

Menu 981

Chapter 981: Rumor has it that you are...

"Alright."

Jason nodded almost without hesitation.

People always find certain things irresistible.

Some can't resist women.

Some can't resist pleas.

Some can't resist pain.

What about Jason?

Food.

There's no doubt that in the face of food, Jason needs an enormous amount of willpower to restrain himself from making mistakes.

And this is already the result of Jason's efforts.

In the beginning, Jason had no resistance at all.

Even made quite a few mistakes.

It is precisely because of such mistakes that Jason resolved to restrain himself.

Amid a fraught environment, Jason performed quite well.

But in ordinary circumstances...

Seeing the Monk from Tongshou Temple, his face full of joy, looking up at him, Jason fell silent.

Still not enough willpower!

He told himself that.

Then, Jason added very straightforwardly,

"I want to eat the specialty dish."

Having already made a promise, Jason, who always took his commitments seriously, would definitely not go back on his word.

Luckily, just enjoy some good food.

Jason made his choice with pure simplicity.

And the Monk from Tongshou Temple?

"No problem!"

He agreed just as readily.

Easing the sense of guilt in his heart was something the Monk from Tongshou Temple could not ask for more.

Moreover, in the Monk's view, Jason was just one person, how much could he possibly eat?

Surely it wouldn't be enough to eat him out of house and home, right?

Bear in mind that for a blissful retirement, he's saved up quite a nest egg.

Surely more than enough!

After this, I'll be able to start my retirement.

Move to the countryside and start anew!

Soak up the sun, tend to a couple of potted plants, dig out a pond, keep a dog, two cats, three chickens, four ducks, and five geese.

Play with the dog and cat when I'm bored.

Watch the chickens and ducks chase around.

Watch the geese guard the door.

Everything will be just so nice.

Thinking about it, the Monk from Tongshou Temple displayed a genuine smile from the heart.

However, he immediately suppressed that smile.

The deed wasn't done yet!

He looked seriously at Jason.

Jason might be strong, but facing the dangerous 'Silver District', the tradition of Tongshou Temple would definitely be of help, along with those artefacts.

Even though he lacked the power to use them himself, Jason certainly wouldn't have a problem.

With this in mind, the Monk from Tongshou Temple spoke up again.

"Master, when will you return with me to Tongshou Temple?"

"The inheritance process will take quite some time."

"A ceremony?"

"Don't worry, Tongshou Temple doesn't have that many formalities; we keep it simple and there aren't so many restrictions. You can eat and drink freely, even marrying is not forbidden, of course, it's places like gambling dens that you can't go to."

The Monk from Tongshou Temple said.

"How about waiting until after you treat me to a meal?"

"Remember, the specialty dish!"

Jason reminded him.

"No problem."

"The specialty dish of Silver District is beef!"

"I know a great restaurant that selects only the finest beef—each cut marbled with fat!"

"Even though it's pricey, I'll spare no expense to earn your forgiveness."

The Monk from Tongshou Temple once again conveyed his sincerity.

Jason nodded, a smile involuntarily spreading across his face.

Seeing such a smile, the Monk from Tongshou Temple breathed a sigh of relief.

The next moment, the secret technique to prevent eavesdropping was lifted.

Tsuchimikado Motoharu immediately came over.

Watching Tsuchimikado Motoharu approach, the Monk from Tongshou Temple turned to Jason and bowed with his hands together.

"I'll come to your office this evening, Master."

After saying this, the Monk from Tongshou Temple walked away.

Although he had received forgiveness from Jason, it did not mean the Monk wanted to deal with Tsuchimikado Motoharu.

Or rather, the Monk didn't want to deal with any Tsuchimikado at all.

Because it was really too much trouble.

Beneath their pleasant exteriors, each Tsuchimikado harbored a contrary heart.

Even if they are greatly indebted to you, even though they acknowledge your favor, their mouths would always say things like "I don't acknowledge you" and the like.

It was too frustrating.

Of course, what was more important was that the Monk from Tongshou Temple was worried about being seen through.

Given the Tsuchimikado's nature, once they serve someone as their lord,

Should they find someone has deceived their lord, they certainly would fight to the death.

And even after dealing with the deceiver, they would drown in remorse and act irrationally.

Like how he 'deceived' Jason to his face?

Tsuchimikado Motoharu would most likely choose to die as an apology.

So, it was better to leave.

And by the way, book the ticket to return to the countryside.

With these thoughts, the Monk from Tongshou Temple's steps grew more brisk.

In no time, he had disappeared from sight.

"My lord, would you like some refreshments and some hot tea?"

Without paying any attention to the departing Monk from Tongshou Temple, this Tsuchimikado respectfully asked Jason.

As a retainer, this Tsuchimikado had quite an eye for detail.

Though he guessed what his lord and the Monk from Tongshou Temple had just discussed, this was not the time to inquire.

"Sure."

Jason's gaze swept over the bean daifuku in Hui Lijing's hand and he nodded immediately.

Immediately, Tsuchimikado Motoharu sprang into action.

In less than three minutes, an impeccably presented tea service was brought out.

The tea snacks were split into three categories.

Namagashi, Han-Namagashi, and Higashi.

Three kinds of each, placed in nine neat square plates, arranged into a square resembling a tic-tac-toe board.

The colors looked appealing, and the aromas were rich.

Chapter 982: Rumor has it that you are... (2)

Jason casually picked up a piece of Daifuku, sweet.

Then another piece of wheat gluten sweets, sweet with a hint of saltiness.

Next, a piece of Hualin candy, crispy sweet.

Each plate of tea snacks was very delicate, but not many in number. After trying each, Jason was finishing each plate in one bite.

Tsuchimikado Motoharu watched Jason gobbling down the tea snacks without any disgust or discomfort.

Though surprised, he was filled with joy.

To bring joy to his lord was one of the responsibilities of his servants.

"Continue."

"Don't stop."

"Speed up."

Tsuchimikado Motoharu ordered the attendants.

And the tea artist also appeared before Jason, after a seamless performance, Jason frowned slightly as he picked up the hot tea.

If he hadn't seen wrongly just now, did they just add ginger foam to this tea?

Tea and ginger?

What kind of combination was that?

Thinking this to himself, Jason still drank up the tea in hand.

The bitter tea aroma came with a spiciness.

Then a sour taste appeared.

It was... cornelian cherry!

Jason's eyes slightly widened.

In his understanding, tea was simply brewing.

Hot water, a teacup, tea.

Pour hot water into a teacup, watch the tea leaves tumble, the aroma of tea fills the air, and that's the best there is.

If really unable to do so, the iced black tea from Kangshifu in the fridge was also acceptable, as was the Jasmine tea, especially those 1-liter big drink packs, on a hot summer's day, taking out a drink of Kangshifu's tea from the fridge and gulping it down, you would find the refreshment even more exhilarating.

But if the fatty water became flavored with chili, smoky, traditional Chinese medicine, or other weird flavors, most people wouldn't be able to accept it.

Not to mention tea.

At this moment, Jason was having some trouble accepting it.

"My lord, how do you find the tea ceremony?"

Tsuchimikado Motoharu asked by the side.

"The snacks are great, the tea..."

Jason truly didn't know how to comment.

And, bizarrely, 'Looking Up at the Starry Sky' began to surface in his mind.

A bunch of dead fish were staring at him with wide eyes.

It was too uncomfortable.

"True to the form of a lord, you have even discerned this."

"The tea does have some shortcomings."

"After all, the tea artist is just freshly graduated."

"Next time, I will invite a real Master."

Tsuchimikado Motoharu dismissed the tea artist with a face full of shame.

She was indeed a bit nervous just now, not to mention stirring a bit slower, and she used too little cornelian cherry, originally hoping to muddle through, but who knew it would be detected.

The other party's taste buds were really incredible.

And also, how elegant, she didn't even accuse her outright.

Instead, it was her, who actually harbored the thought of muddling through.

She was truly ashamed.

Compared to her base self, this guest truly was a scholar!

When did I become so pathetic?

Was it when I entered the renowned Tsuchimikado Family?

Or when I graduated from my teacher's tutelage?

I cannot go on like this!

I must return to my origins!

The thrill I felt when I first learned tea art!

The beliefs I held when I first studied tea art!

I must remember my original intention!

Remembering this, the tea artist Umiya Murasaki who had already retreated to the edge of the courtyard, bowed deeply to Jason from a distance before finally exiting the courtyard entirely.

"My lord, do you still want some tea snacks?"

Tsuchimikado Motoharu asked.

"Serve some."

After Jason replied, he pondered for a moment before continuing, "Has anything notable happened recently concerning the 'Mystical Side' of the Silver District?"

Jason really wanted to ask directly about things related to himself.

But to maintain his persona, he had to choose a more subtle approach.

After all, 'he' was just an outsider, asking about some local secrets was reasonable.

"Yes."

"There are two matters worth noting."

"One is, the Hanakaiin Court is preparing a new selection of talents from the branch family to join the main family."

"The second is, the matter of Tongshou Temple possessing the 'Fear' banner."

Tsuchimikado Motoharu briefly explained.

Upon seeing Jason nodding to continue, he elaborated.

"The Hanakaiin Court, starting from the thirteenth generation, the Family Head has been choosing outstanding talents from the branch families as adoptive sons to join the main family. Only the most talented can succeed as the head of the main family. This time is no exception. However, the main family has significant power, and naturally, certain branch families have started their scheming. Even with oversight, they would take the risk."

Tsuchimikado Motoharu spoke with a hint of disdain on his handsome face.

Clearly, the 'scheming' he referred to was beyond ordinary imagination.

Jason was not surprised by this.

Interest stirs the heart.

Not to mention such a family with an inheritance; it wouldn't be strange for them to do anything for the position of Family Head.

Plotting and framing should be child's play.

Murder and silence would be commonplace.

Even the so-called oversight could be bought.

The thrill of an athlete's competition is nothing compared to the referee being in cahoots with the athlete.

Moreover, such acts were likely condoned.

Only true cruelty could give birth to the finest talent.

Many in the Nightless City held this belief.

Jason knew this all too well.

"What about the 'Fear' banner?"

Jason inquired about what interested him more.

"The 'Fear' banner was left by the original demon commander. According to legend, it contains the secret to control all demons, but no one knows what it looks like."

"It's known that the 'Fear' banner is one of the hereditary artifacts of Tongshou Temple."

Tsuchimikado Motoharu spoke of what he knew, his face showing a measure of seriousness.

Previously, as a contender for the 'Fear' banner, Tsuchimikado Motoharu naturally had researched the whole matter.

He was very aware of how many eyes were on the 'Fear' banner.

Originally, these issues were headaches for the old monk of Tongshou Temple.

But now, his lord had become the Master of Tongshou Temple.

Headaches had become theirs to deal with.

What would be a prudent course of action?

Tsuchimikado Motoharu naturally assumed the role of a loyal retainer.

"How often does the matter of the 'Fear' banner being an artifact of Tongshou Temple come up?"

Jason asked.

If the 'Fear' banner had been passed down within Tongshou Temple since ancient times, that would be one thing.

But if it had only recently been revealed to have been passed down within Tongshou Temple... that would be very suspicious.

"This news comes from a hundred years ago!"

"It was discovered by an Onmyoji of the Kojiyu Family while sorting through ancestors' relics, recorded in ancient books—the book has been tested, it's not forged, it's genuine.

"The Kojiyu Family's ancestors and our ancestors had an unbreakable bond; they wouldn't deceive us. Moreover, the Kojiyu Family is extremely adept at divination. That Onmyoji inherited their ancestor's skills and confirmed through divination that the 'Fear' banner should indeed be in the hands of the Master of Tongshou Temple."

Tsuchimikado Motoharu immediately addressed what he guessed Jason wanted to ask, saying right away.

Jason remained noncommittal.

The book could indeed be from a hundred years ago; that wasn't in question.

But that didn't mean the whole affair was true.

Who could know what had happened since the hundred-year-old record until now?

As for an unbreakable bond?

That was between ancestors.

Without having gone through life-and-death together, it hardly constituted an unbreakable bond.

And as for the so-called divination?

That's the easiest thing to fake.

The art of divination could be genuine.

But would the Diviner be sincere?

Jason shook his head.

There were too many doubtful points.

Tsuchimikado Motoharu, seeing Jason shaking his head, also pondered.

"My lord, please leave this matter to me!"

"I'll confront that Onmyoji!"

"And uncover the truth behind it all!"

After a moment, Tsuchimikado Motoharu said this.

Then, a hint of hesitation appeared on Tsuchimikado Motoharu's face.

"What's the matter?"

Jason asked.

"This matter concerns you, my lord..."

"Speak."

Finally able to learn some information about 'himself,' Jason immediately perked up, urging Tsuchimikado Motoharu, who had suddenly stopped speaking.

Faced with Jason's prompt, Tsuchimikado Motoharu still hesitated.

In the end, the Tsuchimikado gritted his teeth and knelt before Jason once more.

"Please first forgive your servant for any offenses, so I dare to speak."

"You are innocent, speak."

Jason was very straightforward.

Hearing Jason's assurance, the Tsuchimikado still gritted his teeth and finally said —

"There are rumors that my lord, you are... the reincarnation of a calamity star."

Chapter 983: Powerful Choices and Upgrades!

Reincarnated as a catastrophe?

Jason was startled; he couldn't help but recall some incidents.

In Lorde, he was in a carriage filled with explosives, lighting a match.

At Hans Port, a meteor came crashing down, nearly annihilating the whole city.

In Newdeth City, the whole city was directly destroyed, or rather, simply ceased to exist.

During the time in Ang City, disasters followed like shadows, with the world behind the doors left shattered and broken.

In Cherry City, the battleship's main cannons kept firing and plowing the ground, plunging the world into chaos.

In District F, the Hundred Major Families were almost wiped out, and multiple planets were bound to be engulfed in ceaseless strife.

Looking at it this way, he seemed, apparently, really... reincarnated as a catastrophe.

No, no no!

This goes beyond being reincarnated as a catastrophe!

He is the catastrophe itself!

But can he be blamed for this?

None of these were his intention.

It was just... beyond his control.

All he wanted was to simply survive, to strengthen himself, and then, some things just went in unpredictable directions.

"I am innocent."

Jason silently thought in his heart.

But he didn't voice it out, merely nodding slightly.

Although he was half-coerced and half-innocent, the outcomes of events could not be disconnected from him.

To this, Jason would not deny.

When faced with facts, Jason was honest.

However, this doesn't mean he wouldn't inquire further.

"Where does this rumor come from?"

Jason asked.

Although Jason couldn't yet be sure of the rumor's origin, one thing was certain to him: whoever spread the rumor meant no good.

And in this copy of the world before him, he hadn't truly offended anyone.

So, there was only one possibility left.

This was trouble 'he' had caused before.

Thinking about the 'arrangements' filled in that diary.

Jason had more guesses in his heart.

Could it be those people who were after him?

Jason pondered.

Tsuchimikado Motoharu, watching Jason merely in thought and not at all enraged, couldn't help but breathe a sigh of relief.

Being called 'reincarnated as a catastrophe' is no small matter.

In the real world, being called 'reincarnated as a catastrophe' is likely just a way to scold someone.

But in the 'Mystical Side', being labeled as 'reincarnated as a catastrophe' carries an implication that can kill a person in spirit.

Without a deep-seated grudge, one would absolutely not make such remarks.

Once said, both parties will naturally be locked in a fight to the death.

As the lord who was the subject of the rumor, he must have been targeted; the other party wants to enrage the lord, then cause him to make strategic errors and fall completely into their pace.

Luckily, the lord was not angered.

Tsuchimikado Motoharu sighed with relief in his heart.

He once again felt grateful that the lord he encountered was not merely a brute with strength but no reason.

Otherwise, he would have been in a terrible predicament.

And now?

It's fortunate!

His lord was strong yet calm, and also held the identity of 'Tongshou Temple'. As long as he dedicatedly assists, even if faced with calamities under the banner of 'awe', they will definitely be safely overcome.

Afterward?

Then it would be the sky is high for birds to fly, and the sea is vast for fish to leap!

Thinking this, Tsuchimikado Motoharu didn't hesitate anymore.

"The news came from overseas."

"At the time to lay out the plans for the 'awe' flag, I specifically investigated information about you and that's how I got hold of this piece of news; the island should not have anyone who has had access to this information for the time being."

"The exact source will require me to dispatch someone to investigate."

Tsuchimikado Motoharu reported in full detail.

When he spoke of investigation, this Tsuchimikado Motoharu once again knelt and paid respects.

"Overseas?"

Jason narrowed his eyes, already having a clear understanding in his heart.

This rumor was spread by those who were after 'him'.

But one point puzzled Jason.

Those who were after 'him', although they set traps and used sly tricks, their methods were still considered 'straightforward', and had never employed such tactics before.

Had something happened?

As he thought, Jason directly asked, "Has anything happened recently in the 'Mystical Side' overseas?"

"Sorry, my lord!"

"The island has always been closed off."

"Please give me some time, I will dispatch someone to investigate and clarify as soon as possible."

Tsuchimikado Motoharu appeared ashamed.

Jason naturally wouldn't be dissatisfied.

In fact, for Jason, being able to easily obtain help from one side was already a perfect start.

Most of his time before, he had been fighting alone.

Although somewhat similar to those 'lone wolves' in Nightless City, Jason wouldn't mind having assistance.

Just like now.

"If there's any news, come notify me at the 'Mask X Cleaver X Meat' office as soon as possible."

"And about the previous matter."

Jason said this as he stood up.

"Understood."

"Lord, won't you stay?"

"Although simple here, it's quite spacious."

As Tsuchimikado Motoharu said this, Hui Lijing by the side pursed her lips.

Simple?

Let's not even mention the Luohan pine in the courtyard which people couldn't afford even with decades of salary.

Just maintaining the 'Startled Deer' already costs a staggering amount.

She certainly couldn't afford it.

That guy... probably could afford it.

Thinking of those items in her sister's bedroom, Hui Lijing couldn't help frowning; she always felt her sister must have gotten involved in some big trouble.

Thinking of this, Hui Lijing cast glances at Jason.

The Tsuchimikado Motoharu before her seemed quite extraordinary, with exceptional strength and power far beyond ordinary people's imagination.

If she could seek her sister with Tsuchimikado Motoharu's assistance...

As Hui Lijing was still pondering, Jason had already started speaking.

Chapter 984: Powerful Choices and Upgrades! (2)

"Tsuchimikado Motoharu, have you ever heard the name 'Hui Lixiang'?"

Jason asked.

"Is that a real name?"

Tsuchimikado Motoharu said and then looked towards Hui Lijing.

She nodded repeatedly.

"Yes, a real name!"

"It hasn't changed since birth."

Hui Lijing affirmed with certainty.

"I have never heard of this name."

Tsuchimikado Motoharu stated.

Immediately, Hui Lijing's face was filled with disappointment.

"However, I can send someone to investigate."

"If we have enough time, I can ask someone to divine."

Tsuchimikado Motoharu quickly added.

"Much appreciated!"

"How much will it cost?"

"Please, you must tell me."

Although Hui Lijng did not know how much money a divination would cost, she was certain it wouldn't be cheap.

Moreover, it was most likely that no amount of money could buy such an opportunity, it had to be orchestrated by someone of Tsuchimikado Motoharu's standing.

This would be incurring a debt of gratitude.

A debt of gratitude is hard to repay.

Hui Lijing had known this since childhood.

"No need."

"It's incidental, I was looking for that confrontation myself."

"Using your sister as an excuse will be a good pretext."

Tsuchimikado Motoharu shook his head unconcernedly.

Hearing this, a worried Hui Lijing was taken aback.

Then, Tsuchimikado Motoharu no longer paid any attention to the female detective.

Or rather, if it wasn't for her being with Jason, Tsuchimikado Motoharu wouldn't even spare her a glance.

Hui Lijing keenly felt this contempt.

It made her frown.

Felt uncomfortable inside.

But her basic rationality and emotions told her that it was best to keep her mouth shut at this moment.

"Master, is there anything inconvenient about being here with me?"

"Or is there anything lacking?"

"Please tell me, and I will prepare it immediately."

Tsuchimikado Motoharu still insisted, hoping that Jason would stay.

As a subject, being distant from his lord is something hard for Tsuchimikado Motoharu to accept, based on his beliefs.

"This place is good."

"If possible, I too would wish to stay."

"But... our enemies won't allow it."

Jason shook his head as he spoke.

"Enemies don't permit?"

The astute Tsuchimikado Motoharu was momentarily stunned, and then his eyes lit up as he guessed something.

"Are you suggesting?"

"To temporarily hide our relationship."

"We only met because of the 'Flag of Awe', and then, you 'let me off' out of respect for 'Master Tongshou Temple', let the enemies use their imaginations for the rest!"

Jason spoke, with a hint of a smile at the corner of his mouth.

He could already imagine how many people would come to Tsuchimikado Motoharu to probe for information.

And then?

Tsuchimikado Motoharu certainly knew what to do.

In fact, Tsuchimikado Motoharu already had several plans in mind to maximize his own interests.

"I understand, Master."

"I will have the driver take you."

"Please forgive me."

It should be him sending off Jason, but for the sake of the plan, Tsuchimikado Motoharu wisely made a choice.

Jason, however, wouldn't mind these details.

Driven by a middle-aged driver, Jason and Hui Lijing quickly returned to their neighborhood.

After watching Tsuchimikado Motoharu's driver leave, the female detective turned her head to look at the 'Polar Bear Cafe' sign, and then couldn't help but ask Jason: "Is the 'Mystical Side' always like this?"

"Not always."

"People like Tsuchimikado Motoharu who abide by rules are not too common."

Jason replied.

"He's considered abiding by the rules?"

"What about those who don't abide by rules?"

The female detective, recalling Tsuchimikado Motoharu's recent contempt, rolled her eyes in anger.

But at this moment, she was more concerned about those who did not follow the rules.

According to Jason's tone, even people like Tsuchimikado were considered good.

What about those who were even worse?

What would they be like?

Facing Hui Lijing's inquiring gaze, Jason slowly said.

"Believe me, you wouldn't want to encounter that kind of person."

"They no longer consider themselves human."

"They consider themselves superior, they believe themselves to be gods."

"Treating ordinary people?"

"Much like how one would regard ants."

As his partner, Jason thought it necessary to make Hui Lijing understand the reality of the 'Mystical Side'.

He certainly did not want to waste energy finding a new partner.

As for Tsuchimikado Motoharu?

Perhaps with Tsuchimikado Motoharu's support, it would be easier to complete the main mission.

But as an undercover asset, Tsuchimikado Motoharu's role could be even greater.

"Ants?"

"They, they?"

Hui Lijing was stupefied, her speech stuttering involuntarily.

"When you were a child, did you ever pour boiling water into an anthill? Have you used a magnifying glass to burn ants under the sunlight?"

"At that time, didn't you laugh with joy?"

"Your joy back then is the same as those people's attitude toward ordinary humans."

Jason stated another, even more cruel truth.

The female detective listened, shivering with not cold but fear.

If it really was as Jason described, how terrifying would the 'Mystical Side' be?

Wanton slaughter!

Bloodshed without guilt!

Fields of corpses!

And...

Wait!

Suddenly, the female detective thought of something.

"It can't be that everyone is like that, can it?"

"If they were all like that, the whole world would be destroyed!"

The female detective asserted with certainty.

Jason did not contradict this, merely nodding his head.

"Of course not."

"Just like there are laws in our world."

"The 'Mystical Side' also has its own rules."

"That's good, that's good."

The female detective breathed a long sigh of relief.

But before she could let out that breath completely,

Jason spoke again.

"But rules change."

"Because the people who make the rules are always changing."

"So, you can hope the other person won't change, or the new successor maintains the original ideals, but it is better to rely on oneself than others, understand?"

Faced with Jason's question, Hui Lijing nodded blankly.

Of course, she understood Jason's meaning.

Rather than extravagantly hoping for the goodness of others, it was far more reliable to become powerful oneself.

If one could become the person who makes the rules, then...

Hui Lijing was still thinking when Jason started walking upstairs.

At that moment, the sun rose above the horizon.

The warmth of the morning sun dispersed the night's cold, bringing light to the whole world.

Hui Lijing raised her head to watch Jason ascend the stairs, the morning sunlight intermingling with his silhouette, making him appear as if he was bathed in the light, somewhat dazzling.

"The person who makes the rules, huh?"

Hui Lijing murmured softly.

With Jason's perception, he heard this phrase very clearly.

He shook his head inwardly.

He certainly understood what Hui Lijing meant.

He frankly admitted that he too wanted to be that kind of person.

But, it was far too out of reach.

Even after achieving his current level, he felt like he was just getting started.

Reaching the second floor, Jason looked down and saw Hui Lijing still standing below. After pondering for a moment, he said,

"Newcomer, welcome to the 'Mystical Side'."

"Ah?"

Hui Lijing looked up reflexively, and at that moment, Jason had already entered the room, leaving behind only the sound of the door closing.

Inside the room, Urashima had already left.

This young policeman had left a note near the porch.

It roughly read: Thanking Jason for his 'shelter', and then stating the need to pick up Ryosuke, and at last, expressed gratitude again.

"Pick up Ryosuke?"

"He didn't take the car down the mountain?"

Jason thought in surprise, then shook his head, no longer paying attention to these details.

After all, he had more important matters to attend to.

His satiety level, and the Excitement of Feast, were already sufficient to enhance [Protection Against Evil] to the Transcendent level.

He'd refrained from choosing to do so before due to concerns about safety in the surroundings.

Now?

Having a rough grasp of the situation, Jason started setting up the [Kaya Seal] in the room.

After filling every corner of the room with [Kaya Seal], Jason took a deep breath, stood at the center of the room, and declared—

"Increase the rank of [Protection Against Evil]!"

Chapter 985: True. Standing Post!

[Consuming 80 points of satiation and 20 points of Excitement of Feast, Protection Against Evil unparalleled → transcendent, analyzing...]

When these words appeared in front of Jason, elevating [Protection Against Evil] to master level, the darkness of the unparalleled level emerged again.

Jason was well-prepared for this.

The odd sensations brought by successive upgrades of [Protection Against Evil] had prepared him well.

Therefore, when the words appeared, Jason's body tensed, readying him for battle.

The correctness of such preparation was proven by—

The rustling sounds of insects crawling.

The flapping sounds of birds flying.

The heavy footsteps of large animals moving.

At this moment, these sounds filled Jason's ears.

Although he could not see his hand in front of his face, everything heard was incredibly clear.

There was no buffer as before when [Protection Against Evil] was elevated to master level, to unparalleled level.

In almost an instant, these sounds reached Jason's finances.

Then, they broke through the limits of the unparalleled level.

Thump, thump thump!

Jason's heart pounded violently.

Spots of light burst forth from the Dufol Language sl oT Yn imprinted on his heart.

They rapidly began to connect.

However, the monsters in the darkness were faster.

The next moment!

They launched an attack!

Like a tidal wave!

Yi!

Without hesitation, Jason enveloped his body with the protective field of [Protection Against Evil].

Then, he felt a heaviness in his body, as if something had collided against him.

Bang!

After the dull sound, there was the sizzling of cold water dropped into hot oil and screams.

"Aaahhh!"

Jason could clearly hear the sound of heavy objects falling in the screams.

Then, before Jason could discern more precisely, more monster attacks swarmed in.

The protective field of [Protection Against Evil] was broken almost instantaneously.

Yi!

Jason quickly replenished it once and began dodging the incoming attacks with agile steps.

These dodging techniques not only included master-level, Barehanded Combat but skills from the 'Griffin series' and some Stealth and Concealment techniques, of course, also Jason's instincts honed over hundreds and thousands of battles, his unique 'my style'.

When these skills were combined with Jason's Night Watcher professional talent [Agile], his seemingly large and strong body became more agile than a cat, more nimble than a hummingbird.

Darkness?

That did not hinder Jason.

With perception over eight times that of normal people, Jason was not restrained here.

On the contrary, it felt like a fish in water.

And when Jason simply closed his eyes, the professional talent [Blind Fighting] quickly took effect, making him more comfortable.

It seemed...

Professional talents [Soul][Blind Fighting] were born for this moment.

And the initial professional talent [Vigilance] as well!

'Night Watcher' and the advanced profession 'Night Sentinel' were all for this moment.

What about the subsequent professions, were they also for this moment?

Jason wondered to himself.

Becoming increasingly curious about everything before him.

What kind of existence, to counter the present darkness and the monsters within it, had established such a complete 'system'?

If Jason had previously been guessing, unable to confirm the origins of the current darkness and the monsters in it, now, he could be sure.

This should be considered a confrontation!

A confrontation that created the 'Night Watcher' professional system against the darkness.

Everything at the moment is presumably what the opponent left in the professional system, as the core skill [Protection Against Evil] has its marks.

As for why leave this mark?

It could be that the existence was too powerful.

Or perhaps it was to warn those who come after.

Jason could not know.

He only knew that he needed to pass this 'mark' test, otherwise... everything would be over.

He didn't know at what level other Night Watchers passed this test, but he knew his level was insufficient!

In the absence of subsequent Night Watcher professions, choosing to advance with his unique talent and cultivation method left him without the 'safety' of other Night Watchers.

This was glaringly obvious.

In the two initial professions of the 'Night Watcher', both were preparations for this moment.

Naturally, the subsequent advanced professions were as well.

Thus, this was quite disadvantageous for Jason.

Yi!

Another instantaneous [Protection Against Evil].

After this instantaneous [Protection Against Evil], Jason used up all the replicated Seal Imprints.

He took a deep breath, facing the seemingly endless, inexhaustible monsters, and raised his hand.

Dodging was no longer an option.

He didn't know how other Night Watchers would deal with everything before them.

Nor did he know when the end of enduring this situation would come.

But he knew, by continuing this way, he would only exhaust his physical strength.

Therefore, he took the initiative to strike.

He wanted to solve the problem before him with his methods—

[Protection Against Evil]'s force field enveloped the front.

A War Machine level special force field began ruthlessly crushing everything in front.

Jason quickly advanced, gasped, and then struck again.

Just like before, only Jason's breathing became harsher, but this in no way hindered him as he struck back once more.

After releasing this strike of [Protection Against Evil], Jason's panting sounded like a broken bellows.

Chapter 986: True. Standing Post Masturbation! (2)

Without a doubt, Jason had already reached his limit at this time.

The power of [Protection Against Evil] was undoubtedly strong.

As long as it was a creature of negative energy, most of the time it could be killed in one hit; if not in one, then in two attempts, or even a third, fourth, or fifth if necessary.

In any case, a very handy skill.

But the consumption of physical strength was also tremendous.

Even for Jason with physical strength nearly 7 times that of ordinary people and Master-level time management for resting, he had reached his limit after several uses.

Roar!

Roar, roar!

The monsters seemed to sense Jason's panting and exhaustion.

One after another, they let out roars, low and high, charging at Jason.

Then, Jason, who should have been exhausted, once again raised his hand—

Sl oT Yn!

'i!

The force field of [Protection Against Evil] was unleashed again.

Death followed accordingly.

Feeling the scent of death permeating Jason's body, the monsters around were caught off guard by the final [Protection Against Evil], yet they still roared as though in triumph.

Their roars were full of desperation.

In the darkness, they boasted of their prowess in this way.

Yet suddenly, such roars ceased abruptly.

The pervasive scent of death vanished.

Jason was revived.

With vibrant vitality, he did not hesitate to cast another [Protection Against Evil].

Then, calmly embrace death.

And after that, be revived again, and cast another [Protection Against Evil].

Death reappeared once more.

But soon after, there was another revival.

The monsters in the darkness were thoroughly confused.

Confused by the spectacle before them.

And stupefied by the relentless [Protection Against Evil] force.

They had never before encountered an enemy like Jason.

Not only would they revive after death, but they also stood like a turret, continuously firing a barrage called [Protection Against Evil].

Maybe after another three or five times, the dazed monsters finally came to their senses.

Once again they roared.

And then, they charged!

More ferociously and fiercely than before.

Retreat?

The idea simply didn't exist in their minds.

From their birth, their blood was infused with slaughter.

Slaughter those who dared enter the darkness.

Using the fresh blood and souls of the living to expand the darkness to a greater area.

So, it was a fight to the death for both sides.

Time passed by, second by second.

The battle continued.

The two parties in this deathmatch could be said to be evenly matched.

One side with innumerable many, endless.

The other nearly immortal, with resilient will.

It was as if two sharp swords were clashing, sparks flying in all directions, with both sides suffering damage.

Jason's brows knitted slightly.

His satiety was rapidly decreasing.

He had 'died' 30 times already.

He still had about 459+ lives remaining.

Although sustaining this for a period was definitely not a problem, there would eventually come a time when the satiety would be exhausted, and then he would truly die.

There must be a way to break this cycle!

Jason was certain.

But, with his incomplete professional information, and never having met his own teacher, this 'obvious' method of breaking the cycle would have to be figured out by himself.

Therefore, while continuing to fight the monsters in the darkness, he was also observing his surroundings.

Pitch darkness all around.

Completely blind to his surroundings.

Jason had no choice but to move his feet, starting to explore further into the distance.

One step, one death.

A hundred steps, a hundred deaths.

But still, darkness.

All that his eyes could see was darkness.

Not a single ray of light.

Wait...

Light!

Jason suddenly thought of something.

And immediately, a phrase in the Dufol Language escaped his lips—

Bi!

A dazzling light erupted from Jason's hands.

Instantly, the surrounding darkness was dispelled.

Countless hideous monsters were revealed.

These creatures, which had never encountered 'light' since their birth, were now completely blinded, screaming in agony as they fell to the ground.

Jason quickly advanced forward, passing through layers of monsters.

In the instant when the light burst forth, he had seen everything clearly.

This was a place akin to a wasteland.

With a vista that could be completely taken in at a glance, only a solitary stone cottage stood out boldly.

Jason naturally targeted that location.

After several breaths and igniting the [Flash Technique] twice more, Jason arrived in front of the stone cottage door.

After a brief probe to ensure there were no dangers, he pushed the door open.

The door was made entirely of metal and somewhat heavy.

Creak, creak.

Amidst the friction noise between the door hinge and frame, the door opened, and Jason illuminated the inside with the [Flash Technique].

This is—

A kitchen?

Jason was somewhat taken aback.

But the pots, pans, and utensils inside the house clearly told him this.

Cautiously, Jason stepped inside.

As soon as his entire figure entered, all the monsters outside came to a halt, as if a tide had stopped.

They roared around the stone cottage.

But none dared enter here.

This gave Jason a bit of relief.

Then, he once again turned his attention inside the stone cottage, searching carefully.

Besides the existing pots, pans, and utensils, there was also firewood but no food ingredients or condiments. Jason picked up the firewood, and flames flickered in his hand.

Crack, crack.

The sound crisply echoed as the firewood rapidly lit up.

Jason used the firewood as a candle to take another look at the stone cottage.

This time, he quickly found something of worth to him.

Chapter 987: True. Standing Post Masturbation! (3)

An hourglass, a book.

The sands of time in the hourglass trickled down a thread.

The book was open, revealing only one page.

On it was written: 177/1000

Jason's mind raced with guesses at the sight of the hourglass and book, and to confirm his conjecture, he took a brief rest before heading towards the door again.

Without truly stepping outside.

Jason remained on the threshold, yet even so, the firewood in his hands was immediately extinguished.

But this did not hinder him; Jason raised his hand and cast a [Protection Against Evil].

Sl oT Yn!

'i!

The monsters surging around the stone house were instantly engulfed by the [Protection Against Evil].

Amidst the monsters' shrieks, Jason returned indoors, rekindled the firewood, and looked back at the hourglass and notebook.

The sands in the hourglass continued to flow.

The number on the notebook had changed.

178/1000!

The monster he had just killed was now counted.

"So, if I kill a certain number of monsters within a set time, I can complete the [Protection Against Evil] assessment?"

"Then..."

"What happens if I exceed that number?"

A gleam of light sparked in Jason's slightly narrowed eyes.

His brain whirled into action.

Undoubtedly, this must be the key place for the 'Night Watcher's core skill [Protection Against Evil] to advance.

Here, the 'Night Watcher' who had cast [Protection Against Evil] could rest thoroughly before fighting the monsters again, of course, it's not a leisurely battle.

The nearby hourglass said it all.

The stipulated time!

With this in mind, a 'Night Watcher' arriving here must do their utmost.

Although Jason didn't know the possibility of failing the [Protection Against Evil] advancement assessment.

However, if possible, he never wanted to find out.

"My physique is 6.8 times that of an ordinary person, and my recovery rate surpasses the average person."

"Moreover, my Talent and the recovery power of [Battle Rune. Prus. Griffin. Shadow Forge Body Forging Technique] give me more opportunities."

"And..."

"Flash Technique!"

Jason's gaze swept over his remaining 1078 points of satiety before naturally settling on the [Flash Technique].

The recent success could be greatly credited to the Flash Technique.

He had acted on the assumption, never considering skills outside the 'Night Watcher' profession.

But did others think of it?

They must have.

Yet, who would level up [Flash Technique] to Master?

Even for him, with the advantage of satiety and Excitement of Feast and various fortunate coincidences, promoting [Flash Technique] to Master required much effort.

Ordinary people simply wouldn't spend so much energy.

Most people would likely delve into researching inherently stronger, core techniques.

Like [Protection Against Evil]!

Jason was certain, that the predecessor 'Night Watcher' who modified [Protection Against Evil] to be cast remotely must have been determined to improve it after facing this kind of situation, to facilitate future 'Night Watchers'.

"Thank you."

Jason said with sincere gratitude.

As a beneficiary, he felt such thanks were necessary.

Even though he didn't know the person, the scene before him elicited his sincerity.

Standing in the doorway, Jason repeatedly cast [Protection Against Evil].

Exhausted, he returned to the house to rest and replenish his Physical Strength using the Breathing Method of [Battle Rune. Prus. Griffin. Shadow Forge Body Forging Technique], resting enough before standing in the doorway once more to casually release a [Protection Against Evil].

Swiftly, the numbers in the book changed at an accelerating rate—

$179/1000!$

$180/1000!$

$181/1000!$

...

$1024/1000!$

...

$2048/1000!$

...

$10000/1000!$

When the number broke through to ten times the original requirement, Jason leaned gasping for breath against the door frame, two steps away from the cabin, looking at the hourglass.

At that moment, there was still a thread of sand left.

The record book, however, started to glow faintly.

Looking at this scene, Jason let out a slight sigh of relief.

All the hard work was not in vain!

You must understand, after completing the basics, Jason advanced towards his set goals.

Twice the basic goal, thrice, four times...

Yet there were no changes no matter what.

And the sands in the hourglass dwindled ever more.

This made Jason even more anxious; he had no choice but to resort to his limit state again.

Naturally, under such a condition, death was inevitable, especially when some of the monsters that appeared later could touch the doorframe.

This was not beyond Jason's expectation.

Among many monsters, it was reasonable for some to be particularly strong,

Just as among a group of people, a few particularly strong individuals would emerge.

However, what happened next was somewhat beyond Jason's expectations.

With the appearance of these stronger monsters, the other ordinary monsters that originally fought only on instinct seemed to suddenly become intelligent. They no longer chaotically blocked the stone house's doorway, instead choosing to move to the sides, out of Jason's direct line of sight. This forced Jason to stand in the doorway to effectively spot a few monsters.

After that, these monsters became even more troublesome.

They not only kept their distance from the stone house, hiding outside the range of [Protection Against Evil]'s long-range attacks.

But what concerned Jason even more was that they learned to ambush and plot.

When they completely moved away from the house, forcing Jason to step out to spot them, these monsters circled back and blocked Jason's way back.

That was the first time.

In subsequent encounters, these ordinary monsters began digging traps.

Even, on several occasions, they used themselves as 'bait', then let the stronger monsters attack Jason.

This caught Jason off guard.

Without a doubt, this was done under the command of the powerful monsters.

Under such coordination from the monsters, even with a 'safe cabin', Jason died no less than a hundred times.

But what was more important was that in addition to physical strength, the battle of wits and bravery with the monsters also drained Jason of... mental energy.

This forced Jason to spend even more time recovering.

As he watched time dwindling down, thinking about whether to fight more aggressively,

The change finally happened.

Jason stared wide-eyed at the book.

The numbers faded, and words started to appear—

Being called a mimosa by Him... so happy (*^▽^*).

Chapter 988: Baptism. Promotion!

Him?

Mimosa?

Looking at the text that appeared in the glow, Jason was stunned.

It wasn't that he couldn't understand the meaning of the sentence; it was just a surprise.

The meaning of the sentence was quite clear—it must be words recorded with joy by the writer after receiving praise from another person.

The last emoticon said it all.

At any other time, Jason wouldn't be surprised.

Such emotions are normal, filled with happiness and excitement.

But such words appearing in this monster-surrounded 'safe house' filled him with surprise.

Then, endless contemplation followed.

Who is He?

Who is Mimosa?

Who would use Mimosa as a name?

That seems odd; even using a string of numbers would make more sense.

No!

Neither makes sense.

Clearly a fake name.

Or should I say...

Yes, a pet name?

Jason felt an inexplicable lump in his throat.

The scent of dog food emerged out of nowhere around his nose.

Is it popular now to lure dogs inside and then kill them?

And more so, under the conditions that ordinary people cannot enter and that most on the 'Mystical Side' cannot trigger, is it because... showing off in front of ordinary people is no longer satisfying?

Must this be done to display 'true love'?

You two are so great, why not ascend to divinity together?

The 'energy' caught in his throat quickly became 'energy' squeezed in his chest, and Jason felt the urge to vent.

However, Jason continued to pay attention to the changes in the book.

Quickly, more text appeared—

All the top-quality ingredients here have been collected, leaving only some scraps. I still need to gather some main ingredients; must get the main dish for the celebration feast done before His return!

Come on, Mimosa, you can do it $\phi(*)$ ♪

...

Text appeared, the glow becoming denser.

Then, it dispersed together.

Like a campfire falling apart, turning into spots of light, like dancing fireflies.

These light spots didn't disappear, they just floated in the house, quite beautiful.

Leaving Jason dumbfounded.

Besides the persisted, full mouth of dog food, Jason was more concerned about the term 'top-quality ingredients.'

Here?

Top-quality ingredients?

Scraps?

Jason's eyes instinctively turned towards the direction of the door.

In this dark, desolate place, it seems that the 'ingredients' are the monsters outside.

But he didn't smell any scent of 'food' from those monsters.

After a slight pause, Jason lightly tapped his forehead.

He had fallen into a misconception again.

It's not only ingredients with a 'food' scent that are considered ingredients.

It should be that anything edible can be classified as an ingredient.

Moreover, his inability to detect the 'scent of food' is probably due to his insufficient abilities.

Or perhaps he hasn't found the key to obtaining 'ingredients.'

Keep in mind, under the field of [Protection Against Evil], those monsters turned into dense black smoke upon death.

This self-proclaimed 'Mimosa' must possess superb cooking skills.

Jason looked around at the pots and pans, quickly coming to a realization.

The stone house in front of him was clearly an abandoned kitchen.

At that time, 'Mimosa' collected top-quality ingredients here for his beloved, processed them simply, and then left, leaving only some scraps...

Jason's eyes narrowed slightly.

The monsters that had given him a hard fight were just scraps others didn't bother with?

Then the strength of the other party...

Jason's thoughts were suddenly interrupted.

He realized another point he'd overlooked.

This is the 'Seal Imprint Test' left by [Protection Against Evil], what's the relationship between the other party and [Protection Against Evil]?

It can't be that the other party created [Protection Against Evil]?

Jason's brows involuntarily furrowed.

Shouldn't it be a hero who fought hard here to dispel darkness and protect the world and finally created [Protection Against Evil]?

Right!

It must be that way!

It couldn't be that a caring little chef temporarily processed ingredients here for his beloved, thus creating [Protection Against Evil].

Jason thought to himself, and the text in front of him appeared again—

[Judgment passed!]

[Protection Against Evil ascended to Transcendent!]

[Protection Against Evil (Transcendent)]: You have become extraordinary among many masters who use this secret technique of Seal Imprint, enhancing it with a special strength upon the original foundation, and combining a similar power to strengthen it! This allows you to move unimpeded through the city, suburbs, and wilderness at night, ignoring the lurking malice in darkness, but you still need to consume a significant amount of Physical Strength to activate this secret technique of Seal Imprint! Remember: although your unimpeded access includes but is not limited to the city, its suburbs, outlying areas, and even wilderness, you still cannot approach places farther away! You cannot step into the abyss—that is the warning from the Night Watcher predecessors! As one of the Night Watchers, you should heed this warning! Just as in the heritage of the Night Watcher you possess! Once, a certain Night Watcher made minor adjustments to this Seal Imprint. Hence, you’ve mastered such long-range attack skills; similarly, the changes you make to the Seal Imprint can also be added to this heritage! Effects: 1, A special force field attached to the surface of the body, which not only defends against attacks of negative energy creatures (strong level), but can also Dispel them and their powers (strong level); 2, You can target the force of dispelling evil within a radius of 30 meters with you at the center against creatures or objects for a long-range attack.]

Chapter 989: Baptism. Ascension! (2)

...

[Protection Against Evil has reached the Transcendent level, you will automatically acquire the fixed Talent: Master Transcendent Glyph Replication]

[Master Transcendent Glyph Replication: This is an upgrade of Master Glyph Replication, allowing you to pre-store four instances of Protection Against Evil, with the same consumption as regular Protection Against Evil; thanks to your improvements, it can now last for 7 days without gradually losing strength—only at the end of the 7th day will the power of the Seal Imprint of Protection Against Evil completely disappear; you can replenish it at any time within the 7 days; release requires only the brief incantation of Dufol Language (Yi)]

...

Strong level?

Higher than War Machine level!

And away from the city, the wilderness is essentially the abyss?

Jason was collecting necessary information through the description of the skills in front of him.

His heart started beating violently again.

Thump, thump!

Representing sl oT Yn, the Dufol Language symbols branded on Jason's heart shone with an unprecedented brilliance.

Jason had anticipated this.

Transcendent was so different.

Naturally, there would be corresponding changes.

Indeed, this was the case.

As the radiant light of sl oT Yn completely merged into one, the blood flowing through the heart became suffused with such brilliance—it had been similarly tinted when passing through the heart before.

But it wasn't nearly as glorious as this time.

The bright red blood seemed to be endowed with light at this moment.

Dazzling and blinding.

Gradually, as the blood circulated throughout the body, the dazzling brilliance also filled the veins.

[Protection Against Evil has reached the Transcendent level!]

[Judgment in progress...]

[Qualified to undergo the Transcendent Baptism!]

[Transcendent Baptism judgment in progress...]

...

Baptism?!

Jason looked at this term with anticipation.

At that moment, the light spots floating inside the stone house, as if having found their target, swarmed towards Jason's body.

Upon just contacting Jason's body, the light spots automatically merged into it.

The dazzling brilliance became even more blinding.

Moreover, the light that originally filled only the veins began to rapidly spread towards the internal organs, muscles, and bones.

Almost in the blink of an eye, Jason became a luminous being from the inside out.

He looked down at his glowing self.

No discomfort at all.

Only pleasure.

Only the perceptible increase in power.

The internal organs became more vigorous.

The muscle fibers became thicker.

The bones became stronger and more solid.

Jason was certain this was not an illusion.

The text before his eyes was proof of that—

[Unknown energy integrates into the Transcendent Baptism, judgment in progress...]

[Judgment passed!]

[Transcendent Baptism enhanced!]

[All attributes +1]

...

The increase in all attributes filled Jason with joy.

But it didn't end there.

The light spots that had merged into Jason's body, after enhancing his physique, began to surge towards Jason's heart.

Or more accurately, towards the sl oT Yn set of Dufol Language symbols.

As the source of the brilliance, the sl oT Yn greedily absorbed these primal forces.

In just a second, the radiantly shining sl oT Yn acquired a faint silvery hue.

The previous brilliance, though dazzling, was only white.

Even if it was blinding to the eyes, it was still white.

But now, the white began to shift towards silver.

A qualitative change!

Watching this scene, the word "transformation" emerged in Jason's mind.

The change continued.

Until the sl oT Yn set of Dufol Language was completely enveloped in silvery brilliance, and then it stopped.

The text before Jason's eyes flowed out like a waterfall.

[Unknown energy integrates into Protection Against Evil, judgment in progress...]

[Judgment passed!]

[Protection Against Evil upgraded!]

[Protection Against Evil → Evil-Slaying Slash!]

[Evil-Slaying Slash (Basic): It is the advanced skill of Protection Against Evil. Only those warriors who have truly approached the abyss and possess unwavering willpower can master it. Within the Night Watcher, only a handful can; its power is more potent, no longer just a special force field, but also has a Sharpness akin to that of a 'sword'. It also consumes more Physical Strength; Effects: 1. Can perform a strike on negative energy creatures with bare hands, attached to a weapon (force field above the Strong level, with Sharpness of the Strong level), or you can execute a defensive act (force field above the Strong level, with increased Penetration protection); 2. You can unleash the Evil-Slaying Slash, targeting any creature or item within a 35-meter radius, centered on you, for a long-range attack.]

[Protection Against Evil upgraded to Evil-Slaying Slash; Master Transcendent Glyph Replication upgraded to storing Evil-Slaying Slashes. Store!]

[Evil-Slaying Slashes Store: Store three Evil-Slaying Slashes within the body, they can exist for 7 days; the power of the Evil-Slaying Slashes won't gradually weaken within the 7 days, only completely disappearing at the end of the 7th day; can be replenished at any time within the 7 days; to release, one only needs to silently think Yi in one's heart to lock onto the target within a 35-meter radius]

...

"Evil-Slaying Slash?"

"Is this the reward for exceeding the goal?"

"Not bad!"

Jason, looking at the skills promoted from [Protection Against Evil], had an intensifying excitement in his eyes.

Not to mention the further increased power of the special force field, but the added feature of Sharpness alone made it much more useful for him!

Against those negative energy creatures with heavy armor, the dual strikes would make his victory all the more effortless.

Chapter 990: Baptism. Promotion! (3)

If attached to a weapon that is quite sharp, that would be a single attack plus a double slash!

And he happened to have a fairly good weapon: a short-handled Broad Blade Cleaver.

Jason stood in place, meticulously feeling the changes within his body.

At this moment, the last grain of sand in the hourglass quietly fell.

Jason's vision blurred.

When he opened his eyes again, he had returned to the 'Mask X Cleaver X Flesh' office.

The surrounding Kaya Seals had not been triggered.

Outside the window, the sun had already reached its zenith.

Several hours had passed.

But he had spent at least two days in the 'Mark Trial' just now.

To this, Jason was not at all surprised.

An existence capable of creating Protection Against Evil, and even Evil-Slaying Slash, could blur time at a certain level without too much difficulty.

What truly caught his attention was the existence of Evil-Slaying Slash.

Or rather, at which stage of a regular profession would a Night Watcher learn this skill.

It wasn't just out of curiosity.

He also wanted to understand the level of his current strength.

However, the lack of information made it impossible for him to judge.

"Return to Lorde?"

Jason pondered.

But immediately, he shook his head.

He believed he was not strong enough; returning for revenge would still be too difficult, and now he had achieved the advancement skill Evil-Slaying Slash, an upgrade of Protection Against Evil!

He could continue to grow stronger!

Then let's continue to become stronger!

Reach the limit once again!

And then, seek a breakthrough!

Breakthrough after breakthrough!

Breakthrough until he was strong enough to seek revenge!

Or rather, if he could not break through and hit a real bottleneck, then he would risk a return to Lorde.

Of course, that would be a last resort.

It would be best to continue to make breakthroughs.

However, it was too early to talk about these things now.

You should know, his Evil-Slaying Slash was just at the basic level.

Upgrading to Transcendent could wait until later.

"Evil-Slaying Slash from basic to beginner requires... 200 points of satiety and 30 points of Excitement of Feast?!"

Even with mental preparation, Jason was shocked by such requirements for satiety and Excitement of Feast.

Keep in mind, this is just the beginning from basic to beginner.

What about becoming Proficient, Master?

Expert, and then Transcendent again?

How much satiety and Excitement of Feast will they require?

After a brief shock, Jason immediately became excited.

Tempered by the Nightless City, he never feared difficulties, what he feared was having no hope at all.

And now?

The more it required, the stronger the Evil-Slaying Slash would be.

He, for one, desired it greatly.

"I currently have 698 satiety points, 0 Excitement of Feast."

"This is not enough to allow me to use my Talent to upgrade [War Pattern. Prus. Griffin. Shadow Hidden Body Forging Technique]!"

"I must have more satiety."

"Of course, Excitement of Feast would be best."

Jason chose his own Talent, which meant that the grade limitation of Protection Against Evil was applied to the grade of [War Pattern. Prus. Griffin. Shadow Hidden Body Forging Technique]. Now that Protection Against Evil has reached Transcendent, and even advanced to Evil-Slaying Slash, this has created even more upgrade potential for [War Pattern. Prus. Griffin. Shadow Hidden Body Forging Technique], which Jason was very much looking forward to.

This left him almost unable to resist going out hunting.

But he restrained himself.

Not just because the 'demons' in the current replica world were different.

But also because he distinctly heard footsteps on the stairs.

The next moment, knocking on the door sounded.

Thump, thump thump!

Accompanying the urgent knocking was also that anxious, panicked voice—

"Help, please help me!"