

My Beast Is the 12-Winged Angel

#Chapter 11: Abyss Level Trial! - Read My Beast Is the 12-Winged Angel Chapter 11: Abyss Level Trial!

Chapter 11: Chapter 11: Abyss Level Trial!

On the other side.

Under Xu Feng's guidance, Gu Xing arrived at a well-decorated meeting room.

After signaling Liu Li to wait outside, Gu Xing pushed the door open and entered.

As soon as he entered, his gaze was immediately drawn to the dark blue figure seated at the head of the table.

City Lord Xia Xiu stood respectfully to the side.

This detail made Gu Xing instantly aware that this extraordinary middle-aged man was far above the city lord in terms of status.

Seeing Gu Xing enter the room, Xia Xiu immediately stood up to introduce:

"Student Gu Xing, this is the chief of the Southern Military Region, Wei Yuan!"

Wei Yuan?!

Gu Xing's pupils slightly constricted.

This name in Longxia Country was renowned—

A Monarch Level Beast Master, the pillar of the Southern Battle Zone, truly capable of turning the tide in national crises.

"Greetings to the City Lord and the Chief."

Regaining his composure, Gu Xing respectfully saluted each of them.

Wei Yuan nodded slightly, his deep eyes scrutinizing Gu Xing, and said gently:

"Student Gu Xing, congratulations on obtaining an SSS-class potential rating in the newbie trial."

"Thank you, Chief. However, I suppose the Chief called me here for another matter."

Seeing Xia Xiu standing to the side like a transparent figure, Gu Xing understood that the one who truly wanted to see him...

Should be this chief of the Southern Military Region, Wei Yuan!

Yet he couldn't fathom why a military area chief would take the initiative to meet him.

Though he excelled in the newbie trial.

A genius that hasn't matured isn't truly a genius.

Witnessing Gu Xing's composed demeanor, a hint of admiration flashed in Wei Yuan's eyes.

When he received the news of Gu Xing's SSS-class rating midway, his first reaction was skepticism.

After all, in Longxia Country, talents of this level were incredibly rare.

For a border town like Lin Yuan City to produce an SSS-class rated genius was nearly impossible.

He initially thought this talent achieved the SSS-class rating through some "trick."

But seeing Gu Xing's guardian beast in person dispelled that thought instantly.

The aura emanating from that guardian beast had clearly surpassed the Epic Level!

With a Legendary Level guardian beast, obtaining an SSS-class rating was only logical.

"Student Gu Xing, I do have a favor to ask."

Wei Yuan said, his gaze lightly sweeping towards Xia Xiu.

The city lord immediately understood, respectfully exiting the room, yet his mind was tumultuous...

What kind of secret could exclude even him, the lord of a city?

As the door closed, Wei Yuan waved his hand gently, and a light blue screen rippled like water waves, enveloping them.

"This is..." Gu Xing's pupils shrank slightly.

"A basic application of Domain Power, which you will understand upon reaching Commander Level."

"This is mainly to ensure our conversation isn't overheard."

Gu Xing focused on the fluctuating energy barrier before him, his expression growing solemn.

To make a Monarch Level Beast Master treat matters so cautiously, even resorting to Domain Power for isolation...

It must be extraordinary!

Possibly concerning the fate of Longxia Country!

"Student Gu Xing, you should know the Alternate Space is another world merging with Blue Star."

"Every country is building defenses in the Alternate Space, providing safe training environments for Low Tier Beast Masters."

Gu Xing nodded; this piece of history was already recorded in the textbooks.

"But Longxia Country's defense construction lags behind other countries." Wei Yuan suddenly changed the topic, "Do you know why?"

Gu Xing furrowed his brow, thinking: "Is it because... the defense construction isn't going smoothly?"

"Exactly!!!"

Wei Yuan's fingers sketched out a map on a light screen in the void, "Three years ago, we discovered a gigantic Land of Trial at a critical location."

On the light screen, a scarlet dot was right at the defense hub.

"Normally, discovering a Land of Trial is a good thing."

"But this Land of Trial is located at the most crucial node of our defenses."

"Without overcoming this Land of Trial, the defense will always have a gap, through which those demon race creatures can invade at any time."

Upon hearing this, Gu Xing couldn't help but look up at Wei Yuan.

"But it seems like I can't help much!"

Wei Yuan raised his hand to interrupt, tapping the void lightly, a three-dimensional projection unfolded instantly.

The projection clearly marked the various areas of the Land of Trial, most of which were shown in green, indicating "completed," whereas only the core area blinked with a glaring red light.

"Other trial areas of different levels have been fully conquered by our forces."

"Only this final place—"

He pointed at the patch of red light, "Requires Awakening Tier Five and below, in teams of three to challenge."

The projection magnified suddenly, showing detailed data of the area:

[Difficulty Level: Abyssal Level]

The Land of Trial is a special secret realm within the Alternate Space, and those who pass it can gain rich rewards.

According to difficulty, Longxia Country officially classifies them into five levels.

Common, Hard, Nightmare, Hell, and at the top—Abyss!

"I need you," Wei Yuan stared into Gu Xing's eyes, "to team up with two other SSS-class talents and complete this ultimate challenge, helping Longxia Country build its defense!"

Upon hearing this, Gu Xing finally understood.

Why would a military area chief personally seek out a newbie beast master in the awakening stage.

As he absorbed this information, Wei Yuan misunderstood his hesitation.

"The trial is indeed risky. So as long as you participate, you will qualify to select one item from the Southern Military Region's treasury."

Wei Yuan said while raising his hand to unfold a light screen,

Countless virtual shadows of rare materials swirled on the screen.

Gu Xing glanced up casually, but his gaze was instantly drawn to one material.

Light Crystal?!

A whole piece of Light Crystal?!

"Chief Wei!" Gu Xing's voice trembled slightly, "Does the military treasury... contain a whole piece of Light Crystal?"

He didn't expect to find the first material needed for cultivating Liu Li here.

Wei Yuan's eyes flashed with surprise, his fingertips lightly touched to enlarge the projection of that crystal:

"It seems this item is very important to you?"

Gu Xing nodded.

"Alright, as long as you agree to participate in the trial, whether you fail or succeed, it's yours."

"Deal!"

Gu Xing agreed without hesitation.

He had initially intended to accept such tasks for the country, and now the "Light Crystal" was purely a pleasant surprise.

As Wei Yuan saw Gu Xing agree, he let out a sigh of relief.

He had pledged to complete the entire defense line construction this year.

If he hadn't encountered Gu Xing, he would have thought there's no way to accomplish it this year.

It wasn't that they hadn't dispatched talents to participate in trials before, but even SS-class potential talents couldn't break through half the progress.

Thus he could only madly search within Longxia Country for talents with SSS-level potential.

Now, he's finally found one!!

"Time waits for no one; let's set off now. Each day delayed, the defense gap may claim more lives of Longxia Beast Masters."

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Chapter 12: Chapter 12: The Trial Begins!

The military district leader's style is indeed swift and decisive.

Before Gu Xing could react, he felt a tightness around his waist...

Wei Yuan unexpectedly took him and Liu Li soaring into the sky!

"Whoosh—"

Amidst the sound of breaking wind, a giant bird that blotted out the sky suddenly tore through the clouds.

The three landed steadily on its broad back. Gu Xing instinctively probed for information on this Guardian Beast:

[Cloud-eating Sparrow]

[Talent: ???]

[Level: ???]

[Attributes: ???]

[Skills: ???]

The uniform question marks sent a shock through Gu Xing's heart.

But what surprised him even more was that, despite the Cloud-eating Sparrow's speed fast enough to tear through the air, they could not feel any wind pressure.

This meant that the Guardian Beast beneath them was at least of Commander Level, and it was very likely to have reached Monarch Level.

Soon, a distorted blue curtain of light appeared on the horizon.

"This is the space portal connecting the two realms. Passing through here and flying for a few more hours will lead to the Land of Trial." Wei Yuan's voice was still clear amidst the howling wind.

The Cloud-eating Sparrow let out a long cry and swooped into the light curtain.

And beneath them—

More than twenty elite teams clustered around Chen Ziming and that Enchanting Demon like stars surrounding the moon.

The leading captain said ingratiatingly, "Young Master Chen, don't worry. With our elite teams assisting, you will surely break through to Awakening Tier Seven!"

But Chen Ziming turned a deaf ear.

He stared intently at the space portal, his eyes filled with a gloomy cold light.

"Gu Xing..." His clenched fists snaked with blue veins, "Comparing resources with the Chen Family? I will show you what despair means."

"With twenty teams helping me to level up... what do you have to compete with me?!"

...

Three hours later, the Cloud-eating Sparrow landed at a military base surrounded by mountains.

As Gu Xing leapt off the giant bird's back, he immediately noticed that there were two young people on the campsite plaza, aside from soldiers.

These two must be the companions he would trial with!

"Ying Bing, Qin Tian, both from Kyoto, SSS-Class potential."

"Gu Xing, from Lin Yuan City, also SSS-Class potential."

"This trial will be tackled by the three of you together!"

Wei Yuan briefly introduced their information.

Standing on the left, Ying Bing wore a white dress, with an ice crystal-like delicate bird perched on her shoulder.

Upon hearing Wei Yuan's introduction, she nodded slightly at Gu Xing.

Yet her gaze lingered a few more seconds on Liu Li, with a hint of surprise flashing in her ice-blue pupils.

Gu Xing also courteously greeted, before checking the information on this lady's Guardian Beast.

[Frost Profound Ice Phoenix]

[Talent: Legendary One Star]

[Level: Awakening Tier Five]

[Power: 120]

[Constitution: 130]

[Spirit: 178]

[Speed: 150]

[Skills: Cold Cone Piercing, Frost Storm, Frost Ring Imprisonment (after use, Guardian Beast enters a weakened state)]

As for Qin Tian on the right, his arms were crossed, and beside him stood a three-meter-tall bronze treant.

He gave Gu Xing a sidelong glance, with a hint of disdain in his eyes.

Lin Yuan City?

Never heard of it!

Could there be a genius in such a small city?

It's likely that he achieved an SSS-Class rating by grinding points!

However, considering Wei Yuan's presence, he didn't voice his thoughts, merely standing aloof nearby.

Gu Xing didn't mind Qin Tian's attitude.

He wasn't there to make friends; his goal was that Light Crystal.

If the companions suited him, that would be great.

If not, it didn't matter, because they would likely not see each other again after this trial.

Nevertheless, he still checked the information on Qin Tian's Guardian Beast:

[War Treant]

[Talent: Legendary One Star]

[Level: Awakening Tier Five]

[Power: 160]

[Constitution: 165]

[Spirit: 112]

[Speed: 105]

[Skills: Root Strangulation, Giant Wood Bombardment, Ironwood Barrier]

Gu Xing carefully compared the data of the three Guardian Beasts and gradually formed a judgment in his heart.

"Even with the same Legendary One Star talent, the difference is this pronounced..."

Liu Li's various attributes weren't top-notch but were balanced, with no obvious weaknesses.

More critical was that she had four skills, one more than the other two Guardian Beasts.

Ying Bing's Frost Profound Ice Phoenix was clearly superior to Qin Tian's War Treant, especially the skill [Frost Ring Imprisonment], which Gu Xing paid special attention to...

Like Liu Li's [Song of the End], it required a certain sacrifice to unleash.

He suspected that the higher the cost of using a skill, the more terrifying its power.

This was akin to a Guardian Beast's finishing technique!

[Song of the End (after use, Guardian Beast falls asleep)]

Seeing Liu Li's skill, he decided that he would never unleash it unless it was a matter of life and death.

Then, he turned his gaze to Qin Tian's War Treant...

Aside from its excellent power and constitution attributes....

It seemed to lack other standout features!

Its three skills were quite unremarkable, and it didn't possess a "finishing technique"!

Gu Xing mentally calculated that this War Treant barely touched the threshold of Legendary Talent.

Having understood the strength of Ying Bing and Qin Tian's Guardian Beasts, Gu Xing's gaze finally settled on Liu Li.

Overall, his own little angel still satisfied him the most.

"Master?" Liu Li tilted her head in confusion.

His slender fingers unconsciously stroked Liu Li's silver hair, and the soft touch warmed his heart.

"Master?"

Liu Li tilted her face up in confusion, her golden eyes full of incomprehension.

She instinctively nuzzled Gu Xing's palm, and this affectionate gesture made his heart tremble.

A sin... a sin...

Thankfully, Wei Yuan spoke again, capturing Liu Li's attention, which kept the little angel from noticing her master's strange behavior.

"Do any of you need to prepare anything else? If not, I'll take you to the Land of Trial." Wei Yuan's gaze swept between the three of them.

Gu Xing lightly cleared his throat, discreetly retracting his hand, the smooth touch of Liu Li's hair still lingering on his fingertips.

"Ready to depart at any time."

The nearby Ying Bing and Qin Tian also indicated they were ready.

Soon, Wei Yuan led them to an ancient hall.

Although the hall was in ruins, remnants still hinted at its past grandeur.

"This was once the holy land of the Elf Race, but for some reason, the entire Elf Race disappeared, leaving only this trial ground."

"By passing this trial, you should receive some decent rewards."

"But if you encounter danger, choose to withdraw in time, as your safety is most important."

"Rest assured, Chief Wei!" Qin Tian patted his chest in assurance: "With me, this trial is in the bag!"

Wei Yuan gave him a deep look: "I hope so!"

"No more words," Wei Yuan pointed to the stone platform at the center of the hall, "place your hands on it, and the trial will begin."

"Finally," with his booming voice, all soldiers stood at attention and saluted, "wish you all triumphant return!"

Under everyone's gaze, the three simultaneously placed their hands on the stone platform.

In an instant, a blinding white light shot up to the sky, completely engulfing their figures.

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Chapter 13: Chapter 13: A Man Can't Admit He's Weak!

When the figures of the three completely vanished in the white light, the adjutant beside Wei Yuan approached and lowered his voice to ask:

"Leader, do you think they will... succeed this time?"

Wei Yuan's gaze remained fixed on the empty stone platform, his knuckles unconsciously tapping against his pants leg.

After a long pause, he slowly began to speak:

"With that girl from the Ying Family, the chances of passing this trial... it's a fifty-fifty chance."

After all, it's the highest level trial; even though all three of their Guardian Beasts are at the Legendary Level, Wei Yuan still felt uncertain.

Last time, the participants were a genius with SSS-Class potential and two with SS-Level potential.

Yet, the three couldn't even pass the second challenge.

After letting out a sigh, he took a final look at the stone platform and turned to walk outside the hall.

"We've done everything we can, and next..."

"It's up to destiny now!"

...

Within the Land of Trial.

The pitch-black soil seemed soaked with ink, ruins scattered all around, an expanse of desolation.

"Hey, you country folk."

Qin Tian suddenly halted, the sturdy branches of the War Treant rustling behind him.

"No matter how you managed to get an SSS evaluation, when danger approaches, just stay behind me and Sister Ice obediently."

He lifted his chin, his face full of pride.

"With us here, if danger arises, at least your little life can be spared."

Gu Xing raised an eyebrow with interest.

Although this young master from Kyoto is arrogant, he doesn't have a bad nature.

It's just that he hasn't tasted the harshness of the world, so he's somewhat overconfident.

Fortunately, in the trial, the various monsters encountered cannot boost the Guardian Beast's level upon defeat.

He's more than happy to take action; Gu Xing is quite pleased.

"No problem, you lead ahead; I won't steal your spotlight."

Saying this, he deliberately stepped back two steps and made an exaggerated "after you" gesture.

Liu Li tilted her head in confusion but obediently stepped aside under Gu Xing's glance.

"You do have good sense."

Qin Tian snorted with satisfaction and boldly marched to the front of the team.

Meanwhile, Ying Bing seemed to pay no attention to these matters, wholeheartedly communicating with the Ice Phoenix on her shoulder.

Soon, the three encountered three monsters.

[Trial Puppet · Balanced Type]

[Level: Awakened Tier Six]

[Power: 100]

[Constitution: 100]

[Spirit: 100]

[Speed: 100]

[Skills: Thousand Machines Heavy Fist, Balanced Force Field]

Seeing the information about these three Trial Puppets, Gu Xing finally understood the difficulty of the Abyssal Trial.

Trial Puppets with all attributes at 100 had reached the level of excellent Tier Six Magic Beasts.

Due to balanced attributes, their strength even surpassed beasts of the same level.

More frightening is that this is merely the first wave of monsters.

The monsters encountered next will have increasing strength.

However.

Qin Tian seemed oblivious to the gravity of the situation.

Qin Tian already strode forward, "Sister Ice, don't intervene; I can handle these metal lumps."

Ying Bing thought it over and slightly nodded in agreement.

No matter what, with Qin Tian receiving an SSS-Class potential evaluation, defeating these three Trial Puppets shouldn't be a problem at all.

"Treant, Root Strangulation!"

At Qin Tian's command, the robust roots of the War Treant burst from the ground, wrapping around the three puppets like giant serpents.

The friction between wooden fibers and metal shells produced an ear-piercing sound, culminating in three explosive bangs, leaving the trial puppets in a mess of fragments.

"How's that? My Treant!"

Qin Tian turned proudly to look at the others, his expression eager for praise.

Gu Xing and Liu Li exchanged a glance and nodded in unison, giving a thumbs up.

Liu Li thoughtfully added, "Very impressive!"

Qin Tian, buoyed by the compliments, became even more elated, his voice rising by eight octaves.

"Although your skills might be a bit lacking, carefully observing my battles will surely give you plenty to learn!"

"Absolutely, absolutely!"

Gu Xing nodded repeatedly, holding back Liu Li, who wanted to retort.

Following that, Qin Tian continued in his role as the pathfinder.

But, as they ventured deeper, the Trial Puppets they faced grew increasingly formidable.

When five Awakened Tier Seven Trial Puppets barred their path, Qin Tian could finally no longer keep his smile.

His forehead became drenched with sweat!

[Trial Puppet]

[Level: Awakened Tier Seven]

[Power: 120]

[Constitution: 120]

[Spirit: 120]

[Speed: 120]

Five Trial Puppets with an average attribute value of 120 points; the War Treant clearly struggled significantly.

Fine sweat appeared on Qin Tian's forehead, and his clenched fists trembled slightly.

"Young Master Qin, could you use a hand?" Gu Xing kindly leaned closer to ask.

"No...no need!"

Qin Tian ground his teeth, forcing himself, but anyone could see his strain.

Yet Ying Bing beside him gently patted the Ice Phoenix on her shoulder, her voice cool:
"I'll control, you attack."

Upon hearing Ying Bing's words, Gu Xing raised his eyebrows in surprise.

The ice-cold beauty actually spoke!

And Qin Tian, hearing Ying Bing was about to engage, exhaled a huge sigh of relief.

These five Trial Puppets, he could handle, but it would require a certain price.

And now, they're only at the first checkpoint...

Next, with Ying Bing joining the fray, the situation suddenly turned around.

The Frost Profound Ice Phoenix spread its wings, instantly freezing the joints of the Trial Puppets with frost.

The War Treant seized the opportunity, lifting its sturdy branches and shattering the frozen puppets one by one.

For the rest of the journey, Gu Xing enjoyed a leisurely pace.

With Ying Bing and Qin Tian working together, the Trial Puppets could hardly survive a single round.

He and Liu Li became mere bystanders for a while.

Before long, Qin Tian and Ying Bing stormed through the first checkpoint effortlessly.

The three reached the end of the first checkpoint, where they were confronted with three deep passages.

This is where the second challenge of the Abyssal Level trial begins.

According to the information provided by Wei Yuan, each of the three passages must be chosen by each person independently, completing the entire trial within the passage, in order to enter the third checkpoint.

What's the content of the third checkpoint?

Even Wei Yuan doesn't know!

The last batch of Trial Takers only reached the second checkpoint at most.

At this moment, Qin Tian suddenly turned around, his gaze lingering on Gu Xing for quite a while, with an evident hint of doubt:

"You...can you manage?"

He's obviously unconcerned about Ying Bing's strength!

As the top performer in the rookie trials in Kyoto City, her strength even exceeded his own.

But this rural genius before him—if he held them back...

Even if he and Ying Bing managed to pass the second checkpoint, this trial would still be a failure.

And the usually indifferent Ying Bing also glanced sideways, awaiting Gu Xing's response.

After all, Gu Xing hadn't made any moves the whole way, so she couldn't judge his capability as a companion.

Facing Qin Tian's doubts, Gu Xing didn't defend himself, he merely lifted the corners of his mouth, and confidently strode toward the middle passage.

"A man should never claim he can't!"

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Chapter 14: Chapter 14: Second Trial, Cleared!

The moment he stepped into the passage, Gu Xing felt as if he was in another world.

He quickly turned his head but found that the entrance he came from had already disappeared, replaced by a void of darkness.

And before him, a mechanical figure slowly solidified—

[Trial Puppet-Enhanced Type]

[Level: Awakening Tier Five]

[Power: 90]

[Constitution: 90]

[Spirit: 90]

[Speed: 90]

[Skills: Thousand Machines Heavy Fist, Attribute Enhancement, Balanced Force Field (stackable)]

"Enhanced type?" Gu Xing furrowed his brow slightly.

Compared to ordinary balanced puppets, this one in front was evidently stronger by more than one grade.

Not only had it gained the beneficial skill of "Attribute Enhancement," but the trickiest part was that "Balanced Force Field"...

If several enhanced trial puppets appeared simultaneously later, that would be troublesome.

But for now...it's not a big problem!

"Liu Li, deal with it!"

Before the words fell, Liu Li's silver-white wings were fully extended, and a blazing long sword took shape in her hands.

She lightly flapped her wings, her figure instantly flashing in front of the puppet.

The golden sword light sliced like a crescent moon—

"Swish!"

The enhanced puppet snapped with a sound, collapsing into two pieces.

Though this awakening Tier Five puppet was quite powerful, it was still overwhelmed in the face of Liu Li, whose attributes all surpassed 150 points.

As the puppet dispersed, the blue barrier blocking the way ahead also vanished.

Gu Xing continued forward with Liu Li.

In the second space, waiting for them were still enhanced trial puppets, only the level had risen to awakening Tier Six.

Looking at the enemy whose attributes had soared to 120 points, Gu Xing couldn't help but tense his brows.

No wonder previous trial takers failed to pass this checkpoint.

With each space passed, the puppet's strength increased exponentially.

The awakening Tier Six enhanced puppet before him had attributes rivaling that of a Tier Five epic guardian beast!

And this was only the second checkpoint...

Liu Li's sword light flashed again, and the trial puppet fell promptly.

In the next space...

Two awakening Tier Six puppets appeared simultaneously, the balanced force field started to show its effectiveness, suppressing Liu Li's attributes by about 10 points.

Fortunate enough, even weakened, Liu Li still held an absolute advantage and quickly resolved the two awakening Tier Six trial puppets.

The difficulty of the trial continued to escalate.

Three, four, five, awakening Tier Seven...

When Gu Xing and Liu Li reached the final space, three trial puppets radiating a terrifying aura were in battle formation!

[Trial Puppet·Enhanced Type]

[Level: Awakening Tier Seven]

[Power: 150]

[Constitution: 150]

[Spirit: 150]

[Speed: 150]

[Skills: Thousand Machines Heavy Fist, Attribute Enhancement, Balanced Force Field (stackable)]

Watching the trio of enhanced trial puppets standing off against Liu Li.

With the triple overlap of balanced force fields, Liu Li's attributes were suppressed by nearly 30 points.

This meant that even with Liu Li's strength, it would be quite tricky to deal with these puppets without activating the Blazing Angel Form.

But at this moment, what he worried about was not the battle ahead, but...

Could the other two really pass this checkpoint?

Ying Bing's Ice Phoenix spiritual attribute reached a formidable 170 points, paired with excellent skills, passing should not be an issue.

However, Qin Tian's war treant...

Facing the three awakening Tier Seven enhanced puppets, it might be on the verge!

In the thought of a moment, Gu Xing made a decision:

"Liu Li, activate the Blazing Angel Form, finish them quickly!"

"Got it!"

The crisp response came from the little girl, as crimson flames burst forth from her body.

Four wings of light unfolded behind her, a wave of sacred burning energy swept through the entire space.

Attributes—doubled!

A crushing 300 points!

Three golden sword rays streaked across the sky like meteors, the three enhanced puppets did not even have time to react, split neatly in two.

The remains quickly turned to ashes under the burn of the Blazing Angel Flame, scattering with the wind.

The barrier at the end of the passage finally dissipated gently.

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Meanwhile, in the core control room of the Land of Trial.

A gigantic stone platform hovered in the center, displaying the trial takers' progress in real-time.

"Sir, they have entered the second checkpoint!"

Wei Yuan nodded slightly at the news, looking gravely at the stone platform.

He knew better than anyone that from the second checkpoint onwards, this trial was technically challenging.

During last year's trial, except for one SSS-Class promising talent who barely made it to the end, the other two SS-Class talents completed only 70% of the progress before being eliminated.

Wei Yuan unconsciously clenched his fist, his knuckles pale from the force.

If they fail again this time, they would have to wait until next year...

"Send the order down, let the border legion enter first-level alert status!"

After passing the second checkpoint, part of the Land of Trial would vanish, and when that happens, demon race creatures are sure to swarm in through the gap.

Although it's still unclear whether the three can pass the second checkpoint, it's always good to be prepared early on.

"Yes!"

The adjutant was about to turn and leave, when he suddenly caught a glimpse of dazzling light flashing on the stone platform.

He widened his eyes in disbelief:

"Sir... Sir! It seems someone has passed the second checkpoint!"

"What?!"

Wei Yuan turned sharply, his gaze locked on the stone platform.

Seeing clearly displayed above the words "One person has passed."

Who could it be?

Remember, it had only been half an hour since the three entered the second checkpoint!

From what he learned from the previous trial takers, the final space contained three awakening Tier Seven trial puppets!

Awakening Tier Five VS Awakening Tier Seven.

Even if the three's guardian beasts were of legendary level, it was still incredibly challenging!

"Sir, I think it must be Ying Bing?"

The adjutant cautiously analyzed after regaining his senses:

"After all, the Ying Family's bloodline is unique, only able to contract one guardian beast in a lifetime..."

The adjutant's thoughts were in concord with Wei Yuan's internal speculation.

The Ying Family, as one of the oldest families of Longxia Country, had a very unique bloodline legacy—

Family members can only contract one guardian beast for their whole life, yet the bloodline power can gradually enhance the beast's talent.

For this reason, the Ying Family's guardian beasts were at least epic level from the start!

"The girl from the Ying Family is the one with the highest talent in nearly a hundred years. Her ability to pass swiftly is within expectations."

"Only..."

Speaking of this, Wei Yuan's expression turned solemn:

"But now the issue is, if Gu Xing and Qin Tian cannot pass, no matter how strong Ying Bing is, it won't make a difference..."

After all, this trial was a trinity; as long as one person failed to pass, the entire trial would be deemed a failure.

However.

Just then, the adjutant suddenly exclaimed again:

"Sir... Sir! Another, another person passed!"

"What?!"

Wei Yuan's eyes turned back to the stone platform.

Seeing the words "One person has passed" had abruptly become "Two people have passed!"

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Chapter 15: Chapter 15: Saving the Day!

Central Hall, Land of Trial.

As Ying Bing stepped out of the passage, her cold gaze quickly swept across the surroundings.

Just as she was about to find a corner to meditate and wait for the other two—

"Hey!"

A clear voice suddenly rang out.

Ying Bing's steps abruptly halted, a flicker of surprise flashing in her usually calm eyes.

She turned around swiftly, looking incredulously toward the source of the sound.

Only to see Gu Xing lazily leaning against a stone pillar, with Liu Li quietly hovering by his side.

The familiar Angel Guardian Beast was tilting its head curiously, sizing her up.

"You..."

Ying Bing, normally composed, was at a rare loss for words.

During the trial, she had held nothing back, with the Ice Phoenix exerting its full strength.

Even so... she was still slower than this person?

After a moment of silence, Ying Bing finally stepped forward, her cold voice tinged with hesitation:

"How long have you been here?"

Gu Xing raised his eyes, meeting the slightly furrowed brows of the ice beauty, and replied casually:

"About ten minutes or so."

"!"

Ying Bing's pupils contracted slightly.

A ten-minute gap!

This meant that the other person's Guardian Beast was far more powerful than the Ice Phoenix!

Perhaps sensing its master's thoughts, the Ice Phoenix on Ying Bing's shoulder defiantly flapped its wings.

Ying Bing reached out to soothe the Ice Phoenix, nodded toward Gu Xing, and then turned to walk to the other side of the hall.

Yet her indifferent gaze continued to wander between Gu Xing and Liu Li.

Time slipped away in silence, with no movement from the third channel.

Gu Xing's expression gradually grew serious.

It seemed Qin Tian had encountered an accident; otherwise, he couldn't possibly take so long without clearing the trials.

Ying Bing also furrowed her slender brows, her long fingers unconsciously caressing the Ice Phoenix's feathers.

This year, they had finally gathered three SSS Level geniuses, and if they couldn't clear the trial this year...

It was at this moment that Gu Xing suddenly stood up.

"Liu Li, let's go!"

"Where are you going?" Ying Bing turned her head in surprise.

"To the rescue."

Two simple words caused Ying Bing's pupils to contract.

She watched Gu Xing stride toward the entryway of Qin Tian's passage and instantly understood his intention.

"You're insane!"

Her normally calm voice was raised unusually high.

The second-round assessment was about individual ability; once someone intervened, the difficulty would immediately triple!

If the final round had ten Awakening Tier Seven Enhanced Puppets alongside the compounded Balanced Force Field...

Even with Gu Xing's strength being greater than hers, he would have no chance of passing.

But Gu Xing's stride showed no hesitation.

Although Wei Yuan promised that regardless of this trial's outcome, he would give him the Light Crystal.

But he was not a person who liked to owe favors.

What could be done, must be done best.

"Liu Li!"

The little angel's eyes burned with a fierce fighting spirit.

The master's will was the beast's highest mission!

Wherever the master pointed, even if ahead was an abyss or fiery mountains, she would pave the way for the master!

"Blazing Angel-Complete Liberation!"

Under Ying Bing's shocked gaze, Liu Li transformed into a War Angel bathed in Holy Flame, the crimson brilliance lighting up the whole hall.

"Liu Li, once inside, you must immediately take out half of the puppets; otherwise, with ten Balanced Force Fields compounded, even you would be suppressed."

"Understood!" Liu Li's response carried an unprecedented seriousness.

"Then—" Gu Xing took a deep breath, "Charge!"

The two figures instantly disappeared into the dark passage.

Ying Bing stood in place, stunned, her ice-blue eyes reflecting the gradually fading glow of the Holy Flame.

After a long while, she gently patted the Ice Phoenix on her shoulder, her voice soft as if murmuring to herself:

"Ice Phoenix, do you think... we truly deserve to be called geniuses?"

...

The dark passage, with War Tree Man's knotted branches firmly protecting Qin Tian in the core.

"Boom!"

Another heavy punch struck the tree trunk fiercely, wood chips flying, as the Awakening Tier Seven Trial Puppet's eyes flashed with scarlet light.

If not for War Tree Man's "Ironwood Barrier" skill, Qin Tian might have already been eliminated.

"Damn it..."

Curling up inside the tree cocoon, Qin Tian gritted his teeth, his joints whitening from the excessive force.

The War Tree Man's vines whipped the puppet, but only left shallow marks...

The two sides were thus caught in an eerie stalemate.

"Damn it, why is this Trial Puppet so strong!? Is this trial really something humans can clear?"

Watching the Trial Puppet's relentless attacks on War Tree Man's trunk, Qin Tian's expression was incredibly grim.

"Tree Man, Root Strangulation."

War Tree Man's knotted roots burst from the ground, striking the puppet's chest like a giant python, yet only leaving shallow marks on the metallic shell.

The Trial Puppet merely staggered backward a few steps, its scarlet eyes flashed twice, and it lunged again.

The previous attack hadn't caused any real damage to the Trial Puppet.

The alloy-made Trial Puppet was a natural nemesis of physically-oriented Guardian Beasts like the War Tree Man.

And after defeating this Trial Puppet....

In the next room, there were still three Awakening Tier Seven Trial Puppets.

Thinking of this, a wave of despair surged in Qin Tian's heart.

"Should... I give up?"

However.

This thought had just surfaced, when a deafening explosion suddenly echoed from deep within the passage.

Blazing white light surged like a tide, instantly swallowing the Trial Puppet!

When the dust settled, Qin Tian's widened eyes reflected an impossible figure.

"How... how can it be you?!"

His voice stuck in his throat, his fingertips trembling involuntarily.

He never expected that the one to rescue him from the depths of the passage would be the Gu Xing he initially despised.

Gu Xing's presence here... Qin Tian knew perfectly what it meant.

Gu Xing raised an eyebrow at Qin, covered in wood chips, "Oh, is Young Master Qin so beaten by the puppets he can't recognize his savior?"

"You! You..."

Qin Tian's face was flushed, his pointed finger traced an agitated arc in the air, yet he couldn't utter a coherent sentence.

"Enough," Gu Xing put away his playful demeanor, "Time to go, Young Master Qin."

In the final space, the Trial Puppet had already been dealt with by Gu Xing, leaving the whole passage clear.

When Gu Xing returned to the hall with the dazed Qin Tian, the once prideful scion was still in shock.

His gaze mechanically shifted between Gu Xing and Ying Bing, eventually accepting a ludicrous reality.

This "country bumpkin," not only outpaced him but might be even much stronger than Kyoto's top genius.

And Ying Bing at this moment—

Her cold gaze was firmly locked onto Gu Xing, as if observing a creature defying all logic.

He really cleared the trial with a tripled difficulty on his own!

He truly defeated ten Awakening Tier Seven Enhanced Trial Puppets!

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