

God level 221

Chapter 221: Little Li Returns to School

Shendong Airport, Ding Jiali encountered Da Wei as soon as she got off the plane.

Ding Jiali protested with feigned annoyance, "I only mentioned it to you, and you actually came to pick me up!"

Da Wei chuckled and said, "I just didn't expect you to come over right after the second day of the Chinese New Year, and that too on an overtime flight. That's expensive!"

Little Li sighed with a chuckle, "Yeah, thanks to my elder brother, I flew for the first time."

Da Wei's eyebrows twitched, "Is your big brother doing well?"

Little Li laughed, "He's been in sales recently and made quite a bit of money."

Da Wei nodded solemnly, "I'm going to work part-time during the New Year period too, aiming to make a large sum of money."

Little Li was surprised, "What job? What kind of job pays a lot?"

Da Wei shook his head, "Still researching it with Da Bing, nothing is certain right now."

Little Li expressed her surprise, "Da Bing? The careless one from your dorm who often skips class? What can he research?"

Da Wei coughed dryly, "Exactly because he skips classes often, he has rich social experience and knows a lot of people outside."

Little Li said sternly, "Don't get involved in anything shady, got it?"

Da Wei hastily waved his hands, "Of course not! How could I! Okay, let me treat you to a meal."

Little Li chuckled, "No need, this time I'm treating!"

Da Wei protested, "How can that be?"

Little Li glared, "Why not? I'm treating you to xiaolongbao, is that not okay?"

Da Wei chuckled, "Okay okay, I'll eat two baskets!"

“Dare you eat three baskets?”

“No problem, as long as you’re not pained by your wallet!”

After the meal, they returned to the university. Da Wei carried the luggage to the girls’ dormitory entrance, then rushed back. Watching as Da Wei headed straight for the boys’ dorm, Ding Jiali was puzzled. Was there some urgent matter in his dorm? Anyway, she had known Da Wei for three years and understood him well enough to trust that he wouldn’t mess around.

Returning to her dormitory, Ding Jiali opened the door and was greeted by a sour odor and a small mountain of garbage bags of snacks, instant noodles, and tissues littering the floor.

Ding Jiali couldn’t help exclaiming: “Little Fang! You, you, you—what’s this—didn’t you go back home?”

Little Fang, nestled on the bed, took off her helmet, clapped her hands cheerfully, and cooed, “Lili honey is back! Muah!”

Little Li angrily exclaimed, “Muah your big head, ghost! You’re almost buried in trash, get up and sweep it away!”

Little Fang made a funny face and said with a laugh, “Give me 2 minutes!” and then put the helmet back on.

Little Li sighed helplessly, "You're impossible to deal with, I guess I'll clean it up."

Little Fang let out a strange chuckle, "Good old Lili, lovely as always, muah muah muah! Tonight, I'll treat you to a KFC deluxe meal to welcome you back!"

Little Li, while pressing down on the trash bags, said annoyedly, "What are you playing now? You're completely absorbed in it!"

Little Fang chuckled, "I'm not just playing around this time! Oh right, let me show you something, it's going to scare you big time!"

"What is it? I'm not interested in your stuff!"

Little Fang laughed, "Impossible!" She took off her helmet, turned on the computer on the desk, opened the Gold Hunting Net website, logged into her account, showed the transaction record, and chuckled, "See what I sold?"

Little Li leaned in to look, and her eyes widened in shock, "Hero Coin? Sold 50,000 Gold Coins for 10,000 bucks?"

Little Fang laughed loudly, "What do you think? Flipped a LV bag just like that!"

Little Li exclaimed in shock, “How is that possible! That’s even crazier than Q Coin!”

Little Fang chuckled, “It was others begging me in tears to sell it to them. At this critical early stage, Gold Coins are really valuable—priceless!”

Little Li was stunned speechless!

Little Fang smiled and said, “It’s so lonely playing by myself. It’s great that my wife is here, why don’t you play with me! I’m not asking for much, just keep me company for this holiday, and with my guidance, I guarantee you’ll strike it rich.”

Little Li snorted disdainfully and stomped on a piece of trash, “I’m not interested. I plan to read some books during the holidays.”

Little Fang helplessly spread her hands and sighed, “What a lavish and frivolous woman you are. Whoever becomes your husband will surely suffer.”

Little Li glared, “Hey, hey, hey, how am I being lavish and frivolous?”

Little Fang shook her head and said with a sigh, “You’re passing up great opportunities to make money and build connections, what a waste! Reading books is something rich bosses do after they’ve made their fortune and start to feel life’s inadequacies, then they go back and read leisurely. You’re already living the luxury boss life without a care in the world, how extravagant is that?”

Little Li couldn't help but laugh and retort, "What kind of twisted reasoning and nonsense are you spouting? Are you referring to yourself when you talk about great connections?"

Little Fang smiled proudly, "Of course, there are tens of millions of people in the China Region, and so many want my help that I couldn't care less. I am offering you a leg up because you've been my wife for three years! Even though I'm just a college girl lying in a pile of trash in the real world, in the Dimensional Space, I am a wealthy landowner with estates and soldiers!"

Little Li was astonished, "A wealthy landowner?"

Little Fang's tone grew more solemn, "Wife, you've studied socioeconomics, right? When a society has tens of millions of people, wealth and value will inevitably emerge. Some have the talent and advantage to grab wealth, while others can't get riches due to various limitations. Do you want to serve your Queen in my world? Or would you rather read books in this trash-filled world and live like a rich boss in advance?"

Little Li was dazed for a moment, then snorted coldly, "Her Majesty the Queen is quite impressive now, able to create a world filled with garbage all by herself—Two minutes are up, get up and tidy up, Your Majesty Garbage Queen!"

Little Fang laughed heartily, "Just for that 'Your Majesty' from my wife, I won't buy the LV bag. I'll order a load of machines to come over immediately. Her Majesty will take care of you until the holiday ends, mwahaha!"

Little Li shook her head and sighed, "There's just no dealing with you!" Suddenly she remembered something, "You say this game is so profitable, doesn't that mean there are a lot of players?"

Little Fang chuckled, “Not too many, only around one or two hundred million people worldwide.”

Little Li’s eyes widened in shock again, “One or two hundred million!”

Little Fang giggled, “But probably only those at the very top like me can make money. Come on, let me put the helmet on you to see how popular the game is.”

“Hey, hey! Your helmet reeks of sweat! How many days have you been stewing in there without airing it out?”

Little Fang grabbed Little Li onto the bed with a big laugh, “My beloved concubine, this is the royal fragrance, come here, muah~~ Mwahaha!”

Little Li cried out, “Hey, hey, ah, your blanket, it’s full of grease! This is unbearable. How many days have you gone without a shower? You’re going to get moldy. Get out in the sun—Hey, aren’t you listening to me? Your hands stink like green onions, don’t touch my face!”

Little Fang was engrossed, “Hmm, what name should I give my wife’s account? How about Harem Beauty? Mwahaha!”

Chapter 222: Perilous Floating Ice Sea

Leaving Frostwind Strait, Da Fei’s fleet officially entered the North Sea.

As soon as they entered the North Sea, Da Fei felt the chill of the ocean breeze. At the same time, the color of the water changed from deep blue to an icy, bright white. With two of its main masts broken, the speed of Radiant Wings was substantially reduced, but it was still faster than the bulkier whaling ships, ensuring its flagship status remained unchallenged.

Even though the ownership of the ships had changed, Da Fei could have moved to a larger ship, but if he did, who would operate his medium ship? Anlicia, without Master Level navigation and Towing, would lag behind, which was absolutely unacceptable. The flagship couldn't do without Catherine at the helm; Da Fei admitted that his own Ship Control Skill was no match for Catherine, who had skillfully dodged giant waves in storms multiple times and could not replace her. Since Coltner was neither the owner of a medium ship nor his Vice Hero or a member of his Chamber of Commerce, of course, he couldn't operate the medium ship. Therefore, they could only continue with the lineup as they started the voyage.

But this time, Coltner dared not play the piano and hold dance parties to disturb the Sea Monsters. The reason was, having lost the advantage of speed, playing the piano would only expose their position, which would be suicidal. It seems that he actually follows a method to his actions.

However, they had achieved the significant victory of defeating the Six-headed Sea Demon, so would the curse of the Sea God give them a brief respite?

As night fell, the fleet began to implement light control, quietly advancing in the pitch-black sea. The chill of the North Sea at night was even more severe.

And just then, the Chamber of Commerce channel exploded again: "Fuck! Another whirlpool!"

“Boss! Are you there? Why is it that other merchant players are fine, and it seems like only our Chamber of Commerce members are having trouble?”

“Boss, can you give us an explanation? Capsizing once for us merchants means total financial ruin, we can’t afford it!”

Da Fei’s brow twitched; they’ve finally realized something was amiss, huh? Hmph, from the moment you sold your orders to Brother, you’ve been devoid of value to use; now it’s up to Brother whether you stay or go.

Da Fei then sighed: “Comrades, there’s no question that our Chamber of Commerce is the number one in the world, but it has not been broadcasted worldwide, do you know why?”

The crowd was surprised: “Is it a Chamber of Commerce obtained through a task?”

Da Fei said: “Correct, it’s obtained through a task, one that requires passing tests. I also didn’t know what the tests would be, but now I do. The tests involve killing Demigods, capsizing, and so on. What I want to say is, the future is bright, but the road is rough, there will be difficulties. Whether we can get past them, I have no idea right now; my entire fortune is bet on this Chamber of Commerce. I don’t have the money to compensate everyone for the loss, in short, I understand if you want to go, but if you want to stay, I’m even more welcoming. That’s all Brother has to say.”

“Brother Fei, can you show us a screenshot of the task, so we can think of a solution together?”

Da Fei sighed with a chuckle: “Sorry, that’s top secret, brothers please understand.”

The crowd responded: "That's true, we have to kill a Demigod for this task, it's definitely super high-end. Even if we knew, it wouldn't be much help."

"Brother Fei is so awesome, even able to deal with a Demigod, we believe Brother Fei can definitely get through this, and we can definitely endure our losses."

Da Fei chuckled and said: "Then thank you all for the support, in any case, Brother thanks you all."

"Brother Fei, you're welcome, you're welcome."

"Brother Fei, take your time."

Haha, what understanding and steadfast players, so touching! What the hell was Blood Sea Wave thinking? Sticking with Brother to the end? Seems about right; after all, Brother's Chamber of Commerce does have the "Favorable Trade" special skill to fall back on, even if they lose a ship or two of goods, they can withstand the loss. Fine, if you can withstand it, Brother definitely has to hold on.

That means, even though Brother achieved victory against the Sea Demon, it still won't mitigate the curse. Brother has to be extremely careful; just entering the North Sea, the real trials are only beginning.

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Three days passed without incident. The cold wind grew harsher, and Da Fei and the sailors all changed into the winter clothing they had prepared before setting out.

Bits of floating ice begin to appear sporadically in view. Da Fei's brow tightened; this must be the North Sea floating ice that Makar mentioned, right? It becomes quite a problem at night, one careless move and you're the next Titanic! At that time, we must slow down! Damn, if we reduce speed, then Brother's Grandmaster sailor advantage is not so great anymore, is it really as the fat officer said, that we'll take a month to reach our destination? This is completely exhausting battle tactics for players.

The further north they went, the more the icebergs appeared. The so-called tip of the iceberg, what we can see above water is only one-tenth of the entire iceberg. These floating ice are like moving reefs in the sea, and if struck, the journey is OVER. Now, the problem is not just about reducing speed affecting the voyage.

Night fell once more, and this time, it was necessary to use lights.

Now, Da Fei deeply realized how serious the problem was; not fast enough, and daring to turn on lights, what kind of move was this?

Sure enough, the Order Flag Bearer came in to report: "Captain, the flagship has sent instructions, reminding us to be vigilant."

Da Fei waved his hand: "Got it."

As a high-end player, Da Fei couldn't naively think that the mission was just about dodging icebergs; he must prepare for the possibility of a Sea Monster attack. In this Floating Ice Sea Area, the fleet has no maneuverability to speak of, effectively a sitting duck for Sea Monsters. As a navigator, how should he deal with this?

Chapter 223: Perilous Floating Ice Sea_2

Da Fei thought once again of Grandma Anwen. At that time, the old lady was capable of everything and taught this newcomer, himself, so much. As for now, in Heaven, it's my turn to teach Anlicia!

Da Fei called Anlicia over again, and said seriously, "You are now a Master-level Arcanist. Do you have the confidence to reach Grandma's level?"

Anlicia sighed slightly, "Not confident."

Da Fei couldn't help but shake his head and sigh. It made sense. The old lady was a Druid Mage profession, automatically gaining knowledge with each level up. Her vast Mana Reserve created miracles again and again. But Anlicia was a Ranger, a warrior profession! Getting a warrior to do a Mage's work— isn't that just asking for trouble?

Da Fei asked, "The Master-level Arcane Spell 'Summoning Mist' is a very important magic, have you mastered it?"

Anlicia spread her hands, "I've mastered it, but I can't use it. Summoning Mist requires 150 mana, and I only have 50."

Whoosh! Da Fei spat out a mouthful of old blood, "Then what about Summon Phoenix?"

Anlicia sighed, "Also out of mana, in short, don't even think about Master-level magic. Summoning Water Element is still possible."

Darn it, screwing over Grandma and Dad! The key was her nonchalant tone, just like when I declared to my PE teacher back in the day, 'I just can't pass math, do whatever!' However, there's never a student without ability, only teachers without ability. My achievements today deeply prove this adage once again!

Alright, Grandma from Heaven, you'll see, I'll repay your teaching kindness by training Anlicia into a talented individual proficient in both magic and combat!

Da Fei began to carefully check Anlicia's attributes. Truth be told, since joining the team, Da Fei hadn't really studied her attributes carefully.

—Anlicia: A gifted Elf girl since childhood, granddaughter of Professor Anwen. Spoiled by elders, she has no desire to follow the rules, unskilled and causing her elders much distress.

Personality: Rebellious, active, lively

Level: 24

Profession: Advanced Ranger

Special Talent: Hive Queen. The Hero's "Swarm Disturbance" magic increases its damage effect with level and has a chance to induce a blinding effect.

Command Power: 37

Attack: 14

Defense: 49

Magic Power: 5

Knowledge: 5 (50 mana points)

Life: 88

Damage: 20-25

Attack Speed: 13

Move Speed: 14

Equipment: Oak Longbow (+5 Personal Damage), Flying Dragon Armor (+35 Personal Defense)

Stamina: 78

Skills: Master-level Arcane Magic, Intermediate Meditation Skill, Intermediate Attack Skill, Intermediate Arrow Skill, Basic Luck Skill, Basic War Machine Science, Basic Leadership Skill, Intermediate Defense Skill, Basic Logistics Skill, Basic Reconnaissance Skill, Basic Navigation Skill.

Remaining unassigned attribute points: 4 points, free skill points: 2 points.

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Level 24, 14 Attack! I get it now, this kid hasn't added a single point to attack since birth! These 14 attacks are from progressing from level 10 to Ranger, with automatic additions per level. So, where did her first 10-level points go? 5 in Magic, 5 in Knowledge? Or 10 in Defense? Isn't this nonsense? What kind of Ranger doesn't add to attack? And she hasn't even learned the essential skill Hate Memory for a Ranger—calling that awesome?

Wait, where's her loyalty attribute?

Suddenly, Da Fei noticed she, like Deirdre, also had no loyalty attribute! Darn! Now Da Fei realized the seriousness of the issue!

Why are you so darned awesome?

Turns out it's because you lack a loyalty attribute, meaning you could ditch me any time, no wonder you're so awesome! Rebellious nature explains it all!

In an instant, Da Fei was drenched in cold sweat! After all, heroes like her and Deirdre in trials or training have failure penalties—losing the hero! Damn! And I put on airs and scolded her that day? From now on, can I even dare to scold her? If she leaves while other pretty Vice Heroes are waiting for me at the bar, it would be devastating!

No way! From now on, I absolutely can't make her angry! I need to talk with her, I need to comfort her! I need to open her heart! Watch me!

Da Fei sighed with emotion, “Actually, from the day I saw you using bees to scout the enemy, I knew you were a real genius. You said you didn’t like being a Druid, but I could also tell you don’t like being a Ranger either, is that right?” If you liked it, you would’ve added to attack!

Anlicia frowned and pouted, “What are you trying to say?”

Your arrogance shatters my heart! Da Fei chuckled, "Whether a Druid or a Ranger, neither suits you. To be precise, they don't match your genius. You need to create a profession, one that belongs only to you!"

Anlicia chuckled, "What kind of profession would suit me?"

Oh yes! That's the right cue! Keep going! Da Fei cleared his throat, "An Arcanist! A realm surpassing Master-level Arcane, beyond God-level Arcane skills! A realm where skills are elevated to professions!" There's no choice—I'm in desperate need of an Arcanist and can only push her in that direction. Since there are sets like Artillery Master, Navigator, and Musician, there might be an Arcanist class in the game, right?

Anlicia giggled, "Arcanist? Never heard of it. Why should a Ranger like me develop in Arcane?"

Da Fei chuckled, "Because after failing just once, you successfully comprehended Master-level Arcane. That's genius!"

Anlicia shook her head proudly, "I surely know I'm a genius. Perhaps I could comprehend other Master-levels without even needing to fail? Why choose the Arcane, which doesn't match my profession?"

Da Fei chuckled, "Because of love! Your dedication to mastering the Arcane is a testament to your profound love!" A more important reason is that all her other skills are at a basic or intermediate level, while her Arcane is advanced! That says something, right?

Anlicia was momentarily surprised!

Oh yes! That seemed to hit her soft spot! I'll keep scratching that itch!

Da Fei chuckled, "Of course, for a genius like you, for long-lived Elves, there's plenty of time to delve into learning. Once you master the hardest Arcane, everything else will naturally follow."

Anlicia laughed heartily, "Captain, it's amusing how you can joke about these unrealistic things now. Since Grandma appreciates you so much, teach me what to do now?"

Finally, back to the matter at hand.

Da Fei nodded, "Though you cannot currently cast Master-level spells, you can still use Illusion Army magic. I need you to use it to duplicate our ship as bait to attract the Sea Monster's attack. Grandma's illusions could move, so my basic requirement for you is to create a movable Illusion Ship."

Anlicia responded, "Will this work?"

Da Fei shook his head and sighed, "Yes, Grandma used this trick to create incredible miracles and ultimately won the war victory."

Anlicia chuckled, "What if I create something more powerful than this trick?"

Da Fei's eyebrows jumped. She could create new moves? Damn, self-inventing? This is absolutely a talent for establishing a whole new school; maybe she really can become an Arcanist?

Da Fei said excitedly, "You must! You're a genius!"

Anlicia laughed heartily, "Alright, I'll have some quiet time alone!"

Da Fei laughed heartily, "Work hard, I believe in you!"

Indeed, geniuses need encouragement! Now, there's nothing else to say: unassigned attribute points to Knowledge, skill points to upgrading Meditation. Let this Ranger progress further down the path of spells, towards the realm of both magic and combat proficiency!

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The first night in the Floating Ice region passed peacefully yet anxiously.

The next day arrived, and Da Fei was once again stunned by the sea conditions before him. The sea surface was densely packed with floating ice! The massive hull of Radiant Wings was navigating through the narrow gaps of moving ice like walking a tightrope!

So the difficulty of this floating ice was this high! Won't we be screwed if the ship's steering capabilities aren't up to par?

And at that moment, Da Fei's screen flashed red!

—System Prompt: Reconnaissance Skill warning! A strong enemy is approaching your fleet, please be sure to stay vigilant!

Da Fei's heart thumped! What's coming finally arrived!

Chapter 224: New Divine Skill: Skira Illusion

As the unknown enemy approached, the entire fleet immediately prepared for battle. A faint red dot appeared on the edge of Renior's radar, then it vanished. No need to guess, a diving sea monster!

A surface fleet's greatest fear was a diving sea monster! In such situations, Granny had once demonstrated a method: releasing the Illusion Army magic in the fog to lure it out of the water, followed by a crossbow cannon strike to destroy it. Now the task of releasing the lure fell on Alicia.

But there was no fog now, and the area was covered with floating ice, making the lure's effectiveness and placement problematic. If the lure failed, in this narrow ice-blocked sea area, the fleet would be like an eel in a pipe, with no room to maneuver, completely being a sitting duck. Such treacherous waters!

Gazing at the deceptive sea, cold sweat dripped from Da Fei's brow as he asked Alicia beside him, who was solemnly silent, "Are you ready? The sea monster should be very close to us now."

Alicia grimly replied, "The terrain is too bad. To use the lure effectively, we must place the illusion beside us so the gun cabin at our ship's side can exert its power. But now, we can only place the illusion behind our ship's route, which is useless!"

Da Fei's heart tightened, indeed! He quickly asked, "Didn't you say you created a new magic last night? Can you try it?"

Alicia flicked her eyes sideways: "That's what you said, if it fails, don't blame me!"

Darn it! Learning to dodge and shirk responsibilities at such a young age!

Da Fei anxiously said, "At this point, whether it works or not, we have to try!"

Alicia nodded, "Alright, my new arcane is an inspired variant of Mysterious Stealth Navigation, so the Captain must also participate; just do what the Captain is supposed to do, Captain, start now!"

Da Fei's eyebrows twitched! A modified Mysterious Stealth Navigation? Damn! Is imitation really the mother of innovation? Without further thought, Da Fei immediately got to work.

–System Prompt: You have used the God-level Reconnaissance Technique skill 'Phantom March'!

The figures of all sailors on the ship suddenly faded, then Alicia emitted magic light from her hands, Da Fei's vision blurred sharply, feeling as if the ship under him twisted and expanded like a balloon in an instant!

—System Prompt: Your Vice Hero Alicia cast an unknown arcane magic on the ship you are on!

—System Prompt: You have combined a new, unnamed magic skill! You have obtained information about a new magic skill!

—System Prompt: You have acquired information about the Master-level Navigation Skill.

—System Prompt: Your Vice Hero Alicia has acquired information about God-level Magic.

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Watching a series of system prompts scrolling on the screen and the incredible scene before him, Da Fei was stunned with mouth agape!

Da Fei's ship was transformed by her into a swaying monster! If I'm not wrong, this monster looks like the Six-headed Sea Demon Scylla? A much smaller-sized Scylla, entirely in yellow and white stripes! That's the yellow-brown color of the ship's wood and the white color of the sails!

Darn it! So her new skill is Transformation Skill? And combining this skill actually triggered Master God-level skill information, which is undoubtedly a God-level skill! So, what's the use of this skill?

Da Fei asked, surprised and delighted, "You mean, transform into a sea demon to scare away the sea monster?"

"Ice Fruit!" Alicia laughed uncontrollably, excited, "Replication successful! This is called subduing the enemy without fighting! Hahaha!"

Da Fei couldn't help but become excited, "Can it scare it away?"

Alicia chuckled darkly, "Who knows? It claims to be the Sea General, it should have some dignity, right?"

Da Fei nodded repeatedly with enthusiasm, "Yes, Scylla's ship's bow seems to have the function of deterring sea monsters, it should be quite dignified, right?"

At this moment, the red light flashed again on Da Fei's screen!

—System Prompt: Reconnaissance Skill Warning! A hidden enemy is about to appear!

Da Fei's heart tightened, Alicia's expression changed, could it not be working?

At this moment, a large red dot appeared at the fleet's rear and surfaced with a gigantic octopus! Da Fei's eyes shrank! The legendary giant octopus! This is trouble; countless terrifying tales circulate among sailors about giant octopuses! Even in the steam wheel era, octopuses are still a horrifying movie theme. In short, the octopus's strength in the game is definitely not weak.

In fact, given the fleet's current situation, fighting any sea monster would have little chance of winning, let alone a terrifying sea monster like an octopus that could easily flip and drag a big ship down!

At this moment, the octopus was lingering far behind the fleet, keeping a certain distance, clearly afraid to approach, indicating that this illusion had some effect! The problem is it could only deter but not scare away, which was useless!

Indeed, Alicia sighed, "I tried my best, the illusion won't last long, the Captain should prepare for battle. I think we'll use this medium ship as bait; when the octopus attacks this ship—fire at me!"

Da Fei sighed deeply too. Looks like this is the only way?

When the S-level difficulty chamber commission merges with the epic-level chamber task, the devastating scene unfolds! This might really not survive; Da Fei had to make the worst plan. Although surviving great storms as a demigod and then capsizing in an ice channel is disturbing, having gotten this far due to Renior's unexpected aid, Da Fei's journey should have already ended then.

As for now, having acquired the Divine Artifact and new God-level skill information, gains were bountiful no matter what, with no regrets left.

So now, the consideration is to sacrifice the pawn to save the king, fight if able, otherwise allow the Radiant Wings ahead to escape, ending this troublesome chamber mission here. Let it fend for itself.

Da Fei decisively called the Order Flag Bearer: "Order the flagship to prepare to retreat and jettison all cargo in the hold."

Just then, a deep piano tone suddenly struck, resonating throughout the ethereal, silent ice ocean! Da Fei's heart trembled, what's happening?

—"Tiny existence, begone!!!" Amid the piano resonance, a robust voice echoed through the ice ocean!

Da Fei was shocked, jaw-dropping in fright, what is this? Skira's voice?

And at that moment, the octopus suddenly turned, its massive eight arms springing like towering pillars, spraying water dramatically, retreating like a torpedo and disappearing instantly at the radar's end!

—System Prompt: The enemy has fled the battlefield! You gained 200,000 combat experience!

It ran! It got scared away!!! Da Fei and Alicia stared at each other in shock! Then voices of joyous cheers came from the Radiant Wings!

Da Fei finally came to his senses: "Coltner! It must be Coltner! Incredible, so amazing! Hahaha!"

Alicia too regained her senses, laughing heartily, “Got it! Just visuals are not enough; you need a sound for authenticity!”

Da Fei hastily said, “Yes, yes, this combination skill requires another person, a poet! Quickly!”

Scaring this monster away earned 200,000 experience, indicating the monster’s daunting strength! This was completely a mistake from picking the wrong mission at the wrong time, creating the wrong enemy, not manageable by current players; should real fighting occur, it would result in a likely team wipe!

This God-level frightening skill provided robust assurance for this journey, compelling full development of this skill by me!

Now, Da Fei’s ship was docked onto the Radiant Wings.

Catherine, Selvia, and a smug Coltner stood by the ladder to welcome, “Welcome, Captain, under your leadership, we have once again triumphed over a great crisis!”

Da Fei laughed heartily, “Good job everyone! Especially the Baron, you are truly remarkable, so clever, how did you do it?”

Coltner took out a megaphone, shaking his head with a smile, “I vaguely remember Skira’s voice, then using the shock effect of the Poet’s Sound Skills for enhancement, it’s just a minor trick not worth

mentioning. The key point is, how did the Captain transform the ship into a sea monster? It's truly incredible; even though I've interacted with many mages in the city, this magic was unheard of."

Alicia proudly said, "Actually, this magic is the Illusion Army."

Da Fei was startled, "The Illusion Army can transform into a sea monster? The system prompt clearly said unknown magic!"

Coltner incredulously said, "Unheard of!"

Alicia laughed heartily, "The so-called Illusion Army magic requires a reference object to replicate its image with magic power, right?"

Coltner nodded, "Indeed, this reference can be an army or an item, but there must be a reference object. How did the miss cast Illusion Army without a Skira reference present?"

Alicia said proudly, "The reference is in my mind! Just like you remember Skira's voice, I remember Skira's appearance, I used magic to replicate the appearance from my memory of Skira!"

Da Fei's eyelids twitched! Remembering so accurately allows direct replication? That means no need for a reference!

Coltner was even more shocked, “Genius! The miss is a genius with extraordinary memory! One misstep in reference reproduction and the spell fails! That’s why low-level arcane skills can’t copy large targets, meaning the miss fully comprehended Skira’s appearance?”

Alicia smiled wryly, “To be precise, the fear it instills is engraved in my heart, when I close my eyes, I seem to see its appearance again. Sometimes, having a good memory isn’t always an advantage. Of course, the replica isn’t perfect, I can’t quite recall its underwater body, I successfully supplemented it through imagination. The spell wasn’t very rigorous, or else I would have pioneered new magic.”

Da Fei suddenly understood, “I see!”

Coltner was stunned, “Success through imagination? That’s truly a talent’s feat! Imagine, once the miss masters this ability, she could casually conjure monsters from her imagination to frighten others! Once she reaches the legendary God-level Arcane realm, she can use magic to materialize illusions; then the illusion has substance and attack power!”

Da Fei’s eyelids twitched! Yes, the sub-skills of God-level Arcane include ‘Materialization’. At that time, illusions will no longer be illusions but will be tangible, with flesh and blood, possessing attacks! If Alicia really can conjure all sorts of attack-capable monsters at will, wouldn’t that be mind-blowing?

Alicia, however, dismissively laughed, “Materialization is all flair; rather than using massive magic power to materialize an illusion, I might as well summon more elemental troops...”

Even dismissing God-level skills, why are you so outlandish?

Wait, Da Fei became alert abruptly; something’s off with this Coltner!

What's off? Why are his questions so profound and insightful, catering to interests precisely? One, to flatter my beauty, curry favor, and charm the lovely lady! Two, to probe my academic secrets!

My academic secrets only a genius can wield, insignificant for probing, but my lady's charm, no flattery allowed, only mine!

Anyway, now it's time for serious discussions! That's about combining new God-level! Actually, there's not much to elaborate on the combination, right? Just act as a good voice-over when the illusion emerges, maybe?

Chapter 225: The Octopus Monster that Returns

The heroes are divided into three types based on their roles. The first type is Strategic Heroes, usually referring to heroes who have special talents in managing lords. National war is all about national power, and warfare is about consumption; strategic heroes truly reflect strength in the later stages.

The second type is Tactical Heroes, who have the ability to determine the direction of a battle.

The third type, and the most common, is Battle Heroes, who determine the victory or defeat of a fight.

Currently, international players favor Battle Heroes, as those with extraordinary talents are often dubbed "God-level Heroes." Indeed, a good start is half the battle; only robust initial development can gradually accumulate the tactical and strategic advantages of the mid-to-late stages. This is a three-step process. Of course, the vast majority of players remain stuck in the grunt work of Battle Heroes.

Clearly, Da Fei had already reached the second step, entering the era of Tactical Heroes! Alicia was Da Fei's Tactical Hero.

Her value lay in winning without a fight and using the weak to overcome the strong! In online game terms, it's like "defeating a boss above your level," "taking quests higher than your level," and "zero-kill clearance," realms that so-called God-level Battle Heroes could not reach.

So now, Da Fei definitely was all-in on cultivating Alicia.

Since her knowledge and magic power were severely lacking, he reluctantly decided to have the Little Nun sacrifice and hand over the Divine Artifact Wand to Alicia for now. With an additional 20 points in magic power and 20 points in knowledge, it equated to an attribute point gain worth 20 levels for an average Magic Hero. The improvements were unimaginable. All sorts of summoning spells like Summoning Mist, Summon Phoenix, Summon Earthquake, and those of Master-level Mages could now be utilized. Honestly, why hadn't he thought of changing her outfit last night when she said she ran out of mana? Probably because they weren't on the same ship, and he didn't consider that strategic weapons have no class restrictions.

Da Fei opened the Vice Hero equipment bar to start the gear change. Hmm? Couldn't retrieve the equipment? What's going on?

Da Fei looked in surprise at the blonde Little Heart, who was nervously clutching the Magic Wand, glaring at him.

What was this! Da Fei chuckled and said to Selvia, "What's going on? I'm just swapping gear."

Selvia shook her head and questioned, "Why swap with her?"

—Ah poo! Da Fei spat out a mouthful of blood! Was this a joke? A Vice Hero defying a player's gear change command! Such a thing was unheard of! No, wait, this happened before! When Da Fei first recruited Catherine, he had tried to strip her of her sexy leather armor for his own pleasure, but she laughed it off, and he didn't pay much attention at the time. So Vice Heroes could defy a player's gear change requests!

Indeed, if a Vice Hero possessed any personal items and a player attempted to take them, the Vice Hero would immediately turn hostile. This was something that the official data had warned about.

Could it be that Selvia resisted Da Fei's gear change because she couldn't part with the Divine Artifact? Da Fei quickly opened Selvia's attribute bar to see, loyalty 100!!!

Ah poo! Da Fei spat out a mouthful of blood again! The power of the Divine Artifact! It had to be the power of the Divine Artifact!

When players met other races and other factions' top-tier heroes in taverns, and they couldn't win them over in any way, there was always an ultimate move: give them treasures! The higher the level of the gift, the more likely the other side would give in, while the given treasure would become the hero's personal item, sacred and inviolable. This was the same trick Da Fei used when he gave the telescope to Catherine. If a high-level treasure could have such a magical effect, what about a Divine Artifact!

The problem is, my dear, this is just on loan to you, not given to you, so it's not your personal item, right? How could you do this to me?

In other words, is this the charm of a Divine Artifact, igniting the possessive desire of Vice Heroes? Is this a preset feature of the Divine Artifact? Was there any introduction on the official website? No, right? Or is this Divine Artifact very special? Dang it, once you accept this design, it's quite a headache!

Da Fei had no choice but to continue smiling, "This is just a temporary requisition, Selvia darling—"

Selvia interrupted, "I am not a child. Captain, don't you think it's a waste for a Ranger to use a magic artifact?"

Da Fei was stunned! This kid was angrier than when he caught him flirting with the Banshee! Could the power of the Divine Artifact be so great as to corrupt a Nun? What if he forcibly removed her Divine Artifact? Da Fei couldn't even imagine! It might cause loyalty to plummet!

Da Fei didn't dare to take that risk. He could only sigh heavily, "Alright, alright, I'm in the wrong. It's most suitable for you to use it."

But Selvia's eyes reddened and reluctantly handed over the Magic Wand, "I'm sorry, it's my fault. I shouldn't have defied Captain's orders."

—System Prompt: You have removed Vice Hero Selvia's equipment "Sea Soul Staff."

—System Prompt: Selvia's loyalty has decreased to 70 points.

Da Fei was stunned on the spot! Her loyalty had indeed dropped! Alright, alright, this kid was still sensible.

Da Fei quickly patted her head to comfort her, “Don’t worry. When I, Captain, slay a few more demigods, any magic artifacts will definitely be prioritized for you!”

Selvia tilted her head, frowned, and said, “Captain, could you please stop patting my head? I’m not a child.”

Huh? This attitude and tone seemed to return to normal, huh? So what happened just now? Was it a special scenario triggered by the Divine Artifact?

Da Fei curiously examined the wand, which was shaped like a sea beast’s bone claw holding a white glass ball, and couldn’t see any underlying meaning. Anyway, it was time to get to work.

Da Fei returned to his ship, and the fleet continued moving forward.

Once back on the ship, Da Fei equipped Alicia with the Divine Artifact Wand and watched her reaction intently.

“So this is a Divine Artifact? Is there anything special about it?” Alicia twirled the wand with great interest, swung it around making a whooshing sound, clearly not as reverent as Selvia.

That was her reaction? Alright, fair enough. Da Fei was afraid of being alarmed and would prefer no special occurrences at all.

In any case, with the Divine Artifact in hand and abundant mana, the next step was to accompany her in practice, repeatedly, until fully developing the complete version of Skira's Illusionary Magic. The day magic succeeded would definitely be when God-level Arcane was advanced! It would also be the time Da Fei Master comprehended Navigation Skills!

Of course, with Alicia's innate genius, having received information on God-level Skills, advancing to the God-level was inevitable. But Da Fei's goal certainly did not stop there. His target was to surpass God-level and develop a new profession that, according to legends, transcended skills!

The practice began!

As Da Fei's Phantom March activated, Alicia waved the magic wand glimmering with demon light, and Da Fei's vision blurred once more, only to see the boat swell rapidly like a balloon. A yellow-black-white mixture, much larger than the previous Skira's form, appeared once more.

–System Prompt: Your Vice Hero Alicia cast an unknown arcane magic on your boat!

–System Prompt: You combined a new unnamed magic skill! You gained information on a new magic skill!

–System Prompt: You obtained information on Master-level Navigation Skill.

—System Prompt: Your Vice Hero Alicia obtained information on God-level Arcane.

—“Insignificant beings, scram!” The piano sound resounded, as Coltner opportunely added musical input, causing the surrounding Ice Ocean to surge and scare off endless shrimp soldiers and crab generals. Yes, that was precisely the desired effect.

Alicia chuckled, “Not bad. With the enhanced magic power, the illusion’s size increased significantly, and its colors have slightly started resembling the remembered black of Skira. As long as I practice more, deepening and fixing Skira’s image until it completely resembles Skira’s real appearance, there should be a breakthrough.”

Da Fei exclaimed happily, “Yes, yes, that’s exactly what we need, more practice!”

At this moment, a sudden red flash startled Da Fei’s screen!

—System Prompt: Reconnaissance Skill Alert! A formidable enemy is approaching your fleet. Please ensure caution!

Da Fei was startled, seeing a large red dot on the radar rapidly approaching his fleet. Gosh! Another Sea Monster! Was it not afraid of Skira?

The fleet immediately prepared for battle, while Alicia hurriedly sat down, sipping water and nibbling on cakes to restore mana. Simultaneously, Da Fei took out a telescope to inspect the swiftly approaching red dot—a giant octopus!

Damn! It was back!

Could it be it realized it was deceived? Was it why it neither submerged nor retreated but assailed boldly? What should be done this time? The legend goes that the same tactic never works twice on a Saint—suggesting this was a fight not to be avoided?

However, things were different now. Alicia's mana allowed her to summon Mist Technique, suggesting a fighting chance!

Da Fei hurriedly instructed Alicia, "Prepare Mist Technique!"

Alicia, with puffed-up cheeks full of food, mumbled, "*&&...%Y=!"

Come on, are you speaking octopus language or something?

Meanwhile, the massive octopus, moving like a torpedo, abruptly splayed its eight tentacles, causing massive waves as it halted abruptly behind the fleet. Clearly, it noticed the illusion left from practice that resembled Skira.

This significantly larger illusion than before tested the intelligence of the Octopus Monster once more!

—“Fool! Scram!” Again, piano sound resounded, and the furious roar echoed across the Ice Ocean!

Splash! A tremendous splash of water followed; the frightened octopus jerked its eight tentacles, swiftly turned around, reverting into a torpedo, fleeing in panic.

—System Prompt: The enemy has fled the battlefield! You gained battle experience +200,000!

—System Prompt: Congratulations! Your Vice Hero Alicia has advanced to Level 25! Attack +1, free attribute point +1, Damage +1...

“Ah poo!” Alicia spat with a mouthful of food crumbs.

Da Fei stood frozen! What was the intention of this creature? Was it here to give experience?

Alicia wiped her mouth and said, “No way, things shouldn’t be done more than twice. This octopus might return, and by then, the trick may not fool it again.”

Da Fei nodded numbly; legend had it that the same tactic never works thrice on a Saint. It seemed a quick resolution was necessary; better to make a decisive choice while there was still time to escape.

Da Fei made a firm decision, "Messenger!"