

Hail the King 731

Chapter 731: Money from War (Part One)

Gundogan's heart started to sink.

In the beginning, he still thought about recruiting this young Sun-Class Lord in front of him.

From his perspective, it was almost a miracle that such a young and talented Sun-Class Lord could appear in a little level 1 empire. He was clear that the long black-haired young man had a unique talent. Compared with the princes and princesses of the super powerful empires where they had access to the best resources, powerful techniques, top-tier masters, and talented peers, the powerful people who grew up in the small empires where they had to rely on themselves were much more admirable and terrifying.

If he could get such a talented young man under his command, Gundogan felt like it was a bigger reward than conquering the Zenit Empire.

That was why Gundogan showcased rare tolerance and kindness in the beginning, and he tried to stop the war proactively. In fact, he even expressed his intention of allying with the Zenit Empire and overlooking the death of his little brother, Xanchua, even though the latter died at Chambord's hands.

To him who was born into the Royal Family of Ormond, the death of his little brother who might be a big competition in the future wasn't a bad thing. In fact, it might even be good news!

If he could get a strong subordinate in this process, this trip would be worth it!

Unfortunately, the king was a 'vicious' being, and he didn't fall for that.

A series of fearless killings made it clear to Gundogan that he had underestimated his opponent.

Why would a talented genius be willing to serve someone else?

The anger, frustration, and the sense of defeat calmed down Gundogan.

He started to think about what was going to happen from this point on.

Right now, all the Moon-Class Elites of Ormond who came with him had been killed, and the campsites of Ormond were like lions that got their limbs and teeth taken out, not able to pose a threat to the enemies anymore.

Even though he was angry, he couldn't vent it.

This strange, transparent energy sphere locked him up, and he couldn't believe that he, a Sun-Class Lord, couldn't break it.

"What kind of scroll was that? How is this energy sphere created? How come it has such magical power? Was it a godly scroll?" he thought.

Gundogan started to worry that the crazy young man in front of him was going to kill him for real.

He had never sensed death this up-close before.

However, Fei was in no hurry to kill Gundogan after the Moon-Class Elites were taken care of.

He instantly dashed into this giant Xuan'ge without asking more questions.

In less than five minutes, this giant Xuan'ge that was on par with the Xuan'ge that Xanchua used had the same fate as the other smaller Xuan'ge. It lost its power and slowly descended without having the chance to self-detonate.

Gundogan was stunned! He couldn't believe his eyes!

Fei's performance shocked him once more!

Xuan'ge was the top-tier secret among all confidential information in the Ormond Empire, and it could be said that Xuan'ge was the most important treasure of the Ormond Empire.

The top-tier mages and academics carefully refined the magic systems in them, and they had been put through rigorous testing and real-life combat. The amount of energy, effort, and resources that went into each of the giant Xuan'ge could construct ten main battle legions.

Although the Xuan'ge weren't indestructible, it wasn't easy to be destroyed by others.

However, the power system and the other mechanisms on this Xuan'ge was destroyed easily by this young Zenitian, and his speed was stunning!

Gundogan didn't know how he could describe his opponent.

"How can a dirty native have so many secrets?" he thought, "Is this young man really just a dirty native?"

In fact, he didn't know that the Chambord Kingdom and successfully captured that Xuan'ge which was used by Xanchua, and the two mad scientists who had more knowledge and ability than almost everyone on the Azeroth Continent were breaking it down.

When Fei first captured the Xuan'ge, Akara and Cain rushed into the Xuan'ge and started to study and research as if they were kids who got their favorite toys. They began learning the structure and the magic principles that drove this giant aircraft.

Chapter 731: Money from War (Part Two)

With the help of the spirit energy that could go anywhere and the explanations of those two mad scientists, Fei got a very clear understanding of Xuan'ge overall.

The confidential and complicated magic systems on the Xuan'ge were nothing in Fei's eyes, and he could destroy the key array formations on the Xuan'ge in a few seconds.

He easily disarmed the self-detonation arrays on the Xuan'ge, and he inputted the counter magic systems that the two mad scientists created into the Xuan'ge, instantly making the Ormondians lose control of them.

Right now, the Xuan'ge at Chambord was being refined and upgraded by those two mad scientists.

Even though the ironwood produced in the Ormond Empire was as hard as iron, even the real iron and steel were nothing in front of peak Moon-Class Elites and Sun-Class Lords. In addition, the flying speed of the Xuan'ge wasn't that fast, and the weapons on it were limited. Except for the two giant magic cannons located at the front and the back, the other smaller magic cannons on the sides of the Xuan'ge had limited power. They were enough for small battles in the sky, but they couldn't unleash destructive strikes onto the ground continuously. After all, the giant magic cannons at the front and the back of the Xuan'ge were hard to move, slow at charging, and couldn't attack frequently.

These were all the critical issues with the Xuan'ge after it went through a fierce battle at Chambord.

Now that the Mad Scientists' Laboratory comprehended some of the ancient godly runes and had access to the encyclopedia of the Mythical Era, [Demon King's Wisdom], it wasn't too difficult to upgrade the Xuan'ge.

In not too long, that giant Xuan'ge which Chambord captured was going to become a real ruler of the sky! Even Sun-Class Lords might have to back off from it after it was upgraded.

With the support of the Mad Scientists' Laboratory, Fei's appetite grew drastically.

The six Xuan'ge here today were all on Fei's mind; he was going to take them as his spoils of war no matter what!

If he could get them all, then the Chambord Kingdom would have a fleet of invincible aircraft after the upgrade. In a sense, the future aircraft of Chambord might not be inferior to the other aircraft fleets of top-tier level 9 empires in this world.

Therefore, Fei ignored Gundogan completely. Only the things in his control were his; all other things like peace treaty and alliance status were all nothing tangible.

Those were things that the Royal Family of Zenit should consider, but it wasn't related to the king of an affiliated kingdom. Therefore, Fei decided to dump all that onto Emperor Yassin.

In less than two minutes, the last small Xuan'ge was powered off by Fei, and all the magic systems were shut down. As the huge leather parachutes flew out and other physical mechanisms activated, the Xuan'ge descended onto the ground without any big damage.

-On the ground-

Crown Prince Arshavin was indeed Zenit's God of War.

After breaking the formations of the Leon Empire with his [Iron Blood Legion], he led his men and charged into the campsites of the Ormond Empire. Since Fei killed the masters of Ormond, and they suffered casualties from previous battles, the less than 10,000 soldiers of Ormond lost their morale and got surrounded easily.

With a powerful master like Fei in the sky, these defeated soldiers of Ormond couldn't do much.

Arshavin was a hardcore commander. The murderous and ruthless attitude that he used against Fei was being used against these soldiers.

He ordered his men to unarm and undress all the enemies, and the soldiers of Ormond were imprisoned right away. Although he didn't kill or torture these defeated soldiers, his attitude was still chilling.

What happened today made Fei's impression of Arshavin improve.

Although there was a conflict between the Chambord Kingdom and Zenit's God of War, it didn't hinder the coordination between Fei and Arshavin.

The king did admire Arshavin's sharp military instinct, and the Crown Prince of Zenit was able to capture the key moment in the battle and turn the losing situation around!

He brought victory to Zenit and didn't surrender and beg for mercy.

"You will pay for what you did!" Gundogan gritted his teeth and cursed inside the transparent energy sphere.

Fei glanced at him and didn't mind.

With a smile on his face, he started a countdown.

Chapter 732: Invincible Battle God (Part One)

The scroll that imprisoned Gundogan was made from the Mad Scientists' Laboratory, and it was a featured product that was designed by Akara and Cain.

It was made based on the transparent energy sphere that protected [Demon King's Wisdom] in that mysterious stone room. It was an ancient imprisonment technique from the Mythical Era, and it was created from semi-godly runes.

After Akara and Cain decrypted them, the two discovered the runes that were engraved on the stone chairs and stone lanterns, and they were able to create this kind of imprisonment scrolls.

When Fei first entered the vast underground ocean under Dual-Flags City in search of the Mythical Altar, Akara gave Fei this kind of magic scrolls that were named [Imprisonment Scrolls] to protect himself when in danger.

The only difference was that the [Imprisonment Scrolls] from before could only lock down Moon-Class Elites who were under the Half Moon Realm; locking Sun-Class Lords was impossible.

However, after Fei discovered the Last Ancestral Place of the dwarfs and noticed the godly runes that were engraved on the walls, Akara and Cain were finally able to use these remaining godly runes to understand the fundamentals of power.

From that moment on, godly runes were used in all the projects that were happening at Chambord.

[Imprisonment Scrolls] were also strengthened. With the additional power from the godly runes, they were now able to lock Sun-Class Lords who were below the realm of Rising Sun.

Of course, such lockdown wasn't perfect; there was a time limit to it.

Taking a Sun-Class Lord like Gundogan for example, an [Imprisonment Scroll] could only lock him for less than 30 minutes.

Since he had been locked up for a while, Gundogan was going to be released in about 30 seconds.

Seeing that the time limit was almost up, Fei started the countdown in his mind.

Pop! When he counted to zero, a slight popping noise sounded, and the transparent energy sphere that Gundogan couldn't break free from suddenly shattered and disappeared like a bursting bubble.

The sudden arrival of freedom stunned Gundogan for a second, and it took a while for him to react.

“Hahahahahahaha! Hahahahahahaha!” This prince of Ormond laughed like a madman, and murderous spirit dashed out of his big eyes. He stared at Fei with his blue eyes and sneered, “Haha, so this trump card of yours has a time limit! Hahaha! Now, it is my turn! Although I can't kill you, I can turn these hundreds of thousands of Zenitians into meat paste! We are all Sun-Class Lords, and we both have trump cards. It would be hard for you to kill me...”

As he said that, a vast amount of fire-elemental energy rushed out of him. The fire energy was so great that it was hard to describe.

Gundogan cultivated fire-elemental warrior energy, and he was far more powerful than Xanchua who died in the hands of [One Sword]. He had already taken that leap of faith and reached Sun-Class.

Even though he had unleashed all his power, not a lot of energy flames were burning around him. However, the burning sensation could be felt in the area.

Hiss! The intense heat evaporated the water in the air, and it seemed like the space around him was becoming unstable as a giant black hole appeared behind him, leading to the void.

The air around Gundogan boiled, and it looked like a pot of water was being heated to 100 degrees. That heat energy burned the few vultures that were flying thousands of meters away and trying to feast on the corpses. Before they could whine, they were lit up and exploded. As their flesh and bones fell from the sky, they were turned into ashes before they could reach the ground.

Also, the things that were dry on the ground instantly caught on fire.

Chapter 732: Invincible Battle God (Part Two)

The power of Sun-Class Lords was indeed beyond the realm of mortals and almost reached the level of gods. They were genuinely terrifying, and a lot of weak warriors couldn't defeat them. If Fei weren't here, the hundreds of thousands of elite soldiers of Zenit were going to be killed by the enraged Gundogan for sure.

Also, since he fell for Fei's scroll once, his guard was a lot higher, and he wasn't going to be locked up by the [Imprisonment Scroll] again.

As the prince of a level 7 empire, he must have a lot of treasures on him, and he had things to rely on. Therefore, even though Fei was much more powerful than him, he wasn't scared; he was going to take revenge.

"Hahaha! I will make Zenit bleed rivers and become history! I swear that if I don't kill all the Zenitians, I will..." Gundogan also took out a mystic scroll as he shouted; a forbidden-spell-level aura enveloped it.

Just as he was about to use it, Fei waved his hand impatiently.

"You talk too much..."

"This..." Gundogan's expression changed drastically.

He sensed an ominous feeling instinctively. Before he could open his scroll, his vision blurred.

As he felt like the time shifted and the space around him moved, everything in front of him changed. He was no longer on the battlefield, and he couldn't see that white, giant St. Petersburg. Instead, he felt like he traveled through a wormhole and appeared in a dark cave.

The terrifying roars of monsters and demons sounded by his ears, and the evil and gloomy sensation enveloped him. He felt like he was in hell.

"Sun... Sun-Class Anomaly?" Gundogan instantly understood what was happening, and his face turned pale from desperation. Seeing the strange space around him, he no longer had hope.

He knew what Sun-Class Anomaly meant.

Once he was inside an opponent's Sun-Class Anomaly, the chance of him making it out was close to zero.

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When that burning sensation enveloped the area, the ordinary soldiers of Zenit were terrified as they looked up at those two figures in the sky. While gods battled, mortals would suffer; the same logic applied here.

If the two Sun-Class Lords battled in the sky, the ordinary soldiers wouldn't be able to escape alive.

However, what happened next was a scene that was ironed into the souls of soldiers and commanders of Zenit.

As King Alexander of Chambord waved his hand as if he were trying to get rid of a fly, a crack appeared in the sky, and both of them disappeared into it.

This method was simple yet terrifying! It was like the power of gods, beyond the imagination of mortals.

"Is this the power of Sun-Class Lords? They can destroy mountains and move seas easily, and they can break open space at will..." A bitter smile appeared on Arshavin's face, and the joy that he got from defeating the Ten-Empire United Troops instantly disappeared. Now, he knew that he no longer qualified to compete with the King of Chambord.

Everyone stared at the crack in the sky, and they were all nervous.

Even though they couldn't understand the power on that level, most of them knew that the prince of Ormond wasn't dead, and the battle wasn't over. The King of Chambord didn't want the ordinary soldiers to be injured, so he used his superpower and moved the battlefield into the void.

Usually, the wait would be excruciating and long.

However, it was really quick this time.

In less than a dozen minutes, another black crack appeared in the sky, and the Zenitians were so nervous that their hearts were in their throats.

When they saw King Alexander of Chambord dashing out of that crack unharmed with the weak and powerless Gundogan in his hand, they were all stunned.

After that short pause, loud cheers followed.

Zenit's Battle God came back with an absolute victory!

Chapter 733: Situation (Part One)

The battle ended with Zenitians claiming the final victory.

Among the ten empires that established this alliance, the most powerful Ormondians got the worst outcome.

The six Xuan'ge that should be invincible within the region of 500,000 kilometers around Zenit all became the spoils of war for Zenit.

Out of the more than 20,000 elite soldiers of Ormond in the battle, less than 10,000 of them survived. All the masters above Five-Star died in action, and their Prince Gundogan who was a Sun-Class Lord also became a captive.

Then, the Leon Empire came next in terms of the losses.

The Leon Empire was the most powerful empire within the region of 500,000 kilometers around Zenit, and it had the most powerful military force. However, it lost eight Moon-Class Elites in this battle, and the legendary Prince Gomi also had fallen. Out of the 100,000 elite soldiers of Leon, more than 40,000 soldiers died, more than 20,000 of them were captured, and less than 40,000 soldiers escaped. This was a huge loss, especially those eight Moon-Class Elites!

Even the Leon Empire which was a medium-to-high-level empire couldn't bear such a loss, and its foundation had been moved.

All other eight small empires were much weaker, and they were almost like cheerleaders during the battle.

Although Fei didn't specifically visit them, they were attacked by the soldiers of Zenit under the lead of Arshavin, Zenit's God of War. More than half of the soldiers who came to St. Petersburg lost their lives here, and a few empires lost their core legions and were going to be attacked by others.

In fact, all the empires within the region of 50,000 kilometers of Zenit suffered significant losses, and they couldn't rival with Zenit and stop this giant bear in the north from growing.

To every single Zenitian, this defensive battle around St. Petersburg was dangerous and intense.

The Ten-Empire United Troops suddenly gathered, and the intelligence networks of Zenit didn't detect it in time. In just one day, the enemies broke through six provinces of Zenit and arrived outside St. Petersburg.

In fact, when the Zenitians saw the elite soldiers of Leon and the Xuan'ge of Ormond, they all felt desperate, and they almost lost their courage to fight back. This battle wasn't fair at all.

The soldiers of Zenit fought a hard battle, and a lot of them didn't sleep at all within 30 hours; they battled on the defense wall non-stop.

If St. Petersburg weren't operated and strengthened by the Royal Family of Zenit many times, and the Ormondians didn't underestimate their opponent and didn't send one giant Xuan'ge to Chambord, this great city would have fallen a long time ago.

Right when the empire was on the verge of collapse, and many people felt desperate, their savior arrived when almost all Zenitians were feeling hopeless.

King Alexander of Chambord who was a talented genius traveled more than hundreds of kilometers and came here to protect the Empire. With unbelievable strength, he pulled the falling situation back and killed more than dozens of enemy masters. By destroying the top-tier masters, he turned the battle upside-down.

After the battle, everyone in the Capital was spreading the shocking news about the King of Chambord reaching the realm of Sun-Class.

The Imperial Military Headquarters, Minister Offices, and Royal Family all started to help promote this news, and even the vendors who sold vegetables on the sides of the streets and butchers who sold meat in their shops learned that the Empire now had a Sun-Class Lord.

This news was shocking since its meaning was ground-breaking! With the King of Chambord alone, the Zenit Empire would be considered a level 5 empire on the Azeroth Continent now!

Chapter 733: Situation (Part Two)

This meant that the level of Zenit skyrocketed, and the citizens of Zenit were now under the protection of a Sun-Class Lord.

Sun-Class Lords meant a lot nowadays!

After the Mythical Era, it was hard to see the powerful gods, demons, dragons, and various other powerful races. Therefore, Sun-Class Lords were pretty much equal to gods at this point; they represented invincibility and strength!

Even the most optimistic dreamer at Zenit didn't imagine that Zenit could one day have a Sun-Class Lord who usually only appeared in high-level empires!

This shocking and upbeat news instantly diluted the sadness and sorrow brought by death and the war.

Therefore, a strange scene appeared.

The Zenitians who just experienced the pain and terror brought by the battle didn't look anxious nor afraid. Instead, they all seemed happy and excited. When they saw their friends, the first thing that they said to each other was this, "Hey, did you hear? Our empire now has a Sun-Class Lord..."

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The initial victory pushed away a lot of the dark clouds that were floating above the giant bear of the north.

The victory in this St. Petersburg defense battle broke down the offensive momentum of the enemies, but the situation wasn't that bright for Zenit where the citizens could celebrate.

From the reports that the scouts send back, the united troops that still had about 200,000 soldiers backed to the Red Leaf Province of Zenit which was about 50 kilometers away from St. Petersburg. They were trying to use the wide Red Leaf River as a natural barrier to block the soldiers of Zenit, and they got the opportunity to regroup and strategize. Also, more reinforcement would be on their way, and they were going to attack St. Petersburg again.

Therefore, this war was far from over!

At least the six provinces of Zenit were now in control of the enemies.

To the Imperial Military Headquarters and the Royal Family, the St. Petersburg defense battle was only the turning point in this war. The complete victory could only be claimed when all the invaders were kicked out of the land of Zenit!

Inside the Capital, all the main battle legions were doing their last bit of preparation, and white command paper flew out of the Imperial Military Headquarters and the Royal Palace like snow.

That night, the Royal Family issued the second conscription order using the name of Emperor Yassin. All the male citizens of Zenit were obligated to pick up weapons and protect the empire.

At the same time, the ill Emperor Yassin gave another war mobilization order, and he handed off the military power that was always grasped in his hand; this was really rare.

Now, all the nobles, affiliated kingdoms, castellans, and even prominent families could create their own troops and militia by recruiting soldiers. They could have independence and attack the invaders on their own. All the people who killed enemies would be rewarded, and even ordinary citizens could become generals and nobles while nobles could increase their ranks.

What was the most surprising was the third order from Emperor Yassin; it was heard that Emperor Yassin who was really ill woke up from his sleep and crowned the title of Imperial Martial Saint to King Alexander of Chambord.

After Krasic, Fei became the next Martial Saint of Zenit, and he could enjoy all the privileges as the Martial Saint and reside on Martial Saint Mountain.

Fei was the first Martial Saint of Zenit who came from an affiliated kingdom.

However, no one objected.

After this battle, no one in the Zenit Empire dared to offend the King of Chambord, including the Royal Family. This young king who grew up incredibly fast was going to become someone above all rules, and his words could determine the life and death of everyone in the empire, including nobles and royals.

Also, the King of Chambord had a group of loyal fans and believers in the military and St. Petersburg.

As long as Fei issued a command, many warriors and brave people would follow his lead.

Since this was still wartime, the king rejected the idea of having a big appointment ceremony, and he got onto Martial Saint Mountain that night.

Residing in the center of the Capital, he monitored the area and became the protector of the land.

Whenever someone looked up at Martial Saint Mountain, they felt a sense of security that they never felt before!

Chapter 734: Traitors (Part One)

-St. Petersburg-

It was close to the night, and a sliver of the Sun was still visible in the sky, as red as blood.

Under the red sunlight, it seemed like everything in the world was dyed by blood.

Right now, there were still about four to five hours before the start of the curfew which was established by the military.

Before the nightfall, the military forces of the empire had organized a lot of people to deal with the mess on the battlefields outside the city. The corpses of soldiers of Zenit were identified, and they were moved into the city to be cremated in the traditional honor ceremony. The corpses of the invaders were cremated on the spot, and their ashes were spread on the land to become fertilizers and be stepped on by others.

Since war occurred on the Azeroth Continent often, all the empires had their methods of dealing with the corpses to prevent diseases from appearing and spreading.

The black smoke that came from the burning of the corpses hovered in the low sky, bring a dark, suppressive, and desperate atmosphere to the area.

However, the atmosphere inside St. Petersburg was completely different.

The recruiting stations for the conscription were everywhere in the city, and people were busy signing up. The officials that the military sent over recorded the detailed information of each person who came to join, and these candidates had to be tested before they were placed in the various legions.

One had to admit that the citizens of Zenit listened to and followed the commands that came from the Royal Family of Zenit.

Under the pressure and the threat of invaders, all the citizens became passionate and patriotic. The young men who were within the age range came to register. Everyone knew that if the Empire failed in this war, every single Zenitian was going to become slaves. Without the Empire to rely on, they were all going to become the lowest class of people, lose their loved ones, and walk on a tragic life path.

Some young noblemen even came to the recruiting stations to join the army.

In the face of foreign enemies, Zenitians showed unprecedented unity. The sharp conflict between nobles and regular citizens was significantly diluted. At some recruiting stations, the young noblemen who were dressed in fancy armor were chatting with the ordinary citizens who were in rough robes, and they even laughed together.

The young noblemen demonstrated the knowledge and combat techniques they knew, and the ordinary citizens gave them thumbs-up. Also, the courage and passion that the ordinary citizens showed were admired by the usually haughty noblemen.

The war brought this empire injuries and tragedies, but it also gave it vitality and a new path.

Of course, except for these peaceful and heart-warming scenes, some specific areas in St. Petersburg were filled with cruel executions. Curses, cries, screams, groans, and begs for mercy sounded in these areas, and the intense smell of blood permeated the air.

While the Empire was in danger, some people showcased rare courage and patriotism, and even 16-year-old boys dared to pick up weapons and battle with the enemies. On the contrary, some people chose to ditch their honor and betray the Empire. Some influential figures communicated with the enemies in private and were willing to become traitors in hopes that they could keep their wealth and lives.

Under the lights radiated from the flames of war, despicableness and honor could be easily distinguished.

Fei's suddenly appearance handed an unexpected defeat to the Ten-Empire United Troops, and they retreated in a hurry, leaving a lot of things for Zenitians.

It was heard that after Crown Prince Arshavin broke into the campsites of Leon, he discovered a lot of letters and documents that couldn't be burned and destroyed in time. Among them were the evidence of some nobles of Zenit committing treason. A few very influential nobles in St. Petersburg had agreed to the enemies' demand and were going to destroy the grand magic defensive array formation around the Capital during critical moments and open the city gates.

The shameless behavior of the traitors angered the entire Empire.

Chapter 734: Traitors (Part Two)

Crown Prince Arshavin was known for his discipline and strict rules. Also, as a royal, he couldn't stand betrayal.

Therefore, even before the battle was over, he sent out elite troops and surrounded the residence of the nobles who sent letters to the enemies just in case these people tried to escape.

Now that the battle was finished, Zenit's God of War was going to deal with them one by one.

The nobles who were accused of treason and got evidence against them were all killed with their families.

In just one hour, 17 noble families were exterminated, and more than 1,000 people were killed in the execution grounds in St. Petersburg. They were decapitated, and their heads were hung as a deterrent for those weak-minded individuals.

Under the rage of the Royal Family of Zenit and the anger of the public, not a single member of these noble families was pardoned. Blood formed rivers, and corpses piled into mountains.

Outside the execution grounds, crowds of citizens stood together and shouted.

"Kill them! Kill these despicable traitors!"

"Hung them! Cut them into many pieces! These damn b*stards! They enjoyed the privileges of nobles, but they betrayed us in the face of danger! They are unforgivable!"

The citizens of Zenit were so angry that they broke through the lines of soldiers who were keeping order and attacked these fallen nobles. While the ordinary citizens and poor people were on the defense walls and fighting with the invaders with their lives at risk, these nobles who had prestigious status and enjoyed wealth, privileges, and honor were doing dirty and shameless things! These people used the word patriotism all the time, but they didn't practice what they preached.

Nobles were pulled onto the hanging stands one by one, and some of them were directly decapitated.

Further away at one execution ground, there were about 20 to 30 nobles who were tied together by rough ropes; there were males, females, elderly, and children. The few young men who were tied up had good strengths, and they had bloody scars on their bodies, telling others that they fought back before they were arrested. However, their shoulders were penetrated by iron hooks right now, and their warrior energies were locked. Under the lead of elite soldiers of the [Iron Blood Legion], they were escorted to this execution ground.

The crowd in the area suddenly discovered this, and they all got emotional and irritated. Angry and furious expressions appeared on their faces as they shouted, “They are the Royal Family of the Xuelun Kingdom! They deserve to burn in hell! They are finally arrested...”

“Hang them! The gods are on our side! They are the family members of the biggest traitor, [One Sword]. Such a coward appeared in the Xuelun Kingdom! The royal members should have already committed suicide due to the embarrassment! Why are they still alive? They are shameless!”

“This is better; suicide would be too easy on them! Each piece of flesh should be cut off them! [One Sword] betrayed the empire, and his family members probably are bad eggs. They are all b*stards! Kill every single dirty member of the Xuelun Kingdom!”

As if a handful of salt were splashed into hot oil, the people in the crowd started to shout and curse uncontrollably.

[One Sword] was known as the biggest traitor in this war. It was heard that the Ten-Empire United Troops were only able to get into the territories of Zenit this easily because of him. Also, he showed his face when the enemies attacked St. Petersburg. Therefore, he was the person whom all the warriors of Zenit wanted to kill.

Before [One Sword] committed treason, he followed Crown Prince Arshavin to the Spartax Battle Zone and earned a lot of military merits. The Royal Family of Xuelun Empire all came to St. Petersburg to be awarded, and they were waiting for the Royal Family of Zenit to host the ceremony.

However, the tragedy occurred out of nowhere, and [One Sword] became a traitor. Therefore, all the Royals of Xuelun were arrested, turning from nobles to criminals.

Chapter 735: Martial Saint Token (Part One)

While the crowd cursed and shouted, the Royal Family of the Xuelun Kingdom were escorted onto the execution stand.

The person in the front was an elderly man; he was the current King of Xuelun, [One Sword]’s father.

Right now, this old king was stripped away of his royal robe, and he was dressed in simple prisoner clothes. There were a few handprints on his face, and he was staggering a little. His hair was messy, but there were still some majestic lights flashing in his eyes. However, he looked depressed and sad.

Behind this old king, there was [One Sword]'s mother. She was more than 50 years old, but it was clear that she had maintained her looks. Her skin was still white and smooth, and wrinkles could barely be seen on her face. She was also in simple prisoner clothes, and she had heavy iron chains on her wrists and ankles. From the look on her face, she was on the verge of mental collapse, and she couldn't even stand still. If it weren't for the old king and a pretty woman who looked to be in her mid-twenties holding her up, this queen would have fallen onto the ground.

This pretty woman was also in simple prisoner clothes and iron chains, but she looked a bit more mentally stable. She was beautiful, and she had a kid with her. This kid looked to be five to six years old, and he grabbed onto his mom's shirt and followed her tightly. He looked like [One Sword], so he should be the son of the biggest traitor of Zenit.

Behind them, there were the other members of the Royal Family of Xuelun, as well as some of their guards. These people weren't treated as nicely as the previous people. The ones with warrior energies had their collarbones broken, and iron chains penetrated their shoulders and locked them together.

However, these men were all tough. Even though blood dripped down their wounds, and their faces turned pale while their lips turned purple from the pain, they didn't groan and kept to themselves.

"Kill them! Kill these b*stards of Xuelun!" the crowd shouted while throwing rocks, rotten vegetation, and stinky eggs at them. The hatred that the citizens of Zenit had toward the traitors was on another level. The strength of public opinion was mighty. Once it was ignited, it had the blind power to destroy both enemies and the people themselves.

Right now, the crowds were angry, and the people's eyes were all red. Even that timid little boy who was about five to six years old had several big bumps on his head after being hit. However, he didn't cry at all.

His mother protected him to the best of her abilities, and this weak woman who didn't have any warrior energy used her body to block the attacks for her son. Soon, she was covered in the smell of rotten eggs, and the rocks left many injuries on her body.

Soon, all these people from the Xuelun Kingdom were put on the execution stand.

“Prince [One Sword] of Xuelun had betrayed the Empire and joined the enemies, leading the Ten-Empire United Troops into the territories of Zenit! As a result, the six provinces in the south had fallen, and the Capital was even in danger...” The military clerk announced the decision of the Imperial Military Headquarters, and all these people were going to be hung right away, including males and females, children and elderly. All 31 of them were going to be hung before being decapitated.

A series of cheers sounded from the crowds after this statement was announced.

“No! We are wronged! We are unwilling to die with such verdict...” The pretty woman who was silent suddenly shouted, and she hugged onto her son tightly as she begged, “We don’t know about His Highness’ betrayal! The Xuelun Kingdom didn’t commit treason! The Royal Family of Xuelun had been loyal toward Zenit, and His Highness went to the southern region of Zenit to battle the enemies of Spartax! The 6,000 soldiers of Xuelun also went along! [One Sword] His Highness killed more than a dozen masters of Spartax and was injured more than 20 times. Out of the 6,000 soldiers of Xuelun, 3,781 of them died in battle, and 540 of them became disabled...”

This pretty woman was [One Sword]’s only wife.

This boy who was about five to six years old was [One Sword]’s only child, and his name was Luffy.

However, the pleading and begging of this young woman was overpowered by the curses of the angry crowd.

Right now, no one was calm enough to think everything through.

The fact that [One Sword] had committed treason was something many people witnessed with their own eyes. The scene where he wore the armor of Ormond and battled with the master of Zenit was ironed into many soldiers’ minds.

“Please! Please! It is ok that we die, but please pardon Little Luffy! He is only a child! He doesn’t know anything...”

Chapter 735: Martial Saint Token (Part One)

While the crowd cursed and shouted, the Royal Family of the Xuelun Kingdom were escorted onto the execution stand.

The person in the front was an elderly man; he was the current King of Xuelun, [One Sword]'s father.

Right now, this old king was stripped away of his royal robe, and he was dressed in simple prisoner clothes. There were a few handprints on his face, and he was staggering a little. His hair was messy, but there were still some majestic lights flashing in his eyes. However, he looked depressed and sad.

Behind this old king, there was [One Sword]'s mother. She was more than 50 years old, but it was clear that she had maintained her looks. Her skin was still white and smooth, and wrinkles could barely be seen on her face. She was also in simple prisoner clothes, and she had heavy iron chains on her wrists and ankles. From the look on her face, she was on the verge of mental collapse, and she couldn't even stand still. If it weren't for the old king and a pretty woman who looked to be in her mid-twenties holding her up, this queen would have fallen onto the ground.

This pretty woman was also in simple prisoner clothes and iron chains, but she looked a bit more mentally stable. She was beautiful, and she had a kid with her. This kid looked to be five to six years old, and he grabbed onto his mom's shirt and followed her tightly. He looked like [One Sword], so he should be the son of the biggest traitor of Zenit.

Behind them, there were the other members of the Royal Family of Xuelun, as well as some of their guards. These people weren't treated as nicely as the previous people. The ones with warrior energies had their collarbones broken, and iron chains penetrated their shoulders and locked them together.

However, these men were all tough. Even though blood dripped down their wounds, and their faces turned pale while their lips turned purple from the pain, they didn't groan and kept to themselves.

"Kill them! Kill these b*stards of Xuelun!" the crowd shouted while throwing rocks, rotten vegetation, and stinky eggs at them. The hatred that the citizens of Zenit had toward the traitors was on another level. The strength of public opinion was mighty. Once it was ignited, it had the blind power to destroy both enemies and the people themselves.

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“Please! Please! It is ok that we die, but please pardon Little Luffy! He is only a child! He doesn’t know anything...”

Chapter 736: [One Sword] Is Innocent (Part One)

The token that was by this military clerk’s feet was the Martial Saint Token that represented the Imperial Martial Saint.

Although it was only about the size of a palm and had the shape of a hexagon, it wasn’t made from any rare material, and it looked ordinary. However, the value of this black token was enough to make the Empire shake!

The previous Martial Saint, Krasic, was only a Moon-Class Elite, but his prestige was very high, and every citizen of Zenit respected him. Now, King Alexander of Chambord is a legend in the history of Zenit, and he just stopped powerful enemies from conquering Zenit. In fact, his influence was almost on par with Emperor Yassin when he was back at his prime. Right now, the King of Chambord’s thoughts and words could dictate many people’s fates.

The arrival of the Martial Saint Token represented the arrival of the Imperial Martial Saint.

Since the Martial Saint said that [One Sword] was innocent, this military clerk didn’t dare to refuse even if his courage increased by 100 times.

When this military clerk said that no one could save the Xuelun Kingdom, he wasn’t wrong. Even if the Royal Family of Zenit wanted to pardon the Xuelun Kingdom, they had to consider the potential reaction and the anger of the public. However, his mistake was forgetting about King Alexander who just became the Imperial Martial Saint.

“You are Martial Saint Alexander?”

Although Fei was already well-known in St. Petersburg for both the good and the bad, and everyone in the Capital heard of him before, not a lot of people had seen him.

Under some exaggerated rumors, the image of the King of Chambord looked nothing like Fei.

In the rumors, the King of Chambord was several meters tall, full of muscles, had invincible strength, and had lights around him like a god!

Even though some people had seen Fei from a distance before, they couldn't be sure at this moment.

After all, the new Martial Saint was way too young, looking like a youth who wasn't even mature yet.

If it weren't for the Martial Saint Token that reminded this military clerk at this moment, he might not be able to recognize this handsome young man and identify the current Imperial Martial Saint.

Thousands of thoughts flashed in this military clerk's mind, and he picked up the Martial Saint Token that was on the ground with shaking hands before kneeling and handing the token back to Fei with both hands. After a moment of hesitation, he said, "Sir, [One Sword]'s betrayal is evident, and tens of thousands of soldiers had seen it with their own eyes. The Royal Family and the Imperial Military Headquarters both gave orders to kill the Royal Family of Xuelun. Why are you... trying to save them? If there isn't a proper explanation, it might hinder your image and prestige in the eyes of the public!"

"[One Sword] is innocent, and there doesn't need an explanation. Spread my words across the Empire and clean the reputation for the Xuelun Kingdom. If anyone needs an explanation, tell them to come to Martial Saint Mountain and find me!" Fei said firmly after a moment of thinking.

[One Sword] didn't betray the Empire.

Unfortunately, this young and talented swordsman was too competitive and pursued power eagerly. He was a bit careless and got his body and mind seized by a demon. He wasn't able to control himself and lead the enemies into Zenit, creating this tragedy.

However, he was able to use his last bit of life energy and power to kill many Moon-Class Elites and soldiers of Ormond with his n*ked body, and he even slayed Prince Xanchua of Ormond and severely injured General Peith of Ormond.

In a sense, he had redeemed himself and made up for his mistake. He was still an honorable warrior who deserved to be recognized and admired.

The theory of [One Sword] starting this war was nonsense.

The Chaos Era had arrived on the Azeroth Continent, and wars between empires were going to be common. Therefore, the invasion of the Ten-Empire United Troops was set in stone. Even if [One Sword] weren't here, they wouldn't let the Zenitians off the hook.

One could only say that this genius swordsman was played by fate mercilessly.

According to [One Sword]'s last dying wish, Fei wasn't going to make this information public and explain everything. However, he was going to protect [One Sword]'s wife and kid, as well as the Royal Family of Xuelun. This Luffy was the son of a loyal master of Zenit who died so young, and this boy deserved to live in this cold world.

Chapter 736: [One Sword] Is Innocent (Part Two)

"This..." The military clerk still wanted to say something, but he shut his mouth and held back.

"Since the Imperial Martial Saint wants to protect these prisoners, a little military clerk like me can't deal with it. I will just report back to the Royal Family and the Imperial Military Headquarters. They probably can't blame it on me, and this is something that the influential figures have to think about," he thought.

Now, the crowd finally realized what was happening, and they started to change.

The anger on the people's minds quickly disappeared when they heard the name, King Alexander of Chambord, and they became so excited that their bodies shivered, and their burning gazes landed on Fei.

The atmosphere in the area quickly changed, and all other emotions except for excitement were thrown out. The fact that they could see the legendary hero, the invincible battle god, and the protector of Zenit made them overjoyed.

Every single person felt like they were blessed! They didn't expect that they could see the new Imperial Martial Saint in their lifetime!

Many people rubbed their eyes again and again, trying to make sure that they didn't see an illusion.

Tears of joy rolled down their faces.

“So, this handsome young man with long black hair is King Alexander of Chambord!” someone suddenly shouted.

As a result, the boiling yet quiet atmosphere suddenly erupted like a volcano, and chain reactions took place like a series of dominos.

Everyone knelt on the ground and chanted, “Hail the Martial Saint!”

Even soldiers of [Iron Blood Legion] who were murderous with weapons in their hands looked at each other, dropped their weapons, and knelt while chanting and shivering.

“Since Martial Saint Alexander said [One Sword] is innocent, that must be true! We must have misunderstood something...”

“Yeah! Mr. Alexander is our protector! How can we doubt his words?”

“I know! [One Sword] must be a spy who was sent by Martial Saint Alexander! We are so foolish! We misunderstood [One Sword], and we even cursed the family of a hero! Do you guys remember? There were seven terrifying Xuan’ge of Ormond, and one of the biggest Xuan’ge disappeared. Mr. [One Sword] must have made it happen! He is a hero who took the blame for the victory of Zenit!”

“Yeah! Now that you mention it, I do remember my brother saying... My brother is working at [Iron Blood Legion], and he said that he saw Mr. [One Sword] leaving with that giant Xuan’ge...”

“Damn it! What were we doing? If it weren’t for Martial Saint, we almost killed the family of a hero!”

Fei’s influence in Zenit was on another level! All the citizens and soldiers had 100% faith in this new Martial Saint, and one sentence from Fei was able to change [One Sword]’s impression on people’s minds.

Without having to give an explanation himself, Fei made all the people shift their perspectives and come up with reasons to fill in the holes.

This wasn't something that Fei expected.

-On the execution stand-

The Royal Family of Xuelun who were about to be killed finally realized what was happening.

Never in their dreams did they expect Martial Saint Alexander, who was now one of the most influential people in the Empire, to come and save them!

They weren't afraid of death, but they didn't want to die for the wrong reasons and be shamed forever.

The people here were the elites in the Royal Family of Xuelun, and they were the closest people to [One Sword]. They had been proud of [One Sword], and [One Sword] represented the Xuelun Kingdom since he became famous.

Never in the history of Xuelun did a prince get as influential as [One Sword]. He was the idol to many people of Xuelun, and he was looked up to as a fatherly figure for a lot of kids.

Therefore, they didn't believe that [One Sword] betrayed the Empire.

They wanted to clean [One Sword]'s name, but they were powerless.

Therefore, they all cried when they heard the Imperial Martial Saint say that [One Sword] was innocent. Even those tough men who got their shoulders penetrated by iron chains and didn't make a fuss were crying at this moment.

They felt like their souls were freed.

Chapter 737: Second Disciple (Part One)

The Old King of Xuelun looked at Fei with a complicated expression on his face.

He knew that his son treated the King of Chambord as his mortal enemy when he was alive. After the competition at St. Petersburg about half a year ago, [One Sword] started to practice his technique crazily as if he were possessed. He wanted to achieve a breakthrough in terms of cultivation so that he could defeat the King of Chambord.

“Now my son is dead and got stains on his name, and the person who cleaned his name is his mortal enemy. Fate is unpredictable!” the Old King of Xuelun thought to himself.

“Thank you for restoring our master’s reputation!” The few tough men who were tortured kneeled in front of Fei and expressed their gratitude.

Fei didn’t say anything, but he waved his finger, shattering the iron hooks and chains on their shoulders and turning them into powder without touching the wounds. Then, he switched to Paladin Mode and injected golden holy power into these tough men, healing their bodies. Even though that was quick, and Fei’s paladin character wasn’t at a high level, the injuries on these men were mostly cured, and they would completely recover after a few months.

These people were all loyal and virtuous, so Fei had good impressions of them.

“Quick, come over! Little Luffy, quickly thank Mr. Martial Saint! Thank him for saving us!” That beautiful woman didn’t think as much as the old king. She quickly kneeled and kowtowed, trying to express her gratitude. Seeing that her son was able to live, and [One Sword]’s bloodline was saved, she almost saw Fei as a god.

Fei waved his hand, and an invisible energy helped this woman to stand up.

“Are you Uncle Alexander? Thank you for saving my grandpa, grandma, mom, and uncles. You are a great man!” Little Luffy was a little thin, and his skin was tanned by the Sun, looking a little brown. His big dark eyes looked cute, and his tone was childish. However, he tried to act adult-like, and it was funny.

It seemed like Luffy wasn’t scared of strangers. He pulled on Fei’s shirt and said in pity, “When my dad talked with me in private once, he told me that King Alexander of Chambord is a real master! He said that you are the person who he wants to defeat the most, but you are also the person who he admires the most... Uncle Alexander, where did Dad go? Can you teach me how to fight? I want to become a big hero like you and Dad!”

“Huh?” Fei didn’t expect [One Sword] to highly praise him in private. In a sense, it was quite an accomplishment to be praised this way by an opponent.

The king looked at Luffy who was staring back at him with big eyes filled with hope and earnestly, and he smiled and nodded, saying, “Ok. If you are willing to take me as your master, you can become my second disciple!”

Fei didn’t just say this casually.

Now, [One Sword] was dead, and most of the elite soldiers of Xuelun were killed in battle when they followed Crown Prince Arshavin to the Spartax Battle Zone about half a year ago. In addition, the Xuelun Kingdom was punished by the Zenit Empire, and its reputation and strength both fell drastically. It was impossible for them to sustain their status as a level 1 affiliated kingdom, and they might not be able to maintain the status of a level 4 or a level 5 affiliated kingdom.

Since [One Sword] was cold and stayed lonely pretty much his entire life, he had offended a lot of noble families and significant forces in the Empire. Although Fei saved the Royal Family of Xuelun today, others might use all kinds of excuses to cause trouble for them and make their lives harder.

Chapter 737: Second Disciple (Part Two)

In this cruel world, it wasn’t rare for these things to happen. Those people who hated [One Sword] might come together and try to kill [One Sword]’s only child.

Fei couldn’t stay by Luffy’s side and protect him all the time.

However, if he took Luffy in as a disciple, this boy would be the disciple of the Imperial Martial Saint, and his status would skyrocket.

With Fei’s name, power, and well-known overprotectiveness, no one in the Zenit Empire would dare to mess with Luffy, and no one would want to cause trouble for the Xuelun Kingdom which had a descendant as the Imperial Martial Saint’s disciple.

What Fei said surprised everyone, and the Old King of Xuelun couldn’t hold back his overly excited expression. As lights dashed out of his eyes, he knew that the Xuelun Kingdom didn’t need to worry about getting bullied anymore.

The pretty woman also got elated. As a mother, the first thing that she thought about was her son's future and growth.

Becoming the disciple of the legendary Impartial Martial Saint who was a Sun-Class Lord was the dream of numerous talented young Zenitians. If the descendants of influential noble families got this opportunity, they would wake up laughing every morning.

“Quick! Son, Luffy! Quick! Bow and kneel! Call him Master from now on!” The pretty woman was too excited, and she couldn't put a proper sentence together. She couldn't hold back her emotions and cried again.

Afraid that the Imperial Martial Saint would go back on his words, she pulled her son over and almost pressed on his little head, telling him to bow and take Fei as his master quickly.

“Master, I, Luffy, am willing to serve you! From now on, I will serve you wholeheartedly and listen to your teachings. I will work hard and try my best to become a powerful warrior like you! I won't lose face for you!” It was clear that this little guy was very excited, and he kneeled and kowtowed as he stated in his childish voice. His adult-like act was quite cute and made Fei laugh a little.

This scene made a lot of people in the area jealous and envious.

Almost everyone in the crowd was thinking, “[One Sword]'s son is so lucky! He is able to become a disciple of the Imperial Martial Saint this easily! This misfortune turned into something great, and his future is unlimited! No one in Zenit would dare to mess with him again!”

At this moment, a lot of young people wanted Fei to accept them as disciples as well, but they didn't dare to step forward and ask after looking at that young but majestic figure on the execution stand. They knew that they weren't talented enough, and the Imperial Martial Saint probably wouldn't take them in.

“Eh, from now on, you will be my second disciple. You have a senior brother named Philip Inzagi, and you will meet him soon. Ok, that is enough for today. You can go back with your grandparents and mom to pack up. After saying goodbye to them, come and find me on Martial Saint Mountain tomorrow at noon!”

After getting back the Martial Saint Token from that military clerk, Fei placed it in Luffy's hands and dashed away, disappearing from the area.

A series of cheers instantly sounded, and the crowd slowly stood up after Fei was long gone.

Every single one of them was excited, and they couldn't wait to share what they witnessed today with their families and friends.

"Haha! I only came to watch the execution, but I got the chance to see the legendary Imperial Martial Saint! I'm so lucky!" people thought to themselves.

Chapter 738: Chris Sutton (Part One)

The news about Imperial Martial Saint Alexander taking in [One Sword]'s only child, Luffy, as a disciple quickly spread around St. Petersburg, and the phrase, [One Sword] is innocent, was also passed to everyone's ears.

The residents who had seen what happened at that execution ground where Fei appeared told everyone they knew about what they experienced and what their hypotheses were. Therefore, the story about how [One Sword] acted as the spy of the Empire and went undercover at the enemies also got spread around.

Under the purposeful push of the [Letter Office], the story about [One Sword] battling until death at Chambord City and killing a prince of Ormond was made known to people.

Therefore, [One Sword] turned from the biggest traitor in the history of Zenit to the most loyal and honorable warrior of Zenit just because of Fei's words.

Even the Imperial Military Headquarters and the Royal Family of Zenit retracted their verdict on [One Sword]. Although they didn't officially accept and promote the heroic stories about [One Sword] that were passed around in public, this simple retraction was enough to prove some points.

What surprised a lot of people was that Fei's reputation and influence as the new Imperial Martial Saint didn't decrease due to this incident. Instead, it was growing and taking on an upward trend.

The residence that the Xuelun Kingdom had in St. Petersburg was also being visited by a lot of people, and a lot of nobles waited in line to connect with them.

With a royal as the disciple of the Imperial Martial Saint, very few people dared to mess with the Xuelun Kingdom anymore.

...

-The second day-

Before noon, a black carriage that was pulled by horses slowly came out of the residence of the Xuelun Kingdom and traveled toward Martial Saint Mountain that was located in the middle of the City.

On the way, many people glanced at this carriage with envy and jealousy; they all knew that the little Prince Luffy of Xuelun was heading to Martial Saint Mountain to become the official disciple of Martial Saint Alexander. His luck was beyond disbelief!

Except for little Prince Luffy, there was his mom, Laura, and his grandparents in the carriage.

The journey was smooth, and they reached the foot of Martial Saint Mountain soon.

The people of Martial Saint Mountain were already waiting.

After Martial Saint Krasic died in battle, Martial Saint Mountain was under lockdown. Most of Krasic's disciples followed Fei; they were all powerful and were great loyal subordinates. Fei placed most of them into the [Letter Office], but he kept a small number of them close by.

Now that Fei was the new Imperial Martial Saint, he reopened Martial Saint Mountain and called back a portion of Krasic's disciples to maintain its operations.

The muscular young man who was waiting for Little Luffy was Matri, and he was one of the most talented disciples of Krasic. He was a Six-Star Warrior, and his strength grew by a lot after he started to follow Fei. Now, he was already at peak Eight-Star, and his long blond hair would flutter when he spoke with a smile on his handsome face.

After taking Luffy off the carriage, Matri said respectfully, “Luffy Your Highness, welcome to Martial Saint Mountain. Mr. Martial Saint is waiting for you. Laura Your Highness, you can also come to Martial Saint Mountain with Luffy His Highness and take care of him. King and Queen of Xuelun, please head back after saying goodbye to Luffy His Highness!”

Matri was respectful toward Luffy and Laura, but he was neutral toward the King and Queen of Xuelun.

Since Luffy was now Fei’s disciple, he was a young master of Martial Saint Mountain. That was why Matri was respectful toward him. As a member of Martial Saint Mountain, Matri didn’t really care about the king of an affiliated kingdom.

Chapter 738: Chris Sutton (Part Two)

The pretty woman, Laura, was pleasantly surprised.

She thought that she wouldn’t be able to see her son for a long time from this point on, but the Martial Saint allowed her to be with her son, so they didn’t need to be separated.

However, the King of Xuelun was a little disappointed. He came with his grandson in hopes that he could go on Martial Saint Mountain and get closer to Fei. After hearing Matri’s words, he knew that this wasn’t possible.

Therefore, after greeting Matri and saying goodbye to Luffy and Laura reluctantly, he got back onto the carriage with his wife and left.

“Luffy Your Highness, please wait for a moment. There are a few more people who are here to visit Mr. Martial Saint today.”

After Matri led Luffy and Laura to a pavilion on the side, he went back to the square before Martial Saint Mountain and waited.

After a while, Luffy saw a handsome young man in golden armor coming to the square. After he spoke with Matri a little, he walked over with a smile on his face when Matri pointed in Luffy’s direction.

“You must be Little Luffy, right? I’m Chris Sutton from the Imperial Knight Palace. It is nice to meet you, Little Guy!”

After the self-introduction, this handsome young man patted Luffy’s head intimately.

He was the Golden Sun Knight, Chris Sutton. He battled alongside Fei and became the youngest Moon-Class Elite in the Zenit Empire.

He was here to visit the Martial Saint as well.

“Ah! Really? You are Brother Sutton who battled alongside my master?” With a thrilled expression on his face, he said in his childish tone, “I didn’t know that I will see you here today! I’m so happy!”

This little guy was great at complimenting people.

As a master of Zenit who battled alongside Fei, his temperament and courage stunned a lot of people.

In addition, he was already famous from before. His talent, handsome looks, and young age all added to his fame. Therefore, it wasn’t strange that Luffy, who admired all kinds of heroes and masters, had heard of him before.

On the side, Laura just learned Sutton’s real identity and quickly dragged Luffy who acted childishly as she bowed. “It is you, Mr. Execution Knight. We apologize for...”

“Please don’t be so polite with me, Your Highness,” Sutton quickly said as he stopped them, “Luffy His Highness is now a disciple of the Imperial Martial Saint. He is of prestigious status, and he shouldn’t bow to me.”

Sutton was a conceited character, and he had never acted this way toward someone who was younger than him. However, Luffy complimented him and was Fei’s disciple.

Even though there were grudges between Fei and him, all of those disappeared after the battle yesterday. Since Fei helped him advanced into the Moon-Class, he could be considered as Fei's half-disciple. Therefore, Sutton and Luffy were technically senior brothers and junior brothers, so that was why Sutton was more intimate.

The three of them continued to wait; there were still a few more people coming to Martial Saint Mountain.

Sutton's cultivation strength was on par with [One Sword] before that golden skeleton possessed the latter, and he was experienced and knowledgeable. Since he was fond of Luffy, he answered several of Luffy's questions, and they were having a good time.

Laura just stood on the side and watched patiently with a smile on her face.

About ten more minutes passed, and a series of clip-clopping noises sounded.

Sutton turned around, and his face changed color.

Chapter 739: Tough Characters (Part One)

Ten people arrived at the square before the Martial Saint Mountain on horses.

The person in the lead was thin and not that tall, and he was in an ordinary robe. However, there was a light silver mask that covered half of his face, revealing his mouth and chin. He looked quite young and possibly less than 20 years old, and his long blond hair swayed behind his back. Even though he looked calm and peaceful, there was a sense of danger and murderousness coming off of him.

The nine people behind him were all wearing the same kind of black robes, but they were in various ages groups; some elderly people were in their sixties, and some young people were in their twenties. Even though they looked common, their eyes were sharp, and their auras were on another level.

Most of them were between Six-Star and Eight-Star, and two of them had entered low-tier Moon-Class; they were on the same level as Chris Sutton, and it was impressive.

The person in the lead jumped off the horse and chatted with Matri who was waiting there. Then, they walked toward the pavilion.

It was clear that they were the last group of people who were going to go on the Martial Saint Mountain.

“It is them...” The Golden Sun Knight looked at that young man in the mask and was stunned; he didn’t expect to see this group of people here.

“Brother Sutton, who are they? Are they visiting Master as well?” Luffy pointed at the man in the mask and asked in his childish tone.

“I’m not too sure, but it seems like it.” Sutton thought for a while and patted Luffy’s head before saying, “Don’t get too close to these people; they are tough characters.”

“Are they dangerous? Who are they?” Luffy asked with curiosity.

“They are from a mysterious underground organization. That man with the silver mask is one of the two leaders, and he is really mysterious; no one knows where he came from, and no one knows who is behind him. We only know that his nickname is [Young Man]. This organization suddenly appeared about a year ago. In the beginning, not a lot of people paid attention to them. However, now they are the most powerful non-official intelligence network in the Empire. It is heard that even the intelligence of the Imperial Military Headquarters and the Imperial Knight Palace couldn’t figure out their backgrounds. There are a lot of masters in this organization, and there is nothing that they couldn’t find. The most powerful master in this organization is known as the [Bloody Yellow Cape], and this person is known as the most powerful master in the underground world in the Empire. No one knows how powerful this person is, and some people estimate that this [Bloody Yellow Cape] is a Sun-Class Lord!” Chris Sutton said to Luffy in a low voice.

After hearing the serious words that came from Sutton who was an executive knight, Laura got a little scared and quickly pulled her son into her arms before covering his mouth, afraid that her talkative son would trigger and offend those vicious characters.

Sutton was young and already an executive knight, and he was from a big noble family. There weren’t a lot of people who had more prestigious status than him, and he was conceited and haughty.

However, even he was concerned about these people, and that was enough to prove how terrifying that young man with the silver mask was.

Right now, those ten people arrived at the pavilion under the lead of Matri.

It was clear that this man in the mask had paid attention over here. When he looked up and glanced at Sutton, a strange half-smile appeared on his face; it was hard to understand what he was thinking about. Then, he looked at Luffy and observed this boy. He didn't say anything; instead, he turned over and chatted with someone beside him.

Chapter 739: Tough Characters (Part Two)

Even though Luffy was in his mom's arms and got his mouth tightly covered, he clearly saw that this young man in the mask had given him a friendly smile. For some reason, he felt like this man who was terrifying in Sutton's eyes was intimate toward him like a big brother.

Soon, they started their journey and climbed up the Martial Saint Mountain.

The path onto the central mountain was quite steep, and they had to pass many tunnels, walk on many stairs, and get through iron chains that were dangling in the air. Ordinary people without warrior energies or magic energies wouldn't be able to get onto the mountain.

If it weren't for Sutton who was intimate toward them, Luffy and Laura might not be able to get through all the obstacles and get to the top of the mountain. Matri saw this, but he didn't say anything. He simply led the way in the front.

After about one hour, this group of people reached the top.

The peak of Martial Saint Mountain was like a paradise. It was warm with fresh air, and the scenery was just stunning. There was green grass, vibrant trees, and even a running river. Beautiful butterflies flew around, and cute animals like rabbits and squirrels appeared frequently.

This was Chris Sutton's first-time coming to the peak of Martial Saint Mountain. Even though he didn't know why King Alexander of Chambord wanted to see him, he was very excited.

The fact that he was able to climb the mountain and get to the top was a great honor.

The young man with the silver mask and the people who came with him were asked to rest and wait inside a guest house.

Sutton, Luffy, and Laura were led by another young man of the Martial Saint Mountain, walked through a green path, and arrived at the edge of a cliff in about a dozen minutes. The area near the cliff was more open, and an ancient wooden building stood there quietly.

Beside this wooden building, there was a pavilion that was propped up by four pillars that had green vines grown all over them. There was a handsome, black-haired young man standing in the pavilion and glancing at the entire city from the above. He seemed dashing and ethereal, looking like an immortal who was above all the mortal matters and conflicts.

He was Alexander, the King of Chambord and the Imperial Martial Saint.

After that young man of Martial Saint Mountain led the three people to the pavilion, he reported to Fei and left.

“It is Executive Knight Chris Sutton’s honor to see you, Mr. Martial Saint!”

“Master, your disciple Luffy is here.”

“It is my honor to see you, Mr. Martial Saint!”

The three greeted Fei respectfully and bowed according to their status.

Even though Imperial Martial Saints weren’t involved in the military, politics, or civil matters, their status was superior. Even the royal families couldn’t constrain them!

Their supreme status deserved respectful and sincere greetings.

“Eh, come here.” Fei turned around, nodded, and pointed at the stone chairs in the pavilion, signaling them to sit down.

After the three of them sat down, Sutton looked at Fei and sighed in his mind, “When I was younger and more aggressive, I went to challenge him on his way to St. Petersburg under some people’s provocations. Although I lost that battle on the Dual-Tower Mountain, we could still be considered as young talents. But now, he has transformed into a holy dragon that soars in the sky, and I’m far behind him even though my strength improved. We are no longer on the same level.”

Sutton knew that not only him, but the entire young generation of Zenit was also going to be topped by the King of Chambord, and no one could surpass him.

Chapter 740: Not Going to Learn Sword (Part One)

Fei didn’t have the arrogance that usually came along with the supreme status such as being the Imperial Martial Saint, and he was quite casual when he talked.

After chatting for a while, Sutton gradually realized that he just started to understand the legendary man in front of him.

The rumors that were passed around in the upper-class circle in the Zenit Empire said that the King of Chambord was savage, rude, impolite, and arrogant.

Now, Sutton realized that all those were just rumors after all. Only the people who were close to the King of Chambord knew how he was.

Sutton was very thankful toward Fei for helping him elevate his realm.

Fei waved his hand and explained with a smile on his face, “Even Sun-Class Lords couldn’t elevate a warrior to Moon-Class easily. Otherwise, wouldn’t Moon-Class Elites be more common? If that is the case, the empires with Sun-Class Lords would have a lot of Moon-Class Elites. The most important thing is that you were at the threshold, and you were only one step away from becoming a Moon-Class Elite. To break that threshold, your strength, luck, courage, mental stability, momentary condition... Everything must be aligned. That day during battle, your spirit, energy, and mind were all in harmony, and you were devoted in battle. You were in the [Raged State], one of the four states that could facilitate breakthroughs. I only gave you a little push; it was your hard work and accumulation that got you here. If you were afraid of the masters of Leon, I wouldn’t be able to help you get into Moon-Class even though I’m much more powerful!”

Fei was telling the truth.

Sutton was in a unique state that day. As if two people had crushes on each other, Fei was like that friend who pushed them to take the leap of faith. Everything else went according to nature from that point on.

If it were anyone else, Fei might not be able to help that person become a Moon-Class Elite.

Even though this was the case, Sutton was still very thankful.

He knew that if he missed that opportunity and didn't receive help from Fei, it might take him one to two years to advance to Moon-Class on his own. Also, since Fei helped him out, the energy of Sun-Class had left marks in his body and could lead the way for him in the future.

In a sense, there was now a Sun-Class seed in his body, and it would help him comprehend the energy that was on a higher level.

He was very fortunate!

Fei nodded and looked at Sutton as he said, "It isn't me who summoned you here; the Royal Family had sent the Emperor's Order, asking you to leave the Imperial Knight Palace, take off the position as the Tenth Executive Knight, and come to Martial Saint Mountain to cultivate and practice techniques. Are you willing to do that?"

Sutton was stunned for a moment before he realized what was happening.

If it were a year ago, he wouldn't be willing to ditch the honor of being an executive knight and the glory of the Imperial Knight Palace to come to stay at this lonely mountain. Although Martial Saint Mountain was great, it might be too low-key since there was almost no opportunity to show-off.

However, after all these experiences he had this year, this executive knight who had been arrogant and conceited already grew by a lot, and he was able to see through the materialism.

Therefore, Sutton was overjoyed, and he quickly agreed.

“Eh, since the Chaos Era has arrived, and wars are going to occur between empires, Zenit will be involved as well. Even though the Zenit Empire is more remote, located to the north of the Continent, and wouldn’t be in direct conflicts, it is hard for the Empire to stay out of it completely. This war between Zenit and the Ten-Empire United Troops exposed a lot of Zenit’s weaknesses. The most important issue is that the Empire lacks top-tier masters, and there are too few Moon-Class Elites. The Royal Family wants you to study at Martial Saint Mountain because of your great talent. As one of the best young men in this generation, you have the potential to reach higher realms...” Fei explained further.

Chapter 740: Not Going to Learn Sword (Part Two)

Then, he took out a thick booklet from his storage ring and gave it to Sutton.

“This booklet contains my understanding of metal-elemental warrior energy, and there are also a few cultivation techniques and combat techniques in there. I hope it will be of help to you.”

Sutton was excited, and he quickly flipped it through as soon as he got his hands on it. Then, he started to shiver in excitement.

Although Sutton was far less powerful than Fei, he was from a noble family and worked at the Imperial Knight Palace. Therefore, his understanding and knowledge base was much broader compared to ordinary warriors. After only looking through a few pages, he knew that this booklet was an excellent manual for all metal-elemental warriors. If other metal-elemental warriors knew about this, bloody battles would occur over its ownership.

He didn’t expect the King of Chambord, who didn’t cultivate metal-elemental warrior energy, to have such a profound understanding of it, and Fei was even more impressive in his eyes.

He didn’t know that this booklet was put together by Fei overnight according to [Demon King’s Sword] and his current level. It was tailored to him to the teeth!

If he worked hard and cultivated according to it, he might be able to reach the realm of Sun-Class in less than ten years.

“Thank you, Mr. Martial Saint!” Sutton put away the booklet carefully before expressing his gratitude again.

“Eh, as long as it helps you. I won’t be residing on Martial Saint Mountain for long. From now on, all the operation and management will be taken care of by the disciples of the previous Martial Saint, Mr. Krasic. You can put all your effort on cultivation, and you can instruct Luffy on the side while guarding this Martial Saint Mountain for the Empire. Remember, the more powerful you are, the safer the Empire is!”

“Ah? You... you are leaving the city? If the masters of Ormond come and...” Sutton was stunned when he heard that Fei was going to leave. Right now, Zenit couldn’t survive without Fei being here.

“Don’t worry, there is still a powerful master in the Capital, and his strength isn’t lower than mine. Even if Sun-Class Lords come, they might not be able to make it back alive. The Capital is more secure than you think, so you don’t have to worry about it.” Fei didn’t say who this master was, and Sutton couldn’t think of anyone who fit that description even after pondering for a while.

Since Fei didn’t say who it was, he didn’t feel comfortable asking.

After a short pause, Fei smiled and said, “That is all for today; I still need to tend to other guests. Your residence has already been set up, and you can go check it out and see if you like it or not.”

When Fei finished, a member of Martial Saint Mountain came over and led Sutton away, and they disappeared into the green forest.

Then, Fei got the chance to chat with his second disciple, Luffy.

He gradually realized that this kid was little but quite mature, and he was great at complimenting people. His flattering skills were on par with Flatterer Oleg.

His personality wasn’t like his dad [One Sword] at all. His father was haughty and lonely, but Luffy was way too playful and talkative.

“Master, Master! I don’t want to learn sword techniques! My dad practiced sword all his life, and he worked hard, but he still couldn’t defeat you...” This little guy soon got intimate with Fei, and he dragged Fei’s hand and begged.

Laura who was standing by the side was terrified, afraid that her son would offend the Imperial Martial Saint in some way.

Fei laughed and asked, “Hahaha, alright. If you don’t want to learn sword, what do you want to learn?”