 2 and 3 soldiers conquering the world. As for the later high-level troops? Beastman Players honestly weren't fond of them, finding them too slow and dragging, usually leaving them in the city to enjoy the treatment of Elf Clan Tree Spirits.

Whether it was for mobile harassment or fight-to-the-death decisive battles, the beastman had enormous burst power. The higher the burst power, the better the bloodthirst effect naturally worked, making this heroic legacy an undisputed divine skill for beastmen! In essence, any Beastman Player obtaining this scroll would give rise to a god-level hero! What was the use of an Undead Race boasting a single vampire? A Beastman Player had an army of vampires! Though their life-stealing wasn't as outrageously effective as a legitimate vampire's.

Now, Da Fei left an anonymous post with his disguised identity on the hero forum website: "Heroic Legacy, leave a quote if interested, don't know what a heroic legacy is? Let me enlighten you. Post titles should be long!" Indeed, while Da Fei usually carried himself high-profile in the game, when it came to real-life transactions, he was quite low-key, so anonymity was necessary. This wasn't something to take lightly; people who won lottery prizes hid their faces, yet Da Fei dealt with trades potentially worth hundreds of millions or even billions, in US Dollars, mind you. Consequently, he had to be cautious. Otherwise, if a few fearless internet cafe teenagers lost money online, stalked him, and stabbed him from behind, and his multimillion-dollar wealth was lost all because of that, what a wrongful demise it would be!

Da Fei could imagine the sensation his post would cause, in China, in the world.

Da Fei switched back to the game, where a large group of Flower Demons surrounded him, singing. Apparently, this was the so-called race reputation 'fondness.' Generally, city reputation, camp reputation, and world reputation were quite common, but this race reputation was rather rare, at least not extensively covered in official materials. Given that it was obtained from an epic quest, it was surely quite formidable. Well, if Da Fei established a city here later, with the residents all Flower Demons, high race reputation might develop new units?

Da Fei began examining the other two pieces of equipment.

—Spider Demon Armor: B-grade strategic treasure, Armor Equipment Position. +10 to all troop Defense, +3 to all troop Life.

—Cliff Walker Backpack: C-grade strategic treasure, Support Equipment Position. Houses a net bag filled with tough spider silk; players could shoot out spider silk from the net bag to climb steep terrain.

Da Fei laughed heartily! Good armor! Good armor indeed! I was just worried about insufficient troop defense, just worried about the low health of Flower Demons! Next step, I'll learn the special skill Unlimited Vitality under Defense, and the whole army gets +2 more life! Adding 2 life points to a Flower Demon with all my one hundred win-streak achievements, equipment, and skill support brings it up to 9 points! Quadrupling life! What's there to fear from beetles!

As for this backpack, hmm, not bad, not bad! Ha-ha, wah-ha-ha!

Chapter 104: The Scroll That Shakes the Guild Titans

China had three massive offline gaming guilds: Star, Dragon Slayer, and Ninth Heaven. Each of these guilds had its website and corporate presence, with hundreds of thousands of registered player members covering all the popular games on the market. Players who played well and brought revenue to the guilds received certain subsidies, which, while not substantial, made earning some extra cash while gaming a joyful thing.

Ordinary players registered their in-game names on the guilds' websites, and once approved, they became regular members. Membership allowed them to join a chat group or forum, where the group leader or moderator acted as the team leader.

How did members bring in revenue for the guilds? It's simple. When there was a large in-game event, the group leader would announce it in the chat group. On the day of the event, members would check in by showing up, and at the leader's command in the game, they'd charge! Members might not know exactly what they were doing, but as long as they followed orders, they earned points.

Points could be used to upgrade membership levels, and they were universal across any game the guild was present in. So if a member decided to switch games, they could still earn points and upgrade their membership level.

The pinnacle of membership was, of course, the legendary high-income professional player, a dream for many internet cafe youth. And at the top of the professional player hierarchy was the guild leader of a large guild! To internet cafe youths, this was akin to being royalty in online gaming, commanding thousands to engage in city and national battles at their bidding!

This offline operating and management model of player guilds forced any game to adapt; every game had to have straightforward player check-in features, and functions to tally player merit. Games lacking these would not attract guilds, and the market would eliminate them.

The management model of China's massive guilds has spread worldwide. Even a world-class online game like "Heroic Creation Era" submitted to these massive guilds. Such was their power!

But now, the leaders of China's three massive guilds were astounded by a post from an anonymous user on the forums!

Indeed, it was a post by Da Fei. Within minutes of being posted, it stirred up waves, skyrocketing to immense popularity!

While many players didn't initially know what the Heroic Inheritance was, they certainly knew now! All players understood what this inheritance implied: an ordinary Beastman hero suddenly ascending to become a God-level Hero, a God-level Beastman hero becoming a God above God!

Many posters hailed the arrival of the Beastman era! Why was this? Because globally, Beastmen weren't popular, lacking major guild backing. It wasn't that Beastmen weren't strong; they were. However, Beastmen's scope was limited. Beastman heroes could only fully utilize the racial skill Blood Rage and anti-Magic abilities with Beastman troops. Unlike the Human Race's Knight Priest heroes, capable of leading troops from any race. In critical national wars where every soldier mattered, Knights could gather a mixed army, achieving unexpected effects. But Beastman heroes couldn't, acting merely as attack and defense buffers.

To the leaders of the three massive guilds, this wasn't merely about nurturing a God-level hero, but potentially the future of their guilds and the China Region's landscape.

Star Guild focused on the Elf Clan, although they had an internationally renowned Human Race Griffin Breeder hero, Little Pig Run. This dual approach meant the guild's main force developed the Elf Clan, addressing their troop shortage, while Little Pig Run carved out space within the Human Race.

Ninth Heaven focused on the Human Race, characterized by its balance, with no standout strengths or fatal weaknesses. The stable nature of the Human Race made them the only ones standing to the end during decisive battles. As the most user-friendly race, Humans boasted the most players, providing Ninth Heaven with abundant human resources.

Dragon Slayer focused on the Undead Race, renowned for its bone-chilling presence of Corpse Mountain and Bone Sea, capable of crashing entire servers. Unlike other races troubled by ineffectively managing newly acquired territory troops, the Undead simply threw them into mass graves to convert them into Undead.

Discussing the landscape of these three guilds had initially frightened Ma Yinglong. If the two Bright Alliance guilds united, Dragon Slayer Guild would have a tough time. At a minimum, players would lose confidence in the Dark Alliance, flocking to the Bright Alliance, leading to a vicious cycle where Dragon Slayer Guild would progressively decline. Ma Yinglong's first move was dispatching the most skilled writing team to sow discord between the two guilds through posts. Additionally, he sought outside assistance and established cooperation with the Japanese.

As Ma Yinglong expected, Star Guild and Ninth Heaven indeed undercut each other, somewhat relieving his anxiety. However, creating discord and reaching out for external help were not long-term solutions; true strength was the ultimate truth.

Facing this sudden rise of the Beastman Inheritance, both Star and Ninth Heaven saw it as a formidable foe.

But Ma Yinglong of Dragon Slayer Guild found his breath taken away, staring at the image for minutes! This was precisely the powerful opportunity he'd been yearning for!

With Star and Ninth Heaven being part of the Bright Alliance, Dragon Slayer Guild naturally took the lead in raising the Dark Alliance's banner in the China Region. The Beastman Race was undoubtedly Dragon Slayer Guild's "territory." As long as they obtained this Beastman Inheritance and nurtured a God-level Beastman hero of global influence, Dragon Slayer Guild would truly unify the Dark Alliance! They could effectively organize the vast numbers of independent Beastman players within Dragon Slayer Guild. Internally, they could suppress Star and Ninth Heaven, who seemed united but were mutually restrictive; externally, they could represent the China Region's image.

Ma Yinglong made up his mind, "Find a way to contact this seller and buy the scroll!"

Chang Liang, his assistant, was surprised, "But Star and Ninth Heaven will definitely interfere and inflate the price, right?"

Ma Yinglong shook his head, "Then we'll just follow along. As long as we win, we'll be the overlord of the China Region! Those two guilds dragging each other down can't compare to us. Only a unified guild can represent the China Region and gain international recognition; the benefits from this far outweigh such a small price."

Chang Liang was bewildered, "But this..."

Ma Yinglong chuckled, "No worries. If they do inflate the price too much, we'll just give up and disgust them. After all, the Bright Alliance having this account is useless; it's a waste of money and only divides their focus and funds to develop the Beastman forces. Then we'll make sure they can't hold their head high, yes, that's our strategy. We can openly declare that whoever buys this scroll, we'll make their account fail to develop so they realize the threat."

Chang Liang gave a bitter smile, "Once they buy the scroll, they'll certainly develop it secretly; how will we know which account they are using to advance it?"

Ma Yinglong laughed heartily, "Gold always shines, let alone gold that sucks blood? Even if they secretly grind levels without appearing, there will be a day when they emerge, thinking they've gained such strength that we can't touch them anymore? Great! We'll drown the skilled, and fight the stubborn. We'll target their laboriously and secretly developed forces. When our Dark Alliance players have internal conflicts, their Bright Alliance will be powerless outside their borders! I'll ensure the higher they climb, the harder they fall!"

Chang Liang suddenly realized, “This is called raising fat to slaughter!”

Ma Yinglong laughed heartily, “Envy what Dragon Slayer Guild set its sights on, and no one else should think of taking it!”

Chang Liang smiled, “Boss, so domineering! Even if we can’t have it, neither should anyone else have a good time!”

...

Meanwhile, Star Guild’s leader, Eternal Star, was chatting with Ninth Heaven’s leader, Divine Emperor.

“Boss Long, do you think Brother Ma’s eyes are popping out at the sight of this scroll?”

“I’m anxious too. If he gets the scroll, it’ll truly be the rise of the Beastmen, and you and I won’t have it easy.”

“Boss Long, what should we do? Frankly, I don’t plan to buy this foolish item.”

“Nonsense! Contact Hero News journalists! Hype it up! Claim the scroll is worth tens of millions! I mean in US dollars! Make the seller hesitate to sell!”

“It seems like that’s the only way. Hopefully, the seller is a fool who truly believes it’s worth millions and lets it sit until it’s too late!”

Chapter 105: Sky-High Prices Soaring

The Pool of Radiance, under the gentle propulsion of the Ancient Wind, the Flying set sail with its magic sail half-open to conserve energy. Now was the time to continue rescuing more Flower Demons.

The Flower Demons sang and danced, playfully flitting around the Flying, some naughtily nudging the sails, trying to contribute their slight efforts to the voyage. In an instant, the entire ship was wrapped in the light trails left by the Flower Demons, creating a breathtaking spectacle.

Watching these laughing and cheerful little Elves, Da Fei found himself in a quandary. Could you not be so cute? With you being like this, how could I even bear to send you off to the battlefield to die? Sigh, perhaps this is the benefit of high race reputation.

In any case, letting the ship set sail first, Da Fei eagerly rushed to the forum to check the replies. How many kids would be scared, and how many bosses would be amazed? It was something to look forward to, haha!

When Da Fei logged into the forum, he couldn't help but take a deep breath!

300,000 clicks, 40,000 replies! Da Fei was shocked and amazed!

It had only been a few minutes since the post! My posts always sank in seconds, and the only replies were to save face! Never thought, never thought I'd see this day! Da Fei's tears of excitement streamed down his face. With so many replies, how could I have time to read them all?

But no worries, Da Fei immediately noticed several new attention-grabbing topics with large red bold titles on the forum! The kind of posts that are written in red and bold are usually by high-level accounts, the so-called experts!

"Nokes Hero Inheritance, Valued at a Minimum of \$10 Million, Because the WCG Championship Prize Is \$10 Million!"

Da Fei's heart raced wildly! Ten million! In US Dollars! My scroll is worth ten million dollars! At least ten million dollars! Then how much is the maximum? Da Fei excitedly clicked into the post.

—"With this scroll, give me a reason why an Orc player can't win the championship? Unless this player's brain is dumber than an Orc's!"

Da Fei was taken aback, just one sentence? Where's the substance? Is this a fluff post? Yet, it's good fluff, I like it! Haha!

Hey, there's another technical post below about "The Ultimate Configuration Plan for Nokes Hero Inheritance, Valued Ultimately at \$50 Million!"

Whoa! Don't scare me! Another 50 million popped out? Not in yen, right? Da Fei excitedly clicked into the post to view.

—"First, you need a God-level Hero with expertise in Six-level Troop Two-legged Flying Dragon specialization. The biggest feature of the Two-legged Flying Dragon is flying troops with an impressive self-healing ability, coupled with the Orc's dual resistance career features, being a six-level high-defense and long-health Two-legged Flying Dragon already has battlefield survival ability far surpassing four-level Vampire Soldiers. Once you add the Bloodsucking Skill, it completely annihilates Vampires! Not to mention, the Orc's main force, Frenzied Beastmen, would also receive the bloodsucking bonus..."

Hahaha! Although many things weren't very clear, it seemed really substantial! Truly an expert! Do you know what an expert is? Have you watched "Antiques Roadshow"? Those antique experts on the guest seats who say, "This is a fake," and it is a fake, or "This is worth tens of thousands," and it's worth tens of thousands. That's an expert! That's authority! If the authority said at least 50 million, how could I have any objections? Haha, hahaha!

Bring it on, next post!

"Sell Now, Maximum \$1 Million, Selling for \$100 Million a Year Later Is Also Normal!"

A year later? \$100 million? Getting more and more exaggerated! Fifty million turned into \$100 million? Da Fei laughed so hard his jaw almost fell off!

—"Orcs using Tier 2 and Tier 3 troops to conquer the world? Wrong! God-level inheritance takes Orcs to the stage of High-level Soldiers decisive battle! The Bloodsucking Skill itself doesn't hold much significance for cannon-fodder Low-level Soldiers; surely those who played Vampires in beta testing will regret their weak Blood Defense in the later stages, right? True, a four-level soldier is ultimately a four-level soldier, with its own attribute limitations hindering the play of extraordinary skills. But Orcs are different; Attack, Blood Defense, the damage caused by the hero's Blood Rage pushes this race to the

pinnacle of melee combat, which is the true stage for the Bloodsucking Skill to shine! So this scroll should reach its maximum value when sold later! By that time, the national war zone will be fully open, the market will be fully regulated, facing global tycoons, ship kings, oil kings; selling it to a foreigner for \$100 million will be easy, it's earning foreign exchange for the country!"

...

Tears blurred Da Fei's eyes. I always thought forums were places for cost-free rumors to hurt people and stir trouble, didn't expect there were so many good people on forums! Were they afraid I would sell at a loss?

Actually, I am not that greedy, selling for a few million, I'm talking about US dollars, would satisfy me! However, since the experts said it was definitely above ten million, if I sold it for just a few million, I'd be ridiculed by people around the world as a fool!

At this moment, yet another conspicuous bold post appeared: "Selling for \$100 Million Later? Bull! Later, when God-level Heroes roam everywhere and God-level scrolls litter the streets, who the heck is afraid of your bloodsucking inheritance! Sell it early if you want to sell!"

Da Fei's heart tightened. Is this someone trying to buy my scroll by deliberately undervaluing it to throw cold water? With a gloomy face, Da Fei clicked into the post.

—"In online games, the first piece of equipment obtained is a Divine Artifact, the Nth piece obtained is nonsense! Do you really think with tens of millions of players worldwide involved in various adventures, a Bloodsucking Scroll can't be managed? Ask the Mage Academy if their Alchemy Magic Statues are afraid of your bloodsucking? Ask the Undead Race if they are afraid of your bloodsucking? An Orc wanting to win the WCG championship? Ask the Swedish Ghost King if they agree? The person who posted that is dumber than an Orc, and anyone who believes that post is dumber than dumb! This thing is worth at most one or two million; the later, the less it's worth!"

Boom! This post was earth-shattering, instantly bringing Da Fei down from the clouds!

Following were replies: "Yo! You think you can settle a scroll that can create tens of millions of dollars in value in the early stage for one or two million? You're not conning right!"

“Orc’s physical and magic resistance fears undead? You’re joking! Besides having many soldiers, what else can undead do?”

“Lousy low-level scam! Identified!”

“Is the Swedish Ghost King your dad? You’re such a foreign-worshipper!”

...

For a moment, Da Fei was bewildered! Dammit, although my mental price was a few million, I’m talking about US dollars. But geez! One or two million without even saying if it’s yen, and you think you can settle this is way too shady? Forums are indeed a chaotic place.

Hmph, a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush, who cares how fierce the forum blows are. I’ll see how much buyers are offering. The comments are just onlookers, no need to browse through them; true interests are in private messages.

Da Fei opened the private message box, a thousand private messages! Hahaha, a thousand people wanted to buy in just a few minutes! This is the real deal. Da Fei began scrolling through the messages.

All were non-quoting “Add my chat number and we’ll discuss in detail!”

Damn! As busy as I am, am I going to chat in detail with a thousand people? At this moment, an attention-grabbing, gleaming golden message appeared: “I am Long Zhan from Dragon Slayer Guild, the largest player guild in China. I represent the guild to discuss the transaction price with you. Dragon Slayer Guild, robust in strength and reputable, looks forward to your reply. Chat number 5313XXXX, password 1688168.”

Da Fei was suddenly jolted. Dragon Slayer Guild! If they’re buying, it’s really more reliable than trading privately. Large guilds have a reputation guarantee. Let’s see how much they’re offering.

At this moment, an in-game prompt appeared.

—System Prompt: Reconnaissance Skill Warning! A large number of enemy ships have appeared ahead.

Da Fei was suddenly startled; he had arrived! Hurriedly returning to the game. At this time, the Flying was already approaching the barrier. Da Fei immediately pulled out his binoculars to look; indeed, he saw many dark paddle boats docked along the distant shores of the barrier, with hordes of Demon Infants continually loading ominous looking, black-smoke-emitting items onto the boats.

No need to say, the national war was approaching! These ships were undoubtedly prepared for players of the Hell Race. Damn! No way, was I going to take on all these ships in a naval battle all by myself with one ship?