

God level 61

Chapter 61: The Pool of Radiance of the Resurrected Old Ship

Elorin City Hall.

The mayor, Auseliman, a tall and dignified middle-aged Druid with a long flowing beard and luxurious clothing, warmly shook hands with Da Fei. Attendants served fruit wine, and the two men laughed heartily, raising their glasses in celebration.

Auseliman praised, "Mr. Da Fei, as a member of the Human Race who has traveled far across the ocean to support the development of our Elf Clan, what kind of spirit is that? That's the spirit of internationalism! Mr. Da Fei is a noble man, a pure man, a man who has transcended low-level taste! Mr. Da Fei is a role model for the youth of our Bright Alliance! Let's toast to Mr. Da Fei's contributions!"

Da Fei chuckled, "Thanks for the praise, Mr. Mayor. Cheers!"

Auseliman smiled, "Sir's products will need at least half a year to be cultivated. After six months, it will be time for Sir to achieve great ambitions. You are the first one to invest in our city, so we should offer you the greatest discount. Not only do you hold a fixed quota of 20% of the Golden Spearfish, but you also receive a 20% discount on purchases."

—System Prompt: You have obtained the achievement "Elorin City's First Investor" and have secured a fixed quota of 20% of the Golden Spearfish.

Da Fei laughed, "Thank you, Mr. Mayor." This is the advantage of being the first! Half a year is just half a month in real-time, right? The holidays will have passed by then. But surely the reward isn't just some reputation and discounts, right? What else is there? I want the real deal!

Auseliman laughed, "However, half a year is a long time to wait, which could result in a significant loss of business opportunities for a merchant. As compensation, Mr. Da Fei, feel free to make any requests you have now, and if it's within my power, I will do my best to fulfill them."

Da Fei's spirit lifted! This is the real deal! Ordinary citizens meeting the mayor—if you don't push your agenda, seek favors, and negotiate debts, are you even living your life properly? My requests must be life-changing, game-changing; I have to think clearly and make a thoughtful choice!

What do I urgently need now?

Mr. Mayor, can you give me a hundred Jade Dragons? Holy crap! That's crude! Haven't seen much of the world.

Mr. Mayor, how about sending me a dozen Divine Artifacts? Not bad!

Mr. Mayor, how about a troop of legendary Female Elf heroes? That's even more exciting, huh!

Mr. Mayor, how about gifting me a territory and a castle? Now that's flashy!

Mr. Mayor, how about a few secret part-time jobs? Damn! Do I really take him for a genie? Are NPCs backed by the system that generous?

At this moment, Catherine, by his side, whispered in his ear, "Ship..."

Ship? Da Fei suddenly realized, that's the most reliable request. I don't want soldiers, land, or artifacts; as a merchant, asking for a special kind of ship shouldn't be a problem, right? As the mayor, such a small favor should be within your grasp, right?

Da Fei cleared his throat and said, "Mr. Mayor, my ship is a special vessel, but it's very old. Could you possibly help me get a new one? I can pay for it... get a mortgage, pay in installments."

Auseliman laughed heartily, shaking his head repeatedly.

Da Fei's heart sank. Could it be that special ships are indeed beyond the reach of just any mayor?

Auseliman clapped his hands, and an attendant entered, saying, "What can I do for you, sir?"

Auseliman produced a card and spoke with gravity, "Take my name card and invite the Great Druid of the Druid Guild, Elder Marthadil. Our city's honored guest has important matters to discuss with him."

The attendant bowed and departed.

Seeing this, Da Fei got the sense that this Great Druid was not a minor figure, not only did the mayor have to use his name card to make the invitation, but he also had to disclose the reasons to him first. Big shot, indeed! But extending such an invitation indicated hopeful prospects, and Da Fei was instantly excited.

Auseliman sighed, "Perhaps this is an opportunity, perhaps Mr. Da Fei could create a miracle!"

Da Fei asked in surprise, "What does sir mean?"

Auseliman opined with a sigh, "We Druids believe that every tree has a spirit, and even deadwood can see spring again. So even if Mr. Da Fei's ship is old and decayed, it might still have a chance of being rejuvenated!"

Da Fei exclaimed in delight, "I see! Thank you, Mr. Mayor!" Deadwood revived! Damn, I really did come to the right place in the Elf Kingdom, where they specialize in wood! From what he's implying, does this mean my ship is going to be rejuvenated? It might even come to life!

Auseliman shook his head and sighed, "But it won't be that easy, Mr. Da Fei. You'll need to discuss the details with the Great Druid Elders."

Seeing his expression, Da Fei suddenly felt a strong sense of being duped rush towards him.

Da Fei said in astonishment, "Is it really that troublesome? How about just giving me the special ship materials and I'll have the shipyard build it..."

Auseliman said indifferently, "We are Elves, we are Druids, the guardians of the forest. We do not cut down rare trees, please understand, Mr. Da Fei."

Da Fei chuckled dryly, "My apologies, haha." Damn it! If I had known this, I might as well have contributed to the Human Kingdom where we cut down trees without a second thought!

Just then, a hearty laughter came from outside the door, "The guest that the mayor has asked to see must be quite extraordinary indeed!"

The mayor hurried to the door to personally welcome them, "Elder, please come in!"

An elderly Elf with a slender figure, clothed in a flora-camouflaged robe, and bearing white hair and beard, holding a colorful glowing staff, entered the room with a light and composed air, "Is this young friend our city's distinguished guest?"

Damn it, looking at the Hero Aura beneath his feet and his old age, he's definitely a hidden Legendary Hero.

Da Fei hurried forward to greet him, "It is indeed me."

Auseliman said, "Mr. Da Fei wishes to resurrect his special ship that's nearing the end of its lifespan. I believe this is an opportunity."

The Great Elder squinted at Da Fei, nodding repeatedly, "Impressive, to become a navigator at such a young age, your future knows no bounds."

Da Fei chuckled, "You flatter me, Elder."

The Great Elder nodded, "Navigator may be a new profession, but it is certainly the bravest, the wisest, and the most adventurous one in the world. This arduous task is most suited for you!"

An arduous task? Da Fei suddenly had a bad feeling.

The Great Elder continued, “To resurrect your ship, the most direct and reliable method is to go to the Pool of Radiance. That is where the sap from the roots of the World Tree gathers underground to form the Earth Sea. It is the Sea of Life, the source of nutrients for the World Tree. However, the Earth Sea is too close to the center of the earth. It is inevitable to come into contact with Demons from the Underworld Abyss, contaminating the Pool of Radiance and depriving it of vitality. In response, the World Tree’s roots have initiated a Protection Barrier for self-preservation, preventing the invasion of more powerful Demons, but also blocking our stronger forces’ reinforcements. This stalemate cannot continue indefinitely; we need a young Warrior to lead a team into the Pool of Radiance, to drive out the Demons and purify the pool. Then, the rejuvenated vitality of the Pool will breathe new life into your ship, and it will be greatly strengthened too!”

—System Prompt: The Great Elder of the Druid Guild in Elorin City has issued you with an Epic Quest “Purifying the Pool of Radiance.” Do you accept?

—Task Hint: The Pool of Radiance is located beneath the Elf Kingdom’s World Tree on Hero Continent, its contamination is a concern for the Elf Kingdom. The World Tree’s Protection Barrier only allows heroes below level 30 to enter. The Elf Kingdom is looking for eligible heroes across the land to enter the barrier and purify the Pool of Radiance.

—Task Hint: Player and Vice Hero must not be above level 30 to undertake this quest.

—Ah spit! Da Fei almost coughed up blood! Even ship repair results in an Epic Quest! I knew it, there’s no such thing as a free lunch; were you guys planning to double-cross me?

“My friend, what do you think?” asked the Great Elder, eyeing Da Fei in a way that made him feel rather uncomfortable. Coach, I just wanted some ship materials!

The mayor added, “To be honest, this task is extremely arduous and risky; it’s perfectly understandable if you choose not to accept it.”

But this is an Epic Quest from the mayor! As a commoner, how often in one’s life does one get the opportunity to meet the mayor? This is the chance I traded precious goods for, a chance to repair my ship; no player would decline, not to mention a Master like me.

Naturally, Da Fei had nothing more to say, “I accept!”

—System Prompt: You have accepted the Epic Quest “Purifying the Pool of Radiance!”

The Great Elder and mayor clapped in admiration, “Truly a promising young Warrior indeed!”

Chapter 62: Searching for Selvia

Mr. Da Fei asked, “How do we get to the Earth Sea? Should I sail there?”

The Great Elder laughed, “Exactly, the plan is to use a large array to teleport your entire ship to the Earth Sea. This undertaking requires preparation and it’s not just up to me alone. I’ll head to the Kingdom Capital immediately to report this and in about 10 days, the Kingdom will send a Mage Group here. Then, the teleportation will begin.”

The Mayor was also energized, “Exactly, so Mr. Da Fei, you should immediately start preparing whatever you need within these 10 days. Repairing the ship, provisioning, readying the troops, you name it—leave it all to us. This time, our city will spare no effort in supporting the chosen hero! Once you successfully complete the mission, you would be not only a hero of Elorin but also a hero of the entire Elf Kingdom!”

Damn it! The system is providing troops and supplies even before the mission starts? Is the system that generous? And if I fail, I and my crew will be whitewashed?

Mr. Da Fei wondered, “I also need about ten or fifteen Crossbow Cannons and skilled gunners. Will the Mayor provide all these?”

The Mayor laughed heartily, “Of course, we will even prepare the Magic Array sails necessary for sailing under windless underground conditions. So the current issue isn’t what we can provide to you, but rather how much you can take with you. I suggest you hire two more Vice Heroes to accompany you because with your current Command Power, you won’t be able to take many troops.”

The Great Elder cheerfully said, “Time is pressing. I’ll set off for the Royal Capital immediately. Mr. Mayor, and young friend, start preparing early.”

The Mayor hurriedly added, “Elder, have a safe trip! I’m going to start the preparations now! Well then, Mr. Da Fei, please excuse me! By the way, if you have any questions during this time, feel free to ask me!”

Mr. Da Fei nodded repeatedly, “Sure, sure.”

Holy moly! Now this Epic Quest is really grand and truly epic—a proper expedition! Isn’t it far superior to Juan’s lame uncle writing a will and calling it epic? Hiring Vice Heroes, huh? As a Level 25 hero with three tactical positions, I’ve already recruited Katerina, and could recruit two more, but both Katerina and my Command Power are painfully low.

Especially as Epic Heroes, Katerina’s mere 36-point Command compared to the first Epic Hero of Fleeting Blossom’s 1000 points is truly a world apart. It can’t be helped; an official Vice Hero upon debut is constrained by the kingdom’s orders and can’t just wander off, otherwise leading 1000 archers would be an unimaginable sweep.

But I wonder what that 15-year-old girl from Serbia, yeah, going back to the Human Kingdom might check that out, and perhaps class-change to Knight. Knight is the class where each skill level “reduces total army damage by 5% and increases the hero’s Command Power by 5%,” which is why the notable trait of the Human Race is having durable and numerous troops.

Mr. Da Fei left the City Hall, only to be surrounded by a crowd of players as soon as he stepped out.

“Wasn’t he honored by this city? Why does he still have a Yellow name?”

“Honored by the city doesn’t mean honored by the Alliance.”

“Is there no justice left? He must have looted something good to gain this fake honor!”

Ha! Someone hit the nail on the head. Yes, this honor is a fake honor, but still better than these common folk! Annoyed, aren’t you? That’s a problem, cure it! Wahahaha!

This so-called fake honor is just superficial reputation. Reputation can be real or fake.

Like, we have to respect our superiors, so we all show respect, greeting them courteously. But folks, let's be truthful, how many of you genuinely respect them? If they step down, how many would continue to respect them?

So, this is what's called fake honor, or rather, official honor. The honor Mr. Da Fei received from the mayor in the form of an Honorary Citizen title is such a fake honor—how can someone who no one in the city recognizes gain true respect from others?

True honor is like when throughout the city, when you're presented with tasks, you're rushing to help others in need without expecting a thank-you; those kinds accumulate real reputation.

The reality of your reputation affects what kind of hidden tasks you can get. The same process, seemingly the same amount of reputation, the same NPCs, but while some players could undertake the tasks, others couldn't. Hence, this game makes it hard to have a fixed strategy guide, but whatever the reputation type, it must be high to access high-end tasks, like the epic quest Mr. Da Fei is currently undertaking.

Speaking of which, Mr. Da Fei gained an "Admiration" reputation from the Desolate Barbarian Pirates, which undoubtedly is a genuine admiration emanating from the heart, despite the pirates still being unfriendly towards Mr. Da Fei. Gaining an enemy's admiration is no small feat.

Mr. Da Fei, along with Katerina, reached the city's Teleportation Array. The array could only teleport heroes and vice heroes, leaving all troops behind. The teleportation cost is the hero level multiplied by 10.

—System Prompt: You are teleporting two heroes, it will cost 550 Gold Coins, do you wish to proceed?

550 Gold Coins, that's 1000 for a round trip, genuinely not something a new player could afford.

The scene changed, and Mr. Da Fei appeared at Saint Paul Port, where, according to the diary, the Saint Anthony set sail.

Mr. Da Fei once again browsed through the diary, finding the page that mentioned the girl was sent to the Monastery to be raised, and she seemed to have a habit of watching the sea, waiting for her father to return. However, that was when she was 10—the incident with Saint Anthony had now been made public; will she continue to watch the sea knowing what has happened?

Never mind, let's first go check the pier.

Saint Paul Port, the largest port of the Lionheart Empire, was bustling with activity, its prosperity immensely surpassing that of Elorin City. That was normal, the population of the Elf Kingdom just couldn't compare to that of humans, not even close.

No need to say, Mr. Da Fei, a renowned Yellow name, suddenly appearing with a beautiful Vice Hero instantly attracted a crowd of players, many of whom were new players.

"Big bro, give me some money, I'm new here!"

"I'm new too! Go away!"

Clearly, the players in this city were still relatively normal; they were just gathering around to beg, nothing as hypocritical as in Elorin City. Knowing that Brother Xie had turned those tycoons upside down and caused their Gold Coins to dry up, relieving many common merchants of the pressure to hoard, they couldn't thank him enough in their hearts.

So, while strolling along, Da Fei was followed by players that were a pain in the neck, and he arrived at the docks. From one end to the other, he couldn't spot anyone resembling a Nun Priest.

Da Fei then asked a drunken old sailor at the dock: "Excuse me, is there a 15-year-old nun named Selvia here?"

The old man burst into laughter: "A nun isn't a prostitute, why would she come here!"

Never mind, asking about people is probably more reliable in a tavern. Saint Paul, being the largest human port, surely wouldn't have fewer taverns than Pirate Island.

Da Fei entered the nearest tavern, which was bustling with players. Needless to say, this was the legendary “headhunter” spot—of course, not about chopping off heads, but seeking high-quality hero talents in taverns and selling their information. After all, heroes sitting in taverns waiting to be employed don’t reveal their attributes to players initially; it’s only after drinking with them and gaining their favor that their attributes are disclosed, a cumbersome process. Naturally, there are professional players who engage in this.

As soon as the Yellow name Da Fei, who was accompanied by a beautiful Vice Hero, entered the tavern, headhunter players let out gasps of shock, and then the players, upon seeing that it’s the legendary Da Fei, were even more amazed.

Ah, the so-called sense of achievement for men is indeed nothing more than showing off fame and women.

Da Fei directly sat at the bar, ordered the most expensive drink for his beloved gem, and asked, “Boss, have you seen a 15-year-old nun named Selvia? She used to come here to watch the sea 5 years ago.”

The owner laughed: “Sir, don’t you know that nuns have the strictest rules? They can hardly even get out of their doors, let alone come to such a messy place.”

Da Fei asked in surprise, “So you haven’t seen her?”

The boss shook his head: “To see nuns, you should go to the Holy Mother Monastery in the suburbs, but that’s definitely not a place especially for men to visit.”

Could it be? There are such restrictions? If Selvia really is a hero, then these restrictions seem like a tough challenge set by the system.

Just then, a few headhunter players approached with eager smiles: “You must be the legendary Brother Fei. We’ve spotted a few decent heroes here, are you interested in taking a look?”

Damn! How could any decent heroes compare to the beautiful Nun Hero that the general public can't even meet at the monastery? But then again, we're not sure if she's actually a hero or just a regular NPC. Whatever, let's see what they call decent heroes.

Da Fei asked, "Is their Command Power high?"

One player immediately answered, "Boss, come and see for yourself."

Alright, that's the headhunter's rule. Business secrets, huh.

Da Fei followed him to a table where he came face to face with a hero who had a burly build, a full beard, and a scarred face. Good grief! How could Brother Fei use this kind of person?

Catherine couldn't help exclaiming, "Wow!"

— Damn! Did you meet your dad or what? Da Fei turned around and left without another word.

The headhunter player exclaimed, "Boss?"

That hero suddenly lunged forward and grabbed Da Fei's leg: "Tycoon! Let's be friends!"

Da Fei's skin crawled, and he kicked fiercely: "Go away!"

The crowd was thunderstruck! It was apparently the first time seeing a hero so eager to volunteer to join a player. Is this the legendary Brother Fei?

Chapter 63: Successful Meeting with Makar

By dusk, Da Fei's hired carriage arrived at the station of Holy Mother Monastery in the suburbs, seeing from afar a vast cluster of buildings surrounded by high walls, towering and imposing. The sonorous chanting of holy songs drifted from a distance.

Catherine exclaimed in rapture, “How sacred, how majestic!”

Da Fei sighed, “I feel like it’s more like a prison.”

Dressed in ceremonial uniforms, smarter than ever, the two approached the gate where an old nun, hunched and clad in black robes with a black veil on her head, was sweeping the floor and barred their way.

She said grimly, “Stop right there, this is not a place for you to intrude.”

Looking at her witch-like face marked by scowls, and that broom that seemed to fly, Da Fei’s heart skipped a beat— “Your Majesty, do you still remember Xia Yuhe by the Daming Lake?”

Da Fei snapped back to reality in a trance: “I’m here to find someone named—”

The old nun cut him off directly: “Go back. Those who come here dedicate their entire body and soul to the divine and have no ties with the earthly world!”

Da Fei didn’t give up, “I have her father’s relics! I need to give them to—”

The old nun, losing patience, waved her hand and with a flash of white light beneath their feet, the scene changed, and they found themselves back at the station waiting for the carriage.

For a moment, both were stunned, facing each other. Damn it, Nanny Rong level sweeping nun! What kind of terrifying being is this? And they didn’t even allow players to argue at all. It seems that the tavern owner was right; this is indeed no place for commoners. Force our way in? Stealth in? Heh...

Da Fei could only shake his head and sigh, “Let’s go back; I’ll take you to the most luxurious hotel.”

Catherine chuckled, “Okay, Captain!”

It seems that this piece of information from the diary is really not simple. Is this message just a boring narrative? Just like those gambling debts that the Artillery Commander records daily, meaningless? No no no, impossible! This is a living person! Even if the Artillery Commander is boring, he still recorded information about super creatures like the Leviathan, right?

But the current situation is clearly beyond what I can handle. What to do? Do I really have to give my Vice Hero spot to that shabby-bearded guy? Damn it! If all else fails, just bear with it. Success or failure, as soon as the task is over, I'll immediately roll up their mat and kick them out without explanation.

As for the next step, right, I was already prepared when I was at sea to look for Makar as soon as I landed. Let's go to Makar when day breaks, that risk must be taken. If I could blindly acquire the Phantom Crossbow Cannon from him, this time my underground sea journey would be invigorated. And isn't he the greatest navigator of this century? I wonder if he could give some advice to a newbie like me?

After the two returned to the city and finished their lodging arrangements, Da Fei went offline to take care of his human needs, and when he logged in again, a new day in the game had begun.

Find Makar.

It's impossible for Saint Paul Port, the largest seaport of the Lionheart Empire, not to have a residence or office for Makar, the world's greatest navigator.

The guard at the door blocked Da Fei: "Stay put, this is not a place you can enter!"

Are you a Nanny Rong that won't even let me finish my sentence, you think a mere soldier can stop me? I don't believe it. Da Fei took out Makar's Skill Book of darkness: "I am Duke Makar's student, I have the right to see the Duke!"

Sure enough, upon seeing the book, the guard's demeanor changed dramatically, immediately turned and shouted, "Butler, someone is looking for the Lord!"

Ha ha ha ha! I knew it. Normally, the player who completes the trial must use this book as a stepping stone, how could they not be permitted to see the Duke?

A butler in a tailcoat and curly hair wig appeared: "Who are you?"

Da Fei proudly waved the Skill Book in his hand: "I am the Duke's student, I have an important item from the Duke, I request to see the Duke."

The butler asked doubtfully, "Student? Where did you get this from?"

Da Fei spoke the truth: "I found it on the ship of Saint Anthony, which the Duke once explored. It contains important insights from the Duke, and I must return it to him."

The butler nodded, "Please follow me."

Success! Then, through halls and chambers, plus a teleportation, the scene changed, and Da Fei appeared in a magnificent and solemn circular library, where various magic energy glittered and flowed among the several-story-high bookshelves, highlighting the boundless magic power of its owner.

The butler spoke gravely, "The Duke is very busy and rarely receives guests, state your business concisely."

Da Fei hurriedly said, "Oh, I understand, I understand."

"Please wait a moment."

After the butler left, Da Fei started to get nervous. He had accepted the epic quest to oppose him, and who knows what would happen upon meeting him. In any case, anything related to the Sailing Captain was off the table for discussion. He didn't know anything about it, never saw anything, humph.

Soon, accompanied by the butler, an old man with a white beard appeared, clad in a red mage's robe with gold trimmings, holding a staff adorned with a shining gemstone, surrounded by several colorful magic balls. A golden Hero Aura beneath his feet testified that he was a Priest Hero!

He laughed and said, "I don't remember taking any students, though?" His voice was serene and calm; his smile was kind and friendly, and the magic energy specks throughout the hall intertwined into a magnificent and brilliant pattern due to his presence.

Holy crap, a Death Lord playing his role to such an extent is quite something. The first impression he gives is definitely Santa Claus! No wonder the Artillery Commander admires him so much. Well then, I've got to make a good first impression too, right? Flattering NPCs? I've never blushed when it comes to that.

Da Fei quickly made a bow and said, "Please forgive my presumption. I have an urgent matter that I must discuss with Duke, so I claimed to be the Duke's student, but I have indeed gained enlightenment and inspiration from the Duke's notes. In my heart, the wisdom of Duke is already a guiding light for me. Moreover, from the diary of the Artillery Commander, I have been thoroughly impressed by Duke's demeanor, and I will always regard Duke as my mentor in life!" Then, he presented the Dark Skill Book, the diary of the Artillery Commander, and the Soul Crystal of the ghost he had killed.

The butler stepped forward, took the items, and handed them to the Duke.

The Duke was taken aback: "Are these from the shipwrecked Saint Anthony?"

Da Fei respectfully said: "Indeed."

The Duke, while quickly flipping through the books, said with deep emotion: "These must have been lost during that great battle. It was a voyage I will never forget. Our Saint Anthony went through countless tribulations and witnessed many miracles. We were on the verge of a triumphant return, but in the end, we fell victim to a double assault from the enemy and a storm. We were stranded on a desert island, surrounded by the enemy's Curse Barrier, and we fought to the very last moment. Under Captain Renior's cover, I became the sole survivor and managed to hold out for the rescue team. The curse barrier left by the enemy on the island makes it difficult for the strong to enter, and thus recovering the Saint Anthony was never completed. I never imagined that after so many years, a young warrior would successfully complete such a task; this is truly remarkable!"

Da Fei laughed and said, "Duke, you flatter me." It looks like it's a success?

The Duke looked up, stared into Da Fei's eyes, and asked with a kind smile: "Is that Captain Renior's coat you're wearing?"

Da Fei's heart tightened—speaking of success was perhaps too soon; now was probably the most critical moment, right? Honesty is an important quality in life, but so is lying as an important social tactic. So, in this situation, of course, it's 99% honesty with 1% lie!

Da Fei then said: "Yes. I encountered Captain Renior, who was tormented by a curse, in the lowest deck of the ship. He asked for my help to lift the curse. After completing the task, he gave me the ship and his clothes. I also successfully comprehended the Navigator profession from the Sailing Skill Book he left behind."

Humph, if no remains of the Sailing Captain were found, that would have been the standard quest procedure, right? I wonder what you would think if you found out that a player has destroyed the barrier you set up?

The Duke nodded and laughed: "Renior was a truly remarkable Navigator. You've comprehended the Navigator from him, so you are unquestionably his student, and since Renior is also a dear mentor and friend of mine, you can also be considered my student."

— System Prompt: You have obtained the achievement "Great Mage Makar's Student," your Alliance Reputation +5000!

It's done! My undercover screw-over has really worked! The epic quest from Juan did not interfere! That's right, the task hint said, as long as his diary is handed over, the world would change; as long as the diary isn't exposed, there will be no trouble, haha, wahahaha!

Da Fei, ecstatically performing the gesture of paying respect to a teacher, bowed deeply from the waist to the knee: "Thank you, teacher, for your guidance! Being your student is an honor of a lifetime!"

Duke Makar laughed heartily: "It's primarily because you are outstanding and full of potential. However, as a teacher, I feel ashamed that I can't teach you much. But, it just so happens that I have some insights

about the Navigator profession that I can give you as a welcome gift.” With that, he waved his hand, and a glowing golden booklet appeared out of thin air.

— System Prompt: Duke Makar has gifted you “Navigator Promotion Insights Notes.”

— Navigator Promotion Insights Notes: Using this item and spending one Skill Point will increase your Navigator Profession Level to “Intermediate Navigator”!

Da Fei suddenly felt overjoyed; sure enough, he had been taught a trick! Upgrading the Navigator status must be achieved this way. I’ve got the Navigator now, how far can the Phantom Crossbow Cannon be?

Duke Makar shook his head and said with a smile: “I am just an accompanying Mage focusing on Spell research, but I have been named as the greatest Navigator in the world, which is an honor I feel I haven’t quite earned. If you want to further elevate your level, you’ll have to meet more Navigators.”

Da Fei nodded repeatedly: “Your humility is a role model for us all! Actually, I came to learn about the Phantom Crossbow Cannon mentioned in the Artillery Commander’s diary.” Humph, since you’re a hypocritically righteous old man, I won’t fault you for pretending; if I have a request, I’ll boldly make it.

Duke Makar was taken aback, then shook his head, laughing heartily: “That was just something I thought of as a game; it’s not practical at all. Not only is it expensive to make, but once damaged in battle, there’s no replacement for parts— it would be a public embarrassment, let’s not mention it again, as it could tarnish my reputation.”

Da Fei stood there, stunned. Really? Rejected so matter-of-factly? Could it be that the Artillery Commander’s diary is just for show with no real use? Impossible, there must be a quest to gain his trust or something, right?

Chapter 64: Makar’s Conspiracy

At this moment, Makar took another look at the Soul Crystal in his hand, nodding, “This thing seems interesting, I need some time to thoroughly research it. Let’s meet next time we’re both free.”

The butler stepped forward, "Sir, please!"

Damn, is he showing me out now? Without the Phantom Crossbow Cannon, my journey to Earth Sea seems sketchy! How would I know when you're next free? Meeting important characters in this game is not child's play, you meet by either completing quests, or through special items and events, otherwise the guards will politely say, "The lord is very busy, please come again next time if it's important."

In a flash, Da Fei's mind raced. Where else could I get a special item to meet him? Clearly, there are no more items, but isn't there an event? Makar, as a Death Lord, has been hiding in the Human World for so many years, what is he plotting? Nothing other than ruling the world, I guess? Relying on force isn't reasonable, so winning hearts and forming alliances seems to be the right way. If that's the case—

Da Fei quickly said, "Teacher, actually, I have taken on a significant mission from the Elf Kingdom to save the World Tree and purify the Pool of Purifying Light. The Elf Kingdom has also decided to spare no effort in supporting me with materials and expensive specialized equipment like Wind Magic Array sailcloth, so I thought of the Phantom Crossbow Cannon, such a genius piece of equipment fits the bill for specialized equipment, right? As long as it plays a key role at the critical moment. I'm currently your student, if I succeed in saving the World Tree, you'll also get the credit, Teacher! You would be the great hero behind the scenes in the Alliance!"

Isn't the Elf Kingdom worth appealing to? Even if you, as the Death Lord, might reluctantly not want to help the Elf Kingdom, but you are still a Duke of the Alliance, you have to look the part, even if it's tiring, I'm not afraid of troubling you.

Indeed, Makar was a bit startled, "Save the World Tree? You are the person chosen by the Elf Kingdom?"

Haha! He knows about this too? Well, of course, as a Duke, he can't be clueless about such a major event in a neighboring country.

Da Fei hurriedly bowed, "I am not talented, but I am the one recommended by the Elf Kingdom from Elorin City. In 9 days, I will head underground! My vessel is Saint Anthony, gifted to me by Captain Renior."

Makar mused, "So it is. At this stage, there aren't many young people who can take on such a daunting task, and indeed, you are the perfect candidate."

Da Fei chuckled, "Thank you for the compliment, Teacher."

Makar sighed, "However, this matter is not so simple."

Nonsense, an epic quest is definitely not simple! Otherwise, why would I be seeking your help?

Da Fei quickly replied, "No matter how tough, I will give it my all."

Makar shook his head, sighing, "The Elf Kingdom is thinking too simply. They thought the contamination of the Pool of Purifying Light is just scattered Demons, thinking sending down a Warrior would solve it. Actually, once you go down, you may face a siege supported by Demons from various planes."

What does he mean by various planes? Damn, whatever number of planes, I've already accepted the quest, so no backing out now! Da Fei hurried, "Really? Then, Teacher, you have to help me even more!" Even though it's our first meeting, and the trust and friendliness might be at zero with this cheap mentor-apprentice relation, it doesn't stop me from climbing along the pole!

Makar sighed, "Our Bright Alliance is interconnected, sharing both prosperities and losses. We can't stand by when an ally is in trouble!"

Got it! Da Fei joyfully said, "Thank you, Teacher!"

Makar chuckled, "However, you might not know about the temperament of the Elves; they are high and mighty, hold grudges, and are particularly conscious of their dignity. Actually, I am burdened by the false reputation of being the First Mage, and over the years, I indeed had some displeasures with them. So I don't want them to know that I helped them from behind, lest they think I'm looking down on them, causing good deeds to offend."

Da Fei hurriedly said, "Teacher, with your noble character and magnanimity, there's no need to stoop to their level; let me handle anything that arises!"

Makar chuckled, "What difficulties do you currently have? Let me see if I can help."

Hahaha, it was bound to come!

Da Fei ecstatically said, "Teacher, I need a Phantom Crossbow Cannon! I need Command Power! I need a powerful female Vice Hero!"

Makar coughed and waved his hand, "Young man... The Phantom Crossbow Cannon is no problem, come to me after 8 days, and I will assemble all the materials to make one in these 8 days, but you have to return it to me after use, this kind of weapon cannot remain in the current world. Command Power is also not a problem, take my letter and immediately report to the Navy Headquarters in the city, I appoint you as an Intern Naval Lieutenant, which will temporarily increase your Command Power by 100. Once the mission is finished, the internship period will end, but if your performance in this mission is good, I might consider promoting you to a regular officer. As for the rest, I am powerless."

Hahaha! I nailed it! Though it's temporary but aren't bullets and bombs also temporary? Weapons only show their value when used, are they for breeding? But hey old man, you can handle the Crossbow Cannon and the officer position, a few beautiful Vice Heroes too tough for you? I need to dig into your potential!

Da Fei hurriedly said, "Teacher, my team needs a Nun Hero for healing, I want to select a Nun Hero from the Holy Mother Monastery outside the city to campaign with us!"

Makar glanced at Catherine beside Da Fei, then frowned, "There are many heroes capable of healing, young man, you should not indulge in women."

Da Fei panicked, "Teacher misunderstood, my fear of being misunderstood for indulging in women is precisely why I specifically chose to employ a chaste Nun to clarify the air!"

Makar looked displeased, "You could hire male Priests!"

Damn! The old man is too tired to play nice! But I've come this far, I'll not back down no matter what, clearly the old man needs me now and won't turn hostile.

Da Fei urgently said, “Men aren’t great at healing and can’t provide meticulous care for sailors, especially mentally. Teacher, you’re a navigator, you understand, it’ll lower morale—”

Makar retorted, “Nonsense!”

Da Fei urgently added, “Teacher, mainly I fear employing a male priest might lead to misunderstandings about an unusual sexual orientation, which would shame you!”

Makar snapped, “What does that have to do with me?”

Da Fei sighed, “Could it be that even you can’t make arrangements with the Holy Mother Monastery?”

Makar let out a long sigh, “The monastery is a church institution, it owes no one any favors. I’m writing you a letter of introduction. When you join the Military Department, also visit Logistics Officer Lady Tabia. She’s from the church; ask her to take you to the monastery. If all else fails, have her recommend some military priests to accompany you.”

Da Fei nodded in understanding. Got it, the old man is afraid of being rejected and losing face too. Seems like this monastery is really something, huh? The stricter they are, the more I want to get in. The more they cover up, the more I want to strip it all back. Speaking of stripping, Da Fei suddenly thought of Nanny Rong, and shuddered.

With a wave of his hand, Makar completed a magic book letter, flicking it into Da Fei’s hands: “Off you go now.”

Da Fei hurriedly said, “Yes! I’ll go right away.”

As he was turning to leave, Da Fei suddenly remembered something, urgently saying: “Teacher!”

Makar’s beard twitched: “What now?”

Da Fei smirked, "Teacher, I haven't changed my profession yet, do you have any powerful hidden professions to recommend to me—"

Makar clapped his hands: "Riel, see him out!"

The butler stepped forward promptly, "Sir, this way please!"

Da Fei hurriedly said, "Hey hey!"

With a flash of white light and a change of scene, Da Fei was back at the Saint Paul Office's teleportation array. Damn it, old man, you don't play fair! Too unkind, too lacking in integrity, right?

But, I've pretty much sorted this matter halfway already. With the Phantom Crossbow Cannon, who needs to walk straight fearing an epic quest? I'm using an NPC from one epic quest to solve another, a tactic of fighting poison with poison and using stones from other hills to polish my own gems. Why am I so awesome? Because I am awesome! Wahahaha!

As he stepped out the door, a few players whispered secretly outside: "He's out!"

His name has started turning white!"

Damn! I'm starting to enjoy the paparazzi treatment, huh? Alright, alright, keep following, I'll blind your bosses with their in-app purchase money, haha, wahahaha!

Makar Library.

A golden bat descended from the sky, transforming into a middle-aged butler in a tailcoat as it landed: "Please give your orders, sir."

Makar said solemnly, "Infiltrate the Elf Kingdom, spread rumors in the black market there claiming that the Elf Kingdom has dispatched a Super Hero to the Pool of Radiance, intending not just to cleanse the contamination but also to seize the opportunity to attack the Abyss Blood Pool. Also, leak the location of the Abyss Blood Pool; this news will surely reach both the Elves and the Demons."

The butler asked in surprise, "Sir, why betray your own team?"

Makar shook his head and chuckled, "The demons are expanding their territory too aggressively in the New World, I want to divert their attention a bit. Moreover, I'd like to test my new student. He's insatiably greedy; his ambition might just provoke the demons from all planes into action."

Understood."

Makar then took out that Soul Crystal, nodded satisfactorily, and disappeared with a turn.

Chapter 65: Infiltrating the Monastery Plan

Followed by the paparazzi all the way, Da Fei swaggered into Saint Paul Navy Headquarters, casually waving the letter of recommendation. The guards immediately let him through.

The paparazzi couldn't help but exclaim: "Just came out from Duke Mansion and now he can enter the Military Department? That's freaking incredible, isn't it?"

Ha-ha-ha-ha! See that? That's how freaking incredible I am! You wanna mess with me? Welcome, you're bound to become the top ten youth director of the poverty alleviation office.

Stop! No loiterers allowed in!"

Huh? Da Fei, astonished, turned to look and sure enough, it was Catherine being stopped by the guards. So there's this annoying rule, huh? Da Fei had no choice but to tell his likewise baffled sweetheart: "Wait for me at the hotel."

Catherine chuckled: "Okay, Captain."

Hmph, as if I'd give you paparazzi the chance to harass my sweetheart. Wait for me at the hotel, I can finally utter such a cool line, haha.

Guided by the guard, Da Fei arrived at the officer registration desk.

Behind the big desk, a fat military officer with an arrogant demeanor was slouching as he looked down his nose at Da Fei, snorted and asked: "Which unit are you from?"

Da Fei took out the letter and handed it over: "I was recommended by a noble person."

The officer snorted coldly, grabbed the letter, tearing open the seal, and said sharply: "I don't care who recommended you, once you're here, you better obey, otherwise, you will experience the ruthlessness of military law—"

The fat officer's voice suddenly stopped as he stared at the letter for a while, then at Da Fei, also for quite some time.

Da Fei laughed coldly in his heart, are you scared by the backer behind me? Acting all high and mighty like a king, why don't you come shine my shoes? The feeling of clinging to power is just too damn good! Ha-ha-ha-ha!

Hmph!" The officer gave a cold snort, sat up straight and said solemnly: "From now on, you're a registered probationary Lieutenant. In any case, you know your own background very well, and should therefore be even stricter with yourself. Don't disgrace or tarnish the wisdom of that noble person, otherwise—severe military law awaits!" No sooner had he finished than he threw a shoulder rank insignia onto the desk with a slap.

Da Fei was startled! Not only did you not shine my shoes but now you're giving me a hard time, are you like one of those sly old soldiers? Never mind, I'm an extra-official personnel anyway, won't lower myself to his level.

Da Fei hee-heed: "The nobleman is right—"

The fat officer shouted loudly: "No giggling with me! Address me as your superior! You better get it clear, this is the military!"

What the heck, why so pretentious!

Da Fei raised his hand to salute: "Yes! Sir!"

Idiot! It's the other hand!"

For crying out loud! Da Fei could only switch hands: "Yes! Sir!"

Damn it all to hell! Get regular? What's regular anyway, I'd rather be a pirate and feed this fat pig to the turtles than be your damn regular army! Deliberately annoying players, right? But, it would be another story if you made me the commander directly.

The fat officer then, at peace, said: "You have a noble person's mission, take the military rank and get busy."

System Prompt: You have obtained the probationary Lieutenant rank in the Bright Alliance Navy, your Command Power temporarily increased by +100.

Beginner's Prompt: Ranks and official positions can greatly enhance your Command Power. However, the Command Power provided by ranks and official positions are fixed values and are not influenced by your Hero profession, Leadership Skill, or any artifacts.

Da Fei continued to salute: "Reporting to the Sir, I am looking for Logistics Officer, Lady Tabia."

The fat officer was taken aback: "Logistics officer? Lady? Is there such a person?" Then, laughing suddenly: "Go find her in the mess hall yourself."

Yes, Sir!"

Guided by the guards, Da Fei arrived at the Military Department's backyard, and amongst a pile of people busy butchering pigs, washing vegetables, chopping wood, he found Lady Tabia, whom Makar mentioned. And upon seeing her, he was shocked!

Oh my gosh! I originally thought it would be a beautiful Holy Knight or a beautiful Priestess, but it turned out to be a plump dwarf lady! No, a female dwarf lady! What the heck, with all the commanding and gesticulating, it's obviously a Chief Cook, right? This is the Logistics Officer that Makar was talking about? But how could someone as important as Makar know about such a minor character? Could this lady be really strong? There's no halo around her feet, she looks like a common NPC and not even a Hero, right?

Tabia, someone's looking for you!"

The dwarf lady turned impatiently: "Speak up, I'm busy!"

Da Fei took out the letter: "I've been sent by a noble person."

Which noble person!" The dwarf lady impatiently snatched the letter, and all of a sudden, her barrel-like body shook tremendously! That expression, the tears welling up in her eyes—holy cow! Old man, what's with your taste?

The dwarf lady came to her senses and waved a hand: "To the storage room!"

In the storeroom piled with food, the Dwarf Lady asked with a trembling voice, "Does that respected person have any orders?"

Ah, is there really a need to be so excited? I'm not interested in gossiping about the Dwarf Lady; let's get straight to business.

Da Fei then said, "The respected person asked you to help me get into the Holy Mother Monastery to find a Nun Hero."

The Dwarf Lady was taken aback, "Get you into the Holy Mother Monastery? Impossible! Not a single man has been able to enter since the monastery was established six hundred years ago, not even the Emperor!"

Da Fei was shocked, "Ah? But the respected person said you were from the church?"

The Dwarf Lady sighed, "When I was young, I was rescued from a shipwreck by a kind person, who then sent me to grow up in the monastery, and after that, I was assigned to work here. My duty is to deliver vegetables to the monastery, how could I possibly fulfill the respected person's commission..." Her voice choked up as she spoke, "I, I am really too useless, without even the ability to repay the respected person..."

Hey hey hey, don't cry, it's not the old man's fault, it's just my curiosity!

For a moment, Da Fei hesitated, thinking that the old man was really unreliable. He's such a high-ranking official and yet he asked a Dwarf Lady for help with something he couldn't handle? — Wait a minute! Delivering vegetables?

Da Fei's heart skipped a beat; perhaps the old man meant to sneak in while delivering vegetables? Damn! This is the only way, isn't it? When the high-end route is completely blocked, it's time for some underhanded tactics!

Da Fei asked hurriedly, "How do you deliver the vegetables?"

The Dwarf Lady said, "A horse cart every day, there are over a thousand people in the monastery."

A horse cart, huh! I see!

Da Fei chuckled, "I have a way now, you can sneak me in with the vegetables."

The Dwarf Lady was astonished, “But they do check thoroughly, especially that Yumina who guards the gate, she checks even under the cart every time.”

Da Fei was startled, “Yumina, are you talking about that old gatekeeper lady?”

The Dwarf Lady, shocked, quickly gestured with her hands, “She is the thirty-sixth Saintess, with immense mana, the whole Bright Alliance can hardly find such powerful people, and it’s even rumored that the respected person might not be her match!”

Ah choo! Nanny Rong is actually a Saintess! The image of a saintess instantly crumbled in Da Fei’s heart!

Da Fei calmed his mind, “I have Master-level Reconnaissance Skill, and I can learn the disguise skill right away, that should work, right?”

The Dwarf Lady couldn’t help but be surprised, “Master-level? No wonder you were sent by the respected person.” Then she frowned, “But even with Master-level, in such a small cart—anyway, at that time I will argue with her to distract her attention, hoping to get through.”

Da Fei was overjoyed, “That sounds great!”

The Dwarf Lady continued, “Once you’ve successfully infiltrated, you must find a way to hide and not run around. I won’t be in the canteen for long, and you mustn’t wander around. However, during unloading, there will be nuns on shift to help, so we can only look for someone among the helping nuns. It’s not a one or two-day job; you must be prepared to hide for a few days, anyhow I will come every day.”

Da Fei nodded, “Understood.” With my Master-level Reconnaissance Skill, how many in the world can reach my level?

The Dwarf Lady nodded, “I grew up doing chores in the monastery’s canteen, I basically know all the nuns. What’s the name of the person you’re looking for?”

They all know each other, which is good, Da Fei happily said, "She's called Selvia!"

The Dwarf Lady paused, then shook her head, "There's no such person!"

No way? Could the diary actually be bullshitting? Da Fei exclaimed in shock, "How could she not exist?"

The Dwarf Lady shook her head, "A nun wouldn't use that name. Perhaps she used to be called that, but upon entering the monastery, she would have to change it, to something like 'na,' 'sha,' 'er,' and other names commonly used by angels."

Damn it, this is like being a thief, and now even the name is unknown. How difficult is this going to be? It's practically going to drive me nuts.

Let's not talk about whether the diary is reliable. Even if she's a hero, how capable can a 15-year-old girl be? Is it worth all this trouble? Well, it's worth it since I'm idle anyway. What else can I do but put myself through this trouble?

Da Fei then took out a flute, "This might be the only token, she might recognize it!"

The Dwarf Lady nodded, "I see, alright, leave it to me, I'll make sure she sees it. So, get ready, I'm going to deliver the vegetables right away."

No problem!" Da Fei took out the Reconnaissance Skill Book and a flash of golden light.

System Prompt: You have spent 1 Skill Point to learn the Reconnaissance Skill sub-skill "Disguise."