

## **Ocean Lord 631**

*Chapter 631: Wonder Blueprint, Above-Epic Tier*

“Ding- You have gained 500,000 experience points, leveling up from 49 to 50, and have learned a new skill: Dragon Twister Storm (Gold-level skill).”

“Ding- You have obtained the Wonder Blueprint: Heraklion Temple.”

“Ding- Your subordinate, the Siren Hero: Alice, has gained the Epic-level Siren Hero: Theresa’s Potential Template.”

“Ding- Randomly recruit five Tier 6 units that have appeared in the dungeons.”

“Ding- You have obtained the Legendary-tier Druid Hero Summoning Certificate.”

“Ding- You have acquired 5,000 units of Mana Crystals.”

“Ding- Gloria Elf Treasury Key Fragment xi.”

“Ding- You have received Gloria’s complete map xi.”

Several system notifications appeared, and Ji Chen quickly read through them. He couldn’t help but wear a satisfied smile.

The rewards from this dungeon exceeded his expectations.

First, reaching a total of five hundred thousand experience points completely filled Ji Chen’s experience bar, allowing him to advance from level 49 to 50. This marked his official ascent into the League of the Most Powerful.

The power within his body had multiplied several times compared to before as if he could effortlessly unleash earth-shattering strength with a mere wave of his hand.

Ji Chen felt the mana within him surging like a mighty river, and a faint curve formed at the corner of his mouth.

The growth in strength always left him feeling intoxicated.

He casually opened the interface to inspect his newly acquired skills.

[Dragon Twister Storm (Gold-level skill)]: Creates a giant water tornado, sucking in surrounding objects and dealing massive damage.

While Ji Chen could manipulate seawater to form water tornadoes, doing so under the influence of this skill made it far more efficient.

Skills followed a fixed format for casting, allowing him to cast powerful spells more effectively.

This Dragon Twister Storm was indeed a valuable addition to his arsenal.

[Wonder Blueprint: Heraklion Temple]

[Tier]: Wonder (Unique)

[Effects]:

- 1. Reduces recruitment costs for ocean units within the territory by 50%.
- 2. Keeps citizen loyalty above 95 points, preventing rebellion.
- 3. Greatly increases the territory's attractiveness, drawing refugees, trade caravans, and oceanic hero units.
- 4. Grants the ability for citizens within the influence of the wonder to operate underwater.

[Special Effects]:

- 1. Weekly production of a unique unit: Heraklion Guardians (Tier 6, 6-star). These units cannot leave the temple's radius and are limited to 50 per week.
- 2. Can generate a powerful, wide-ranging protective shield with a radius of one kilometer, lasting up to one week.

[Construction Restrictions]: Can only be built on ocean, islands, or coastal terrain.

[Required Resources for Construction]:

- 30 million units of stone
- 15 million units of rare resources (crystals, mithril, and adamantite, each 5 million)
- 50,000 units of Mana Crystals

[Note]: Can be constructed in advance and will gradually consume resources as the project progresses. The wonder's effects apply only within the core territory.

[The Wonder of Heraklion, the Lost Undersea City, possesses unimaginable power.]

Holy shit!

Ji Chen's pupils contracted to the extreme as he stared in shock at the effects of this wonder blueprint.

What kind of divine-tier structure was this?

Leaving aside the other effects, the first one alone, reducing the resource cost for recruiting ocean units by 50%, was already mind-boggling.

Given the current recruitment cost for Ocean Crown's units, cutting it in half would save hundreds of thousands of units of rare resources!

With the future increase in recruitment costs and the quantity of recruits, this effect would become even more significant and terrifying, saving millions of resources in minutes.

Looking at the special effects, obtaining fifty Tier 6 units every week, although restricted within a ten-kilometer radius, would still form a formidable high-level army to protect the Ocean Crown.

The amount of materials required for constructing such a powerful wonder was astonishing. Fifty million units of stone was a considerable challenge.

The Ocean Crown had conquered the underground lizardman world, and so far, they had mined less than ten million units of stone from there. They were still lacking a staggering twenty million.

Additionally, one hundred and fifty million units of rare resources and fifty thousand units of Mana Crystals were no small price to pay.

However, the pre-construction mechanism could greatly alleviate the pressure on resources.

Despite the significant cost, the Heraklion Temple was still highly valuable for construction.

Ji Chen decided that as soon as he returned to the Ocean Crown, he would immediately start construction, aiming to complete it as early as possible to maximize its advantages.

He also realized that the rewards from clearing the Panas Battle dungeon were closely related to the Heraklion Temple, likely indicating that the temple was located at the center of Heraklion.

Furthermore, the ruler of Heraklion, Theresa's Potential Template, was also connected to this.

[Siren Hero: Theresa's Potential Template]

[Tier]: Above Epic-Tier

[Target]: Limited to Sirens

[Effect]: Can elevate a Siren's potential to the Epic level.

This was somewhat unexpected for Ji Chen. In the dungeon, Alice's potential had been raised to the Epic level by Theresa's secret technique, which was already a rare opportunity.

However, this potential template could elevate a Siren's potential to the Above-Epic Tier.

How powerful was the Above-Epic Tier?

Ji Chen hadn't witnessed Theresa's true power in action, but based on Thotmudo's description, the fire demon, an Above-Epic-Tier being that attacked Black Iron Fortress, effortlessly defeated three Epic-level powerhouses and wiped out tens of thousands of elite dwarves in the process..

Chapter 632: Wonder Blueprint, Above-Epic Tier (2)

That alone showcased the immense power of the Above-Epic Tier.

After a brief contemplation, Ji Chen decided to keep this potential template for now. He would use it when Alice found it difficult to reach the Above-Epic Tier, or if there was another opportunity to subdue a Siren, using it on them would also be an excellent choice.

Next were the recruitment camps of the six-tier units that had appeared in the five dungeons. They had already been automatically selected upon leaving the dungeon.

Luck was on his side; all five turned out to be recruitment camps for Heavy Armor Toothfish Knights from the Ocean Tribe. Although this unit wasn't the most powerful in Heraklion, it still counted as a formidable force.

Similar to the Lobster Guardian Knights, it consisted of a rider and a mount. If the Lobster Guardian Knights were considered cavalry, then the Heavy Armor Toothfish Knights were like chariots, with bodies seven to eight meters long and armor that could rival fortress defenses, capable of tearing through any enemy formation.

[Heavy Armor Toothfish Knight]

[Race]: Merfolk

[Tier]: Six-Star 2, Eight-Star 5

[Skills]: Merfolk Unison (Orange skill, both the knight and the Toothfish mount enter a charging state, violently ramming into enemies)

Ancient Bloodline (Orange skill, the Toothfish possesses ancient bloodline, causing a certain level of suppression to enemies with bloodlines lower than its own)

Full Body Armorization (Orange skill, the entire body is enveloped in thick, hard armor, providing extremely strong protection, defense increased by 300%)

Gluttony (Orange skill, the Toothfish rapidly regains its injuries and strength by devouring enemies violently)

Hibernation (Orange skill, able to close its organs and enter a state of hibernation, minimizing its breath and avoiding detection by powerful enemies)

[Unit Characteristics]: Toothfish can gradually enhance the defensive performance of their hard armor by devouring fish.

[Bloodline Ability]: Ancient Heart (All attributes increased by 45%, swimming speed increased by 200%, impact strength doubled, resistance to attacks and recovery ability greatly improved)

[A giant fish protected by heavy armor, but not very intelligent, it needs a knight to fully unleash its power].

[Legendary-Tier Druid Hero Summoning Voucher]

[Summoned Druid Hero]: Martino

[Note]: Elf race has a magical profession – Druid. They are experts among elves in agriculture, skilled in planting and cultivating crops, and they coexist with nature. They are adept at using healing spells and transformation magic.

[Attention]: The summoned hero may not necessarily respond, please use it with caution.

Elf Druid?

Ji Chen nodded in recognition. He heard of this profession often. Elves had extremely high agricultural output, exporting various grains and crops with special effects. The help of these nature-loving Druids was indispensable.

Coincidentally, the Crown of the Ocean was currently lacking a consul responsible for agricultural production. It would be a good choice to recruit a Druid.

Next.

The five thousand Spirit Crystals need no explanation; this item is essential for recruiting six-tier units.

But what caught Ji Chen's attention was the next two items.

Gloria Elf Treasury Key Fragment.

Complete map of Gloria.

He had obtained one fragment of the treasury key from the gnome merchant before, and with this one, he now had two. This key was probably one of the long-lost two pieces, and he hadn't expected it to be hidden in the Irante Temple and become a dungeon reward.

The latter, however, surprised him even more – the complete map of Gloria!

This was the key to finding the ancient Elven capital lost for countless years. If the Elves were to discover this map, it would likely cause quite a stir.

Ji Chen shook his head; he wasn't planning to reveal these items just yet. It wouldn't hurt to consider this option later if he couldn't gather all the key fragments.

He collected both the key fragment and the map.

This time, the dungeon rewards exceeded his expectations. Once he completely digested these rewards, the strength of the Crown of the Ocean would likely increase significantly.

Returning to his senses, Ji Chen lightly tapped his Sea Crystal Wyrms beneath him. The wyrms let out a low roar, and the marching speed of the Crown of the Ocean's army increased once again as they headed towards Maple Harbor.

After a few days had passed, there should have been some progress in investigating the Gremolagen family's affairs.

After arranging his troops, Ji Chen once again disguised himself as Zhao Liangchen and swaggered into the Cat-Tail Cocktail Lounge in the Black Gold District of Maple City.

As soon as he arrived, he attracted the attention of the players.

"Young Master Zhao, do you have some free time today?"

Ji Chen casually replied, "I've recently closed a business deal, so I'm here to relax."

Suddenly, hurried footsteps were heard from upstairs. Monkey Gift and Monkey Gift Hair rushed down, and when they saw Ji Chen, their faces lit up. "Young Master Zhao, Uncle Luo is requesting your presence upstairs."

Seeing the anxious expressions on their faces, Ji Chen nodded.

With an arrogant expression of a young playboy, he casually said, "I'll cover today's expenses," earning cheers from the players and respectful looks. He then walked upstairs.

Upon reaching the third floor, Monkey Gift and Monkey Gift Hair stood guard outside the door, while Luo Yang was already waiting inside the room, looking worried. He paced anxiously.

Seeing Ji Chen's arrival, Luo Yang hurriedly approached and said, "Young Master Zhao, you're finally here!"

Ji Chen casually sat on a chair and asked with a puzzled tone, "What happened that has you so anxious? Did something happen in Maple City while I was away?"

Luo Yang nodded quickly and said, "There's something important I want to report. The player who was supposed to be undercover beside Ivana Gremolagen suddenly disappeared and hasn't been in contact for two days." Hearing this, Ji Chen asked, "Do you think he took the money and ran?"

Luo Yang replied anxiously, "I suspect he might have been discovered by Ivana Gremolagen. I'm afraid he might reveal information about you and me, and that would expose us."

"If it weren't for staying behind to remind you, I would have considered leaving Maple City temporarily."

Discovered?

Ji Chen frowned. If he had truly been discovered, Luo Yang might be in danger. Ivana Gremolagen was a member of the Gremolagen family, which ruled over the Maple Principality. Dealing with a player like Luo Yang wouldn't be difficult for her.

"Are you sure he's been discovered?"

Luo Yang hesitated for a moment and shook his head. "I don't know, but he hasn't replied to any of my private messages."

"Uncle Luo, I'm here!"

At that moment, a voice came from outside. Luo Yang looked surprised as he saw the young player entering the room, looking exhausted and clutching his waist, as if he had been drained.

"Why didn't you respond to my messages? I thought you took the money and ran."

The young player paused for a moment and then said with a hint of helplessness, "I was trying to gather information."

"Gathering information to the point of disappearing?"

"Well, I had to endure being squeezed by that fat lady for half a day. I almost got drained and ended up sleeping for two days straight. How else could I extract information from her?"

Please respect my profession! I also have professional ethics!"

Ji Chen couldn't help but twitch at the corner of his mouth. Sleeping for two days straight, he couldn't imagine what intense activity the young player had gone through.

"So, what information did you manage to extract?"

Only now did the young player notice Ji Chen sitting on the chair and quickly showed his respect, somewhat excitedly saying, "This time, I managed to extract some important information that will definitely surprise you! It's worth several thousand gold coins at least!"

"Oh?" Ji Chen raised an eyebrow, becoming more interested.

"That fat lady wants me to go to her castle in her territory three days from now. She intends to take me out of the Maple Principality and secretly head to the Western Continent."

"Is this for real?"

“Of course, it’s real. I went through so much trouble to make her trust me! In that state, what she said was definitely not fake!

Moreover, she mentioned that someone on the Western Continent would receive her, something about a de...?”

“Deceiver?”

“Yes!” The young player nodded quickly. “That’s it. She said that the influence of the elves is hard to reach in the distant Western Continent, and she can bring a massive fortune to enjoy her days.”

Ji Chen and Luo Yang exchanged glances.

Well, it looks like this matter is once again related to those masked individuals..

Chapter 633: 60,000 Spirit Crystals, Ocean Dragon

Maple City, Gremolagen Family Mansion.

In a hidden underground chamber.

“Ivana, didn’t I tell you to stay away from the Deceiver? Now, look at the mess you’ve caused. What are we going to do?”

“Have the Elves conducted a thorough search of the city!?”

The speaker was Duke Gremolagen’s eldest son, Seth Gremolagen. He was angrily scolding a fat noblewoman sitting across the table, adorned in luxurious clothing and jewelry.

Faced with her brother’s harsh reprimand, Ivana’s face alternated between pale and flushed. She looked extremely uncomfortable but didn’t argue.

She had indeed made a mistake this time. She hadn’t anticipated that the Deceiver would be so audacious, causing trouble at the Elf Queen’s birthday celebration. She was frustrated with the Elves’ dominance in the Maple Principality, but her dissatisfaction had only been expressed in words. She had never dared to take any substantial action.

But the worst part was that she had secretly provided the Deceiver with some information about the Elf Queen’s celebration, allowing them to infiltrate the envoy procession and enter the Elven realm.

If this were to be traced back, the Elves wouldn’t spare her, even though she was a noble!

“Enough, we’re beyond arguing at this point,” Duke Gremolagen, seated at the head of the table, said with a heavy tone. “What we need to focus on now is how to distance the Gremolagen family from this incident.”

Seth sneered and said maliciously, “That’s easy. Make everyone involved disappear.”

Clearly, this wasn’t an ordinary “disappearance.”

Ivana immediately widened her eyes, her anger flaring. “You dare!?”

Duke Gremolagen frowned and rebuked, "Seth, Ivana is still your sister. How can you say such things?"

Seth snorted, turned his face away, and muttered, "Sometimes, it's better to have no sibling..."

Duke Gremolagen was feeling a headache. He couldn't believe his children were so at odds, and his daughter had committed such a fatal mistake.

If they didn't handle this situation carefully, the Gremolagen family would bear the wrath of the Elves and face ruin.

At this moment, Ivana said, "Given the current situation, I plan to leave the Maple Principality and head to the Western Continent in two days, at least for a while."

"We've never been to the Western Continent, and we don't know what it's like there."

"I've already contacted the Deceiver. Their headquarters are in the Western Continent, and they can accommodate me."

Seth's expression changed. Ivana had dared to contact the Deceiver even now, showing no fear of the Elves discovering her involvement.

Officially, the Maple Principality and the Elves were on the same side, working together to eliminate the Deceiver. However, decades ago, the Gremolagen family had secretly colluded with the Deceiver.

Back then, the previous Duke Gremolagen, feeling humiliated by the Elves' dominance in the relatively small Maple Principality, had supported the Deceiver by providing intelligence and assistance. This allowed the Deceiver to continuously attack the Elves stationed in the Maple Principality, with the ultimate goal of forcing the Elves to withdraw from the region.

But as the contemporary Elven Queen came of age, the nation's strength gradually grew, and their control over subordinate states tightened. The Deceiver's attempts to act independently became increasingly futile. So, after the current Duke Gremolagen inherited the title, he gave up on this idea and chose to live peacefully under the "protection" of the Elves.

Upon hearing this, Duke Gremolagen's eyes flashed slightly, and he nodded, saying, "In that case, you can temporarily leave. You can return once this matter settles down."

Seth's expression also softened. If Ivana was willing to leave and lay low for a while, there might still be a chance to maneuver.

After all, Ivana was still his sister, and he didn't want to harm her.

As long as she left, and they cleaned up those involved, relying on the Gremolagen family's power in the Maple Principality, they could completely erase all traces of this matter and bring it to a close.

Watching her father and older brother's serious expressions, Ivana suddenly felt a bit apprehensive. She had told her favorite lover about this matter. He shouldn't have revealed it, right?

But now that things had come to this point, she could only hope he hadn't divulged the secret.

As she recalled the passionate moments they had shared in the days prior, and his devoted and loyal demeanor towards her, Ivana's mood brightened.

Two days passed in the blink of an eye.

Ivana Gremolagen anxiously waited in her own lordly castle. However, instead of her lover's face, what arrived were stern-faced Elven warriors.

Her face turned ashen as she instantly realized what was happening. Her whole being seemed to lose its spirit as she was escorted away.

Among Ivana Gremolagen's personal belongings, the Elves had discovered evidence of her collusion with the Deceiver and her late father's secret alliance with them. This solidified the fact that the Gremolagen family had betrayed the Elves and facilitated the Deceiver's actions.

Once this news broke, the entire Maple Principality experienced a colossal upheaval, sending shockwaves through the hearts of countless elites.

However, in the face of the Elves' questioning, Duke Gremolagen claimed complete ignorance of the matter and publicly severed all ties with Ivana Gremolagen. He made the difficult decision to abandon his own daughter, only managing to quell the situation after paying a great, undisclosed price..

Chapter 634: 60,000 Spirit Crystals, Ocean Dragon (2)

However, after the events of the past, the entire family and the principality had been thoroughly controlled by the Elves, becoming mere puppets and vassals with no chance of rebellion.

The Elven Embassy, reception hall.

Ji Chen sat across from Miligas, the atmosphere pleasant, with goblets clinking.

"Lord Miligas, are you satisfied with this outcome?"

"Of course, I am more than satisfied. I never expected Lord Ji Chen to find the flaw in the Gremolagen family from such a unique perspective," Miligas laughed heartily, his eyes filled with delight.

He truly hadn't expected that the breakthrough in solving this challenging case would come from a kept young man. The effect had been incredibly good, as they had effortlessly caused the Gremolagen family to bleed profusely, resolved the disruption to the Queen's ceremony, and strengthened their control over the Maple Principality.

This was killing two birds with one stone!

Thinking about the credit for this matter, Miligas was in a great mood and said, "I am deeply grateful for your assistance in breaking this case in just a few days. I've already had my soldiers transport the agreed-upon crystal rewards, and they will be delivered to you soon. I assure you, it won't disappoint you!"

Ji Chen smiled and said, "Thank you in advance, Lord Miligas."

Soon, Elven soldiers brought in chests filled with luminescent crystals, and Ji Chen, to the surprise of the Elves, began to collect the crystals from each chest one by one. When the last chest was emptied, the counter on the item panel stopped its continuous movement.

“Ding- You have collected a total of sixty thousand units of crystal.”

With this sixty thousand units, his crystal inventory now reached a total of 67,500 units. It was more than enough to cover the crystals needed for the construction of the Heraklion Temple.

Just by talking a bit and spending some gold coins, he could get a reward of tens of thousands of crystals. This deal was truly worthwhile!

Under Miligas’s warm farewell, Ji Chen left the Elven Embassy and returned to the Black Gold District Cat’s Tail Tavern.

“Have you done what I instructed you to do?”

Luo Yang replied respectfully, “As per your instructions, I gave that player two hundred thousand gold coins and sent him on his way to Lienhardt. He’s probably on the road by now.”

The young player had provided crucial information, making him well deserving of this hefty reward.

Ji Chen nodded and, with a flick of his hand, placed a glass bottle containing golden liquid into Luo Yang’s hands. He said lightly in the face of Luo Yang’s surprised look, “You’ve done well with these tasks. I’m very satisfied. This is a potion that can enhance your life potential. Consider it a reward.”

Luo Yang looked at the potion in his hand, his eyes filled with excitement.

Even for a player like him who had no combat capabilities, he knew how valuable something that could increase life potential was.

Enhancing career tiers, increasing lifespan, improving hero potential, and so on—this potion was an invaluable item!

“Thank you, Young Master Zhao! As long as you give the word, I won’t hesitate to face any danger, even if it means going through hell!”

Ji Chen smiled faintly. “As long as you sincerely help me with my tasks, I won’t let you down.

Next, you’ll clean up the shop on the south-facing street in the city. We’ll soon have a batch of wine to be delivered there for sale.”

“But I mentioned to you earlier that selling alcohol requires...”

Ji Chen waved his hand. “I’ve already talked to the Elves about this. You don’t need to worry. Our wine, along with other goods, will enter the Maple Principality without tax. The permit to sell alcohol will be issued shortly.

Later, you’ll go to Maple Port and find a merchant named Raymond to coordinate with him.”

Luo Yang suddenly realized the magnitude of what they had accomplished for the Elves this time, so this task seemed like a minor issue.

“I understand.”

Ji Chen thought for a moment and added, “When you meet him, tell him it was

Ji Chen who sent you.”

“Ji Chen?”

Luo Yang paused, feeling like he had heard that name before. After a moment of reflection, he suddenly looked up, his eyes filled with astonishment.

Ji Chen, wasn't that the Islander from the forums?!

And the Islander turned out to be Young Master Zhao?

Luo Yang realized this only now, but Ji Chen had already left. His heart remained unsettled for a long time.

After leaving Black Gold District, Ji Chen went to Maple Port to instruct Raymond about importing goods. Then he led his troops back to the Ocean Crown.

This trip to the Maple Principality had yielded many rewards.

Tens of thousands of crystals, unique wonder blueprints, reaching level fifty, recruiting five sixth-tier units, a legendary Druid certificate, an above-epic Siren potential template, and Alice's potential upgraded to epic tier...

Plus the title and list of “Silvermoon Dynasty Friendly Territory” given by the Elves.

Thinking about these rewards, any one of which could drive players crazy, a satisfied smile formed at the corner of Ji Chen's mouth.

However, there were still some regrets on this trip.

He had instructed Luo Yang and the Elves to find a merchant named Ari Camp who had come from the Desert Kingdom of the Southern Continent.

According to Miligas, Ari Camp had arrived in the Maple Principality and had requested to see him at the Elven Embassy. However, he and Black were not in the embassy at the time, so the guards ignored him.

Then, according to customs records, Ari Camp had seemingly left the Maple Principality with his servants not long after, by ship. His whereabouts were unknown.

Ji Chen's plan to develop a route to the Southern Continent had fallen through. He had asked Luo Yang, Raymond, and the Elves to keep an eye out, but he didn't dwell on it.

It wasn't that he didn't want to find Ari Camp; it was just that there was no direction or clue to follow, so he could only go with the flow.

This forced him to start thinking about other ways to develop the route.

After thinking for a long time, he couldn't come up with any effective plans immediately. Ji Chen closed his eyes, blew the gentle sea breeze, and temporarily cleared his mind.

At that moment, he suddenly felt a long and deep roar coming from the east, which surprised him slightly and made him open his eyes.

Was that... a dragon's roar?

Was there a dragon nearby?!

Ji Chen's interest was piqued instantly.

Dragons were rare creatures, and judging from the majestic roar that sounded like it could pierce through gold and stone, it was at least a second-tier dragon species!

Without the slightest hesitation, Ji Chen immediately changed the direction of his army and rushed towards the direction of the dragon's roar.

As the saying goes, "Thirty years on the east bank of the river, thirty years on the west bank." (T/N: A Chinese idiom that emphasizes the fluidity of life and the need to adapt to changing circumstances.)

The Ocean Crown's current power had grown to the point where it could contend with powerful dragon species. He had two legendary-tier heroes and two legacy-tier heroes by his side. Even if it was a second-tier dragon species, they could give it a run for its money!

This unknown dragon species seemed to have no intention of concealing its whereabouts at all. It roared loudly all the way, spreading throughout the entire sea area.

They soon saw a dragon with a deep blue body soaring in the sky, playfully chasing a group of large sea eagles.

It was more like teasing than hunting.

This deep blue dragon was about twenty-five meters long, with wings on its back and four limbs with sharp, metallic-like claws.

With a flap of its scaly wings, it created a sharp hurricane that sent the panicked sea eagles tumbling in all directions. It caught up to them but didn't attack, just flying up and down around them, creating chaotic air currents that left the sea eagles in a sorry state.

The high-pitched dragon roars sounded more like mockery of its prey.

[Ocean Dragon (Adult)]

[Race]: Dragon

[Tier]: Sixth Tier, 6 stars

[Level]: 50

[Skills]: N/A

Dragons in the second generation were usually quite powerful, often at or above the sixth tier. However, this particular Ocean Dragon was comparatively weaker, sitting at the sixth tier with 6 stars.

If there were a large group of Ocean Dragons, Ji Chen might have been more cautious, but a single one didn't pose a significant threat.

At this moment, the Ocean Dragon, which had been chasing its prey, also noticed Ji Chen and his group of "intruders." It instinctively let out a loud roar and started flying towards them. However, upon closer inspection, it saw dozens of weaker auras and a few auras that seemed unusual among the sea creatures. The entire dragon stopped in its tracks.

Just a moment of hesitation, and the Ocean Dragon flapped its wings and fled into the distance.

Ji Chen was momentarily stunned and quickly shouted, "Chase after it!"

## Chapter 635: Life and Death Speed, Dragon Slaying

The speed of dragon species was quite fast, especially for winged dragons like the flying dragons. Their muscular wings were akin to engines, capable of unleashing tremendous power.

In just a short while, that Ocean Dragon had surged quite a distance ahead. Its wingtips created milky-white contrails, defying aerodynamics as it soared up and down amidst the clouds.

When it came to flying abilities, flying dragons were considered the top tier.

Ji Chen led a formation of a hundred Sea Crystal Wyverns shaped like a flying V. This smart formation reduced air resistance, helping them fly even faster than the Ocean Dragon, which struggled to keep up closely behind them.

The Ocean Dragon, seeing its pursuers hot on its tail, appeared agitated. It harnessed its magical power to further increase its flying speed.

Seeing this, Ji Chen muttered, “Keep up!”

The Sea Crystal Wyverns responded with low growls, and three pairs of diamond-shaped crystal wings changed their positions.

The last pair, in particular, emitted blue beams, leaving long trails behind as their flight speed gradually increased.

[Light-Speed Flight (Orange Skill, changed crystal wing posture, gradually entered high-speed flight mode, doubled flight speed, difficult to stop in this state)]

By then, the Naga Legion and the Dragonblood Legion were far behind, leaving only Benbo on the sea surface, following the trail of the Sea Crystal Wyverns.

Due to the excessive speed, Ji Chen had to crouch halfway, squinting his eyes to look ahead.

Only the Ocean Dragon seemed to be pushing its throttle to the maximum, and its speed suddenly shot up again. At this point, its wings had retracted to the rear, taking on a triangular wing shape similar to a fighter jet.

Gradually turning into an invisible dot, it was about to escape their field of vision.

The Sea Crystal Wyverns couldn't bear it any longer and roared. Deep within their bodies, their blood surged, pumping a majestic power into their bodies and wings.

[Bloodline Ability]: Sea Crystal Core (All attributes increased by 40%, self-recovery speed greatly enhanced, flight speed increased by an additional 150%, beam condensation speed and damage increased by 300%)

A tremendous pressure pinned Ji Chen tightly to the dragon's back. The surroundings became blurry, filled with shapeless remnants, and the enormous wind pressure formed a V-shaped white mark on the dragon's head, with countless other white marks forming a large inverted V shape.

If someone gazed up from the ocean, they'd spot a speck soaring across the sky. Several kilometers back, a line of black dots formed an inverted V shape in the upper atmosphere, zipping along at an astonishing speed, even causing clouds to scatter.

The Ocean Dragon sensed the malice behind it and was going crazy!

Had it done anything to provoke these sea dragons and this human? All it did was let out a few roars. What could this conflict be about?

Could it be those troublesome dragon-slaying heroes causing a ruckus once more?

At the thought of this possibility, the Ocean Dragon's face turned pale. It imagined itself being skinned, dismembered, bled, and its heart removed. In its desperation, it couldn't slow down but wished it had more wings, forcibly squeezing every ounce of strength from its body.

It flew toward its lair.

As long as it could return to its lair, its companions would help eliminate these enemies!

Ji Chen, who was following closely behind, saw that the Ocean Dragon didn't seem to be aimlessly flying but rather heading back to its territory. He couldn't help but smile.

In the second generation of dragons, some preferred to live alone, while others chose to live in communities. This particular dragon was definitely part of the group-dwelling category.

This was an excellent opportunity to obtain a large amount of dragon blood!

Seeing that the Ocean Dragon was on the verge of exhaustion, Ji Chen patted its back, and the Sea Crystal Wyvern immediately understood, slightly reducing its speed, maintaining a distance not too close, but never too far, trailing behind.

They followed all the way.

An hour later.

The Ocean Dragon in front suddenly changed direction and swooped down below, disappearing beneath the white clouds.

Ji Chen's expression brightened, and without hesitation, he directed the Sea Crystal Wyverns to follow suit, descending below.

Passing through the cloud layer, they soon saw a steep conical rocky mountain standing alone on the sea's surface, hundreds of meters high, covered in caves of various sizes.

The Ocean Dragon, as if returning to its nest, plummeted straight down, crying out loudly. Even Ji Chen could sense the grievance in its voice.

Suddenly, dragons clad in scales, brandishing their teeth and claws, emerged from the caves on the rocky mountain, all taking flight together by flapping their wings.

A quick glance revealed there were over a hundred of them.

Ocean Dragons, Tier 6, 6 stars, in groups of two hundred.

Dragon species, which were rarely seen in the past, were now abundant here. They either perched on the rocky mountain or circled around it. The sheer number of dragons gathered here was enough to shake the sky.

"Prepare for battle."

Despite the Ocean Dragons outnumbering the Sea Crystal Wyverns and being of a higher tier, with the likes of Herald, Alice, and other legendary-tier and even epic-tier heroes, they might not be powerless.

The Ocean Dragon that had been chased by them all along seemed to communicate with a few roars, and the other Ocean Dragons immediately flapped their wings and flew towards them, launching an attack.

Before they could fully charge at them, the Sea Crystal Wyverns struck first. Beams of light descended from the sky like divine punishment.

The high-temperature beams seared round wounds into the thick dragon scales, and scorching dragon blood flowed out instantly. Many wings that were hit had large holes torn through them..

Chapter 636: Speed of Life and Death, Slaying a Dragon (2)

However, for a dragon with strong vitality, such injuries could only be considered a brief moment of pain. After a short, painful groan, it quickly adjusted its posture, dodging the incoming beams while swiftly closing in.

A shadow suddenly shot out from the formation. Herald spread his wings and glided towards the enemy. As he crossed paths with the frontmost Ocean Dragon, his wings abruptly changed position, facing outward.

Like sails caught in a fierce wind, Herald's descent speed instantly slowed down. At the same time, his claws extended, resembling the sharpest blades, effortlessly tearing through dragon scales and leaving deep wounds on the right side of the dragon's body.

Without losing any momentum, his massive claws tore through half of the dragon's wing.

The Ocean Dragon let out a painful roar as a portion of its wing was torn apart. It lost balance and began to fall from the sky.

Herald remained calm and unfazed, spreading his wings. At the same time, he hurled a lightning orb from his hand, which hit the dragon's head directly, exploding on impact. The burst of energy tore through the dragon's head, instantly ending its life.

A legendary-tier hero dealing with a sixth-tier creature – it was that simple and effortless.

After achieving his first victory, Herald soared once more, diving towards another Ocean Dragon nearby.

With each sweep of his claw, another Ocean Dragon fell.

With each burst of lightning, another dragon's charred corpse plummeted.

Compared to Herald, who had the ability to fly, Anina's combat style was much more conservative. She rode a Sea Crystal Wyrn, wielding a large sword as she fought like a dragon knight against the enemy.

Under the sword's radiance, the enemies also fell like rain.

Alice had already joined the battle from the beginning, her song echoing throughout the sea and sky. It greatly enhanced her allies' abilities, while the enemies struggled to unleash their full potential.

Some of the Ocean Dragons sensed that something was amiss with the song. About ten or twenty of them immediately diverted from the battlefield, heading towards Ji Chen, Alice, and their group, their eyes gleaming with cruelty.

Those two powerful sea clan heroes couldn't even stop them, so how could a mere human resist?

Unfortunately for the Ocean Dragons, they had picked a tough opponent.

Ji Chen glanced at them casually and waved his hand. Suddenly, a surge of seawater rose into the sky, transforming into hundreds of Water Sea Crystal Wyrms.

[Subskill: Condense Water into Soldiers (Purple Skill: Can generate several combat-conscious water soldiers)]

Each of these Water Sea Crystal Wyrms was at Tier Five with five stars, organized in groups of ten to confront the more than ten Ocean Dragons charging at them.

Tier Five creatures faced off against Tier Six creatures, a substantial gap, and dozens of them were torn apart in an instant.

The Ocean Dragons were initially startled when they saw hundreds of unexpected enemies appear, but upon realizing that these were imposters, they roared arrogantly.

However, just as they were excited, the damaged bodies of the Water Sea Crystal Wyrms quickly mended themselves, and a moment later, they charged back at the Ocean Dragons, as if nothing had happened.

What's going on!?

The Ocean Dragons were dumbfounded, but they still used their claws and lightning spells to easily kill these enemies.

However, right before their eyes, they watched as the Water Sea Crystal Wyrms rapidly returned to their original state.

These Ocean Dragons had lived for hundreds of years and had never seen anything so bizarre.

No matter if they used their claws to bite or their lightning magic to attack, these enemies would quickly recover within moments, as if they were immortal.

Oh my dragon god, are those Sea Crystal Wyrms ghosts?

Just as two groups of one hundred Ocean Dragons were being slaughtered, from the largest cave in the rocky mountain, a particularly massive dragon slowly crawled out. It watched as its fellow kin fell from the sky one by one, and it let out an angry roar.

This roar caught Ji Chen's attention.

"Is that... the leader of the Ocean Dragon monsters?"

The leader of the Ocean Dragon monsters, Red-Legacy Tier, level 55.

Ji Chen looked at this leader dragon, which was at least thirty meters long with a wingspan of several tens of meters, resembling a large truck. He was slightly surprised. It was the first time he had seen a Red-Legacy Tier monster leader, especially a dragon.

If he had encountered this in the past, he would have turned and run, but now he wasn't as fearful.

Red-Legacy Tier?

It couldn't even compare to the average level of his main hero units.

However, it would be a bit of a waste to simply kill it. If they could capture it, perhaps it could become a steady source of blood production...

After making up his mind, Ji Chen immediately gave the order.

"Herald, deal with this Ocean Dragon leader."

Upon hearing this, Herald, who was in the midst of battle, spread his wings and changed his target.

The anger of the Ocean Dragon leader had reached its limit. When it saw the enemy approaching it voluntarily, it let out a resounding dragon roar. Its four claws pressed against the top of the rocky mountain, and its dragon mouth opened wide.

A thick bolt of lightning suddenly spewed forth.

Ocean Dragons excelled in wielding lightning magic, using their breath to unleash bolts of lightning instead of the typical dragonfire.

Facing this erupting lightning serpent, Herald showed no sign of retreat. He tossed out a lightning orb, and the lightning orb collided with the lightning beam, instantly exploding.

In the midst of the burst of electric light, another lightning orb pierced through layers of lightning, exploding directly in front of the Ocean Dragon leader.

Boom!

The lightning orb burst into a web of lightning serpents, spreading through the air like a spider's web.

As Ocean Dragons, lightning and thunder spells didn't cause them significant harm, but it left the Ocean Dragon leader looking disheveled, with its scales charred and blackened.

Although the damage wasn't significant, the insult was profound.

The Ocean Dragon leader let out a roar of fury. Its massive body, seemingly weightless, suddenly soared into the sky under the flapping of its two meaty wings. It flew high into the air, its mouth wide open with a gaping maw, ready to strike..

Chapter 637: Speed of Life and Death, Slaying a Dragon (3)

The lightning spell was just one of their abilities; their formidable physique was their pride and strength!

Dragons, the rulers of the skies.

Nagas, the overlords of the ocean.

Two races that lived in completely different realms were now locked in combat.

As a legendary-tier hero, Herald's combat prowess undoubtedly ranked among the best in the realm of oceanic rulers. His physical strength and lightning spells were both impressive, but being of an oceanic race, his expertise lay in battles at sea, not in the sky.

On the other hand, the Ocean Dragon Lord, despite being only a legacy-tier ruler, was a natural master of the sky. Its aerial combat abilities were exceptional, and even if it faced an opponent of equal tier, it showed no fear.

Hence, their battle raged on, with neither side able to decisively claim victory.

While the Ocean Dragon Lord held its own in combat, the ordinary Ocean Dragons couldn't match its strength. With the assistance of Anina and Alice, the Sea Crystal Wynns were swiftly annihilating them.

A piercing dragon's roar marked the fall of one of the Ocean Dragons.

Ji Chen held them up in the sea and collected their dragon blood.

As unit after unit of dragon blood was gathered in containers, a smile slowly formed on Ji Chen's face.

This wave of dragon blood would likely allow the Blue Dragon Blood Murlocs to advance further, perhaps even reaching the sixth-tier unit ranks!

As the last Ocean Dragon heavily crashed into the sea, on the other side, Herald's battle with the Ocean Dragon Lord seemed to be reaching its conclusion.

Herald was covered in wounds, but his serpent pupils were exceptionally bright. Using his "petite" physique, he constantly sought out blind spots in the Ocean Dragon Lord's field of vision, skillfully evading claw strikes and bites.

Rip—

Once again, he circled to the creature's back and struck fiercely with his claws, causing a profuse flow of blood from the newly opened wound.

At this point, the Ocean Dragon Lord was no longer as active as it had been at the start. Its body was covered in wounds, both large and small, and the steadily flowing blood made it increasingly weak. Its movements became sluggish, and its attacks lost their former strength and speed.

Roar!!

"You treacherous sea-dwelling creatures, if you have the guts, come at me head-on!"

The Ocean Dragon Lord roared in despair. Seeing that there were no surviving members of its clan nearby and feeling that it was truly about to meet its end here, it was filled with bitter indignation.

"Damn you, sea creatures! Even if I have to die, I'll drag you down with me!"

Crazy thoughts surged in his mind.

Deep within the dragon's body, the unique bloodline belonging to the dragon race began to boil madly. Wounds started to heal, and his strength returned like a rushing river, causing his damaged wings to flutter.

In a matter of moments, the Ocean Dragon Lord was fully restored. Its aura became several times more powerful, and its eyes regained their luster.

They clashed once more.

However, this was clearly a last-ditch effort. Herald didn't engage it head-on but instead dodged with incredible agility.

Ten minutes later, the Ocean Dragon Lord's aura quickly dwindled, and it fell onto a rocky hill. It lay there, powerless, between the rocks, like a flickering candle, with only faint breaths remaining.

"Lord, mission accomplished." Herald returned to Ji Chen's side and said solemnly.

Ji Chen nodded slightly and handed him a vial of life potion.

"Suspend its life; it's useful to me."

"Understood." Herald immediately flew over and used his claws to sever the Ocean Dragon Lord's limbs, tear apart its wings, and turn it into a dragon pig.

Only then did he pour the potion into its mouth, barely keeping it alive.

"Anina, go inside the rocky hill and see what's there."

In theory, dragons were greedy, and their lairs often contained vast wealth. With so many Ocean Dragons occupying this area, there should be quite a bit.

Anina obeyed the order, riding a Sea Crystal Wyrms into a cave and quickly walking deeper inside.

Soon, she returned, calling out loudly, "Lord, there are some gold coins inside, as well as dragon eggs!"

Dragon eggs?

Ji Chen's interest was piqued upon hearing this. He immediately had the Sea Crystal Wyrms land and entered the cave.

The cave was very dark and damp, but it was relatively clean, without any dirt or filth like feces. It seemed that the Ocean Dragons didn't defecate in their living quarters.

After passing through the dim cave, they arrived in a natural hall, where a stone platform in the center held ten dragon eggs, each as tall as a person. On one side of the hall, there was a pile of gold coins resembling a small mountain.

[Ocean Dragon Dragon Eggs]

[Successfully hatching can produce Ocean Dragon hatchlings, which can eventually grow into 6th Tier 8-Star Ocean Dragons]

Ten 6th Tier 8-Star Ocean Dragons would indeed be a formidable force.

However, Ji Chen didn't feel particularly excited. Although they could grow into proper dragons, this process would take decades, if not centuries. By that time, it would be too late.

Moreover, the growth rate of the Crown of the Ocean was definitely faster than this.

It was a bit of a letdown, neither appealing nor worth keeping.

Dragon eggs couldn't be stored in the backpack, so Ji Chen had a few Sea Crystal Wyrms come in to carry the dragon eggs on their backs.

As for the wealth in the hall, it was likely all gold coins. Ji Chen took a quick look and collected them.

“Ding- You’ve obtained 4,563,300 gold coins...”

“Ding- You’ve acquired one fragment of Gloria’s Elf Treasury Key.”

Ji Chen was momentarily stunned..

Chapter 638: Three Treasury Key Fragments, Legendary-  
Tier Druid A Martino

When an unexpected prompt came in, Ji Chen couldn’t help but pause for a moment.

His mind raced as he searched through his backpack, and quickly discovered a metal fragment emitting runic light in a corner.

Another treasury key fragment?

The very key fragment that the gnome merchant had mentioned as being lost in the Western-Mid Ocean was right here in this dragon’s nest!

Including this one, he currently possessed three key fragments. He got one from the gnome merchant, another from the 7-star dungeon of the Irante Temple, and this most recent one from the ocean dragon’s lair. This meant he had acquired nearly half of the seven key fragments required.

Currently, aside from these three, two key fragments were with the elves, one with the dwarves, and one was still missing. If he could obtain the one from the dwarves and find the elusive final fragment, perhaps he could unveil the ancient elven capital lost in the river of time.

He needed to remember that he had Gloria’s map!

However, the fact that two key fragments were with the elves posed a bit of a challenge. The elves were not to be underestimated, and he had no idea how they would react if they found out he had so many key fragments.

Ji Chen shook his head, putting this matter aside for now. Regardless of the circumstances, he first needed to obtain the other scattered key fragments and then inquire and test the elves’ attitude on this matter.

After confirming that there was nothing valuable left behind, he exited the cave.

At this moment, Benbo had just arrived with the Naga Legion and the Dragonblood Legion.

“Benbo, you’re late. We’ve already finished,” Anina said with a playful smile.

This dragon-blooded Murloc, who had recently been promoted to a legendary tier, froze for a moment, a hint of frustration in his eyes.

Damn, he had rushed all the way here, wanting to make a good impression, and as soon as he arrived, he was told that it was already over!?

Seeing him feeling a bit down, Ji Chen couldn’t help but smile.

“Take the Ocean Dragon Sovereign and these Ocean Dragon corpses with us, we’re returning to the Ocean Crown.”

“Yes!”

Several Sea Crystal Wynns grabbed the paralyzed Ocean Dragon Sovereign and took flight, while others each carried a ocean dragon corpse. The remaining corpses were carried by Ji Chen, using the seawater to support them.

They headed back in the direction of their territory.

Two days later, they returned to the New Moon Islands.

When the massive body of the Ocean Dragon Sovereign and the two hundred ocean dragon corpses landed heavily in the square in front of the Lord’s Castle, the residents of the Ocean Crown gathered around, looking at their lord with astonishment and admiration in their eyes.

They cheered without exception.

Even immensely powerful dragons could be defeated, cut down like a mere pig, and brought back with all four limbs removed. So, what other foe was there that their great Lord couldn’t overcome?

Even the three hundred elves who had pledged their allegiance to the Ocean Crown looked on in surprise. After all, the dragon that had been decapitated and had its limbs cut off was a legacy-tier Ocean Dragon Sovereign, a high-level dragon species, not some ordinary land dragon.

In addition to these two hundred ocean dragons, it seemed like they had just wiped out an entire ocean dragon tribe, right?

Back in the day, the dragon race had shone brightly in the Divine War, just like their elven race. Countless dragon species, under the leadership of the Dragon God, had united and occupied the fertile land of the Dragon Wilderness, building a formidable Dragon Kingdom.

Unfortunately, now, let alone dragons, even the second-generation dragons and sky dragons were few and far between. What was more common were lower-tier dragon species or dragon descendants. The decline of such a powerful race was truly lamentable.

Ji Chen spoke a few words to the residents before instructing the lizardmen to move the dragon corpses to the Half-Orc Tribe. Half-Orcs were skilled in handling hunting games, and they could maximize the use of materials from the dragons, reducing waste.

There were a total of two hundred ocean dragons here, and just the dragon blood alone amounted to ten thousand units. Other parts were equally valuable materials that were rarely found.

Dragon scales and dragonhide could be used to make armor, dragon claws, and bones for crafting weapons, dragon tendons as bowstrings, and dragon meat was also a good source of food.

The harvest from this expedition was bountiful and not something that could be processed in a short time.

Feeling weary from the journey, Ji Chen gave some brief instructions and then returned to his Lord’s Castle to rest.

He lay down on the soft, cloud-like bed and fell into a deep sleep, only waking up the next morning.

Ji Chen emerged from his room feeling refreshed, and the maid waiting at the door greeted him with delight.

“Lord, you’re awake? Sir Wilus has been waiting for you in the hall since early morning. He said he has something to report.”

“Wilus? Why didn’t he wake me up?”

The maid looked a bit dejected. “Sir Wilus said not to disturb your sleep. He thought you must be exhausted after several days of campaigning.”

Ji Chen paused and then said, “Alright, I’ll go to him now.”

In the hall, Wilus was already waiting.

Whether it was his imagination or not, it seemed like Wilus had a bit more white hair on his head than before. There was a mixture of black and white strands, and a few more wrinkles at the corners of his eyes.

Although he looked sharp and capable, there was an unmistakable sense of deep exhaustion in his eyes.

For a moment, Ji Chen felt a mix of relief and sympathy.

During his absence, Wilus had managed the Ocean Crown on his own, and the responsibilities and pressure he bore must have been immense. The Ocean Crown had grown far beyond its initial size, with tens of thousands of human residents and over a hundred thousand lizardmen. It had various industries, and managing such a territory was no easy task..

Chapter 639: Three Treasury Key Fragments, Legendary- Tier Druid Martino (2)

It looked like he’d need to find a few more administrative-type heroes to help Wilus share some of the pressure.

Wilus heard Ji Chen’s footsteps and turned to greet him, “My Lord, are you awake?”

Ji Chen nodded and took a seat at the head of the long table.

Seeing Wilus standing like this, he smiled and said, “Please, have a seat.”

Wilus hesitated for a moment and replied, “There’s a distinction between master and servant, my lord. I think it’s better if I stand while reporting.”

Ji Chen responded, “I heard from the maid that you’ve been standing here all morning. You must be tired. If I wear you out, I won’t be able to find a second person to help manage the territory.”

“Thank you for your generosity, my lord.” With some hesitation, Wilus finally sat down in the chair, but only occupied half of it.

In terms of loyalty and respect, this middle-aged man was undoubtedly among the foremost in the Ocean Crown.

“My Lord, during your absence...” After sitting down, Wilus began to report on the state of the territory.

Thanks to the coordination of this rare-tier administrative hero, various resources and manpower were able to flow and be utilized with relatively high efficiency during this time. The Ocean Crown had made significant progress.

Agriculture and industry both experienced growth, and a new workshop was added to the underground lizardmen world. The cultivation of sea rice and other crops proceeded smoothly...

The construction of the 7-star hero fountain had already begun and was now two-thirds complete. It was expected to be finished this week, which would increase the chances of producing heroes for the Ocean Crown.

As for the grape cultivation, which Ji Chen valued highly, the first batch had been harvested in the past two days. While the quality of the grapes did not meet the expected level, they were of relatively high quality. A few adjustments in the next planting cycle would likely yield grapes suitable for producing high-quality wine in the renowned mainland.

“Leysha mentioned that she needs more skilled hands, preferably those with experience in cultivation and winemaking.”

Ji Chen smiled and said, “This time, I happened to obtain a legendary-tier Druid hero summoning voucher during my journey. I believe it can be of help to young Leysha.”

Wilus exclaimed, “That’s fantastic! I heard that Druids are extremely skilled in cultivating plants like elves. They might even be able to cultivate sea rice.”

“Very well.”

With that, Ji Chen wasted no time and took out the voucher, immediately putting it to use.

“Ding- You have used a legendary-level Druid hero summoning voucher, but the recipient does not respond to your summons.”

Such a prompt left Ji Chen somewhat stunned, followed by a wry smile.

Oh, he could do something like this?

Well, it seems that summoning this Druid hero might require a little extra effort.

Ji Chen tried again, this time releasing an epic-level profession aura and the aura of the ocean’s power.

This time, the voucher trembled slightly and emitted a dazzling green light. Accompanied by a beam of light that pierced through the roof, an elf with a slender figure appeared before his eyes.

This elf had an extremely handsome appearance, with a somewhat androgynous quality to his aura. He wore simple clothing and held a staff adorned with a green gem.

His green hair, entwined with vine-like bands, was striking but not gaudy, exuding a vibrant and lively feeling that made people feel comfortable and pleasing to the eye.

Well, it seemed that elves didn’t have ugly men or women after all.

While Ji Chen observed, the legendary-tier Druid also looked him over.

After a moment, as if satisfied, he nodded.

Very well. Although the one who summoned him was a human, at least he had a decent appearance and his strength was passable, not tarnishing the name of this legendary-tier Druid.

He gracefully performed an elegant gesture and spoke with a unique elven accent, “Legendary-tier Druid, Martino responds to your summons.”

Ji Chen nodded slightly and said in a gentle tone, “Martino, welcome to the Ocean Crown. I am Ji Chen, the lord of this territory.”

“Ocean Crown? It seems, my lord, that you have ambitions as vast as the ocean. Although I do not possess formidable combat abilities, I am willing to contribute my expertise to help you achieve greatness.” Martino smiled.

Ji Chen laughed heartily, “Excellent! With your presence, Martino, I am like a tiger with wings.”

“Perfect, there is a task that requires your assistance. The Ocean Crown cultivates sea rice and grapes for winemaking. This is related to our food supply and the export of alcoholic beverages, and we need your expertise.”

Martino’s face brimmed with confidence as he once again bowed. “I am willing to serve you.”

If there was one thing he could guarantee, it was that when it came to crop cultivation and nurturing, Druids were among the foremost experts.

Seeing this, Ji Chen nodded in agreement. With the help of this legendary-tier Druid, he believed there would soon be significant breakthroughs in agriculture.

Without further delay, Martino immediately went to inspect the areas dedicated to sea rice and grape cultivation.

Ji Chen then came back to his senses and took out the blueprint of the Heraklion Temple, handing it to Wilus.

“Coordinate the resources and commence construction as soon as possible.”

Wilus looked at the spread-out blueprint on the table, examined it closely, and his expression changed slightly. “My Lord, this wonder blueprint requires an enormous amount of resources, and we do not have such a massive stockpile at the moment.

Our current stone reserves are approximately 1.2 million units, rare resources are just below 7 million units, and if we include the crystals you brought back, we have enough, totaling 66,500 units..”

Chapter 640: Three Treasury Key Fragments, Legendary- Tier Druid Martino (3)

Ji Chen tapped his finger on the table and said, “It’s okay if we don’t have enough resources for now. We can start building gradually, one step at a time. I’ll figure out the resources for the future.”

“Understood, I’ll coordinate the manpower as soon as possible,” Wilus nodded and asked, “So, where should we build it?”

Ji Chen thought for a moment and replied, “Build it on the west side of the Lord’s Castle by the coast.”

The Crown of the Ocean was centered around the Lord’s Castle. The best development was on the east side with a bustling port area, while the north side was an industrial area with many workshops and warehouses. The only relatively open space near the Lord’s Castle was on the west side.

Apart from scattered cottages, there were some jungle plantations in the area. However, these could all be relocated to make space for wonders.

Wilus nodded in understanding. It was indeed one of the few good plots of land left.

He then presented several matters that required Ji Chen’s decision, and after careful consideration, Ji Chen gave clear instructions.

By the time everything was completed, two hours had already passed.

“...That’s all for now. If there’s nothing else, I’ll go and attend to the tasks you assigned me,” Wilus respectfully said, ready to leave. However, he was stopped by Ji Chen’s words.

Wilus looked at the golden liquid on the table with a hint of surprise, “My Lord, what is this?”

Ji Chen smiled slightly. “Consider this bottle of Water of Life elixir as a reward for you. I hope you will continue to contribute to the Crown of the Ocean.”

Wilus hesitated for a moment. Although he didn’t know what Water of Life was, just by smelling the scent emanating from the bottle, he felt a burst of excitement in his body, indicating that this was no ordinary item.

Gratitude appeared on his face. “Thank you, My Lord, for your generosity!”

In the hall, only Ji Chen remained. Before he could catch his breath, the door suddenly swung open, and a short and stout figure entered.

“Kid, I heard you killed a lot of ocean dragons this time!?”

Ji Chen lowered his gaze and saw the dwarf Thotmudo stride in, his beard on his chin as unkempt as ever.

Ji Chen couldn’t help but smile.

“Yes, Sir Thotmudo, but this time I didn’t bring back any wine for you.”

Thotmudo climbed onto a chair and sat down, casually saying, “It’s okay, you still have plenty of wine in your warehouse... I came here because I want the dragon tendons from those ocean dragons to make some dragon-hunting crossbows.”

“Dragon-hunting crossbows? Is that a dwarf weapon?”

“Yes, it’s a 5-star defense weapon that happens to require dragon tendons as materials. It’s extremely powerful... You can decide whether to give them to me or not. If you do, I’ll help you make them; if not, forget it.”

Seeing Thotmudo wanting to explain but finding it too troublesome, Ji Chen couldn’t help but chuckle.

“Of course, you can ask Wilus for them. Sir Thotmudo, you’re already a part of the Crown of the Ocean, and you’re trustworthy. You don’t need to come all the way here to ask me. Just have an apprentice inform us directly.”

Thotmudo immediately straightened his face upon hearing this and appeared a bit impatient, “Alright, since you’ve agreed, I’ll go get them. I don’t want to go onto the surface any longer, so I can avoid those pointy-eared folks.

If you have any business, go to the underground workshop to find me. That’s it.”

With that, Thotmudo hopped off the chair and made his way to the door, moving with a noticeable spring in his step compared to when he had entered.

Ji Chen shook his head with a smile.

After a short break, he got up and walked out of the Lord’s Castle, heading to the water area where the recruitment camps for ocean units were located. There, he placed five new recruitment camps for the Heavy Armor Toothfish Knights.

[Heavy Armor Toothfish Knight Recruitment Camp]

[Tier]: 6th Tier, 2 stars / 5th Tier, 8 stars

[Weekly Recruitment Limit]: 10

[Current Available Recruitment]: 10

[Recruitment Cost]: 20 units of Spirit Crystals

Similar to the Sea Crystal Wurm, each Heavy Armor Toothfish Knight Recruitment Camp could recruit 10 units per week. With five camps, that was 50 units, which equaled to a thousand units of Spirit Crystals.

Adding to the Sea Crystal Wurm, recruiting these two 6th-tier units required a total of two thousand units of Spirit Crystals every week, equivalent to several hundred thousand rare resources.

Looking at it this way, even if he needed to allocate some Spirit Crystals for constructing the Wonder blueprint, the sixty thousand Spirit Crystals he just acquired should be able to support him for quite some time.

Ji Chen casually opened the unit talent tree and navigated to the pages for the Sea Crystal Wurm and the Heavy Armor Toothfish Knight.

[Sea Crystal Wurm (6th Tier, 2 stars)]

[Upgrade to 6th Tier, 7 stars requires three hundred thousand units of Spirit Crystals]

[Heavy Armor Toothfish Knight]

[Upgrade to 6th Tier, 6 stars requires two hundred and seventy thousand units of Spirit Crystals]

My goodness, this is insane!

Seeing the string of zeros and the astronomical amount of Spirit Crystals needed, Ji Chen couldn't help but feel a headache coming on.

When would he ever be able to collect several hundred thousand Spirit Crystals? Even the entire Spirit Crystal inventory of an entire principality of Elves was only sixty thousand. It seemed like he'd have to find a Spirit Crystal vein to mine in order to gather that many.

It appeared that upgrading the units was going to be a long and challenging journey.

Just as Ji Chen was about to close the unit talent tree, he suddenly noticed an inconspicuous page at the end.

[Unit Fusion]

Hmm?

When did this appear? Why was he not aware of it?