

God level 511

Chapter 511: Riot Victory

Under everyone's cover, Da Fei easily opened and entered the opposite cell, and then unlocked each prisoner's handcuffs and shackles one by one.

At this point, a fierce dwarf with a scarred face in the cell praised, "Brother, you're really capable, you're the strongest Divine Thief I've ever seen, as long as we rescue Big Bro, we'll definitely repay you handsomely."

Da Fei said indifferently, "Let's not talk about thanks now, the key is to figure out how to break out of jail."

The scar-faced dwarf said sternly, "Right! The key is to escape, as long as we rescue Big Bro, he'll definitely have a way! Attention, here they come, we're about to make our move!"

Everyone in the cell was on full alert, and Da Fei couldn't help but break into a sweat. Although these prisoners had regained their freedom, they were, after all, empty-handed, and their opponents were patrolling guards clad in heavy armor wielding big clubs. If they couldn't take them down quickly, the outcome was unpredictable. They could only hope that the little leader who claimed he could fight 10 men was reliable. But dwarves loved to brag after a drink, too many claimed they could fight 10, well damn it, hopefully he would be more reliable sober.

Now, the scar-faced dwarf and the burly prisoner opposite were continuously gesturing to each other, making final preparations.

Here they come, the patrol is getting closer! Suddenly, prisoners in the neighboring cell started roaring in unison, banging on the iron doors with their handcuffs!

The patrol shouted furiously, "If we don't break your limbs this time, you'll never behave!" After shouting, they passed Da Fei's cell and rushed to the next, completely unaware that the locks and shackles in Da Fei's cell were already open!

Holy crap! Da Fei was thoroughly impressed!

As the patrol swung their clubs to beat the rioting prisoners, the prisoners on Da Fei's side gently pushed open the cell door, tiptoed out quickly, and snuck up behind the patrol members! At that moment, the clubs swinging down on the prisoners were suddenly clamped tight by the inmates!

The patrol yelled, "Let go!"

"Take them down!!!"

With a shout, two groups of prisoners bounded from behind, instantly pushing the unsuspecting patrol against the cell bars. Meanwhile, the prisoners in the cells immediately reached out to grab whatever they could - an arm, a leg - swiftly immobilizing these heavily armored guards, rendering them defenseless and ready for a beating!

Da Fei was agape with admiration, these guys proved to be quite the smuggling gang, their cunning was on another level!

It's doable! It has to be with them! In an instant, Da Fei was filled with immense confidence!

What are we waiting for? While the patrol was getting pummeled, Da Fei immediately rushed to the opposite cell to unlock the door! A group of eager prisoners with shackles on dragged themselves over and shouted, "Don't bother with our handcuffs, we can still fight, hurry up and save more brothers!"

Da Fei was moved! That's it, I'll satisfy you! And so, Da Fei rushed off to another cell.

At this moment, the distant patrol's whistle sounded: "Riot! Riot! Escape and riot in cells 301, 302, 303!"

Da Fei was alarmed, Here we go!

And at this moment, the patrol already overpowered and downed on the ground, the burly dwarf who claimed he could fight 10 men grabbed a confiscated club and bellowed, "Come on! I can take on ten of you!"

— Achoo! Couldn't you be more reliable?

The scar-faced dwarf immediately instructed, "Brothers from cells 303 and 304, block them, we'll go rescue Big Bro!"

"You go save Big Bro, we've got this covered!"

Okay, that's more like it!

"Brother, follow me, rescuing Big Bro all depends on you now!"

Oh my god! It's up to you guys! And so, led by the burly dwarf and scar-faced dwarf with their clubs, they charged forward; along the way, inmates in the cells shouted excitedly!

Jeez! You guys better not tell me you're all innocent civilians persecuted by the tyrannical Prince, I don't want to spill that drama!

Just then, another patrol appeared ahead, the burly dwarf and the scar-faced dwarf burst out shouting, "I've tolerated you for a long time!"

"This time, we're going to beat you so badly even your mothers won't recognize you!"

The real fight begins! Da Fei obviously couldn't stand idly by; unlock, unlock again, keep unlocking! In a moment, more and more prisoners shouting and waving their shackles joined the fight!

Loudspeaker announcements echoed through the cells again!

—"Alert! Level S Alert! A large-scale prisoner riot has occurred on the 3rd level of the prison, all units on level 2, guard the entrances and hold the line! Mobile forces, immediately proceed to level 3 to suppress! Mobile forces, immediately proceed to level 3 to suppress!"

—"Warning to all prisoners! Anyone who dares participate in the riot will be executed on the spot!"

The burly dwarf knocked a patrol member flying with a swing of his club and laughed heartily, "If it wasn't for your greed over the treasures we've hidden, we would've been executed on the spot a long time ago. There's no hope for those locked up on the 3rd level. Brothers, let's go all out!"

"Go all out! Go all out!!"

"Let us out! We want to fight!"

The entire third level erupted in deafening roars, and at this moment, Da Fei's hands were shaking with tension and excitement as he unlocked the doors! Holy crap, this is too big for me to handle alone! I can't unlock that many locks by myself!

Now, the rioting prisoners formed an unstoppable flow of people; some fell, but more joined in, continuously pushing back the surrounding patrols, and the infamous cell 333 was just ahead!

In front of the cell, a large force of prison guards formed the last line of defense, and an officer shouted, "Hold firm! We can't let them break out this high-value criminal, our mobile forces will be back any second now!"

"Charge!!! We must rescue Big Bro!"

The crowd charged fearlessly, blood spraying and screams filling the air! Da Fei could hardly keep his eyes open from the sheer gruesomeness! Hey, hey, hey, does a game really need to be this bloody?

What now? Are the mobile troops really going to be back soon? Those are scythe-wielding killing machines, surely not something these shackled prisoners can handle, right?

Da Fei immediately summoned the Blood Eagle to dive to the lower levels to scout, while he himself didn't stop moving as he continued to unlock other cells!

As the Blood Eagle soared down, passing through corridors to the fourth level of the Lava Pool, a grotesque scene of carnage unfolded. Although the dwarf mobile troops had suffered considerable casualties, they had taken control of the situation. Only the wobbling Turtle Shell Giant Beast and a few monster powerhouses were still struggling feebly!

Damn! That's intense! Da Fei was startled and hurriedly had Xiao Fei fly to Douglas's cage to check. The huge mound of flesh that was Douglas lay motionless on the ground!

Shit! Is he dead? But the map shows a green dot! Just then, Douglas spoke softly, "Master? Any orders? Douglas has completed Soul Separation and is now playing dead! Douglas awaits the master's commands!"

—Ahchoo! Playing dead! This fella's intelligence is off the charts!

And at that moment, Da Fei realized he could control Douglas! That's right, Xiao Fei was like his alter ego! Where Xiao Fei is, is like himself in presence!

Da Fei immediately checked Douglas's attributes:

—Douglas: Leader-level Undead Creature, Attack 70, Defense 55, Damage 100-150, Health 25,000, Move Speed 5, Attack Speed 7, Command Value: 100. Special skills: Rolling Move, Corrosive Liquid Spitting, Corpse Eating, Crushing Attack, Plague Strike, Horizontal Slash. Space Equipment Bar: Soul Core.

—Soul Core: The damaged fragment of the Ancient Artifact Douglas, now serves as Douglas's Life Core.

Da Fei's jaw dropped at the attributes! A BOSS! A BOSS with 25,000 health! And an Ancient Artifact fragment as a Soul Core! This thing has depth! Serious depth! How can such a profound item fall into the dwarves' hands!

Better trade it with my Xiao Fei quick!

Douglas exclaimed, "Master! Douglas dedicates his life to you! As long as the core remains, Douglas will not truly die. Now, Douglas can stop playing dead and fight fiercely!"

—System Prompt: Your Reconnaissance Eagle Xiao Fei has obtained Douglas's Life Core.

—System Prompt: You have completed the quest "Help Request from the Trapped Abomination" and are rewarded with +1,000,000 Experience. Since you have obtained Douglas's Life Core, Douglas's body loses intelligence, and you must personally command it in battle.

—System Prompt: You have gained information about the Ancient Artifact fragment Douglas.

Da Fei was taken aback! What? No intelligence? Has it turned into an ordinary unit? And there's further information about the Ancient Artifact fragment? Could it be another quest?

No time to think too much, the pressing issue was to rally Douglas to the rescue. As long as they could save that hero, who was said to be worth a hundred men, everything would be fine! But with his slow speed, can he make it back in time? If he's chased by the mobile troops, that would be a headache.

Oh right, what is this Rolling Move special skill?

—Rolling Move: Due to Douglas's massive body not being suitable for normal biological movement, it gains remarkable speed and impact force by rolling.

Holy moly, who's the genius that invented this Suture Monster?

Overjoyed, Da Fei didn't hesitate to activate the skill!

Douglas roared, "The wheels of history roll forward!!!"

Then, the huge mound of flesh thunderously rolled out of the cage, startling the dwarven guards who turned around and shouted, "There's another one!"

"Nevermind, kill these few first!"

Da Fei, controlling the colossal fleshy sphere, rolled rapidly towards the passage - his speed was incomparable, truly befitting his colossal size! But now, it's going uphill; is that even possible?

Douglas growled, "The wheels of history climb new heights!"

It worked! Just slower! Yeah, it would be laughable if the genius that created such an advanced Suture Monster hadn't figured out the uphill issue.

Now, the meatball was about to face the gate's sentinels!

"The wheels of history are unstoppable!!!"

The sentinels, terrified, scattered and screamed, "The monsters from the 4th level are coming up!"

Da Fei burst into laughter, this is just awesome! So he immediately shouted to the rioting prisoners, "Monster incoming, clear the way! Leave it to the pros!"

At once, all the prisoners who witnessed the rolling meatball erupted with earth-shattering shouts!

Just then, an opposite officer exclaimed in terror, "The monster has broken through, retreat! All personnel retreat to the second level and hold there!"

And accordingly, a loudspeaker announcement followed:

—"Warning! Warning! The riot situation is out of control, all staff on the third level, and the fighting mobile troops on the fourth level retreat to the second level and defend! Wait for the Kingdom Suppression Force!"

"Victory!" The prisoners of the entire third level erupted into deafening cheers!

Holy crap, and I didn't even get a chance to test the power of the meatball!

Chapter 512: Sending Off the Little Brother

The sharp alarms blared continuously in the prison. Douglas's massive body barreled after the guard, driving all the panicked guards toward the upper levels and blocking them at the entrance to face off in the distance. Meanwhile, the prisoners found keys in the guard room, unlocked the prison doors and their own shackles, and cheers of victory echoed throughout the prison.

Now, Da Fei had rescued the legendary hero who could fight a hundred! But it wasn't just Da Fei, all the prisoners couldn't believe their own eyes!

A group of dwarfs exclaimed, "Big brother, how did you end up looking like this?"

Right, the person in front of Da Fei now was a hero with atrophied muscles, a small stature, deep-set eyes, and seemed like he could be blown over by a breeze—a skin and bones Level 1 hero! If you didn't know he was a dwarf, you might think he was a gnome! This guy could fight a hundred people?

Hangeval sighed, "How could they possibly let a hero maintain his normal state? They tortured me constantly, and used an Evil Holy Artifact to drain my Hero Power, turning me into this!"

The dwarfs were in utter despair, "Big brother!"

Da Fei felt completely shattered! Damn it, I was counting on you to fight our way out! Now what the hell am I supposed to expect! Don't you dare say you'll repay me for saving your life with your body, I don't want that! I didn't want it before, I don't want it now, and I won't want it in the future! I only recruit female heroes!

Wait a second! Da Fei suddenly panicked, since heroes are tortured like this when imprisoned, who knows if the female clan leader on the 5th floor might be tortured too? Holy shit! No way! Dark Elf beauties are all charming and enchanting, if they also ended up like this, then what's the point of me coming here? To recruit some monsters and bearded dwarfs?

No, no, no! Impossible! It can't be! Female heroes are a rare and premium selling point of this game, an existence that makes players crazily spend money in ecstatic desire, even the Undead Female Hero must be a noble and cool presence like a fema...

In a moment of desperation with teeth clenched, Da Fei was extremely anxious and distraught!

Just then, Hangeval spoke again, "I've heard everything from the broadcast, the Kingdom is sending troops to suppress us, and in my current state, let alone my prime, I can't lead everyone to break out..."

Da Fei's eyebrows twitched, clearly, this was setting the stage for sacrificing the minion! Yeah, if he was still in his prime able to fight a hundred, then what would players be needed for? Just to spectate and cheer from the sidelines? Alright! Rest in peace!

The dwarfs vehemently said, "Big brother! No matter what you become, you'll always be our big brother! We'll always listen to you, just say the word, and we'll carry you on our backs to break out even if it means our death!"

Hangeval shook his head, his sunken yet sharp eyes looking toward Da Fei, "If I'm not mistaken, you're not a dwarf, you're an extraordinary hero too. I don't know what your goals are, even if it's to use us, as long as you can lead us to break out, even if only one of us can make it out alive, we will reward you with our hidden treasure, how about that?"

Nice! Perceptive and profound, this is the response I've been waiting for!

Da Fei pulled out the map given by Shadow, pointing to a particular cell on the fifth level, "My goal is to rescue an important person on the lowest floor. My escape route is through here, leading to the dangerous Otherworld. If we can't break out from the second floor, we can try to escape through the Otherworld on the fifth floor. By the way, I know nothing about that Otherworld."

Hangeval frowned and nodded approvingly, "Not bad, this map is very detailed, you're clearly extraordinary. Since charging the second floor is surely a death sentence, let's try this escape route; perhaps there's a sliver of hope."

Da Fei solemnly said, "But it's not easy to get through the fifth floor!"

Hangeval then asked the surrounding dwarfs, "What do you all think?"

The dwarfs shouted in unison, "Charge through! We're dead either way!"

Humph! That's exactly the response I've been waiting for! Alright, since you are willing to be used, I won't hold back. We're all condemned prisoners anyway, all fully aware.

Hangeval's eyes flashed sharply, "Very well, since our hero knows nothing about this Otherworld, we must prepare thoroughly. Stok, you take a few dozen to the prison guards' armory and gather all the weapons and equipment, make sure everyone is armed!"

The burly dwarf immediately responded, "Understood, big brother!"

Hangeval continued: "Bazaar, take people to collect everything that can be taken from the kitchen of the prison guards: backpacks, food, wine, clothes, tableware, bedding, tools, and all other useful items that can be carried away; don't leave anything behind!"

A dwarf laughed loudly: "That's my big brother! Always knows I love to loot everything!"

Hangeval assigned again: "Gleek, pile all the immovable furniture, wood, and oil at the second floor entrance and set it on fire! Prevent the kingdom's troops from entering!"

Another dwarf laughed: "Big brother knows I love to set fires the most!"

Hangeval said indifferently: "Elliot, go count the number of people; there might be a few hundred among those released who aren't from our group. Go talk to them, those who are willing to follow us can join us in breaking out, and those who aren't can stay behind."

Another dwarf laughed wildly: "Big brother has already burned our way out and taken the food! Whether they want to or not, they have to follow us!"

Hangeval coughed dryly and said: "Our hero is here, everyone, be mindful of our image! Go and get busy!"

The dwarfs chuckled: "Yes, yes!"

Oh, my God! An image? You bunch of scumbags, oh no, dwarf scum!

Da Fei smiled lightly: "It's fine, seeing everyone's wit and bravery, and now observing the calm command of the sir, I am full of confidence in our breakout!"

Hangeval also smiled lightly: "Dwarfs are actually never stupid; it's just that drinking too much and being constantly dazed makes humans and elves think they are. So, us dwarfs, who haven't had a drink and have been locked up for a long time, are naturally much clearer and smarter than those barrel guards."

So, there's a reason after all! Enlightened, Da Fei pulled out a beer and smiled, "Want to muddle through just this once?"

Hangeval's eyes lit up, he snatched the bottle and gulped it down, then laughed heartily with satisfaction: "Refreshing! It's been years since I've had a drink! Every time I smelled alcohol from those torturing bastards, I just wanted to bite into them!"

Da Fei shivered: why didn't you just say lick them? He then pulled out another bottle and said, "Another swig?"

Hangeval laughed and waved his hand: "No more drinking, I have no combat power left now, just my mind, and I must stay alert."

Da Fei, awed, responded: "There aren't many dwarfs who can refuse alcohol, impressive!"

Hangeval chuckled then sighed long: "In the rules of dwarfs, since you just offered me a drink, we are now friends, not to mention friends have rescued us. If anything happens to me, I entrust my brothers to my friend's care. Although they are criminals and have indeed done many bad deeds, it's all my

problem; they are still very capable. I hope my friend can arrange a place away from the Alliance's pursuit, where everyone can live well!"

Da Fei raised his eyebrows, really sending over his followers? A place away from the Alliance's pursuit? Does the Eastern World count? I was just planning to build a city in the East and worried about the lack of manpower. Hahaha! Okay, you can rest easy.

Da Fei spoke solemnly: "No problem! Actually, my identity is a lord, as long as everyone is not afraid of hardships or dangers, I will take good care of everyone."

Hangeval laughed heartily: "Even if you sell them as laborers, it's still better than waiting to die in this death cell!"

Da Fei was overjoyed: "With that said, I'm even more determined to treat everyone well!"

Haha, awesome! It sure did gather a bunch of followers! Just that, these dwarfs are going to become my citizens now, so I can't have the same attitude towards them as I did towards disposable convicts!

Damn, what a dilemma! If that's the case, then no choice; let Douglas die off as fodder! It won't really die anyway, I'm extremely dissatisfied with its form anyway. But if Douglas dies, how will I reassemble it later? Forget it, I'll deal with that problem later, at worst I'll sell it to the Mage Academy, haha.

Chapter 513:: Douglas Fragment

The flames rose at the entry of the tunnel, thick smoke starting to fill the cells, and the sounds of troop mobilization and shouting from the loudspeakers became more and more urgent.

The count was complete, a total of 1100 prisoners, with 300 injured and weak knights, and 500 armed dwarfs which means those 500 dwarfs were the real fighting force.

Now, everything was ready. Hangeval said solemnly, "Brothers, the forces of the Kingdom will soon be assembled, we must depart now."

Da Fei nodded, "I need 5 particularly capable fighters under my command to lead the charge."

All these prisoners were NPCs, and only NPCs could make up the population of a city. But for player heroes, leading NPCs is a bit troublesome. NPCs can join a player's team and they also benefit from the player's attack and defense attributes and hero skills. However, each NPC occupies one tactical position. At level 41, Da Fei has 5 tactical positions, plus one tactical position bonus from being the Chamber of Commerce president, meaning Da Fei could only team up with 6 NPCs. Since Douglas has taken up one, he could only organize 5 more.

This is of course completely different from the feeling of being able to bring hundreds or thousands of troop types from the barracks at any time. However, most NPCs have high combat power and intelligence, and most of the time they do not need players to command them personally, making it quite comfortable to play in the player's small-scale adventure missions.

Hangeval immediately said to the burly dwarf, "Stok, can you still fight?"

At this moment, the burly dwarf wearing the prison guard armor raised his giant axe and laughed heartily, "Fight! I haven't had enough fun fighting!"

The scar-faced dwarf also said, "Count me in!"

Three more strapping dwarfs chorused, "Me me me!"

Hangeval nodded, "Brothers, I'm too weak and don't have the strength to lead everyone anymore. You guys join our hero team and we'll all depend on you for the breakout!"

"Understood, big bro!"

——System Prompt: Stok, Scarface, Bazaar, Broken Steel Hand, Copper Hammer have joined your team.

Da Fei immediately checked their attributes. Each had an attack and defense around 60, damage at 50, and Life Values around 500—a solid level 7 troop standard! With his own sky-high 100 Attack, 80

Defense, and various S-grade equipment, Divine Artifact bonuses, these 5 NPCs are definitely harvester machines!

Good, what I fear most is to command frail units. I get too busy and can't manage when there are thousands of troops; isn't commanding 5 blood bulls manageable? The only flaw is having no healer; now, that's a real hassle!

Not much else to say, Douglas led the way with the well-equipped thousand-man troop beginning to move towards the lower levels.

The fourth floor was a mess, filled with dead bodies, and all defenses had been wiped out, leaving the entrance to the fifth floor completely open.

Just then, Douglas suddenly slowed down while letting out a muffled groan: "The wheels of history grind to a halt amidst famine!"

Da Fei was taken aback. Famine? He quickly checked Douglas's condition, his Stamina Value had already turned red! Darn it, why is stamina depleting so fast? But then again, it makes sense, rolling that big mountain of flesh, it would be impossible not to use up stamina.

At the same time, the Cannibalism skill was flickering!

——Cannibalism: The Suture Monster can recover health and stamina by devouring corpses. With Douglas equipped with the Divine Artifact Fragment Core, Douglas can obtain special powers from the corpses through Cannibalism.

Darn it, I always knew why I disliked Undead Creatures so much; it's this kind of disgusting thing! But the Emperor does not skimp on his soldiers, there are so many monster corpses it would be a waste not to let it feast; let's see what this Divine Artifact Fragment is all about.

Da Fei opened Douglas's Equipment Bar and re-equipped it with the Life Core.

At that moment, the mountain of flesh flashed with what, er, a white light, and Douglas began to speak: "Master, Douglas needs to replenish power, and the flesh of the strong is especially needed by Douglas. Please allow Douglas to devour corpses, a stronger Douglas can serve the master better!"

I can hardly refuse such a reason!

Da Fei waved his hand, "Go on then!"

Douglas roared with excitement: "The history books are written with two words – eat people!" After saying that, it pounced onto the huge body of the Crystal Turtle Shell Beast, peeling skin and tearing flesh, chewing sinew and gnawing bones; the scene was too bloody, Da Fei couldn't bear to watch!

Da Fei started to truly admire the Undead players. It's said that during the public tests, the top-notch Undead players were mostly real-life doctors, not because they had impressive operations, but because of their brilliant troop development and research. Average players truly couldn't reach that level of play!

Just then, the dwarfs couldn't help but gasp in awe. What now?

Da Fei hurriedly looked up and indeed, Douglas was eating meat while the flesh on his own body was rotting, falling to the ground with a sloshing sound, and piling up into a heap of muddy flesh!

Oh my god! What the hell is this? I feel like throwing up!

At this point, Hangeval spoke indifferently: "It is said that the innate nature of dwarves is greedy, and Prince Talberon's greed is beyond anyone's imagination. His craving for power, wealth, and authority has reached an insane level! He hoards everything of value or potential value, even meddling in the Divine Domain. The existence of these giant beasts is proof of his madness."

Da Fei was taken aback. Are we telling stories now?

The burly dwarf Stok interrupted: "That's why the eldest realized the nature of his madness and no longer wanted to work for him."

The scarred dwarf said indignantly: "So the despicable prince used the farewell feast as an excuse to get us all drunk and then locked us up!"

Hangeval gave a wry smile: "I thought I had seen through his nature at the time. I didn't expect him to have no bottom line. If not for his greed for our hidden treasures and my Hero Power, and since we know many of his secrets, we would have been silenced by him long ago. However, as his patience runs out and my Hero Power is being drained, we are becoming less and less valuable and are nearing death. Thankfully, the hero saved us. Regardless, we will take hold of this last chance and fight to the very end!"

The crowd of dwarves exclaimed passionately: "Yes! We will fight to our last breath!"

Only then did Da Fei suddenly realize, "So you guys were underlings of the eldest prince before?"

Hangeval laughed heartily, pointing at the scattered monster corpses in the field: "These monsters were all captured by us from the New World, from the most dangerous places in the world, and we managed to evade the king's edict and smuggle them to the eldest prince. Then, once we lost our usefulness, we were captured by the eldest prince, and even helped him achieve the great merit of cracking down on a major smuggling ring! The eldest prince is impressive, right?"

Da Fei couldn't help but nod dumbly. The eldest prince is so awesome, does the Second Prince even know?

Da Fei quickly asked, "Do you know about the Second Prince?"

"The Second Prince?" The dwarves laughed heartily, "He's not even a hero. How can he compare to the eldest prince!"

Da Fei was stunned. That's right, the Second Prince seems to be just an ordinary NPC! Damn, have I sided with the wrong team?

Hangeval chuckled, "However, the Second Prince is good at doing business, and the king also realized that the eldest prince is too greedy, and deliberately transferred some power to the Second Prince as a

measure to restrain the eldest prince. I remember that we used to give the Second Prince a lot of trouble."

Da Fei's eyebrows twitched, "Does the Second Prince have the capital to compete with the eldest prince for the throne?"

Hangeval laughed: "In terms of finances and military power, maybe he's not too bad. But if it really comes to a fight, the Second Prince is just a 'second-rate.' Not to mention, the eldest prince has absorbed my Hero Power and must have leveled up by who knows how much! Moreover, within the entire Alliance, there are probably not many heroes who can defeat the eldest prince!"

Holy shit! Not another powerhouse like Makar, right? I hope my opponents are not this frustrating!

Da Fei then asked, "Isn't the Second Prince in danger?"

Hangeval shook his head, "The old man is still in power, the Lionheart Empire and the Elf Kingdom are watching. If the eldest prince were to seize power by force, even the supportive dwarf public would not back him, for his strength is there for all to see. We dwarves recognize the strong, and given time, it's only natural for him to ascend to the throne. He has no need to be impulsive."

The dwarves sneered, "Talberon must be hoping every day for the old man to die soon!"

Da Fei nodded thoughtfully. Based on how the system gives out quests, there should be a balance to this kind of succession struggle, right? If the eldest prince is a martial arts master, he must lack both money and soldiers, otherwise, he wouldn't crave power and wealth so much. So the Second Prince must be a tycoon—no, a royal tycoon! Hanging out with him isn't completely useless, right? So it means throwing money around in a tavern must be a piece of cake, right?

Excellent, I like it!

While they were talking, Douglas had already devoured the huge Crystal Giant Beast to bits, and it was at this moment that Da Fei suddenly noticed that the newly grown muscles had turtle shells similar to that of the giant beast!

Da Fei's eyelids twitched in surprise, and he quickly checked its attributes. Sure enough, its Defense incremented by 30 points and its Life by 3000 points! Holy crap, this is too awesome!

Da Fei asked in amazement, "Then you guys know about this Divine Level Fragment of Douglas, right?"

Hangeval spoke solemnly, "We don't know what it is either. The eldest prince has also obscured the information about this artifact, but I believe, it is a Divine Level Fragment of a deceased Ancient Evil God!"

Da Fei was startled, "Divine Level Fragment? So does that mean this Douglas is actually a god?"

Hangeval spoke gravely, "Perhaps! We risked our lives to collect it from the Ancient God Battlefield in the New World. I lost my good brother permanently in that battle! Since then, I realized the madness of Talberon and no longer served him!"

—System Prompt: You have gained information about the Divine Artifact Fragment of Douglas!

Another piece of information! For a moment, Da Fei sighed in contemplation, unsure of how many troublesome issues awaited him with this fragment.

Chapter 514: Assault on the Fifth Prison Level

After devouring the body of the Crystal Turtle Shell Giant Beast while eating and shedding flesh, Douglas's appearance had dramatically changed. He transformed from a blob of flesh into a massive armadillo covered in fleshy armor! At this point, its basic defense was close to 100 points, and its health had surpassed the 30,000 mark!

Still unsatisfied after consuming the Crystal Giant Beast, Douglas set his sights on the corpses of medium and small-sized monsters. The gluttonous feast began anew, and during its devouring process, terrifying and massive spikes grew from its back!

Such an astonishing rate of metabolic evolution was beyond imagination! Was this the power of the Divine Level Fragment? How far ahead had I progressed?

"Don't be surprised," Hangeval, who was watching coldly from the side, remarked calmly, "Every rare monster here possesses certain divinity. These are creatures we captured with great effort, using all our wisdom and at enormous expense. Only monsters of this caliber are worthy of becoming sacrifices for the fragments of the Evil God's divine level. Such rapid growth is only to be expected. For ordinary creatures, no matter how much they consume, it would only restore some stamina. Who would have thought—"

At this point, Hangeval couldn't help but laugh excitedly, "Who would have thought that the outrageous things we once did have become our saving grace in the end? We were prepared for significant sacrifices on the fifth floor, but with such a powerful divine-level creature on our side, our chances of escape have greatly increased!"

Da Fei was also invigorated and laughed heartily, "Good! The stronger, the better!"

I didn't expect it either! I didn't expect that opening a door I would never have been able to open under normal circumstances would be the key to breaking through! Not to mention rescuing the female clan leader, it's not impossible to protect everyone!

Hangeval said solemnly, "However, my friend, this creature ultimately evolved from the divine level of an Evil God. Perhaps the Evil God is not conscious yet, but it could become dangerous once it grows to a certain extent! You must maintain control!"

Da Fei was suddenly taken aback as well, of course! Would a god easily be manipulated by mortals? Becoming absurdly advanced wasn't just nonsense!

Da Fei said seriously, "Thank you for the warning, friend! I'll be careful!"

Devouring the bodies of these ordinary medium and small-sized monsters was much faster and easier, and in no time, the monster corpses were nearly all disposed of. As Hangeval suggested, Douglas didn't even glance at the ordinary dwarf corpses, as they held no value for it.

However, the weapons dropped from these corpses became spoils of war for the team once again. It must be said, this was yet another advantage of having NPCs in the team. These NPCs seemed to have unrestrained plundering and clearing capabilities. If a player achieved victory with regular units, they'd still have to learn the Lord System's War Plunder Skill to have a chance of gaining more spoils of war.

And now, the broadcast that echoed throughout the prison finally had new content:

— "The Kingdom Suppression Force has regrouped. This is another warning to the rebellious prisoners: if you give up resisting and surrender voluntarily, you will still have a final chance at a reprieve to save your lives. Those who resist will be executed on the spot without mercy!"

Hearing this broadcast, the dwarves laughed uproariously!

Hangeval could only shake his head with a wry smile, "Talberon still won't give up our wealth, huh? Blame it on my booze-induced bravado back then, bragging our asset figures up by a zero. That not only got us in this prison mess, but also became our last straw of survival—what a twist of fate!"

The dwarves roared with laughter, "We won't tell him how much we really have!"

Ah, you're not telling me how much you have either; are you afraid I'll deem you worthless? You underestimate my level of understanding. Your mere existence is valuable in itself!

Hangeval said seriously, "Friend, it's time to set off! I don't know what's imprisoned on the fifth floor, but I have faith in our creature!"

Da Fei nodded, "Let's move!"

Da Fei opened Douglas's Equipment Bar once more, and this time, the glow of the Divine Level Fragment was conspicuously different from just moments ago.

When Da Fei chose to remove the fragment, Douglas still shouted, "Douglas dedicates his life to the Master!"

Perhaps moved by the previous conversation, Da Fei suddenly thought of a question and asked, "Douglas, if the dwarves also wanted your Life Core, why would you give it to me and not to them?"

Douglas responded sullenly, "The greedy dwarves want to extract my core power and eventually devour me. But the Master will certainly not do that; the Master will nurture Douglas, allowing Douglas to serve the Master better!"

Hangeval laughed heartily, "He's right, that's precisely the kind of thing Talberon would do!"

Da Fei was astonished and nodded repeatedly, "I see!"

To be so good at assessing situations, to feign ignorance, and to curry favor with the Master—just how clever was this Douglas!

By this time, Douglas had evolved into a Turtle Shell Giant Beast with 35,000 health, 100 attack and defense, 50% magic defense, and spikes covering its entire body. Each step it took raised a cloud of dust on the ground. If it could survive this battle and bring it back to Radiant City, there was no fear of the Demon Army besieging the city, and even the Eight-Headed Snake in the passageway could be dealt with!

However, the system never made things so easy, did it? If I protected it, then these dwarf minions wouldn't survive. In the end, what's more valuable—the dwarves or Douglas? Ah, I won't bother calculating that, because as this dwarf hero says, fate is unpredictable, and who cares!

The gates to the fifth floor roared open, with Da Fei's Blood Eagle scouting ahead.

At this moment, alarms were blaring on the fifth floor as well. At the entrance stood two enormous rune mechanical guards, gleaming with demon light, as gigantic as Titans! Damn, so these were robots that don't drink and don't make mistakes! This was absolutely a high-end product of the dwarf's rune technology combined with the Mage Academy's machinery technology! No wonder there's chaos above while it's entirely quiet below.

And just then, a red light exploded in the Blood Eagle's field of view!

— System Prompt: Reconnaissance Skill Warning! Your Reconnaissance Eagle has entered the alert range of the Rune Guard and is about to be attacked!

Da Fei's eyebrows twitched in surprise! Damn, they even have anti-invisibility! If the Blood Eagle's plane invisibility can't pass, then neither can my God-level Stealth, can it? Is this what they call S-level vigilance?

Under normal circumstances, this level of vigilance would mean that my infiltration and rescue had failed. But fate is unpredictable; I no longer need to sneak around, and I don't care how much vigilance it has—I will crush it head-on!

"The wheel of history cannot be stopped!" Douglas roared, rolling down like a massive spiked steel ball!

— "Alert! Intruders have entered the fifth floor; eliminate them with the Rune Guard!"

Two beams of enormous demon light shot at the rolling steel ball. -1520! -1540! Two exaggerated and explosive damage figures popped up!

Da Fei was so surprised his jaw dropped to the ground! Damn these gate gods! If they blasted these NPCs, wouldn't they be killed instantly? How many ordinary soldiers could be obliterated by that shot!

— Boom Crash!!! Knockdown damage -430! -416! The two gigantes managed only one volley before being knocked over by Douglas! That's right, large-sized, especially giant-sized combat units are very susceptible to knockdown effects!

Da Fei called out, "Attack, take them down!"

"Charge!" The leading group of five burly dwarves leapt forward, followed closely by the other dwarves who immediately surrounded the fallen Rune Guards, slashing vigorously! Huge swathes of 40, 50, 60 damage numbers filled the screen, dealing over a thousand damage in barely a few seconds!

The colossal alarm once again echoed through the prison layers:

— "Alert! Intruders have entered the fifth floor; the Rune Mechanical Patrol is on its way to eliminate them!"

— "Alert! The rioting prisoners have entered the fifth floor; the Kingdom Suppression Force is heading to pursue and eradicate them!"

A large patrol of medium and small-sized mechanical guards emerged in front of the passageway, Da Fei's eyebrows raised, thankfully! If they were all like those two gate gods at the entrance, my thousand-strong force would have been wiped out here!

Nothing more to say, just charge and crush them!

"Under the crushing wheel of history, turn to dust!"

Douglas rolled forward again, and dozens of demon light beams blasted massive -100, -100 damage on it!

Da Fei watched with eyebrows twitching wildly! Although these ordinary mechanical guards weren't as deadly as the gate gods, there were too many of them! If they were flesh and blood, I could use the Suture Monster's infamous hit-and-eat tactic to constantly heal, but alas, they're all machines! Then it's hopeless; if I'm to protect the dwarves, chances are Douglas will meet his end here!

But—it won't do, it can't die here; after all, isn't there still a Magma Dragon guarding the space gate? Who knows what level of threat that is, and how many more must die to break through that?

In his anxiety, Da Fei scanned the nearby cages once more, and locked eyes with a yellow-name white-bearded old man!

Da Fei was startled? A dwarf old man? Demigod?

The frail old man, bound by silver chains, saw Da Fei looking at him, he was instantly overwhelmed with tears, opening and closing his mouth as if trying to say something, but no sound came out!

Got it, I get it! I'll get you out! You better unleash some spectacular move to help me out! And it was only now that Da Fei realized the nearby cages held only these old men!

— Ah er! Da Fei spat out a mouthful of saliva, there was no way they could all be demigods, right? They didn't remotely look the part with their misfortunate appearances!

No need to think anymore, Da Fei immediately told Hangeval, "You command here, I'm going to unlock and save people!"

Hangeval laughed heartily, "There are too many doors to unlock one by one, don't cram everyone in here, send hundreds of brothers to use giant axes and big hammers to smash the doors open and break the chains!"

The dwarves roared in unison, "Smash the doors!"

Indeed, since we're not bothering with stealth anyway, why bother with locks! Da Fei exclaimed excitedly, "Alright! We'll smash it open then!"

Chapter 515: The Limit of a Mortal

Clang! Clang! The loud crashing of doors echoed throughout the prison as the dwarves, with their formidable destructive power, smashed numerous doors one after another. They surged into the cells and severed the silver chains that bound the elder mages to the walls.

Da Fei immediately approached the first elder that was rescued and urgently asked, "Can you fight? I need your help!"

The elder, gasping for breath and looking feeble, replied, "We need to wait a bit. We were imprisoned here by the evil Prince, who has been draining our Mana. Right now, I have no Mana."

Draining Mana? Holy moly, human batteries!

Da Fei then asked, "Why does the Prince want to drain your Mana?"

The elder tremblingly said, "To create a god! The Prince has imprisoned mages like us who have committed offences or have been captured from other places. He continuously drains our Mana with

silver chains, channeling it non-stop to his god-making base. Hero, we must hurry, the Prince's god might intervene, and that is not something mortals can contend with!"

Da Fei was stunned, incredulous! No way! A god appearing in a mission? This game is playing for high stakes!

Fine! Let's see who's greedier, me or the Prince. Recruiting a thousand dwarves isn't enough for me; I also want to recruit all the elder mages from the prison! Even if a god appears, taking one more mage with me is still a win! Man, these are mages, no matter how weak they seem, even if they can only cast one spell, it's still beyond what ordinary NPC citizens can achieve!

Da Fei loudly commanded, "Everyone, hurry and rescue the others!"

"Roger that!" The dwarves became even more enthusiastic. Now, 5 or 6 elders had been rescued, sitting on the ground with their eyes closed, meditating to restore their Mana.

Meanwhile, Da Fei glanced anxiously between the fiercely struggling Douglas and the elders, feeling extremely anxious. Seeing Douglas's Life Value drop below half, he couldn't help but yell, "Elders, have you recovered your Mana yet? We're about to collapse here!"

The elders were startled, shook their heads and muttered, "Ah, I accidentally fell asleep just now..."

—Argh! Da Fei violently spurted a mouthful of blood! How could they sleep through such noise?

One elder then said, "I've recovered 5 points of Mana; I can cast a Magic Arrow."

"I have 8 points of Mana, 2 points shy of casting Lightning Skill, so let's go with Magic Arrow."

"Alright, let's all cast Magic Arrows together!"

"No no no, I think we should wait a bit and cast Lightning together!"

"No no no, let's have the hero decide, whatever he says goes!"

Da Fei, tearfully, said, "Then let's wait! Cast Lightning!"

In this game, due to balance restrictions on spells, except for a few Magic Watchtowers, magic damage is evenly distributed across the entire team. Meaning, 100 points of spell damage hitting 10 gunners each with 10 points of Life Value would precisely annihilate them. If there's an additional gunner in the team, no one would die, but everyone would be near death (precisely, each gunner would have 0.91 points of Life Value left).

So, if the enemy's team has a massive number of gunners, the spell wouldn't pose much of a threat. Ultimately, the game developers still see mages as a support class and don't want the game in its later stages to turn into a laser and magic duel like Star Wars, nor do they wish for the presence of mages making troop formations laughable and meaningless.

Of course, this also makes mages extremely weak against high Magic Resistance Level 4 creatures and elite bosses during the early to mid-game. A few spells would injure but not kill, an utterly frustrating feeling. Even more frustrating, after a battle, using up all Mana and having to sit and meditate to recover. Hence, the frustration of mage players in the early stages surpasses that of Crossbow Cannon Players. At least, Crossbow Cannon Players have a blast in battle.

Da Fei didn't want to suffer the frustration of hitting monsters without killing them, so he just had to endure it.

Now, more and more elders were being rescued, and the first few had finally recovered their Mana—
Boom!!!

Several flashes of Lightning illuminated the prison, and the nearly defeated mechanical guards attacking Douglas fell in swathes! The situation turned in an instant!

Da Fei heaved a long sigh of relief. Good! With so many mages in formation, taking turns to recover and bombarding the enemy, he couldn't believe this wouldn't solve these guards! As for now, there was nothing much to say, just advance quickly to the cell where the beloved female clan leader of the Dark Elf was imprisoned!

At this moment, the prison's alarm blared, the Kingdom's pursuers had reached the fourth layer, and Da Fei had finally met the legendary Dark Elf female clan leader, bound in chains!

Silver hair, crimson eyes, enchanting face, pale skin!

Yes! This is the legendary Dark Elf! Dark Elves and Forest Elves were originally the same tribe, but a long time ago, due to a major disagreement, an Elf Tribe broke away from the Kingdom. They fled to the underground, living a very harsh and impoverished primal life, undergoing physical mutations and gaining the ability to see in the dark. Furthermore, their social system evolved into a matriarchal society, with women holding a revered ruling position in Dark Elf society.

Of course, those who think Dark Elves have dark skin are greatly mistaken. Dark Elves aren't dark at all; instead, due to never seeing sunlight, their skin is unusually pale, only comparable to that of a vampire.

Seeing Da Fei arrive, she gave Da Fei an incredibly enchanting smile, and the red name above her head immediately turned green!

In that instant, Da Fei was intoxicated, all his previous worries vanished! I said it, how could the female heroes in the game be tortured into ugliness, at most she is in this level 1 state right now! Brother stirred up such a big commotion, all for you, brother has made it worth it!

How many female heroes does brother have? But apart from Deirdre, who else has smiled at brother like this? For her smile alone, brother could just leave behind those thousand dwarves and let's return to the city right away! Haha! Wahahaha!

Da Fei excitedly unlocked and removed her shackles himself. At that moment, she smiled and gazed at Da Fei, sending his heart soaring into the clouds!

All was conveyed without need for words. Even Douglas was aware, not to mention the cunning Dark Elf. Whether her intentions were true or false, it was important to rescue her first and instruct her slowly after. Haha, wahahaha!

When all her shackles were removed, she leaned weakly against Da Fei, giggling, "Hero, take Elena out, and Elena will be your most loyal subordinate."

That was exactly what he was waiting to hear! Da Fei excitedly said, "We'll head back immediately, I'll carry you!"

Elena giggled, "Thank you, hero! Once Elena recovers her Mana, she will also fight for the hero!"

Da Fei firmly carried Elena on his back, his spirit soaring with the beauty in his arms, and with a grand gesture, he announced, "To the Otherworld escape passage, forward!"

The entire cell block erupted in cheers!

Douglas charged ahead, rushing into the passage which led to a spacious circular hall guarded by a giant Magma Dragon, its body surging with lava, no smaller than Douglas himself.

All the shouting dwarfs fell instantly silent at the sight of this terrifying ultimate being!

Da Fei was even more shocked!

Magma Dragon, the Dwarf Clan's pride among terrestrial 7th level soldiers, a terrifying Elemental Life born from Earth Fire Magma. Its attack, defense, and damage attributes exceed those of all other races' 7th level soldiers. What made it even more horrifying was its splashing special skill. Whoever struck it would cause high-temperature magma to splash out, rebounding to all those nearby. Moreover, it could spit magma, inflicting massive damage to enemy troops at mid-range. This being was not something Low-level Soldiers could overwhelm with numbers!

Perhaps in a normal mission, this was a BOSS that required Stealth to bypass, but now with thousands in the group, there was no avoiding it.

The pursuers were just behind; this was the last and most critical battle for freedom. Douglas was prepared to fight to the death, and for the other dwarves, if sacrifice was inevitable, then go in peace. He would remember them!

Da Fei shouted, "Douglas, fight him! All Mages, concentrate fire!"

Initially stunned, all the dwarfs regained their courage and let out ferocious roars that shook the prison, "Charge!!!"

At that moment, the entire hall was filled with flashes and roars of thunder, as a thundering huge black hole suddenly appeared! Da Fei's screen was also alight with red flashes continuously blinking from the Reconnaissance Skill alert!

—Boom!!!

A giant lightning bolt thundered down from the black hole, striking Douglas who was leading, and with a miserable yell, he fell to the ground!

"History... ends..."

—System Prompt: Your troop Douglas was killed by an unknown powerful being!

Da Fei's eyes nearly popped out of his skull, Douglas was instantly killed!

All Mages cried out in panic, "Can't cast spells!" "Forbidden Magic Domain!" "It's a god!"

Da Fei's eyelid twitched, a god?

A majestic and elusive voice came from the black hole, "Mortals, have limitations! Mortals must understand their capabilities, and now, you've reached your limit! All my servants, continue to return to your cages and contribute your strength; this is a fate you cannot escape!"

"No! No! Don't!!!" Elena on Da Fei's back trembled with terror!

Da Fei was even more shaken, what could he do when even a god appeared?

"As for you—"

A bolt of lightning from the black hole pointed at Da Fei, "Hand over the Douglas Divine Artifact fragment, or this prison will be your eternal home, death won't free you. As the Child of Destiny, you've done well, but you've reached your limit. You know how to choose!"

Da Fei's heart raced! Trapping a player in a prison? Unable to escape even by logging in and out or through death? Could he complain to the game company?

No! He had one more move! Only a Divine Artifact could counter a god, and there was still one Divine Artifact he hadn't used. If even the Divine Artifact couldn't get him past, he would accept it!

Da Fei clenched his teeth and pulled out the Alena Tree Branch given by the Habbit Village Chief. Though Space Teleportation was not possible here, perhaps a Plane shielding? He had used it to avoid the Demigod Eight-Headed Snake, now, let's see if it can help him avoid this god!

—Plane Shielding!!!

Chapter 516: Escape from the Divine Prison

The branch flashed a golden light, and a golden shockwave spread across the scene. Wherever the golden light reached, the world instantly turned black and white, dimmed, and entered the Otherworld!

In this black-and-white world, the team of over a thousand dwarves was still present, but the massive Magma Dragon and the Mao God's black hole in the sky were gone. The dim Space Gate of the Otherworld stood wide open for Da Fei!

It worked! It worked! Da Fei was overjoyed, "Charge! Charge through!"

The dwarf mages immediately realized, excitedly shouting, "Charge!"

In no time, the crowd surged towards the Space Gate. Da Fei knew that this black-and-white world was maintained by this branch, and he couldn't leave first; he had to be the last to go!

At this moment, the Alena Tree Branch in Da Fei's hand began to wither rapidly, its Divine Power vanishing quickly.

Amidst his joy, Da Fei couldn't help but sigh. Who would have thought that this branch, meant to reinforce Habbit Village, would be used here instead? It was indeed unexpected. In the future, the only way to massively enter Habbit Village would be to eliminate the Eight-Headed Snake.

Not long after, lightning flashed and thunder roared in the sky of the black-and-white world, and an enraged voice bellowed, "Mortals! Don't think you can fool me, I will find you!"

Da Fei was shocked, damn! Could he find us even here?

Sure enough, lightning tore apart a corner of the black-and-white world's space, which began to shrink and fade!

Da Fei was greatly alarmed, feeling the struggle of the female clan leader on his back!

Come on, can you please calm down! Well, not everyone could be as wise and heroic as me, Da Fei thought. Anyone in her place would panic, especially considering the personality of a Dark Elf—staying with me till the end might just scare her to wet herself!

Fine, I never let the effort go down the drain. As long as the Divine Artifact fragment wasn't with me, what could you Mao God do? Da Fei then quickly took out the Douglas Crystal and handed it to her, "Hold this for me, you go first!"

Elena hurriedly jumped off Da Fei's back, grabbed the crystal, and chuckled, "Elena will wait for you on the other side of the world—"

Before she could finish, she hurriedly followed the crowd into the Space Gate with her enchanting figure!

So, you could already walk!? Da Fei was momentarily stunned! But, good! I like it. Before impending doom, we remain together like a phoenix with its mate!

Perhaps sensing the disappearance of the Divine Artifact fragment, the moment Elena disappeared through the door, the space erupted with Mao God's angry wail, "No—my fragment!"

Perhaps this wail caused Mao God's magic to falter due to emotional turmoil, and the black-and-white world slowed its diminishing pace!

This was the moment! Looking at the branch now shriveled to half its size, Da Fei shouted at the crowd behind, "Hurry, I'll count to three and then close the door. Anyone slow will be left behind! 1—"

This roar from Da Fei immediately spurred the crowd's potential, causing the few elderly running at the back to wave their hands, summoning a gust of wind that boosted the crowd's speed!

Swift Movement Technique! Da Fei was pleasantly surprised, then silently cursed, damn, why didn't you use it earlier!

When the last person in the crowd passed through the Space Gate, the branch in Da Fei's hand was entirely spent. Impatiently, Da Fei stepped into the Space Gate! Then everything went dark!

—System Prompt: Scene change loading, please wait a moment!

—System Prompt: Under the condition of a deity's appearance, you successfully escaped the Divine Prison, unlocking the achievement "Beyond Mortal Limits." You receive a life reward of +100 points, a skill point reward of +3 points, and an opportunity to upgrade a Master-level skill to Grandmaster! You may choose any Master-level skill to upgrade to Grandmaster.

Ha ha! Ohohoho! Not even a god could stop me! Finally, at this moment, the tension and oppression that had been inside Da Fei burst out with his wild laughter! At this moment, Da Fei's entire body felt a sudden comfort!

Awesome! The feeling of defeating a god, of saving over a thousand people, had a tremendous sense of achievement!

And looking at the system achievement that followed, Da Fei's smile widened even more! So Grandmaster could be achieved this way? Ohohoho!

Indeed! Last time, by coming out of the Demigod Sea Demon's mouth, I was directly given a God-level Odyssey Sailing Scroll, wasn't I? That's right, in the Pool of Radiance battle, didn't Deirdre extort a God-level information book from her cheap teacher? If even God-level could come this way, gifting a Grandmaster was no big deal!

That's right, speaking of that Odyssey Scroll, I should take this chance to push my Navigator skill to Grandmaster, then wouldn't it directly reach God-level? Yes, once I set out for the Eastern World, I will elevate it to God-level! Even the Sea God couldn't do anything to me! Ohohoho!

However, the key to going to the Eastern World was to settle these underlings and bring them along. So, what could be in this rumored highly dangerous Otherworld space? What if it turned out to be a dead-end, wouldn't I be celebrating for nothing? No, not for nothing! The most important thing is the beauty in hand, you all can rest in peace now, hahaha!

Finally, as the scene changed, Da Fei saw before him a faint seven-colored light.

At this moment, on a rocky wasteland, over a thousand dwarves looked around, helplessly. When Da Fei appeared, the crowd erupted in ear-splitting cheers, "Victory!"

Laughing heartily, Da Fei waved to the crowd, while taking in his surroundings. For an instant, Da Fei was truly astonished: what kind of space was this? Various mountains, forests, deserts, lava, swamps, snowfields, seas, and wastelands filled the entire scene!

Da Fei felt as if he were in a photographer's room with landscape photos pasted everywhere—from the walls to the ceiling!

As he was marveling, Elena approached with the Divine Artifact fragment, smiling brightly, "Master, welcome to your safe arrival!"

Da Fei regained his senses, grabbing her small hand in surprise, "Master?" Although he had anticipated this step, when the moment came, Da Fei couldn't help being overwhelmed with emotion!

Elena smiled, "Master saved me, saved all of us, so, of course, you are my master!" Then she turned back to the elderly mage leaders, smiling charmingly, "Isn't that right, everyone?"

The mage elders, captivated, responded, "Miss Elena is right, we will follow Miss Elena's lead!"

—System Prompt: Congratulations! The Epic Hero, Dark Elf Elena, has become your Vice Hero!

—System Prompt: You completed the mission "Rescue the Dark Elf from the Dungeon." Please teleport back to the town to collect your reward from Dwarf Prince Alberon!

Oh my! You lecherous old men! Tell me, were you in prison practicing daily with my Alina, leading to the impure mana supply to the Mao God so that we could escape so easily? Truly, she is my angel, she joined us and even convinced the others!

Da Fei laughed heartily, "Welcome, welcome! Everyone from now on will be my most important citizens! As your lord, I'll treat you well!"

At this moment, Hangeval stepped forward excitedly, "Friend, even gods could not stop you, you are a miracle, we brothers will follow you! Friend, please do not abandon us!"

Hey, hey, hey! Afraid I might use a Town Recall Scroll to leave instantly, huh? Luckily, you reminded me, otherwise, I might have impulsively rushed back to claim my reward from the prince!

Da Fei laughed heartily, "You already told me back on the second level, I haven't forgotten! Right now, the priority is to get everyone settled in!"

Hangeval nodded, "Indeed! I sense a dangerous aura here! This is not a place to linger!"

Saying this, he pulled out a map and said solemnly, "Although our group has ventured through many Otherworlds worldwide, this is indeed a space I've never heard of; it is truly a strange place!"

Elena said seriously, "Warped Space, this is a convergence point of all spaces. The surrounding scenery is a projection of all space landscapes concentrated here. We may reach any location seen in the scenery!"

The elderly mage leaders nodded fervently, "Yes, yes, Miss Elena is correct. This is warped space, and we can go to any visible place!"

Da Fei's eyebrows flickered; indeed, wasn't this the same as the World Tree channels?

Hangeval frowned, "I don't understand! How could such a convergence point of all spaces exist?"

Elena sneered, "Ignorant dwarf!" Then, she seized the map from his hands, demanding, "Is the world in your eyes the same as the world on this map?"

Hangeval was taken aback, "Of course, it's the most precise map in the world! Recording most of the world's geography!"

Elena gave a cold laugh and crumpled the map into a small ball!

Hangeval exclaimed, "Miss, what are you doing? This is the most precise map in the world!"

Elena threw the paper ball back at Hangeval, "Do you understand now?"

Hangeval was bewildered!

Elena sighed, "As a hero, even your intellect has decreased! Well then, using the scale on the map, how far is it from the Dwarf Capital to the Human Capital? Two months' journey, right? When I crumple the map, how far is it? In reality, when the map is crumpled, all locations in the world overlap and are equally near. Do you understand now?"

Hangeval finally realized, "So that's it! Though I don't fully understand, I essentially get it!"

Even Da Fei widened his view. Damn, wasn't that the legendary space teleportation theory by Einstein or some other genius? If humanity cracks this theory, we'd enter a cosmic era, crossing millions of light-years in an instant! Having a wise Mage Hero in the team is indeed marvelous!

The elderly mages applauded in succession, "Bravo, Miss Elena, excellently expressed!"

Da Fei couldn't help but clap, "So, you mean there's a Space Gate here leading to any place, and as long as we find it, we can leave?"

Elena nodded, "Exactly! Near the Space Gate, we'll see images of the destinations we can travel to, making the terrain at the exit clear at a glance. So please, Master, choose a suitable location to proceed!"

Oh, I see! Without hesitation, Da Fei said, "Of course, to an island, where I can sail to pick everyone up!"

Hangeval immediately replied, "Alright, follow your lead, brother!"

Chapter 517: Powerful Dark Elf Magician

Now the target was set, but the team was extremely fatigued. After all, they were just some prisoners who had escaped from the cell, their condition was originally not good, and the cell had never allowed the prisoners to eat their fill. Not to mention those old mages who were trembling, looking as if they could collapse at any moment, making rest and recovery a must.

But the problem was—Da Fei then asked Hangeval, "Will the pursuing forces catch up?"

Hangeval frowned and said, "This is obviously a one-way exit. As long as the prince hasn't gone mad, it's unlikely that the pursuing forces will come."

Da Fei sighed and said, "This time I caused him such a big loss, I'm just afraid he might go mad."

Hangeval laughed, "It'd be great if he went mad!" Then he pointed to the forest ahead, "Let's hide in that forest for a while, at least we can see if the pursuers come."

Da Fei nodded, "That makes sense, let's move out!"

Hangeval waved his hand, "Everyone, perk up, be on full alert. It would be a shame to not have died in prison only to die here!"

The dwarves burst into laughter, "Yes, big brother!"

The crowd immediately began to move, and Da Fei summoned a Blood Eagle to scout ahead. As the Blood Eagle ascended, Da Fei was instantly shocked by the scenery!

Ahead there was not only a forest but also a small patch of snow, a small patch of desert, and a small patch of swamp! Various terrains were mixed together, incredibly out of place, feeling like it was a beginner map editor randomly placing scenes on the map!

However, such a world-class game couldn't possibly be a beginner designer's random creation, right? Clearly not, the strange scenes and the warning from the shadow before departure made Da Fei feel extremely uneasy. Where exactly was the danger in this space? At least, Little Fei didn't see any red dots in his view.

Now, Little Fei was the first to reach the small forest and circled low within the forest, indeed not finding any danger or any weird plants like Cannibal Trees.

There was nothing much to say, let's go in and rest.

As the dwarves entered the forest, they couldn't help but exclaim, "What fresh air!" "I haven't smelled the scent of a forest in years!" "It's really comfortable!"

Hangeval then shouted, "Bato, distribute the food and wine to everyone to replenish their stamina, but not too much, just according to the prison dinner standard!"

The dwarves howled in distress, "Big brother, we barely managed to escape!"

Bato shouted angrily, "Escape my ass! Be grateful you each get a sip of wine. Anyone who dares complain won't get any!"

The dwarves immediately calmed down and sat obediently.

At this moment, Da Fei grabbed Elena in his arms, took out a plate of roast meat, and laughed, "Are you hungry? I have some good food from the restaurant!"

Elena giggled as she accepted the plate, shyly saying, "Master, please, don't!"

Wahaha! I put in a lot of effort for just this kind of atmosphere!

Now Da Fei finally had time to check Elena's hero attributes:

Elena: During the Battle of Grimbato! a hundred years ago, the Demon and Dark Elf alliance destroyed the Dwarves' forge city of Grimbato! and the Divine Artifact made for the Titans, successfully breaking the alliance between the Dwarves and the Titans. But at the moment of victory, the Demon Army suddenly retreated on a large scale, exposing the Dark Elf Army completely to the Dwarven main force's encirclement and pursuit.

For the survival of her race, Dark Elf Queen Tudehana ordered her eldest daughter, Elena, to cover the clan's retreat from the rear. Elena was finally defeated and captured, living a miserable life of torture in the dwarven dungeon.

Personality: Scheming and ruthless, adaptable.

Loyalty: 100.

Hero Level: Level 1. (Note: Elena's level was downgraded due to capture and torture.)

Hero Natural Specialty: Witch Master, Elena's keen intelligence has gained the widespread support of the Dark Elf Witch Priests. For every 2 levels Elena increases, Dark Elf 6th level troop Shadow Witch's attack and defense each increase by 1 point, and the Shadow Witch has a certain chance to trigger a combo effect. The higher the hero level, the higher the morale, and the more pronounced the combo effect.

Hero Profession: Master-level Demonic Mage, the hero's Destruction Magic reduces the target's Magic Resistance by -60%. (If the attack target has 75% Magic Resistance, in front of the Demonic Mage it's only 15% Magic Resistance. If the target's Magic Resistance is 0, then it reduces the opponent's Magic Resistance to -60%, equivalent to increasing Magic damage by 60%).

Professional Specialties: Elemental Vision, Strong Magic, Dark Ceremony, Elemental Chains, Elemental Fury.

—Elemental Vision: Dark Elf Sorcerers have an unimaginable elemental insight, easily identifying the target's current elemental attribute, then using magic that counters it to cause additional damage.

—Strong Magic: Demonic Mages can double their Mana Value when casting magic, increasing the power of magic by 50%.

—Dark Ceremony: Dark Elf Sorcerers can obtain double their Mana Value through a whole day of meditation.

—Elemental Chains: Once the Dark Elf identifies the target's elemental attribute, the Dark Elf Army's physical attacks will also cause counter-element effects, gaining additional damage.

—Elemental Fury: Master-level Demonic Mage skill, doubles the damage effect of Elemental Chains.

Hero Skills:

Master-level Destruction Magic (Sub-skills: Frost Master, Fiery Fire Master, Storm Master, Cold Iron Blade, Angry Fire Blade, Magic Burst)

Frost Master: Cold Ice Magic causes slowing or even freezing effects, depending on the hero's Magic Power Value and Destruction Magic level.

Fiery Fire Master: Flame Magic additionally reduces the target's physical defense...

Storm Master: Thunder Magic causes paralysis, slows, or even stuns the target...

Cold Iron Blade: The army's physical attacks will add an additional 10% Frost Damage.

Angry Fire Blade: The army's physical attacks will add an additional 10% Flame Damage.

Magic Rebound: Master-level Destruction Magic sub-skill, when enemy heroes or spellcasting units cast spells, they suffer from the hero's Magic Power $\times 10$ Flame Damage. (The damage is boosted by the Demonic Mage level.)

Master-level Meditation Skill (Mysterious Training, Quirky Magic, Magic Counter, Mysterious Essence, Fast Casting)

Master Leadership Skill (Diplomacy Skill, Recruitment Skill, Inspiration, Morale Strike)

Master-level Attack Skill (War Maniac, horizontal slash, pierce)

Master-level Logistics Skill (Transport, Mountain Transport, Rapid March)

Master-level War Plunder: Increases the maximum amount of spoils of war or prisoners obtained from clearing the battlefield by 100%.

Master-level Reconnaissance Skill (Intelligence Collection, Camouflage, Stealth, Lurk, Dismantling mechanism)

Command Power: 250

Attack: 0

Defense: 0

Magic Power: 20

Knowledge: 10

Damage: 3-5

Life: 102

Attack Speed: 11

Move Speed: 10

Stamina: 90

Hero Personal Skills: Long Whip Mastery, Night Vision, Shadow Veil, War Plunder, Threat Intimidation.

Current Equipment: None

...

Staring at the long list of Elena's attributes, Da Fei was astonished!

So she's another hero with royal background! I've got so many rich and beautiful ones under my command! Haha, wahahaha! More importantly, she's exactly the artillery I've been searching for!

Dual Master-level Demonic Mage! Damn it, reducing enemy Magic Resistance, and able to reduce it to negative! Look at these five professional sub-skills of the Demonic Mage, each one unheard of, insanely cool and awesome! Magic being able to hit with elemental counter is one thing, but even the army's physical damage can hit with elemental counter? How is anyone supposed to live?

Worthy of being a hidden race, worthy of being a hidden profession, even Mage Academy's spells aren't as strong as this. Truly, battling out from underground, the combat race and the scholars in school aren't at the same level!

The biggest regret is her innate specialty, where to find Dark Elf's 6th level soldier? In any case, this little defect is nothing compared to her Dual Master-level magic power.

Another defect is her level is only at level 1, but even though the level is low, the skills remain. Roughly calculating from these skills, her full strength level should be above level 60, right?

None of these matter, finally, I've got the best candidate to use the Thunder God's missing three-piece set! Once the set is out, a God-level hero emerges instantly!

Da Fei then teased, shaking the indulging Elena in his arms, "Elena, want a few gifts?"

Elena licked her fingers and smiled, "Gifts? Not just a temporary loan?"

Gifts? Da Fei suddenly realized he misspoke!

Once equipment is given as a gift to a Vice Hero, it becomes the Vice Hero's personal property, and it cannot be taken back. Just like the set of Dwarf King Set the third brother gave to Deirdre.

Upon saying this, Da Fei hesitated.

Should I give it or not? Give! If I don't give it, I deserve to be single forever! Am I worse than the third brother?

Considering the Dark Elf's character, easily becoming my Vice Hero might also have the objective factor of her being "adaptable". The most important thing for me now is to firmly capture her heart; it's hard to find a hero with normal loyalty! God knows if her "scheming adaptable" personality will screw things over!

Da Fei took out the Thunder God's three-piece set, laughed, "Like it?"

In that instant, Elena was dumbfounded, stammering, "I-i like it!!!"

That's the expression I want! Da Fei laughed and said, "Since you're Master-level Destruction Magic already, I have another gift for you that must be given!" Then he took out the "Siriel's God-level Insights on Destruction Magic" that had been collecting dust in his backpack.

Elena took the book, flipped through a few pages, and was so shocked she trembled, "If I learn from this book, I can gain God-level information and reach the pinnacle of Destruction Magic!"

Da Fei smiled slightly, "I know, a hero like you must have your own past, your own mission, but it's nothing you can accomplish alone now. I really admire you, and in the not-too-distant future, I can help you accomplish it! But first, I need your strength; we need to grow and become stronger together!"

Elena trembled with excitement, a crystal-clear tear glistened in her eye as she trembled, "Master, if it weren't for your disgusting dwarf appearance, I almost couldn't resist kissing you just now!"

—Ah puh! Da Fei spat out a mouthful of saliva. I missed a golden opportunity!

And just then, Da Fei suddenly heard thunderous snoring beside him, hastily turned his head to look, what was going on? All asleep?

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Chapter 518: Possibly the Divine Domain

The thunderous snoring all around startled Da Fei. He hurriedly turned his head and saw that all the dwarves, including those old mages, were either leaning against trees or lying on the ground, snoring loudly.

They fell asleep like pigs right after eating? This obviously wasn't normal!

At this moment, Hangeval was also leaning against a tree, his head bobbing up and down like a chicken pecking at rice, looking drowsy as well.

Da Fei quickly stepped forward and shook Hangeval: "Hey, hey, hey! What's going on?"

Hangeval said groggily, "So sleepy... no strength..."

Da Fei's heart shook violently! They had fallen into a trap!

Da Fei anxiously shook him harder: "Hey, hey! You can't sleep! Why are Elena and I completely fine?"

Hangeval's voice had become extremely weak: "...Drink... I dreamt—"

At this point, he finally slumped down, and the thunderous snoring resumed. No matter how much Da Fei shook him, he couldn't wake him up!

Da Fei and Elena looked at each other, as if to say that neither of them had drunk wine earlier. Could it be alcohol poisoning? Impossible! This was a game world, and what it is should be what it is. If it's wine, it shouldn't be poison! Even if it were poison, it would have to be explicitly stated as "Poisoned Wine" in the attributes.

Da Fei began to look around the forest, and the Flying Eagle doubled its patrol, but they still found nothing unusual! The only clue now was what Hangeval had said about the wine and dreaming of something?

Da Fei frowned and asked, "In this world, is there anything related to wine and dreams that can make people fall deeply asleep?"

Elena's face turned cold as she answered without hesitation, "The Hell Race's Nightmare, the Enchanting Demon Banshee!"

Da Fei was suddenly shocked. Hell Horse? Banshee? They didn't have such special skills, right? That didn't make sense. The troops that players could use were the lowest tier within their races. Just like the Hellhound, the highest tier Hellhound is a guard beast of the Nether God, a well-known divine beast in mythology.

Da Fei frowned and said, "So, are there Nightmares and Banshees secretly attacking us?"

Elena shook her head: "High-level Nightmares and Banshees do indeed have this ability, entering whenever people feel sleepy. However, this abundant forest doesn't look like their battlefield at all, maybe—"

At this point, Elena paused: "I grew up almost entirely in the Underworld, and I rarely come to the surface world. Just now, these dwarves said this forest is very comfortable. Is this considered a normal phenomenon in the surface world's forests?"

Da Fei sighed: "The entire space we're in now is abnormal!"

Elena nodded, her voice heavy: "Indeed, the whole space here is abnormal. If we make the worst assumption, perhaps we have encountered an even more incredible existence, Drunken Apostle! A monster with a goat's head and a human body, the angel envoy of the mythological God of Wine, Bacchus! They roam in drunken dreams, so we cannot detect their presence on the current plane."

Da Fei was shocked: "God of Wine? Angel Envoy? How did you come to this conclusion?"

Damn, anything associated with gods, even the most basic troops like angels in a player's arsenal, are not simple. Those encountered in special scenes are even more unimaginable!

Elena frowned: "Earlier, the ignorant dwarf asked how it's possible to have a convergence point of all spaces in this world? Although his question was superficial, it does have some merit. Under normal circumstances, a distorted space could probably lead to several spaces, but here, being able to connect so many spaces suggests a big possibility—this is the Divine Domain! Because here, gods can easily project to any location in the world."

Da Fei was suddenly startled: "Divine Domain? A place where gods reside?"

Elena replied seriously: "It could be a place where gods reside, or it could merely be a place created and abandoned by a god. I think the latter is more likely given that the environment here is so disorderly and lacks sufficient energy."

Naturally, it should be the latter. I don't want to run into any Mao God or the like!

Da Fei nodded repeatedly in astonishment: "Since this is the Divine Domain, the monsters here should logically be god-level monsters too?"

Elena nodded affirmatively.

Da Fei then asked, "So, how do we save them?"

Elena replied earnestly: "What we've discussed is just my speculation. I need to confirm further. I need to initiate our Dark Elf sorceress's Professional Skill, the Dark Ceremony, for meditation. This requires an entire day. If these dwarves are still not awake by then, we must fight, and by that time, my Mana Value will have doubled. Adding the gift from the master, I will have ample Mana and confidence to fight."

An entire day? Damn, the Elf Kingdom has only given me three days. If we delay one more day—okay, I've arranged everything I could in the city, plus my influence in the Elf Kingdom isn't vast; whether I return or not isn't that different? Let's trust Anlicia, she has more clout!

Da Fei then asked, "Do you know where the enemy is?"

Elena coldly smiled: "I can use a few Fire Wall Skills to burn down this entire forest, and the enemy will surely come out!"

Like this? Seems like the only option. But—

Da Fei asked again: "What if the dwarf pursuers come?"

Elena shook her head with a bitter smile: "Master's reasoning is indeed thorough. If that's the case, we would just have to run. As for these dwarves, they can only blame themselves for drinking and courting death."

Da Fei sighed: "Seems that's all we can do; let's give these dwarves a day!"

Then Da Fei remembered something and took out the Divine Artifact Mana Source.

—Mana Source: A set of 4 low-level combined divine artifacts, Mana Value +260, Mana recovery speed +55%, and at the start of a new day, the hero's total Mana doubles.

Since the Destruction Mage's Professional Skill, Dark Ceremony, can double the Mana, with this artifact, they would gain 4 times the Mana Value. This is basically defying the heavens!

Sure enough, when Elena saw the artifact, her eyes lit up: "Master?"

I'm not yet wealthy enough to give artifacts to court girls! Da Fei smiled bitterly: "This is a divine artifact; many people will need it, so I can't give it to you permanently, only let you use it temporarily!"

Elena laughed dryly: "Master misunderstood; such a precious item—why would Elena covet it? But, Master has so many good things!"

Don't believe for a moment she doesn't covet it! However, when a beautiful woman says a man has many valuables, you can generally rest assured!

Da Fei chuckled: "If you stay with me, there will be many more good things in the future! Then, wanting a divine artifact won't be impossible!"

Elena smiled sweetly: "Master, the divine artifact is in our hands, isn't it? I just checked the Douglas artifact fragment you entrusted to me. That thing is really handy, and I know how to use it."

Da Fei was suddenly delighted: "You know?"

Elena nodded seriously and said: "If this really is the Divine Domain, the monsters here must possess divinity, so they can definitely become food for the Douglas divine fragment. As long as we kill them, the Master's fragment will become more complete and stronger."

Da Fei suddenly realized, so that's how it works? Well, whatever works, let's save the dwarves first.

Da Fei nodded: "Alright, let's do that. You start the Dark Ceremony."

Elena replied earnestly: "Yes, Master. However, I need a whole day for the ceremony. Should I be interrupted halfway, it will fail, so Master, please don't talk to me unless we must retreat."

Da Fei quickly nodded: "Uh-huh, I'll guard you."

"Very well, I'm starting now!"

With that, Elena sat cross-legged on the ground and began meditating. The thunderous snoring of the dwarves echoed throughout the forest. Da Fei continued to control Little Fei for vigilant observation around, yet he still didn't see any suspicious creatures. Could it be that god-level creatures are so elusive that even my god-level Reconnaissance Skill can't find them?

As time ticked away moment by moment, Da Fei began feeling increasingly bored. He couldn't help but worry about the safety of Radiant City.

Sigh, if only there were a side character stationed in Radiant City as an informer, I wouldn't have to worry like this. But the Teleportation Array isn't open to players during the city's construction, so creating another character doesn't help. Or maybe I should find someone to chat with?

Da Fei began scanning the scant few names on his friends list, eventually locking his gaze once again on the name of the Star Goddess Bu Feiyan.

Speaking of which, with such a big move from the Dragon Slayer Guild even startling the Kingdom NPCs, you high-end folks at Star surely can't be unaware, right? Fine, I'll ask you, but if you pop up with a "I'm a substitute player," then sorry, I'll unfriend you; I don't need any manly cross-dressers in my friend list! Damn!

Da Fei sent a message, getting straight to the point: "Goddess, how's the situation at the Pool of Radiance?"

Shortly after, the goddess replied: "Brother Fei, the city lord, are you kidding me?"

Hmm! This tone—could it really be the goddess herself? Oh, everyone knows I'm the city lord now, so they must be aware of everything.

Da Fei chuckled: "Why? What's the situation?"

Bu Feiyan sighed with a bitter smile: "Brother Fei, you must know the situation, right? That female vice hero city lord of yours is strutting so high and mighty, even our guild leader is humored to no end by her!"

Da Fei was surprised: "Honestly, I have no idea!" Are they in my city now? Damn! When the owner is away, how dare Star's birdmen come in!

Bu Feiyan laughed and sighed: "Brother Fei, you became the city lord without showing any signs, and sent a vice hero to the command post to direct us around! That's way too cool!"

Da Fei was astonished: "She's at the command post? Goddess, heavens know that's an epic hero with a big temper; I can't control her either!"

Bu Feiyan bitterly chuckled: "Really? Then where are you, Brother Fei?"

Da Fei chuckled: "At the Dwarf Kingdom doing a task!"

Bu Feiyan sighed: "Alright, I definitely won't tell our guild leader that you're not in the city, or else he'll smash his computer in anger. Overall, we're still preparing for war, but we don't know what happens next."

Da Fei chuckled: "I see, alright then, thank you all very much in advance for looking out for us then!"

"Oh please, we're just here to earn some merits. We ask you, Brother Fei, to show your hospitality and take good care of us."

"Certainly, absolutely, pleasure is all mine!"

After finishing the conversation, Da Fei felt an inexplicable comfort! Hmm, no news from home means everything is fine. Wahaha!

Chapter 519: Eternal Star is Very Angry

Elf Kingdom Capital Farolan, armies from all across the kingdom as well as troops from the Star Guild were continuously gathering at the capital through post stations or inland canals.

Such unusual circumstances finally caught the attention of ordinary players, and forums were soon flooded with speculations about a major upcoming battle. The most likely scenario that would involve a major battle in the capital was something related to the World Tree, and if it involved the World Tree, the Dragon Slayer Guild would most certainly be a part of it. Thus, various quite accurate speculations brought Star and Dragon Slayer into the public media spotlight once again.

Even international forums made special reports about a large-scale "civil war" that was about to erupt among the players from the China Region.

At such a tense and tumultuous moment, both Eternal Star from the Star Guild and Ma Yinglong from the Dragon Slayer Guild made every effort to avoid any inquiries or interviews. This overt secrecy further convinced all players that a big battle was imminent.

Farolan World Tree Square, the World Tree General Staff.

After finishing lunch quickly, Eternal Star, Old Jiang, and Bu Feiyan logged in again.

Great Elder Mapharion chuckled, "Three warriors have arrived, come, let me introduce a key figure to you!"

While speaking, he pointed to a female elf in a fancy honor guard's uniform standing in front of the map table: "This is Miss Anlicia, the Vice City Lord of Radiant City and teaching assistant at the Farolan High-level Magic Academy. Her grandmother, Professor Anwen, was a heroic hero who established the victory in the last battle at the Pool of Radiance. And just yesterday, Miss Anlicia successfully killed the Demon Eye Governor, severely undermining the morale of the Demon Army. No one understands the situation at the Pool of Radiance better than her."

Vice City Lord of Radiant City?

The trio was stunned and hurriedly turned their heads only to see "Da Fei's Vice Hero Alicia" flashing above her head!

For a moment, their eyes were dazzled, and then they spluttered out blood!

Anlicia unapologetically called out, "You can skip the salutations, hurry over here!"

I wasn't planning on saluting anyway! Eternal Star rubbed his dazzled eyes and grumpily stepped forward, asking: "What does the Vice City Lord advise?"

Anlicia coldly scanned the three from top to bottom, and then said irritably, "The Great Elder told me you are the most outstanding youths of our Elf Kingdom, but I see you are in dire need of training to improve!"

Eternal Star was instantly infuriated! Training my ass! If it were just a regular NPC, he wouldn't care what they said. But this was that nouveau riche's NPC, something Eternal Star couldn't accept at all. This must be Da Fei's way to piss me off, right?

Seeing the sudden silence, Old Jiang quickly stepped forward to intervene, "The Vice City Lord is right!"

Anlicia pointed with her staff to a map featuring a ring wall around a lake, and sneered, "What do you think about this wall?"

Eternal Star coldly said: "We haven't visited the scene yet, we need to observe it ourselves."

Anlicia banged her staff, "Idiots! The map is already drawn; how else do you need to observe it? Do you think you're here for sightseeing?"

Pfft! Old Jiang and Bu Feiyan nearly burst out laughing!

Eternal Star was so angry that he roared repeatedly in the command room: "Don't stop me, I'm going to PK this stupid vice hero!"

Old Jiang laughed, "President, calm down!"

Bu Feiyan chuckled: "Boss, please don't do this!"

Eternal Star trembled with anger: "This must be that stupid guy's own stupid idea!"

...

By then, Anlicia coldly said, "It seems, Vice City Lord doesn't need your opinions. As soldiers, your duty is to obey. Our military goal is to capture this wall, which would expand the outskirts of Radiant City a hundredfold, creating a super city, which is a great merit for the Elf Kingdom, and you should strive to achieve this merit! Do you have confidence?"

—Ah! The three spat blood once more!

Even NPCs knew they had to take over the outer wall? Taking it over wasn't impossible, but only if I'm the City Lord! Should we, the grassroots, sacrifice our lives to benefit Da Fei, that idiot? No way!

Old Jiang immediately spoke up: "Vice City Lord, we temporarily can't take down this wall. Once we do, we will become passive instead. We would be dragged into a tug-of-war with the Demon Army to defend this wall, and since it's only a level 2 wall, it's not beneficial for our defense. Moreover, with such an extended battle front, we don't have enough forces for an all-out defense."

Bu Feiyan also quickly said: "Exactly, Vice City Lord, due to the terrain differences, the wall serves different functions. The Demon Army owning this wall relies on the pool water, significantly enhancing its defensive functions. Once we take over the wall, we face land and the defense becomes difficult. We cannot rule out the possibility of the Demon Army using this wall as bait to attract us to take the wall and then bleed us dry in a war of attrition.ONG

Eternal Star also calmly said, "Please, Vice City Lord, calm down!"

Anlicia gave the three a sidelong glance and oh-ed, "It seems like what you're saying makes sense? No matter how sensible, you ultimately lack sufficient merit to convince everyone, just armchair strategists. Do you understand this? So, you still need to buckle down and strive, get it?"

The three were stupefied, not knowing how to respond. Agreeing with her meant stealing credit? Disagreeing meant getting lost?

Who do you think you are! Eternal Star was about to explode, forced to cast a pleading look at the Great Elder.

The Great Elder chuckled, "Miss Deputy City Lord is very strict with the younger generation!"

Anlicia shook her head and sighed, "Sorry for making the Great Elder laugh, I just feel that there's a significant gap between our Elf youth and other youths, so it worries my heart!"

Are we being compared to Da Fei? This made the three burst out laughing!

The Great Elder nodded and said solemnly, "Indeed, our youth should strive to catch up, so you three shouldn't miss this chance in the upcoming great battle, make sure to show your strength!"

Show our strength? For Da Fei to take over the walls? Eternal Star was about to explode!

Then Anlicia spoke again, "Remember well the teachings of the Great Elder! Now I'll lay out our military plan! First, our forces aren't in a rush to take down this wall; knowing this shows you aren't dumb, and still worth developing!"

This is messing with me! Eternal Star felt his patience reaching its limit.

Anlicia continued, "In the next 2 to 3 days, the pollution from the Demon Army will be completely controlled by our forces. The ineffective polluted Demon Army will find themselves in an awkward position, and with the Demon Eye Governor being killed by me, it's certain that the Demon Army won't just let it go. Thus, in two days, a large-scale assault from the Demon Army is expected — and indeed, the Demon Army has been secretly laying a spider web right here at the top, they're setting themselves up for failure. By then, your task will be to take charge of the city's defense and annihilate the invading Demon Army, understood?"

Bu Feiyan quickly asked, "Just us? If the Demon Army attacks on a large scale, they will surely deploy their elite. Are we a match for them?"

Anlicia chuckled, "The size of Radiant City dictates that we cannot station a large army, so our tactic will be to rely on advantageous defensive terrain to inflict maximum damage on the enemy with a minimal elite force. You are the elites of our Kingdom! This is where you can prove your worth, this is your stage to earn merits! The longer you last, the more enemies you kill, the greater your merits! Normally, such a tough task should be undertaken by the Kingdom's elite forces, but the Great Elder insisted on giving you all this precious opportunity. The Kingdom is watching you!"

The Great Elder also nodded, "Don't be too stressed. If you can't hold the line, the Kingdom's elite forces will show up."

So we are being used as cannon fodder! Eternal Star was furious, "What's the City Lord doing then? Will our merits be counted under his name?"

Everyone immediately said, "No, each will count their own!"

Not counted under him? That's a relief then, Eternal Star felt a bit more clear-headed. He then asked, "If our merits surpass the City Lord, what rewards will we get?"

The Great Elder gave a profound and mysterious smile, "The higher the merit, the better the reward, of course."

Anlicia coldly smiled, "First achieve something before we talk!"

Pff! When it's my turn to be the City Lord, the first thing I'll do is kick out this annoying Deputy City Lord! But, if you're willing to ditch that Da Fei and join me, I might consider it.

Wait! Thinking of the possibility of an Epic Hero ditching a player to seek better prospects genuinely occurred to Eternal Star. That's right, Da Fei is a human, and having an Elf Hero under him, there might be some unease, the possibility of stealing him away isn't non-existent!

Thinking of this, Eternal Star courteously said, "Rest assured, Miss Deputy City Lord, we will give our all."

The Great Elder was pleased, "Good, you may go prepare. Tomorrow, the Kingdom will open the Teleportation Array of Radiant City. You can transport your first batch of troops down. Of course, the Kingdom also has World Tree's reserve forces; if you're willing to spend your own money, you can send even more troops down."

Eternal Star hurriedly said, "Yes, elder."

Just then, Old Jiang laughed in the command room, "Guild leader, speaking of the City Lord's merits, it appears like Da Fei is not in the city, he went to the Dwarf City on a quest."

Eternal Star's eyebrows twitched, "To Dwarf City?"

The command room burst into laughter, "Yes, to blackmail the Giant Cannon for 10 million, the entire Dwarf City is in an uproar."

"And then?"

"Then the Dwarf City went into full lockdown, thick smoke billowing from the prison, a huge commotion, even the NPC troops from the barracks were mobilized, quite a spectacle!"

Snap! Eternal Star furiously tossed his headset, "He really takes it easy! With a huge enemy ahead, he still has the time to go elsewhere for quests! You think he's taking us as mere city guards for fun? Believe it or not, I won't accept this task?"

Bu Feiyan internally shook his head: Another headset wasted...

Chapter 520: I Am a Colossal Genius

Dwarf Capital Moradin City.

The citywide martial law alarm has left all the players divided in opinion. The thick smoke rising from the direction of the prison further fuels the players' wild speculations. At this moment, having just returned from the Silver Hammer Armor Store, Skyshattering Thunder looks deeply troubled, with an extremely conflicted expression.

The Silver Hammer Armor Store is Prince Talberon's secret enterprise and also the contact point where Skyshattering Thunder reports to the prince. Skyshattering Thunder has just secretly met with the store's contact person under the guise of discussing business and reported that someone has come to repair Titan's Grasp, which could potentially be disadvantageous to the prince.

But after all, the game is still a game; empty claims are worthless, and without solid evidence, you can't spur an incident, and the NPCs couldn't care less. Not to mention that Skyshattering Thunder willingly gave up repairing Titan's Grasp, which also made the NPCs somewhat displeased with him. So after a lot of talking, he still didn't get through.

Therefore, Skyshattering Thunder pulled a big move and invited the NPC shop owner to a bet, wagering that something would definitely happen to the prince today. If the shop owner won, he would take 1 million Gold Coins, but if he lost, he wouldn't have to pay a penny.

With such unfavorable betting terms and such a huge Gold Coin wager, the perennially greedy and gambling-loving dwarves had no reason not to accept.

Thus, the shop contact, eager to earn those 1 million Gold Coins, immediately reported to Prince Talberon, reminding the prince to strengthen the security measures all around. Skyshattering Thunder also managed to achieve his own selfish goal at the cost of 1 million Gold Coins.

However, it was truly unexpected that, even after receiving prior warning, the prince still encountered trouble, and it was no small situation!

Da Fei, it must have been Da Fei's doing, but what exactly is he up to? Was he successful or not?

Regardless of his success or failure, causing such a commotion still means trouble for the prince, and it seems I won the bet. Although I didn't win so much as a penny, perhaps this might win me further business opportunities?

As he was contemplating, an NPC porter entered, and his uniform was distinctly that of the Silver Hammer store! Skyshattering Cannon's eyebrows twitched; here it comes!

The porter shouted, "Is Mr. Skyshattering Thunder here? Our boss is looking for you to discuss business, please come over."

As expected! In that instant, Skyshattering Thunder sensed a tremendous opportunity opening its doors to him.

Silver Hammer Armor Store's owner's office.

The shop owner shook his head and heaved a long sigh, "Mr. Skyshattering Thunder, I actually have another purpose for looking for you, you won!"

Skyshattering Thunder, of course, also heaved a sigh understandingly, "Unexpectedly, there was still a problem. By the way, what exactly happened?"

The shop owner said gravely, "A spy has infiltrated the prison, freed a large number of serious criminals, and escaped into an Otherworld. Prince Talberon is extremely furious. And for well-known reasons, the prince cannot dispatch troops at will, so he needs a hero to help him capture the prison escapees. I have recommended you; are you willing?"

Skyshattering Thunder stood there stunned! Me, capture someone? But I'm just an alternate character training in blacksmithing; how can I fight the legendary Da Fei?

Skyshattering Thunder frowned and said, "To serve Prince His Highness is my unquestionable responsibility, but in this condition—"

The shop owner shook his head, "As long as you have this loyalty, that's enough! Right now, the prince is at the fifth level of the prison, the site of the incident, inspecting. This is the prince's pass; all you need is this to find him!"

With the conversation having reached this point, to not go would be to throw away an opportunity that landed on his doorstep!

Skyshattering Thunder took the pass and spoke righteously, "Apart from my loyalty to Prince His Highness, I possess nothing and will go!"

The shop owner smiled and said, "That's exactly what I was waiting to hear from you. Borrow these pieces of equipment!"

—System Prompt: You have received Moradin's Set, loaned by the Silver Hammer's shop owner.

Moladin's Power: S-grade strategic equipment, War Axe, weapon slot, Attack +30, all troops damage +3.
(Rented binding, cannot be traded, cannot be dropped)

Moladin's Protection: S-grade strategic equipment, Battle Armor, Defense +40, Personal Life +100, all troops life +10%, all troops Magic Resistance +10%...

Moladin's Iron Fist: S-grade strategic equipment, gloves, Attack +10, Defense +10, all troops damage +1.

Moladin's Gaze: S-grade strategic equipment, helmet, Defense +30, Personal Life +100, all troops Magic Resistance +10%, Immunity to Blinding Magic...

Moladin's War Boots: S-grade strategic equipment: boots, Defense +10, troop Move Speed +20%, all troops Magic Resistance +10%, immunity to slowing magic...

2-piece set effect: Life +50.

3-piece set effect: Life +100, Attack +10, Defense +10.

...

In that instant, Skyshattering Thunder was stunned! Moradin's Set! The pinnacle of dwarven craftsmanship could instantly arm a low-level mini-hero like himself into a super tank! Putting on the whole set added 70 to his Attack, 120 to his Defense, and 500 to his health! What kind of concept was this? Where in the world could he find such a strong player? With Attack and Defense at this level, tactics were unnecessary, just a single Rune Charge would annihilate everything!

The shopkeeper smiled and asked, "How does it feel?"

Skyshattering Thunder trembled with excitement. "I will not let His Highness down!"

The shopkeeper nodded. "Hit the road then, don't keep the Prince waiting!"

...

Dwarf Prison, thick smoke billowing, vigilance extremely tight.

Skyshattering Thunder, clad in pitch-black battle armor, clanged his way through to the last level of the prison and saw the legendary Prince.

A gigantic dwarf with fiery-red hair, clad all in Fire Armor, with a massive frame—Flame Hand Talberon! This was the first time Skyshattering Thunder had seen the Prince. At this moment, the Prince's anger seemed to make the flames of his Flame Cloak roar fiercely.

Skyshattering Thunder promptly saluted. "May I know how I can relieve Your Highness's worries?"

Talberon slowly turned around and looked at Skyshattering Thunder, the flames in his eyes burning fiercely! Was this even human? Skyshattering Thunder was startled and quickly lowered his head, not daring to look any longer.

Talberon tossed a black crystal to his Deputy Officer, then turned silent once more.

Then, the Deputy Officer stepped forward with the crystal in hand and said to Skyshattering Thunder, "You are truly weak. His Highness is not very pleased with you; however, compared to strength, His Highness values loyalty more. As long as you remain loyal to His Highness, he can make you a strong warrior in an instant. This Hero Power Crystal is His Highness's investment in you; it can increase your level by 30 instantly! Now, I'm giving you the Alliance's S-class Wanted Order, which will temporarily grant you an additional 2000 Command Power and 4 tactical positions. As long as the fugitive is nearby, the Wanted Order will give a prompt. With the Wanted Order, if you kill the opponent's hero, their hero will be resurrected in our prison, so you don't have to hold back. You can choose any troops, resources, and followers here at will; your mission is to chase the fugitive to the ends of the earth and bring them back. Of course, those dwarven escapees can be killed on the spot... but you must bring back their heads..."

The Hero Power, a vile object rumored to absorb the Experience of heroes for one's use; the S-class Wanted Order that grants 2000 points of Command Power; my choice of troops from all around!

In an instant, Skyshattering Thunder was so happy he almost fainted! Objectives that countless players struggled to achieve he could now obtain with ease! This was cheating! This was the Skyshattering Cheat! This was the benefit of clinging to royal power! That's right, from now on, my nickname will be Skyshattering Cheat! Haha, wahahaha!

The Deputy Officer continued, "Of course, considering the capabilities used in this jailbreak, your opponent is very strong. We don't expect you to capture all the fugitives, but it's not important; you must find the mastermind! As long as the mastermind shows up, the Wanted Order will record the mastermind's information, and at that time, the entire Alliance will hunt him down!"

The mastermind? Who else could it be? Skyshattering Thunder immediately exposed it on the spot: "The mastermind is none other than Da Fei!"

Of course, without evidence, such idle talk was ignored by NPCs. The Deputy Officer then asked, "Do you have any other questions?"

Skyshattering Thunder regained his composure, then sneered coldly. Da Fei, oh Da Fei, no matter how awesome you are, even if I'm still no match for you, you can't possibly not show up, right? As long as you show up, you're done for! The entire Alliance will be a place where you cannot stay! Haha, wahahaha!

In his excitement, Skyshattering Thunder pointed at the giant Magma Dragon guarding the door. "The Lord said I could pick any troops; may I choose this Magma Dragon?"

The Deputy Officer was taken aback, then looked towards the Prince. The Prince quietly waved his finger.

The Deputy Officer spoke solemnly, "You may! But remember, everything must be done with the mission's completion as the priority. If you fail, you will have to face punishment."

Skyshattering Thunder laughed heartily. A boss-level Magma Dragon, what hope does Da Fei have? Failure? Isn't it just a mini-hero? Scared to death, right?

Skyshattering Thunder declared with conviction, "Please rest assured, Your Highness. Even if the criminals flee to the ends of the earth, I will capture them!"

— System Prompt: You have accepted the Prince's tracking mission "Capture the Dungeon's Escapees"! You have received mission items: S-class Wanted Order, Legion Return Scroll, Prison Carriage, Hero Power Crystal...

— Task Hint: 1. Track the mastermind or the mastermind's information. 2. Capture the 46 escaping Mage heroes and one Mage Hero. 3. Pursue or kill Hangeval's smuggler team and the other 1119 Dwarf Clan prisoners. 4. The Wanted Order can indicate if the fugitives are in the same scene. At the same time, if you kill the fugitive's hero, the fugitive's hero will be resurrected in the Dwarf Prison.

— Task Hint: Under the Prince's privilege, you have gained immense power to capture criminals. However, should you fail, you will incur the wrath and punishment of the Prince, so please be sure to prepare for your expedition to track down the criminals.

...

Taking a deep breath, Skyshattering Thunder sent a message to the friends watching the store, asking them to take good care of it. Then he began to select the personnel and resources for the chase.

Once everything was ready, Skyshattering Thunder said to the Deputy Officer, "My Lord, I am prepared!"

The Deputy Officer nodded and pointed at the Teleportation Gate, "This leads to a twisted space. Once you enter, you will randomly appear at some location in the space, which is very dangerous. Of course, if you cannot even overcome this level of danger..."

Skyshattering Thunder quickly assured, "Please be at ease, your Lordship. Please rest assured, Your Highness. I shall fulfill the mission!" With that, he resolutely entered the Teleportation Gate.