

God level 96

Chapter 96: The Number One Person in Hell in the China Region

A pink cloud of fog enveloped the oncoming Nightmare Beast squad, and in that instant, its charge came to a sudden halt.

—System Prompt: Your Charming Emperor’s Army has cast a charm spell on the Nightmare Beast! The Nightmare Technique is temporarily out of control.

A glimmer of hope for a decisive victory, Da Fei was overjoyed! Among the system prompts earlier, was there a hint that the Charming Emperor became a qualified soldier? Hahaha! But now wasn’t the time to check their attribute status; the current goal was to escape the enemy, dash towards the barrier, and head for the beach!

Amidst the shrill alarms that echoed through the camp, the nearest mobile patrol galloped forward with thunderous iron hooves and billowing dust!

—Swish, swish, swish! Two rows of crossbow arrows burst through the barrier, shattering the ice chips, sending horses tumbling and flesh flying!

Hahaha! Those who block me, fall away!

The golden barrier shimmered like the finish line of a hundred-meter dash, the alarms echoing in the camp like the deafening cheers of spectators, and the frenzied patrol soldiers were like lagging contestants making one last challenge to the champion! Da Fei made his final sprint towards the finish line, saw the blurred silhouette of the Flying on the other side of the light, and heard the beautiful music of the crossbow cannon’s blasts—finish line! Crossed! Victory!

Hahaha! Da Fei’s laughter echoed above the Pool of Radiance, causing all the beetles to tremble! Yes, tremble, beetles!!!

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Shergo Demon Palace. Dragon Slayer Guild's professional player, China Region's number one in Hell, Lei Ren, with the game ID Lei Huolong, sat quietly on the steps in front of the hall, waiting for the final moment to come.

For hours, he had been chatting nonstop, constantly calling people; he was incredibly excited, thoroughly enjoying the process. After being on TV for the past few hours, he transformed from an unknown backup player into a national war celebrity in the China Region. The feeling of rising to fame overnight was indescribable. After overcoming his initial shyness, he quickly adapted to his new status, knowing that he'd hit it big. The boss was hoping to use this national war as a star-making opportunity! Yes, he was the rising star in the China Region, even in the World Zone!

When Dragon Slayer Guild first joined Heroic Creation Era, the boss invested a considerable amount of money in the lottery. Fortunately, the lottery yielded many powerful Undead Heroes, especially Chang Liang's account's special skill, which the boss kept a secret and regarded as a secret weapon. Even Lei Ren, who was part of the same professional team as him, didn't know what Chang Liang's special skill was.

In any case, the guild's primary development direction was set on the Undead, and the Undead was, indeed, a highly popular, cool, and powerful race.

During the lottery, other race accounts were drawn, such as Lei Huolong's Hell Race special skill "Hell Dog Master"—the hero gains 1 attack and defense point for Hellhounds every 2 levels. This special skill was nicknamed Dog King.

Primary combat unit skills were all good skills. The Level 3 Soldier Hellhound, as the core unit of the Hell Race, combined mobility, charge, output, and fodder production, was definitely a good skill. Giving this account to a general peripheral member was a waste, so Lei Ren, the newly qualified professional player, took it over. And this account was indeed worthy of assigning a professional player.

—Hell Three-headed Dog: Small Demon unit, Attack 4, Defense 2, Damage 4-6, Life 15, Attack Speed 11, Move Speed 22, Command Value 2, Special Skill: Triple Attack, Interrupt Attack.

Triple Attack means it can simultaneously attack three people standing in a row in front, and troops usually form a battle array. Hence, a Hellhound's bite typically hits three, so its actual damage output is not 4-6, but 12-18! That's a Level 5 Soldier standard!

Interrupt Attack goes without saying; take the Flower Demon as an example, if a group of Hellhounds surrounded the enemy, the enemy would be unable to fight back—it's an absolute counterattack block, unless allied forces help, otherwise, the enemy would be bitten to death. For a Hell Race without ranged attacks in the first three levels and with the Second-level Soldiers being worthless, the Hellhound carried many responsibilities for the Hell Race. Among various races, the Hellhound was undoubtedly one of the top-level Level 3 Soldiers, comparable to the Jungle Hunter.

However, the unfortunate fact was, a mere 15 life points for a Hellhound was far from sufficient. Thus, the Dog King special skill was extremely useful. Meanwhile, the elite form of the Hellhound, the Hellfire Breath Dog, is an existence that shocked and terrified all other races, nicknamed Little Fire Dragon. It could spew flames from its three heads, causing widespread burn damage to enemies while biting, entirely unlike ordinary three-headed dogs.

Of course, the elite form of troops was typically unique to NPC forces, difficult for players to acquire. Therefore, the company assigned Lei Huolong the mission of acquiring the Flame Breath Dog. The task was so challenging and long-term that no one truly expected him to attain it, making Lei Huolong rather carefree. And the advantage of being carefree was that Lei Huolong discovered something new: the Dog King's special skill easily wooed and recruited wild Hellhound monsters!

In the current scenario, with Level 3 Soldiers rarely appearing, the Dog King's ability to recruit core Level 3 Hellhound units in the wild was terrifying! Hellhound monsters were daunting foes even players feared to touch. Essentially, wild Hellhounds were just waiting to be recruited by Lei Huolong!

Therefore, the biggest problem troubling Lei Huolong was the need to increase the Command Power to raise the troop limit. Master Level Leadership Skill, still not enough! +100 Command Value Hundred Demon Captain, still not enough! Tavern trash Vice Heroes focusing only on command, still not enough! Applying to the boss for a massive fund to purchase A-grade treasure Leadership Medal to increase command power, denied! The boss only agreed to assign a small account to take on the Hellhounds Lei Huolong couldn't fit.

In conclusion, getting promoted was Lei Huolong's only righteous path to enhance Command Power. Thus, he thrived in Shergo Demon Palace's officialdom, and receiving an Epic Quest from the Demon King was only natural.

Lei Huolong believed that, at this stage, even the top God-level Hero from Japan wouldn't be his match. The boss placed great emphasis on this national war, surely equipping him with key guild treasures,

ensuring that he defeated the Japan Region's God-level hero before the nation, bringing glory to his country!

Of course, the idea was good; the key issue was that Hell Race in the China Region lacked formidable support, leaving him alone to struggle with his dogs.

While chatting, angry roars echoed from the Demon King Hall, "I disagree! I disagree!!"

Lei Huolong was startled, what was going on?

At this moment, a Demon Envoy approached, "Lord Lei Huolong, the Demon King wants to see you, please follow me."

Finally, there was a new development, but my recruitment preparations weren't complete!

Lei Huolong couldn't help but ask curiously, "Sir, what just happened?"

The Demon Envoy solemnly replied, "Just a reminder, the Lord Demon King is in a terrible mood right now, be careful. Earlier, that Lord Asmode was defeated by a Super Hero sent by the Elf Clan at the Pool of Radiance front, and the Demon King is furious and punishing him."

Lei Huolong's jaw dropped in shock, "How's that possible! Even if the hero is at level 30 and super, how could he defeat that guy, that Asmode?"

The Demon Envoy replied gravely, "That's why the Demon King is furious!"

"Could it be that the Super Hero is a 'Son of God'? This can't be a player, right?" Lei Huolong realized the grave complexity of the situation, realizing a tactical change was necessary! He needed to report this to the boss.

(Note: Heroes, whether players or NPCs, won't truly die)

With a change of scene, Lei Huolong entered a bubbling Lava Lake, where a long crystal bridge extended to a throne at the lake's center—this was the Demon Palace.

Covered entirely in flames, the Demon King didn't bother waiting for Lei Huolong to cross the bridge; a flame sword descended from the sky, planted itself before Lei Huolong.

The Demon King's voice echoed through the heavens, "This is a replica of the Divine Artifact, Doomsday Blade, usable only once. You, seize the opportunity to complete this mission; do not bring shame upon me again!"

—Doomsday Blade (Fake Divine Artifact, Mission Item): Magic Power +10, capable of casting a single God-level Destruction Technique, Doombringer.

—Doombringer: Casts a fire attribute indiscriminate attack magic on all battlefield creatures.

Lei Huolong was utterly stunned!

Chapter 97: The New Type of Troops in Japan

Dragon Slayer Network Entertainment Company.

Boss Ma Yinglong was chatting happily with Japan Mitsubishi Team's president, Igarashi Yoshiyuki, via video call.

Igarashi chuckled and bowed, "Then I'll leave it to you, Mr. Ma! Here's to a successful cooperation."

Ma Yinglong chuckled with a sinister smile, "Oh, it's nothing, but our guild's influence among the Hell Race is really limited. I'm afraid the president might be disappointed when the time comes."

"Mr. Ma is being modest!"

After ending the call, Ma Yinglong pulled out his translator earpiece with a somber face, leaning back in his chair, staring blankly at the ceiling.

The Japanese, though unaware of the battlefield's location and enemy identity, managed to swiftly coordinate and link up within just a few hours, becoming apparent leaders of the National War Hell Race. His only advantage of confidential information was laughable under the Japanese diplomatic offensive.

And other countries' Hell Race were generally not as strong as Japan's. At least on the surface, they put on a collaborative front. So, even if Ma Yinglong's Dragon Slayer Guild's Hell Race was not strong, considering the many casual players in China, Igarashi still personally contacted him to discuss some cooperation matters, hoping the Dragon Slayer Guild could lead some casual players to support Japan's actions.

Support you Japanese? This shorty smiles so sincerely it's hard for me to flip the table and fight? Hmph! In the face of national righteousness, personal credibility doesn't matter, turning your back is not an issue, just say overwhelmingly patriotic youths lost control! After all, smashing Japanese cars and shops wasn't unheard of, the authorities couldn't handle it, so how could I, a gamer, do any better? Not only can't I handle it, but I also have to lead the resistance!

However, since the other side had already formed an alliance, things were a bit tricky. Regardless of the alliance's solidity, at least the American Zone and Indian Zone would firmly support Japan, while the European Union Zone, with its many countries, was unpredictable. Perhaps he should negotiate with the Korea District? Hmph, it would be better to talk with Star!

Just then, Ma Yinglong's game helmet notification sounded. Although Ma Yinglong had been away from the front lines for many years, fading out of the competitive scene, his passion for gaming remained undiminished. He frequently logged in to monitor developments and manage the guild.

It was an image and text message from Lei Huolong.

Ma Yinglong suddenly exclaimed, "Doombringer!"

Doombringer was a large spell that required Master-level Destruction Skill to learn, with the effect of a giant meteor crashing down from the sky. Master-level damage=200+20×Magic Power, with the

battlefield center receiving an additional $20+20\times\text{Magic Power}$ damage. God-level damage= $300+30\times\text{Magic Power}$, with the battlefield center receiving an additional $30+30\times\text{Magic Power}$ damage.

Mages capable of learning Master-level Destruction Skill surely had high Magic Power attributes, making the spell damage on the battlefield center nearly double. Since the Hell Race's advanced troops typically had high fire resistance, this doomsday spell did not significantly affect them, and it seemed almost tailor-made for the Hell Race.

This sword came with 10 points of Magic Power, making the spell damage 600, so all tactical positions on the battlefield would suffer 600 points of damage. This damage could wipe out 40 Hellhounds with 15 HP, 46 Horned Demons with 13 HP, and 120 Demon Children with 5 HP. If it was detonated at the battlefield center... Ma Yinglong began excitedly calculating how many international friends he could blast away with this strike.

Lei Ren reported further, "Boss, latest news, the Elf Clan's Super Hero took down a high-level Epic Hero from the Demon King Hall."

Ma Yinglong laughed heartily, "So, the Super Hero is quite strong, huh?"

Lei Ren sighed, "Hard to believe it's a player..."

Ma Yinglong laughed, "The stronger, the better! Then let's use the Pool of Radiance as the battlefield, hitting the Multi-National Forces from both flanks, and start the doomsday gala!"

Lei Ren chuckled, "So, boss, about my equipment?"

Ma Yinglong scoffed, "All you think about is equipment, equipment, and more equipment. Now it's about national righteousness!"

Lei Ren chuckled, "Yes, indeed, but as a national hero, I can't be outdone by the Japanese in equipment, or else it would disgrace the guild and the country!"

Ma Yinglong nodded, "Right, I'll immediately send someone to get you a Fire Resistance set and a large Fire Resistance Scroll!"

Lei Ren was stunned on the spot.

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The Mitsubishi ABC Software Building, Akihabara, Tokyo, 7th-floor conference room, was filled with thunderous applause!

Igarashi reveled in satisfaction, "Now, the Hell Race organizations from various countries are essentially under the leadership of our Japan. In this operation, we must demonstrate absolute leadership prowess, showing those watching or harboring ill-intentions our strength. Let them know that only by submitting to our Japan can they coexist and prosper; otherwise, they'll face bankruptcy!"

Applause erupted once again.

Igarashi nodded with satisfaction, "Hirata, what are your thoughts?"

Hirata Hirao sprang up, his expression passionate, "President, if I don't go back now, someone else will snatch my mission!"

Igarashi darkened his expression, waving his hand, "Go, young man!"

Hirata Hirao bowed and ran out of the meeting room like the wind.

Igarashi turned his gaze to the Hell Gate Master, user of the game ID Hattori Shoji, Tsukamoto Hideki.

"Mr. Tsukamoto, your thoughts?"

The young man with the airplane hairstyle abruptly stood up, “President, we should deploy secret troops; only then will the world’s Hell Race truly fear and submit. That’s all.”

Igarashi frowned, “Mr. Tsukamoto, you mean to deploy Mag?”

“Precisely! The problem with the Hell Race lies with the 2nd-level Horned Demon Governor. This trash troop has dragged down the entire race. Even so, the Hell Race remains powerful. And we have the ranged troops, Mag, to replace this garbage. It’s a qualitative leap for the Hell Race, proof of our Japan Zone’s leadership. That’s all.”

Igarashi surveyed the assembly, “What’s everyone’s opinion?”

Everyone shouted, “Raise the might of our Japan Zone!”

Igarashi nodded, “Very well, but this should not only make the Hell Race submit but also make other races tremble. I will immediately report to the chairman. Everyone, meeting adjourned, please prepare for battle with full force!”

“Raise the might of our Japan Zone!”

——Mag: Small-sized Demon Creature, Attack 3, Defense 2, Damage 2-4, HP 13, Attack Speed 11, Move Speed 9, Command Value 1, special skill: Throwing Blast Fireball, Fire Control Technique.

The Mitsubishi Team discovered this new species of humanoid demon on a secret island in the Hell Lava Sea. After dedicated efforts by professional players, they finally gained high prestige on the island, enabling them to recruit this new troop type. Its special skill, Throwing Blast Fireball, has area damage capability, so its damage isn’t 2-4 but (2-4)*N! Once accumulated in numbers, it will surpass the 4th-level troop Banshee, or even surpass the 6th-level troop Abyss Lord. Its addition will provide a structural boost to the Hell Race army, a well-deserved strategic troop!

Now, with the National War approaching, the Japan Zone will appear before global players with a surprisingly powerful stance.

Chapter 98: Deirdre's Hero's Road

Da Fei returned to the ship, where everyone was busy. Many Flower Demons had fainted on the deck as soon as they landed; having just been liberated from torment and then enduring two battles, they were completely drained. Selvia was directing the soldiers to carry these fainted Flower Demons to the dormitory to rest.

Catherine approached and asked, "Captain, what's our next move?"

Da Fei pointed to the Flower Demon Instructor beside him with a smile, "That depends on her plan!"

The Flower Demon Instructor stepped forward and saluted, "Noble hero, thank you for rescuing a portion of our sisters. Now, the Pool of Radiance has been completely overtaken by Demon Worms, and especially our homeland has been invaded by insect nests. The insect nests can draw energy from the World Tree through our homeland. We must destroy all the insect nests and reclaim our home. Only by doing so can we revive the vitality of the World Tree. However, the insect nests are heavily supported by Demon Worms, and we need to rescue more sisters to fight against them."

The feeling of foresight was simply too wonderful!

Da Fei laughed, "Don't worry, I've already destroyed one insect nest. Can you restore your homeland?"

The Flower Demon Instructor rejoiced, "Yes! As long as our sisters are united, we can definitely restore our homeland! Once the home is restored, the World Tree's power will provide us with more support. Please, hero, take us home!"

Da Fei burst out laughing, his work had already paved the way ahead!

Da Fei laughed, "Alright, you go back to your room to rest first."

"Thank you, hero!"

Catherine smiled, “So we’ll immediately return to the Banshee Camp we captured?”

Da Fei shook his head, “Time is pressing! There are still more Flower Demons that I need to rescue. My idea is—” Da Fei turned his head to look at the Charming Emperor. He had been too busy fleeing before, only knowing that the two Little Babies were qualified, and he hadn’t had time to check their attributes. With such a turn of the head, his jaw dropped!

Catherine also couldn’t help exclaiming, “They’ve grown up!”

Da Fei nodded with a chuckle, “Yes! They’ve grown up indeed!”

Catherine exclaimed, “They’re almost bigger than me now!”

Da Fei drooled, “We’ll know if we compare!”

Catherine pouted, “Captain, you’re so bad!”

— Growing Elite Charming Emperor: Small elite Demon Creature, Attack 17, Defense 11, Damage 17-23, Health 137, Attack Speed 11, Command Value 12, special skill: Ranged Shooting, Flying Creature, Scout, War Plunder, Agile Evasion, Charming Technique.

Seeing such attributes, Da Fei’s eyes bulged in amazement! The attack, defense, damage, and health indicators all reached the standard of level 6 troops! And they are still growing! What’s with this unscientific 12 Command Value? If it weren’t for the fact that he lost 7 Jungle Hunters and upgraded Selvia’s Leadership Skill by one level, freeing up 26 points of Command Power, he nearly couldn’t lead them!

Of course, these were not the key points. The key lay in the words “Elite Demon Creature”! What do these words mean? Any player’s first reaction would be wild monsters, instance monsters, task monsters! After all, the term “elite” is frequently encountered in wilderness instances and tasks.

For instance, a player might encounter an elite zombie in the wild, with 100 health points! Why should a mere zombie have so much health? The attributes of elite monsters are beyond reason, not to mention

the bosses. As is well known, elite creatures are just one step away from bosses, though this step is as difficult as reaching heaven.

In short, so-called troops from level 0 to level 8, especially level 8 troops, no matter how impressive, can be produced in the barracks. But elites and bosses cannot be created.

Meaning, these Charming Emperors had already left the category of regular troops! Isn't that obvious! Otherwise, how did my special soldier training come about? Could it be that I trained them through the special soldier training?

At that moment, Catherine coughed and chuckled, "I think Miss Selvia is right. They're not little anymore; it's time to dress them."

Da Fei was suddenly startled! Dress them? How could that be? He pretended not to hear.

Da Fei came back to his senses, "First, let's return to the Banshee Camp, I need to discuss important matters with Miss Deirdre!"

"Alright, I'll start the ship immediately."

The Flying ship once again set sail, while outside the barrier on the coast, a commotion was heard. From the gates of the Demon Race Factory, one after another large paddle ship, seemingly made of steel, was slowly pushed out towards the shore. Numerous Demon Infants laid rollers on the ground before the Demon Ships, preparing for the impending battle.

Da Fei returned to the Banshee Camp.

Deirdre walked up with a smile, "Welcome home, master, triumphant!"

Da Fei proudly pushed forward two Charm Emperors: "Check out the results of my expedition!"

Deirdre was suddenly shocked!

Hahaha, that's exactly the expression I wanted! Da Fei laughed heartily: "My dear, tell me all about it!"

Deirdre said with a wry smile: "True to form, Master, their growth has far exceeded my expectations. In any case, I can now teach them the Banshee Race's famous special skill Chain Shooting. As for the Transformation Skill, that will depend on how they grow. It still isn't something that a typical Elite Banshee could learn."

She then began to cast spells on the two Charm Emperors, who were enveloped in a white light.

A thought struck Da Fei. So, the Transformation Skill can only be learned by a BOSS? Although it's not a combat skill, there is no doubt that it's very useful. At the very least, it can allow me to pass through a Teleportation Array as an NPC, saving all the trouble of transporting troops.

If it's already been successful with Elites, can a BOSS be far behind? Right, I should ask Deirdre for her insights on becoming a BOSS. While he was pondering,

——System Prompt: Your Charm Emperor's Army has learned a new special skill "Chain Shooting"

——Chain Shooting: Banshees can unleash a long-range Flame Chain that deals damage. After the Flame Chain hits a target, it will bounce and attack the next adjacent target. Damage is halved with each bounce, up to 5 times. Targets hit by the Flame Chain will carry a Burn Vulnerability effect, which can increase the damage from the Hellfire of the Hell Race heroes. They are also extra vulnerable to Cold Ice Magic.

Da Fei, with a chuckle, said: "Honey, you've worked hard! You've worked hard! I want to know, how do you train soldiers into Elites, or even into leaders?"

Deirdre shook her head and sighed: "I can't train them into Elites. Elites or leaders can't just be cultivated on a whim; it requires actual combat, to be precise—as you've seen, Master—at least from a young age. As for what comes next, I'm not sure."

Is that the official answer? Da Fei then asked: "So how did you grow to become a leader?"

Deirdre gave a faint smile: “I have to thank a Nun for that. It’s all in the past, so let’s not talk about it.” She sighed deeply: “I’ve always thought I was very fortunate, but now compared to them, I realize how many detours I’ve taken. Honestly, I’m quite jealous of their growth. I struggled and risked so much when I was young, and I almost died many times, yet my achievements still can’t catch up to theirs. They are truly fortunate to have met Master. Now I have nothing left to teach them; they need to continue to work hard. And now is the critical period for their growth, they must not slacken.”

Da Fei’s eyebrows jumped, a Nun? Monastery? Damn, Deirdre indeed has depth! This must surely be the plot quest that Bloodrose and the others received, right? Now Deirdre’s been swayed over to my side, but the quest is not—there’s a feeling like I’ve got her, but not her heart, huh?

Da Fei hurriedly consoled her: “Darling, meeting me is your fortune too! I will treat you well!”

Deirdre cooed with a smile: “Thank you, my Lord!”

Da Fei took a deep breath: “You’re right, now is indeed the critical period for their growth, and we cannot afford to slack. The matter of the Flower Demon Camp will be handed over to Catherine and the rest. I’ve decided to disembark immediately and continue to Stealth into the Demon Camp to rescue more Flower Demons. The stronger their abilities, the easier my rescue. I hope for them to make even larger breakthroughs!”

After finishing, Da Fei turned around to leave, and just at that moment, Deirdre grabbed Da Fei from behind!

Da Fei was startled: “What’s this about?”

Deirdre, pressing her bosom against Da Fei’s back, said in a deep voice: “Master, with such great opportunities—please take me with you!”

Da Fei was shocked: “You want to go? What for?” You’re an Instructor! If you die, that’s a huge loss!

Deirdre laughed: “Didn’t Master say he would treat me well? How could I be left out of such a breakthrough opportunity?”

Da Fei exclaimed: “You want a breakthrough?”

Deirdre said gravely: “From my youth, I’ve been exposed to death. I constantly improved my abilities in hopes of escaping death, but the more power I had, the greater the threat, and I was still unable to shake off the shadow of death. I’m afraid of dying, and my greatest wish is to attain immortality!”

Da Fei was invigorated: “You want to become a hero?” No wonder she knows so much! She understands more than Kate and Selvia! She really is insightful!

Deirdre cried: “Exactly! Only by becoming a hero can I escape from my fate! Although the distance from leader to hero is immensely far, having met Master, I’ve seen new hope. Master, you must have a way to make me a hero! Perhaps not now, but there must be a way in the future!”

——System Prompt: You’ve received Deirdre’s task “Hero’s Road.” Do you accept?

——Task Hint: Heroes are the Children of Destiny, divine beings beyond the reach of Mortals. The trials of a hero are arduous and unpredictable. Once the trial is successful, a hero like Deirdre, who has risen from the ranks, will be immensely powerful. Conversely, if the task fails, Deirdre will die. Please choose wisely.

Da Fei’s jaw dropped! Isn’t this situation pretty much snagging the quest from Bloodrose?

Chapter 99: The World Tree’s Reinforcements: Forest Goddess

As a pro gamer, taking on difficult quests is just part of the gig, but when you keep getting ball-busting quests, that’s just not normal. Now, Deirdre’s quest is a real ball-buster for Da Fei.

What did Big Bro take on that hundred million debt to upgrade the barracks for, eh? If you think about it, isn’t it all because of you? Although, looking at it now, this deal is definitely a big win and not ball-busting at all. But instead of chilling in your grand palace and living a cushy life, you want to risk your neck playing hero? Is that not asking for trouble for no reason?

Da Fei sighed, “You don’t have Stealth, how can I ensure your safety?”

Deirdre replied in a deep voice, “Heroic Trials aren’t kindergartens. Safety is never the top priority. Besides, am I any safer on the Master’s ship? My fate is tied to the Master’s success or failure. I can use Transformation Skills, I’m familiar with Demons, I can be a huge help to the Master’s rescue mission!”

Da Fei was startled. Such a strong sense of crisis, huh?

That’s true though. Where could this crappy ship of mine possibly be safe? I’m sailing this wreck into two Epic Quests. Anything could happen and it wouldn’t surprise me. As a player, win or lose, it’s all the same to me. But it’s different for an NPC like her with only one life. If I fail, she’s done for!

I get where she’s coming from. Doesn’t everyone have only one life? Her plan makes sense too. Although the Charming Emperor got stronger, the enemy’s going full-alert with upgraded defenses. Seems like something like a secret weapon is coming out of the Demon Factory. Whether it’s brute force or infiltration, either way it’s gonna be tough, right?

Nothing left to say then, it’s a go! If I pull this off, might as well succeed together with her. If I fail, whether I take on the quest or not, doesn’t make a lick of difference. So let’s do it.

— System Prompt: You have accepted the quest “Hero’s Road”!

Deirdre chuckled, “Thank you, Master! So, to coordinate with the Master’s action, I’ve decided to infiltrate immediately, and then I’ll be in a position to aid you.”

Da Fei suddenly remembered something, “I don’t have enough Command Power, I can’t take you on an expedition, can I?”

Deirdre laughed, “As a leader, why do you need someone to command you to head out on an expedition? Otherwise, what would the other girls think?”

Right, of course. As a leader, she’s like a Scout with the Independent Expedition attribute. At the end of the day, she’s been spurred on by those rising stars, huh.

Da Fei nodded, "Alright, then let's set off immediately."

Deirdre shook her head, "Master, the enemy is on high alert. Any minor movement can lead to indiscriminate bombardment from their Magic Cannons. So, for safety's sake, please hold off on moving out."

Da Fei was taken aback. Looks like I have to wait, huh? Both Little Babies just got back from a big battle and need to rest, plus, fixing the barracks is something the commander should be present for. There's also the coordination for the rescue to discuss with Catherine.

Da Fei had no choice but to nod, "Alright, then you be extra careful."

Deirdre smiled, "Don't worry, I'm very familiar with Demons."

Da Fei sent Deirdre up to the deck, watching her shoot up to the sky and vanish, he felt an odd sense of loss. Like I've forgotten something...

Holy crap! Forgot to put clothes on! My darling, your bare self is for my eyes only, how can I let others see? Unacceptable! Unforgivable! Quick, transform into Nanny Rong!

With a long sigh and a wry smile, Da Fei shook his head. When all is said and done, it's because I have a Banshee that I'm so kickass. If it were any other player taking on this quest—screw "any other"! Do any other players have the balls to take down an Epic Hero, let alone one that can teleport? The ripple effects are not something an average player could handle.

Speaking of which, it seems I looted an A-grade treasure from the enemy just now. Was too busy running for my life to check it out, but now's a good chance.

——Misfortune Hourglass: Grade A Strategic Treasure. Auxiliary equipment slot. As the battle continues, it reduces the enemy's Luck Value and increases our army's Luck Value. Once our army's Luck Value has been increased by 5 points by the treasure, and the enemy's Luck Value has been reduced by 5 points, the treasure starts to reduce our army's Luck Value and increases the enemy's Luck Value. The process repeats in a cycle.

Damn! A luck seesaw? This treasure really is a pain in the ass!

However, this treasure can create a 10-point difference in Luck, directly countering the enemy's Master Level Luck Skill, which is quite terrifying! And it only occupies one auxiliary equipment slot too! Truly worthy of being Grade A! In that case, I must absolutely max out my Luck Skill, then equip some items that increase my luck—no, I must equip items that decrease the enemy's luck, minimizing the benefits the enemy receives from the treasure!

Currently, there are Grade B treasures like Curse Necklace which directly reduces the enemy's Luck by -2, Grade C treasures like Misfortune Cloak which reduces the enemy's Luck by -1, Misfortune Ring which reduces the enemy's Luck by -1, and so on! By the time that happens, let the enemy be down on their luck till they puke, while I'll be over the moon! Wahahaha, what a great treasure! So satisfying!

Wait a minute! That's not right, is it? The slots for rings, cloaks, and necklaces are so valuable and contribute more to the army's strength. How could I possibly equip such unreliable luck-altering treasures? After all, only Elves and Demons are experts at tinkering with luck.

Sigh, still a pain in the neck, but let's just use it for now as anyway, it reduces the enemy's luck in the first round, which is an advantage!

Before long, the Flying returns to the location of its first victorious battle, the dilapidated Flower Demon barracks.

"I have disembarked and feel good, Hero, please rest assured!" Flower Demon Instructor eagerly led the group of unrested Flower Demons flying towards the barracks in the tree roots and began to cast spells around the barracks!

In a moment, dazzling light flickered like a galaxy; surely this must be the Ancient Tree Coexistence? So that's how it's repaired!

To be on the safe side, Da Fei once again lined up all the Jungle Hunters on the deck for cover. If we encounter another insect attack this time, I'm going to resist to the end! I refuse to believe that with my Misfortune Hourglass in hand, I can't blow these worthless bugs away in the first round!

As the spellcasting progressed, a soft green light rose from the barracks, with flowers blooming all around. The broken huts mended their cracks and bloomed anew in vibrant green, while a refreshing fragrance of breeze blew down from the Underground Sky!

Catherine exclaimed with surprise, “Finally, there’s wind!”

From a distance, the Flower Demon Instructor replied, “It’s the Ancient Wind from the World Tree, which can purify the filth left by the Demon Worms, and while in the wind, the effects of Healing Skill, Purification Technique, and Thunder Magic are enhanced. The more insect nests the Hero destroys, the faster the World Tree will recover. Soon, the World Tree will send a Forest Goddess to assist the Hero! Each barrack will only dispatch one Forest Goddess.”

Forest Goddess? While still in shock, a burst of golden light flashed from the barracks!

——Task Hint: You have successfully repaired a Flower Demon barrack and gained a Forest Goddess.

A golden Flower Demon holding a green Magic Wand and covered in golden butterfly-like light particles flew out of the barracks! Da Fei was so shocked that his jaw dropped; all the other Flower Demons were green, this golden one was definitely not ordinary!

——System Prompt: Forest Goddess has joined your forces!

Da Fei hurriedly opened the army panel to check her attributes:

——Forest Goddess: Small Spiritual Creature, Attack 9, Defense 7, Damage 6–9, Health 35, Attack Speed 11, Mana 30, Command Value 0, Special Skill: Flying Creature, Ranged Attack, Advanced Healing Skill, Advanced Purification Skill, Basic Arcane Illusion Army.

Da Fei was so amazed his jaw hit the floor! This is a level 4 unit, right? And key point, another flying ranged unit, right? So the reward for conquering the insect nest is here! Does that mean if I clear them all, I get over a hundred of them? More and more troops, the further I go, the easier it gets? I see! I’m not fighting alone.

Chapter 100: A City Might Be Rewarded

Forest Goddess: Small spirit creature, Attack: 9, Defense: 7, Damage: 6-9, Life: 35, Attack Speed: 11, Mana: 30, Command Value: 0, Special Skill: Flying Creature, Long-range Shooting, Advanced Healing Skill, Advanced Purification Skill, Basic Illusion Army.

Looking at the attributes of the Forest Goddess, Da Fei snapped back from the initial shock and suddenly realized that this unit was very unusual. It wasn't about her abilities but the information she revealed.

First, she's not a unit introduced in official materials, meaning she's a so-called hidden unit. Of course, there are various hidden units and player-developed units in the game, but since the system has rewarded me with this unit, she's mine.

Usually, I won't mention the 0-level Flower Demons that can't be deployed; they're only useful here in the Pool of Radiance's mission scenario. But the Forest Goddess is different. She doesn't have undeployable special skills, meaning she can accompany me anywhere! She can be taken out of this mission scenario, a reward from the epic quest!

Most critically, her Command Value requirement is 0!!! Attributes of a Level 4 unit with the Command Value of a 0-level unit!!! What does this mean? It means however many I have, I can take with me! So, how many can I have? If I destroy all the insect nests in the Pool of Radiance, then I can get hundreds, is this the initial reward of this epic quest? What if the war is so brutal and most of them die?

——System Prompt: Congratulations! Flower Demon Barracks has been repaired, currently with 20 Flower Demon slots. Would you like to recruit them?

——Beginner Hint: Recruiting 0-level units in the wild requires no Gold Coins.

The emergence of this system information made Da Fei even clearer in his thoughts! If I complete this epic quest, what happens to these 0-level units that can't be taken away? Units given by the system will never be taken back.

Then, the answer is clear. The ultimate reward of this epic quest is very likely to reward me a city at the Pool of Radiance! Only then will I have a place for these units after completing the mission!

Yes! It must be a city reward!

An epic quest! Doesn't a city, territory, or position reward do justice to the term "epic"? So many events happened over the centuries, but how many made it into the epic records? Perhaps all the land in the surface world is occupied by NPC powers and can't be awarded, but no one's competing with me underground, right?

A city! I'm going to have a city! Thinking of this made Da Fei extremely excited!

What should a player do when they have a city? Nothing more than building high walls, stocking up, and becoming a hegemon!

And what can this isolated underground city develop? Engaging in production and trade might be infeasible; the only possible use is troop production. The environment here determines the population structure, meaning there won't be any Elf Clan units, no unicorns or tree spirits. The only residents here are Flower Demons, only Flower Demons can be made here! Ordinary Flower Demons can't be taken away and are somewhat meaningless. The city's specialty must be recruiting this Forest Goddess!

That's right, just like heroes have specialties, cities have characteristics too!

A city built over a mine has a high yield of minerals, a city built on fertile land yields more crops, and a city built in a barren place often increases troop production and even has hidden units appear!

And once a lord player possesses a hidden unit or develops a unique unit, the top priority is to customize their army composition. Soldiers are a country's major affair. After all, the pros and cons of the conventional units given by the system main city have been thoroughly analyzed by the experts during the public beta. Ordinary players, and non-technical players must break out to achieve victory.

Now that I have the Forest Goddess and the Charming Emperor, how should I configure my army?

Both these units are casting units, and casting units are strategic units. Strategic units are those that can change the course of a battle with a single skill. Generally, 4th and 5th-level units of each race are strategic units. Strategic units play a pivotal role. It can be said that the strength of a race entirely depends on the quality of their strategic units. The lower the tier of a strategic unit, the stronger the race.

For example, the Hell Race's first three-level units lack long-range, and the second-level units include the Horned Demon Governor trash, but the Hell Race is incredibly strong. Besides the hero's Professional Skills of the Hell Gate being a super strong strategic skill, the Demon Child as a strategic unit can steal mana, providing stability at the grassroots level. We must say, the strategic unit of a first-level soldier is indeed god-like!

On the contrary, the Undead Race's strategic unit is the 5th-level Necromancer. It comes too late and is the only one, greatly limiting the Undead Race's divine power. Ultimately, it's the second-level Zombie dragging behind, so during the public beta, countless Undead players tried to develop the second-level unit. It appears that Makar is also working on this?

Similarly, the Undead Race, like the Hell Race, faces weak long-range capabilities! Although the first-level official form of Skeleton Archer is long-range and numerous, the damage and accuracy are simply unbearable. To a certain extent, it also limits newcomers' development.

However, despite the Undead Race's shortcomings, they have a vast number, and the composition of the Undead army includes three flying units, Ghosts, Vampires, and Ghost Dragons, which have exceptional city attacking abilities, making up for the strategic and long-range unit weaknesses.

So what race is considered a superior race without any weaknesses? The Elf Clan and the Mage Academy Clan.

Taking the Elf Clan's unit structure as an example, I won't mention the 0-level Flower Demon or the strong 1-level jungle melee fighter. Mainly, the 2nd-level and 3rd-level units are strong long-range, making starting very easy. The 4th-level Druid and the 5th-level Unicorn are strategic units with balanced attack and defense. With early-coming long-range and strategic, not to mention even the Druid's regular attack is long-range! The strong hitmen at the six and seven levels shouldn't be mentioned. The only flaw is the flying unit, with only the ultimate unit Green Dragon leading to weak city attacking, but this flaw is covered by the powerful 2nd, 3rd, and 4th-level long-range troops.

In essence, the Elf Clan's three-long-range, two-strategic unit structure displays enormous superiority in practice. During the public beta, many lord players developed their unique units using the Elf Clan as a textbook template.

As for the Mage Academy's unit structure, it's simply dreamy. The 1st-level, 4th-level, and 7th-level units are all long-range, and the 2nd and 5th-level units are flying units. The 4th-level and 5th-level units are also strategic, while the 2nd and 3rd-level units are dual resist physical and magical shields. Especially the 7th-level Titan, beyond imagination!

And now, the Forest Goddess and Charming Emperor that Da Fei obtained are both long-range, flying, strategic, and have a humanoid small size that allows them to board ships. How should they be configured?

How else to configure them! I've gone beyond the limit! The only shortcoming is the survival ability!

Now, Da Fei no longer hesitated. He decided that the 13 attribute points he accumulated should supplement his defense. His next skill development direction was to improve the Defense Skill fully. As for the offense, let my crossbow cannons roar! Wahahaha!

Now, Da Fei's level 27 attributes are as follows:

Level: 27.

Talent Specialty: TBD.

Profession: Long Spearman, Junior Navigator, Training Newcomers

Strategic Attack: 20 (18 Strategic Attack, Captain's Sword at sea +2)

Strategic Defense: 15 (Captain's Sword at sea +2 Strategic Defense)

Personal Attack: 20 (Personal Attack = Strategic Attack)

Personal Defense: 44 (Pirate Store obtained full set personal equipment add defense 30 points)

Magic Power: 0

Knowledge: 0

Basic Killing: 12-14 (1-3 at birth, Anemone Enchantment +1, Lonely Hero Achievement +1, Lonely Hero 10 Consecutive Victories +1, Lonely Hero Hundred Victories damage +1, kills reward every 5 levels, 25 levels +5, Captain's Sword at sea +2. Captain's Sword +2 sea damage effect on the whole army)

Life: 109 (Birth 10, +2 each level increase, Lonely Hero Achievement +10, Lonely Hero 10 Consecutive Victories +15, Lonely Hero Hundred Victories +20, full army life +2)

Attack Speed: Normal 12 (Captain's Sword at sea +1)

Move Speed: 10

Morale: 3 (Hero's innate +1, Lonely Hero Hundred Victories +1, Basic Leadership Skill +1)

Fortune: 1 (Basic Luck Skill +1)

Command Power: 162 (Upgrade +26, First Battle Achievement +10, Lonely Hero Hundred Victories +10, Second Battle Victory +1, Third Battle Victory +10, Total Value 57, Basic Leadership Skill bonus 10%, total 62. Probationary Lieutenant +100, military rank Command Power is fixed and not affected by Leadership Skill and treasure bonuses.)

Stamina: 100

Learned Skills: Master Level War Machine Science (sub-skill Crossbow Master); God-level Reconnaissance Technique (sub-skills Situation Collection, Stealth, Intelligence Analysis, Phantom March); Junior Navigator (Professional Skill Storm Navigation), Basic Luck Skill, Basic Leadership Skill,

Basic Attack Skill, Basic Defense Skill, Master Level Archery, Basic Logistics Skill, Basic Special Soldier Training Skill.

Possess Treasures: C-level treasure telescope, B-level treasure Captain's Sword, A-level treasure Misfortune Hourglass

1 unassigned Skill Point remaining.

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After allocating his attributes, Da Fei felt a deep sense of fulfillment and burst into hearty laughter. Suddenly, Da Fei noticed something moving at the top of the tree roots, something moving! The radar displayed on the God-level Reconnaissance Technique's radar mini-map showed a large red dot moving. What is that? Da Fei suddenly realized!