

System 1091

Chapter 1091: Aftermath of the Calamity _2

Now, ordered by the Manor Lord, they were forcibly awakened and gathered.

It wasn't until more than ten minutes later.

The Guard Captain appeared again before Devant, bowing with respect and speaking politely.

"Master, all the men in the manor house have gathered."

"Together with the peasants, there are a total of four thousand five hundred people!"

"Among them, nine hundred are guards."

Devant pondered for a moment and said, "Equip each of them with a weapon."

"Prioritize weapons for the guards; if there aren't enough, equip the peasants with iron farming tools. Make sure everyone has a weapon."

The Guard Captain dared not be slow, quickly responding.

"Yes, Master."

Devant gazed ahead.

In the actions of the guards.

Weapons and iron farming tools were distributed to the guards and peasants.

In Devant's mind, thoughts were brewing constantly.

The four thousand five hundred guards plus peasants before him were all the power of his manor!

There were still some women in the manor, but their combat strength was negligible.

Not only because the women's physical strength was limited.

But also because they couldn't face slaughter directly!

Although Callum had just left the manor house with the guard team to search for that armored cavalry unit within the territory.

Whether the commander of the armored cavalry unit was willing to have face-to-face talks was still unknown.

But whether to join forces with the armored cavalry to attack McKinley Manor.

Or to defend the manor from the armored cavalry's incursion.

As the Manor Lord, he must summon all the armed forces within the manor!

...

Under the night sky.

Amidst the stony mud between large plots of farmland.

Riding on horseback, Callum turned his head, scanning his surroundings vigilantly.

Trying to observe the environment around him in the dim twilight.

But with the sky obscured by clouds.

Callum could not even see the scene dozens of meters away.

Even with the instructions from Master Devant to seek out and invite the armored cavalry unit for a face-to-face discussion.

This was merely Master Devant's wish.

Whether to have face-to-face discussions depended on Lord Lynn of Morgan Town and the attitude of the armored cavalry squad invading Benitez Manor!

After observing for a short while to no avail, Callum furrowed his brows slightly, a thought flickering in his mind.

Callum turned to the dozens of guards behind him and instructed.

"Raise your torches high for me!"

Since the armored cavalry could not be encountered in the farmland under the shrouded night.

Then use the light of the torches to attract the armored cavalry from afar!

The guards at the back responded in unison.

"Yes, Guard Captain!"

With the guards holding their torches high, the light from the burning torches increasingly illuminated the surroundings.

Callum nodded in satisfaction and continued to lead the cavalry unit onwards.

However, after traveling just a few dozen meters.

Callum suddenly reined in his horse, raising his left hand high.

The guards behind him immediately understood and also reined their horses.

Callum tilted his head slightly, attempting to hear the unusual sounds in the darkness ahead more clearly.

Clip-clop~ clip-clop~

Hearing the clattering sound of galloping hooves and horse-driving in the dark, Callum furrowed his brows involuntarily.

Ahead.

An individual on horseback was driving their horse at full speed toward their direction.

Callum moved his right arm, instinctively grasping the longsword at his waist.

Behind Callum, the tension was palpable among the dozens of guards as the sound of approaching hooves grew louder.

Half a minute later.

A figure riding a horse came into view for Callum and his guards.

Upon recognizing the familiar face, Callum's brow instantly raised as he exclaimed in surprise.

"Eck?"

The middle-aged man, addressed by Callum as Eck.

Upon hearing this familiar voice, hurriedly pulled on his reins, stopping his horse.

Eck's gaze swept over Callum's team of familiar faces, a clear look of joy appearing on his face.

"Guard Captain? It's so good to encounter you here."

"You and the Manor Lord must already know that a unit of armored cavalry is hunting the patrol guards!"

Callum pondered briefly and asked, "Did you encounter that armored cavalry unit?"

Eck dared not keep anything hidden and quickly explained.

"Guard Captain, that armored cavalry unit is like black knights from the Abyss!"

"They wear black armor and full iron helmets, riding tall horses, and wielding strange long spears several meters in length!"

"Under the cover of darkness, they charge towards us with lightning speed from afar."

"Even though we were on horseback, we couldn't escape their pursuit."

"The four subordinates I led... are probably already dead in their hands."

At this point, Eck's expression turned somber.

Pierre, standing beside Callum, nodded empathetically.

Callum continued to ask, "Were you able to see how many cavalrymen were in that armored cavalry unit?"

Eck thought back for a few seconds and replied.

"Guard Captain, because it was really too dark, it was hard to see how many there were."

"But from the sound of galloping hooves and the density, I'm sure there were at least over a hundred!"

The number of cavalry Eck mentioned coincided with what Pierre had said.

Callum asked again, "Which area was your patrol?"

Eck quickly replied, "Near the border between the former Colin Manor territory and the Benitez Manor territory."

Chapter 1092: Aftermath of Survival _3

Callum pondered without uttering a word.

He gripped the reins tightly, squeezed the horse's belly with his legs, and urged the horse into the darkness ahead.

Pierre and the guards also drove their horses, following along.

Only Eck's face was full of hesitation.

The sight of that armored cavalry was still vivid in his mind.

It filled him with fear and trepidation.

Finally, Eck sighed.

He still urged the horse under him, following Callum.

A dozen or so minutes later.

Callum pulled the reins again, slowing the gallop of the horse beneath him.

Callum, with his keen sense of smell, clearly detected the strong scent of blood in the air.

He waited for the guards holding torches to come by his side.

Borrowing the light from the torches, Callum swiftly scanned his surroundings...

The next second.

Callum's gaze froze, stopping at the edge of the torchlight.

In the field, there was a distinct humanoid shadow lying prone!

Callum moved, dismounted, and walked towards the shadow under the puzzled eyes of the guards.

The guards, seeing this, quickly raised their torches again.

To illuminate the darkness ahead for Callum.

As he got closer, Callum could see more clearly that the humanoid shadow was a corpse!

Callum glanced up and down.

On the corpse's back was a distinct wound, with blood flowing continuously.

It soaked and dyed the somewhat dry soil in the field.

The metallic bloody scent he had smelled earlier was emitting from here.

Callum's gaze swept around the corpse.

As expected.

There were dense hoofmarks from horses trampling!

Such dense hoofmarks suggested the number of cavalry in that armored team was certainly not small!

In the rear, Eck, on horseback, seemed to have realized something.

He hurriedly dismounted and walked towards the shadow.

Eck circled around the shadow, coming to its front.

Upon seeing the face of the corpse, Eck's expression changed, and he quickly spoke to Callum.

"Guard Captain, it's Patterson! He was one of the patrol guards I led!"

Callum's mouth opened slightly, just about to speak.

Boom~ Boom~ Boom~

A sound like rolling thunder suddenly echoed from afar.

Callum immediately furrowed his brows, looking towards the source of the sound.

Not just Callum.

Pierre and the guards on horseback, and Eck standing before the corpse also heard the sound.

They all looked towards the distance in alarm.

Eck quickly came to his senses and loudly warned Callum.

"Guard Captain, it's the armored cavalry! They... they're back!"

Pierre, filled with tension, also reminded Callum.

"It must be the burning torchlight that has attracted them."

"Guard Captain, we must immediately form a defense line to resist the armored cavalry's charge!"

The guards, initially startled by the booming hoofbeats.

Upon hearing Pierre's words, instinctively drew their scimitars and longswords from their waists.

A series of metallic scraping sounds echoed among the guards.

Seeing this, Callum shouted, "Who told you to draw swords and knives? Immediately sheathe them!"

"Without my command, no one is to unsheathe their weapons!"

Pierre, Eck, and the guards exchanged bewildered glances.

Callum spoke again with a stern voice, "What? Are you defying my orders?"

Sensing the threat in Callum's words, the guards, despite their confusion, began to sheath the drawn blades.

Seeing the order take effect, Callum turned his gaze, glaring at Pierre fiercely.

If Eck and Pierre were indeed correct.

It was a force of over a hundred and fifty armored cavalry.

How could they resist with their dozen or so guards?

A single charge from the armored cavalry.

The handful of guards would be instantly torn apart, cut down under the horses!

Callum stepped forward, nearing the guards, keeping his gaze on the distant darkness.

Boom~ Boom~ Boom~

The sound of galloping horses grew louder and closer.

The next second.

A figure, clad in black-gray armor, wearing a full iron helmet, and wielding a long spear.

Came into Callum's view, and into the sight of Pierre, Eck, and the guards alike.

Just as Pierre and Eck said.

This armored cavalry, like knights from the abyss...

Brought an intense visual impact, causing them to almost involuntarily hold their breath.

With only one weapon each, how could they fight against such armored cavalry?

Abruptly returning to his senses, Callum waved his arms frantically, shouting loudly.

"Stop, stop!"

Callum nearly exhausted his strength to shout.

Veins and airways bulged on his neck, even his face turned flushed with effort.

Despite Callum's full effort.

It was drowned out by the full-speed charge of two hundred cavalry, the pounding of galloping hooves.

The armored cavalry showed no sign of stopping.

More like a steel blade, charging towards him and the guards.

Callum's pupils contracted, startled, he quickly rolled aside, avoiding the blade of a long spear, crouching in the field.

Chapter 1093: After the Calamity

The next moment.

The armored cavalry charged into the guard team led by Callum.

One by one, the bodies of the guards were directly pierced by the long spears held by the armored cavalry.

Under the power brought by the horse charge, the guards were directly thrown from the horseback, crashing heavily to the ground, losing their vitality.

Although occasionally, there was the heavy thud of hooves, trampling on the back, bringing a sense of intense pain.

Even with the scorching hot blood spilling onto their necks, bringing a slight burning sensation.

Lying on the ground, Callum dared not make any movement.

Listening to the whinnies of the horses, the screams of the guards, Callum's body involuntarily trembled slightly.

But shortly after.

The pounding sound of charging hooves, mixed with the screams, gradually dissipated and calmed down.

Callum was just about to slightly raise his head to take a look.

A terrifying force appeared behind him.

Without giving him any chance to resist, he was instantly lifted.

Only then.

Did Callum clearly see it was a burly man in armor, effortlessly lifting him up.

With a mocking and disdainful voice, the sturdy man spoke.

"Another one alive?"

"Just perfect to send a message back!"

As soon as the words fell, Callum felt the great force on his body suddenly vanish.

Already in a crawling position, seeing his face hurtling towards the ground, his heart slightly startled.

He hurriedly spread out his hands and legs as protection to block the falling body.

Just as Callum's mind was pondering how to respond.

The sturdy man said in a calm voice: "Get up, stop playing dead!"

A laughter filled with a hint of mockery sounded from around.

Lying on the ground, Callum's body slowly moved, standing up.

Callum's eyes moved, scanning the surroundings.

His eyes instantly widened, his face full of terror and disbelief.

The guards who should have been mounted on horses.

At this moment.

Had turned into corpses, either prone, side-lying, or sitting with heads down in the cultivated field...

No movement, no words, and no sound.

Streams of blood continuously flowed from their bodies.

Soaking their linen clothes, flowing to the ground, gathering into pools of blood...

Compared to just being able to smell the scent of blood.

At this moment, Callum felt as if he was enveloped by blood.

Callum knew, compared to the petty skirmishes of Benitez Manor and McKinley Manor.

Here was the true battlefield!

Just one charge of the armored cavalry had instantly annihilated the dozens of guards he brought!

There was no mercy, no hesitation.

It's either you kill or you're killed!

Forcing down the terror and oppression in his heart, Callum withdrew his gaze, looking at the sturdy man standing in front of him.

"This... this gentleman, thank you for sparing my life!"

Earl stared at Callum without a word.

Callum continued, "My name is Callum Russell, I'm the guard captain of Benitez Manor."

"The reason for leading the guard team out is to convey the orders of Devant Manor Lord of Benitez Manor."

Earl raised an eyebrow, "Orders?"

Hearing these words, Callum was slightly startled, hurriedly bowing his head to explain.

"Sorry, my lord, it was a mistake in my words."

"Accurately speaking, it's an invitation!"

"Upon learning that Lord Master Lynn had dispatched a unit of armored cavalry to his manor territory, Devant Manor Lord specially sent me out to find you."

"Devant Manor Lord wishes to meet you, wanting to discuss matters of cooperation!"

Earl spoke again: "Matters of cooperation?"

Callum bowed his head, continuing to explain.

"Yes, my lord!"

"Devant Manor Lord wants to unite with you to launch an attack on McKinley Manor!"

"However, the specific details will need to be discussed between you and Master Devant..."

"And as long as you are willing to meet, Master Devant is willing to meet at the place you designate!"

Earl remained silent, pondering in his mind.

A few seconds later.

Earl spoke: "I understand!"

With that, Earl started walking towards a distance.

Mounting his horse, grasping the reins, Earl spoke to a few armored cavalry beside him.

"Keep an eye on him!"

The armored cavalry immediately nodded, "Yes, Lord Earl."

With a movement of his arms, Earl swung the reins, uttering a 'Hyah' sound, riding the warhorse galloping towards the darkness ahead.

Dozens of cavalry immediately mounted their horses, following closely.

In the cultivated field.

Only Callum, drenched in blood and standing, remained.

The armored cavalry in steel armor mounted on horses.

And the guard corpses on the ground, losing warmth...

Looking at such a scene, a night breeze blew in, letting Callum feel a strange chill.

...

Tap~Tap~

The sound of horse hooves kept echoing in the cultivated field under the night's shroud.

Mounted on warhorses, Earl led a unit of armored cavalry forward.

When he saw ahead, beneath a sky covered in clouds, a shadow with armored soldiers on horseback.

Earl further increased the speed of his warhorse's gallop, hurrying to converge.

Upon reaching the front of the troop, Earl pulled on the reins, beginning to slow the horse's run.

Chapter 1094: Surviving the Aftermath

At the same time, Earl's eyes were searching around.

Upon seeing Wesley, he squeezed his thighs against the horse's belly, urging the warhorse forward quickly.

Arriving beside Wesley, Earl hurriedly bowed and reported.

"Lord Wesley, Earl has important matters to report to you!"

Wesley glanced at Earl, "Speak."

Earl directly began to explain, informing Wesley of everything that had occurred.

Listening to Earl's account, Wesley frowned slightly.

"Manor Lord Devant of Benitez Manor wants to ally with us to attack Duomakingli Manor?"

Earl responded, "Yes, Lord Wesley."

"The Guard Captain of Benitez Manor personally informed me and is willing to meet at any location!"

Wesley said nothing, instead frowning as he pondered.

He had not anticipated this.

After Earl led the armored cavalry to hunt down several of Devant's patrols and guard teams.

As a manor lord, Devant still thought of cooperating with Master Lynn?

Could he be using the cooperation as an opportunity to shift the target of the armored cavalry's attack from Benitez Manor to McKinley Manor?

If it's only like this, there is no loss for the armored cavalry and Master Lynn.

Because Master Lynn specifically instructed him to destroy both manors if possible.

If difficult, then destroy one manor.

To weaken Jon Zuck's military forces attacking Morgan Town.

No matter what Devant's intentions are.

He could use the power of Benitez Manor's guards and peasants to break through McKinley Manor!

In doing so, he could fulfill Master Lynn's instructions and possibly reduce the casualties of the armored soldiers.

A win-win situation!

Of course.

The above is just one possibility of Devant requesting cooperation.

Wesley is very aware of the two sides of the matter!

Another possibility is — an ambush!

Benitez Manor and McKinley Manor are both manor lords supporting Jon Zuck.

And they are the only two remaining manor lords in Bo Xi Town.

Even if these two manor lords have various conflicts and interest disputes on ordinary days.

When facing the invasion of external enemies, it's very possible the two manor lords would unite against an outsider!

Once he agrees to Devant's cooperation request, during the attack on McKinley Manor, he might get trapped in a siege.

With thousands of guards and peasants from Benitez Manor, plus the attacked McKinley Manor's thousands of guards and peasants...

In total, they amount to at least over ten thousand men!

Even with his seventeen hundred cavalry, without the advantage of cavalry speed, it's hard to break through the encirclement!

Thinking of this, Wesley had made up his mind.

Wesley looked at Earl and spoke up.

"Inform that Guard Captain that I am willing to meet with Devante Manor Lord."

"As for the location, let's choose the clearing where you had your battle!"

Earl raised his eyebrows.

Although he was puzzled, he did not ask further.

As the commander of this foreign campaign, Wesley naturally had his reasons for doing this!

"Yes, Lord Wesley, I will return and inform him immediately."

With a move of his right arm, he turned his horse around, and Earl rode swiftly back along the road they had come.

Dozens of armored cavalymen followed closely behind.

Wesley remained seated steadily on his warhorse among the cavalry ranks.

His eyes tracked Earl's receding figure until Earl and his cavalry disappeared into the darkness, with a ruthless glint flashing in Wesley's eyes.

Retracting his gaze, Wesley spoke to the messenger cavalryman beside him.

"Pass my order, the whole army is moving out!"

The messenger cavalryman stiffened and hurriedly responded, "Yes, Lord Wesley."

As the messenger cavalryman galloped toward the resting cavalry troops, loud shouts began ringing out.

"Pass Lord Wesley's orders, the whole army is moving out!"

"Pass Lord Wesley's orders..."

...

A unit of cavalry in black-grey armor moved through the darkness once more.

Seeing the armored cavalry still awaiting in the fields, maintaining their guard.

Earl's anxious mood slightly relaxed.

His legs nudged the horse again, and the horse quickened its pace toward the waiting cavalry unit.

With Earl's continuous approach.

The rhythmic sound of horse hooves naturally reached the armored cavalry standing guard and Callum crouched in the field.

The armored cavalymen nodded their heads in salute as a sign of respect.

Callum quickly stood up, watching Earl approach.

As Earl pulled on the reins, the galloping horse slowed to a trot.

Finally, it stopped in front of Callum.

Callum was full of anticipation as he looked at Earl and asked.

"My lord..."

Before Callum could finish, Earl directly interrupted.

"The commander has agreed to Manor Lord Devant's request for a face-to-face meeting."

"And the location is this very field you are standing on."

"So... you can now return to the manor and report!"

Hearing Earl's words, Callum was filled with joy and quickly responded.

"Thank you, my lord!"

"I'll return to Benitez Manor now to report to Master Devant."

Earl said nothing, only looked down at Callum.

No more words from Earl were needed.

Callum shifted his gaze, spotted a horse grazing not far away, and quickly moved toward it.

Under the watchful eyes of Earl and the armored cavalrymen, Callum mounted the horse.

Chapter 1095: After the Ordeal

Amidst the sounds of driving the horses, Callum rode away from the farmland, galloping into the distant darkness.

After riding for several minutes.

Callum couldn't help but look back.

No sound of cavalry hooves thundering, no sight of cavalry...

Callum's tense emotions finally relaxed a little.

At the moment when the robust armored cavalry told him to wait.

He already knew that the robust armored cavalry was not the commander of this armored cavalry team!

That means.

Apart from the two hundred armored cavalry he just saw, there might very well be another soldier team!

The commander of the armored cavalry team was with another soldier team.

As for the number of soldiers in that other team...

Callum had no way of knowing.

But this is additional intelligence information!

Compared to these.

The most important thing is that he was lucky to survive the charge of the armored cavalry team.

And managed to escape from the encirclement of the armored cavalry team!

Callum looked ahead and once again increased the speed of his horse.

Until far ahead.

The towering silhouettes of buildings appeared, and the light of oil lamps emerged.

Hope rose in Callum's eyes!

No matter how many soldiers Lord Lynn of Morgan Town dispatched to Bo Xi Town, entering Benitez Manor.

As long as he can return to Master Devant's manor dwelling.

Then he still has a chance to survive!

At least.

He can rely on Master Devant's guards and peasants, rely on those defensive structures, to hold out!

Thinking of this, Callum's heart relaxed once more.

This must be the feeling of surviving a disaster!

Only now did Callum realize that the robe he wore was soaked through with sweat...

Clop clop~ Clop clop~

As the horse kept galloping, Callum drew ever closer to the three-story manor dwelling ahead.

Callum finally saw clearly the figures swaying in front of the manor dwelling were indeed the guards and peasants from Benitez Manor!

Standing at the gate of the manor dwelling, was Master Devant Benitez!

The sound of thundering hooves reached the ears of everyone in the open space square.

They all turned their bodies and looked at Callum.

Callum's heart slightly sank.

Under the gaze of everyone, he passed through one defensive structure after another and across the open space square, arriving next to Devant.

Swiftly dismounting, Callum stood three meters away from Devant, bowed in salute, and respectfully said.

"Master!"

Seeing the dirt and dried blood stains on Callum's body, Devant's brows instantly furrowed.

Devant asked in a deep voice, "How come you're the only one returning to the manor?"

"Where are the dozens of guards you took out?"

Callum didn't dare hide anything and explained.

"Master, the dozens of guards taken out perished entirely during the charge of the cavalry dispatched by Lord Lynn!"

"They are equipped with standard armor and armed with long spears, we had no chance to resist."

"Even I barely survived by luck..."

Devant's brows tightened.

His already cold face turned even more stern!

Even though the guards weren't wearing any armor, they were still the armed force of the manor dwelling!

Yet Callum apparently wasted them so easily?

It seemed Callum sensed Devant's actual changes, he hurriedly changed his tone and said.

"Master, although the guards perished during the armored cavalry team's charge."

"However, Callum has brought back some good news for you!"

Devant spoke, "Go ahead."

Callum lowered his head and hurriedly said.

"The commander of the cavalry team dispatched by Lord Lynn has agreed to your request for a face-to-face meeting."

"The meeting location is in the farmland area about ten miles from the manor dwelling."

"It's at the former boundary between Colin Manor and Benitez Manor."

Devant's face showed noticeable surprise.

"Agreed so easily?"

Callum nodded in response.

Devant pondered for a few seconds, asking again.

"Did they make any demands?"

"For instance, requesting me to go alone?"

Callum shook his head directly, without any hesitation.

"Master, there are no demands."

"Because I mentioned to the armored Cavalry Captain that the detailed content of cooperation needs to be discussed in person."

Without speaking, Devant's eyes shifted rapidly, seemingly pondering something.

After a moment.

Devant looked at Callum again, asking.

"You said you faced the armored cavalry team's charge, did you count the number of armored cavalry?"

Callum replied, "Master, I saw exactly two hundred armored cavalry!"

Devant had yet to catch a breath.

Callum continued saying, "However, I can be certain that apart from this armored cavalry, there is definitely another soldier team!"

"Because after I informed that Cavalry Captain, he didn't agree right away but asked me to stay put and wait!"

"Over half an hour later, that Cavalry Captain returned and informed me that their commander agreed to your cooperation."

Devant murmured, "Another soldier team..."

Callum continued saying, "The number of soldiers in the other team cannot be determined for now..."

Devant fell silent again.

A few seconds later.

Devant spoke to Callum, "Understood."

"Since they have agreed to a face-to-face talk, let's talk first."

Callum hurriedly lowered his head, not daring to speak.

Devant's gaze shifted, looking at the lined-up forty-five hundred figures opposite, and said in a deep voice.

"Everyone turn in the direction and head toward the boundary between Benet Manor and Cole Manor."

"Depart immediately!"

Hearing Devant's loud and powerful shout, Callum's brows raised.

Master Devant actually plans to take everyone from the manor dwelling, all the strength, and go?

If there are external enemies, taking advantage of Benitez Manor being unguarded, seizing the manor dwelling, occupying it...

The consequences would be unimaginable.

But Callum reconsidered.

Currently, only three forces exist in Bo Xi Town.

Benitez Manor, McKinley Manor, and Lord Lynn who invaded Bo Xi Town.

No external invaders are possible.

All guards and peasants have been armed.

Master Devant's display makes it clear that he is prepared for whatever follows.

Once the division of benefits after conquering McKinley Manor is completed with the commander of the armored cavalry team.

Master Devant will undoubtedly issue attack orders to guards and peasants!

As the guards led the horses over, Devant swiftly mounted one.

Devant let out a call as he rode the horse, galloping to the forefront of the advancing guards and peasants team.

Watching Master Devant's distant figure depart, Callum's heart was filled with hesitation.

The scene of the armored cavalry charging at him was still vivid.

He barely managed to survive among dozens of guards.

Now, face that armored cavalry again?

Though Callum's heart was helpless, unwilling to go.

Yet, as the Manor Lord himself set out, leading guards and peasants to go.

As the Guard Captain, how could he remain uninvolved, hiding in the manor dwelling?

With a sigh, Callum mounted his horse.

Chasing after Master Devant in the distance.

Callum secretly vowed in his heart.

When this battle ends, he must visit Lady Dalia's room and reward himself thoroughly!

Chapter 1096: Extraordinary Archery

Under the leadership of Manor Lord Devant.

A total of four thousand five hundred guards and peasants marched in orderly steps, heading grandly towards the darkness outside the manor estate.

They either held scimitars and longswords or used iron farming tools for cultivation.

Or they raised their torches high to illuminate the dark road ahead.

At the forefront of the team.

Devant, with a solemn expression, sat steadily atop his horse.

His body swayed back and forth continuously with the horse's strides.

Devant's brows furrowed tightly as he turned to glance behind him.

The burning glow of the torches illuminated a sea of unfamiliar faces.

The reason for dispatching all the guards and peasants together.

Was naturally to ensure his personal safety!

All the guards and peasants could die in battle.

Only he, as the Manor Lord, could not!

These four thousand five hundred guards and peasants were not only to showcase the military might possessed by Benitez Manor.

But also to intimidate the armored soldiers intruding into Benitez Manor!

Even if Lord Lynn of Morgan Town dispatched a thousand armored soldiers to invade his manor lands.

With the number of guards and peasants he had.

They could easily have three guards and peasants beat one armored soldier to death!

Devant's tense heart slightly relaxed.

His gaze shifted to the Guard Captain Callum, who rode alongside him.

"Callum, how far is it to the agreed location?"

Upon hearing Devant's inquiry, Callum quickly responded.

"Master, it's at most twenty minutes away."

Callum shifted his tone, reminding him.

"But Master, you need to be mentally prepared."

"Because that plot of farmland just went through a charge by the armored cavalry, and the ground is strewn with the corpses of guards, in complete disarray..."

Devant glared at Callum and said somewhat displeased.

"What? Do you think I'd be afraid of such a scene?"

"When I experienced large-scale battles, you didn't even know where you were!"

Callum, flustered, quickly lowered his head and responded.

"It's Callum who offended you, Master, please forgive me..."

Devant snorted coldly and withdrew his gaze from Callum.

The guards and peasants' team continued to advance.

A succession of footsteps sounded continuously under the night sky.

Devant's gaze cautiously swept the surroundings.

Gradually.

Devant's eyes widened, staring straight at the distant darkness.

And as the team continued to move forward.

A shock appeared in Devant's eyes.

As a gap appeared in the clouds above the night sky.

Under the faint starlight, Devant clearly saw.

In the distant darkness, there were rows of neatly arranged black silhouettes!

No movement, no words.

The multitude of them extended beyond what the eye could see!

Just as the patrolling guard returning to the manor estate had reported to him.

This cavalry clad in black-gray armor with full iron helmets seemed like dark knights from the abyss!

Like a steel torrent!

Coupled with the night breeze, full of a thick bloody smell, gently wafting into the nose and mouth.

And on the ground, the corpses of guards from Benitez Manor...

The intense visual impact and overwhelming pressure.

Caused Devant's chest to heave rapidly, his breathing becoming quick.

Devant understood.

The armored cavalry ahead was from Morgan Town, the armored cavalry owned by Lord Lynn!

Only with such powerful military force.

Could he, without the slightest effort, wipe out Connelly Manor and Louis Manor in Alba Town overnight?

Beyond this, Devant could think of no other possibility.

Powerful, murderous, and awe-inspiring!

Not only did Devant see the phalanx of armored soldiers ahead.

But so did Callum, riding on horseback, and the many guards and peasants behind.

A procession of terrified discussions erupted from the ranks of guards and peasants.

"Look, what are those things?"

"Those are... cavalry! Armored cavalry!"

"God, how could there be so many armored cavalry in the master's manor?"

"I heard a squad of armored cavalry was hunting the patrolling guards in the master's manor lands, could it be them?"

"Are we supposed to fight them?"

"..."

Listening to the terrified discussions behind, Devant's face fell, filled with anger.

No need for Devant to give an order.

Callum suddenly turned and shouted harshly at the many guards and peasants behind.

"Silence!"

The many guards and peasants immediately quieted down.

Under Callum's gaze, they lowered their heads, not daring to meet his eyes for even a moment.

Callum's authority in Benitez Manor instilled fear in them.

After organizing the guards and peasants, Callum urged his horse forward, coming to Devant's side.

Callum quickly reminded, "Master, the number of armored cavalry on the other side has noticeably increased!"

"I roughly estimated with a glance, the number of armored cavalry... is at least over a thousand!"

Devant's eyebrows twitched suddenly, his eyes continuously scanning ahead, repeating Callum's words.

"Over a thousand..."

A sense of inexplicable relief surfaced in Devant's heart.

Fortunately, he brought out all the guards and peasants from the manor estate.

If, like Callum, he had only brought a few dozen guards.

Chapter 1097: Extraordinary Archery (2)

Facing thousands of armored cavalry, there was not the slightest defensive strength!

Devant murmured, instructing Callum beside him.

"Go up and report, Manor Lord Devant Benitez is here for a face-to-face meeting."

When he said the words 'manor lord,' Devant emphasized his tone.

Although feeling helpless inside, Callum could only respond.

"Yes, my lord!"

Among the people behind Master Devant, only he had had a face-to-face conversation with the captain of the opposing armored cavalry team.

He was the best choice to go forward and report!

Callum pulled the reins in his hands, driving the horse beneath him to speed towards the platoon of armored cavalry in front.

The 4,500 guards and peasants of the Benitez Manor, such a massive force.

Of course, Wesley and Earl were observing it.

Seeing a cavalryman gallop out from the massive crowd towards them.

Earl instinctively reminded Wesley beside him.

"Lord Wesley, the Benitez Manor is coming!"

Wesley's cold gaze stared directly ahead.

He spoke in a deep voice, "I see it."

Earl raised an eyebrow and glanced at Wesley.

Earl could clearly feel the strong aura emanating from Wesley at this moment.

Without shifting his gaze, Wesley asked.

"Earl, do you know why Lord Master Lynn wanted me to bring you along?"

This question had been on Earl's mind for a long time, and without hesitation, he responded.

"Lord Master Lynn wants Lord Wesley to teach and guide Earl in military strategy!"

Wesley gave a contemplative hum, "Yes, that's the intention of the lord."

"What happens next might be beyond your expectations and hard to accept."

"But you must remember every word I say!"

Confusion appeared on Earl's face.

Wesley's gaze remained fixated on the dense figures ahead, speaking in a deep voice.

"In tactical deception, luring the enemy in deeply and ambushing, disguising, and misleading intelligence."

"In psychological warfare, city massacre intimidation and rumor spreading, breaking enemy morale."

"In alliances and betrayal, feigned surrender and inside-outside collaboration, stirring up allies and splitting the enemy."

"In information control, spies and intercepted secret messages, shaping public opinion and constructing legitimacy..."

"To win a war, all means can and must be used."

"Because in a war, only the victor gets to write it!"

Wesley's words had concluded.

Yet they echoed like an ancient bell in Earl's mind.

Especially the last sentence.

In a war, only the victor gets to write it!

Making Earl feel as though his ears were ringing.

Just as Earl was engrossed, Wesley's almost hysterical shouting suddenly burst forth.

"Where is the armored cavalry?"

Earl immediately snapped back to his senses, responding aloud.

"Here!"

Behind Earl, all the armored cavalymen on horseback responded loudly.

"Here! Here! Here!"

Riding his horse, galloping towards the cavalry platoon where Wesley and Earl were.

Callum heard the waves of loud responses like ocean waves, his mind instantly tense.

Instinctively pulling the reins in his hands to slow the horse's gallop.

Simultaneously.

A strong sense of crisis filled Callum's mind.

Not just Callum.

At least a dozen meters away, Devant, and the guards and peasants behind Devant.

All heard such noises.

In this already silent night.

The shouting responses echoed like thunder, resounding in the black night.

Wesley once again shouted.

"I, Wesley, in the name of Lord Lynn, in the name of the commander of this foreign war, order you!"

"I order you to charge at the enemy army ahead!"

Earl's eyes widened, his face full of disbelief.

To charge?

But...

Wasn't Lord Wesley asking him to convey to the guard captain of Benitez Manor?

To have the guard captain inform the Manor Lord of Benitez to agree to a face-to-face meeting?

Now.

Lord Wesley ordered them to launch a charge at the guards and peasants of Benitez Manor?

Did Lord Wesley break his promise?

Moreover, he deceived him?

Callum, approaching the armored cavalry platoon.

Clearly heard every single word spoken by the commander.

Callum's face was instantly filled with shock.

Finally, by now.

Callum finally understood.

Why would a commander with thousands of armored cavalry agree to Master Devant's cooperation request, agreeing to face-to-face negotiations!

Deception!

This was a scheme against Benitez Manor.

Since Master Devant requested a meeting.

Then naturally, it required Devant himself to come.

To ensure his own safety, Devant, who personally came, would surely bring a large number of armed guards and peasants!

This fulfilled the purpose of luring the enemy out!

Without the manor mansion, without the moat, spiked pits, and chevaux de frise in front of the open plaza defenses.

In this vast, flat farmland.

The armored cavalry were invincible War Gods!

Callum almost frantically drove his mount towards the distant riding Devant.

Whether Master Devant heard the command given by that commander or not.

Chapter 1098: Extraordinary Archery (3)

He needs to immediately inform Master Devant of this information.

They need to evacuate this clearing immediately!

Two hundred armored cavalry, in a flash, tore him and the dozens of guards he led into pieces.

Now there are thousands of armored cavalry!

For the guards and peasants without any armor defense and no fortifications.

These thousands of armored cavalry will deal a devastating blow to the guards and peasants!

Da da~ Da da~

The sound of horses galloping echoed continuously in the night.

When Callum saw Master Devant riding on horseback in the distant darkness, Callum's face lit up with joy, and he quickly shouted.

"Master! Evacuate! Evacuate immediately!"

Perhaps because the voice wasn't loud enough or due to the distance being slightly far off.

Devant still sat on horseback, positioned at the forefront of the guards and peasants.

Callum's expression became tense, shouting once more.

"Master, it's a trap! This is a trap!"

"Evacuate immediately, return to the manor!"

Just as Callum's words fell, his face instantly turned pale.

Callum clearly heard.

A loud and powerful shout of 'all troops advance' arose behind him.

Clattering sounds of horses beginning to stride gradually reached his ears.

Like the first few drops of rain falling on a long-parched field, slowly turning to drizzle, then gradually turning into a downpour!

The dense, thunderous sound of galloping hooves roared behind him, rising and falling.

Callum's eyes narrowed, filled with terror and horror.

Having once experienced a charge from armored cavalry, Callum couldn't even bear to look back at the scene behind him.

There was no time!

With the speed at which the armored cavalry begins a full-speed charge.

The guards and peasants brought by Master Devant will have no chance to escape!

At this thought, Callum steeled his heart.

Hurriedly pulling the reins in-hand, steering his horse towards Master Devant's direction.

Ha~ ha~ ha~

The urgent sound of driving the horse continued issuing from Callum's mouth.

In front of the guards and peasants, Devant furrowed his brow, riding on horseback.

The bursts of shouting he heard earlier left him somewhat uneasy.

Upon seeing Callum approaching swiftly, Devant's heart slightly relaxed.

Since Callum could return unscathed, it meant everything was still under control.

As Callum drew nearer, Devant asked in a deep voice.

"Callum, what does the commander's intent mean..."

"Hmm?"

Before Devant could finish speaking, he realized that Callum was driving his horse without any intention of slowing down.

Moreover, under the gaze of the guards and peasants, he rode past the edge, galloping into the darkness behind!

Devant's face showed a trace of confusion, thinking Callum was going to arrange for the guards and peasants.

But when Devant saw Callum riding his horse vanished into the darkness behind.

Devant's expression suddenly turned grim!

However.

Before Devant could get angry, a series of thunderous rumbling sounds reached Devant's ears.

Devant's heart jolted, quickly retracting his gaze, looking towards the darkness ahead.

The bursts of thunderous rumbling came from that darkness!

The next instant.

Devant finally grasped the situation.

His heart filled with horror, urgently calling out to the guards and peasants behind him.

"Everyone, maintain a defensive posture, prepare to counter a large-scale armored cavalry charge!"

The loud, powerful shout that pierced the night...

The fleeing Callum...

And now the thunderous rumbling like rolling thunder...

Clearly.

Those thousands of armored cavalry are charging at full speed towards them!

Callum clearly informed him, the Armor Cavalry Commander agreed to his cooperation request, and was willing to negotiate face to face.

Why then, are they still launching a charge against them.

But facing a charging armored cavalry regiment picking up speed, they have no possibility of retreating.

The only thing they can do.

Is to construct a defensive line on the spot to resist light cavalry!

After Devant finished speaking, he looked back.

Only to find.

The faces of the guards and peasants were filled with panic and fear.

Unsure even of how to build a defensive line.

Devant then remembered, out of four thousand five hundred people, nearly three thousand were peasants who only knew how to till the land.

In terms of farming and planting, they might have some experience.

But in war...

The thunderous galloping sound of horses, growing closer, enveloped everyone on the field.

Devant could even see cavalry silhouettes charging through the darkness!

Whoosh~

The immense psychological pressure and fear of war sped up Devant's breathing, with beads of sweat appearing on his cheeks.

At such a moment, instead, Devant's heart calmed down.

Thoughts spun rapidly in Devant's mind.

Starting from the beginning, the patrol guards returned to the manor to report to him.

A unit of armored cavalry was hunting his patrol guards.

Then, Callum led the guards to search for the armored cavalry, only for Callum alone to return to the manor.

But he informed him, the Armor Cavalry Commander agreed to his cooperation request, allowing for face-to-face talks.

And because of this.

He brought all the guards and peasants from the manor to ensure his own safety while preparing for the next step in attacking McKinley Manor!

Chapter 1099: Extraordinary Archery (Part 4)

Now, he led the guard peasants to the predetermined negotiation location.

The armored cavalry team unexpectedly charged at him!

As the Guard Captain, Callum fled headlong!

Combining everything in his mind, and then pondering and reasoning it carefully...

Devant felt that he already knew the reason why.

Callum's retreat is merely due to the instinctive drive to survive.

It must be that Callum knew that even if he reported it in detail in front of him, it would be futile!

Rather than that, it was better to choose to escape for his life!

Even though Callum was the Guard Captain of the Benitez Manor.

Even though he usually treated Callum well...

But in the face of a life or death crisis, these relationships and bonds are indeed too weak.

As for why the Armor Cavalry Commander charged against him...

The only possibility is.

That commander never considered cooperating with his Benitez Manor!

Agreeing to Callum and his cooperation request.

Was merely to lure him out of the manor estate!

Then use the charging advantage of the armored cavalry to annihilate them in the farmland!

Even though, before sending the guard peasants away from the manor estate, he had considered this possibility.

But due to the desire to conquer McKinley Manor.

Due to the ambition to become the only Lord of Boxi Town.

He directly ignored this idea...

Thinking of this, a bitter smile flickered at the corner of Devant's mouth.

Indeed.

Only being strong enough is the root of everything!

Wishing to rely on the strength of others to satisfy one's own ambition and desires is simply courting death!

In Devant's gaze, staring ahead.

A group of cavalry dressed in black-gray standard armor, wearing full iron helmets, holding long spears, charged out of the darkness.

The strangely shaped spearhead, under the glow of torches, glimmered with chilling reflections.

Before Devant could draw the longsword from his waist, he was engulfed in the charge of the armored cavalry.

The full-speed charge of the armored cavalry was like a torrential flood crashing into the fragile dam.

In just an instant, scattered and shattered the guards and peasants unsure of how to defend.

At the rear of the battlefield, Wesley remained mounted on his horse.

Using the height of the horse, Wesley's sharp eyes scanned back and forth, observing the entire battlefield!

The armored cavalry frantically swung the winged spears in their hands.

Each swing, each thrust, accompanied by cries of agony and anguish.

Then, as the armored soldiers withdrew the winged spears from their hands, blood sprayed and splattered from the bodies of the guard peasants.

Despite Devant's assembly, the farmland had four thousand five hundred guard peasants.

But under Earlie's leadership, under the protection of standard armor, against the advantage of the five-meter winged spear in sharpness and length.

The resistance of the guards and peasants seemed so trivial.

Even with a marked number difference.

But the victory of a war is not just based on greater numbers to ensure success!

The fine quality of weaponry and armor, soldiers' physical condition and morale, and adaptable tactics, etc.

Currently.

The guards and peasants of the Benitez Manor seem to be facing a massacre!

Piece after piece of guard peasants fell like barley harvested by farmers in the farmland.

Amidst the cries of agony, one after another, they perished.

Where the armored cavalry passed, layers of corpses paved the ground...

The blood flowing out from each corpse, soaking through the dry soil.

Gathering in the ravines, forming streams of blood flow.

Witnessing such scenes, Wesley's expression was stern.

He did not immediately speak to halt the killing by the armored cavalry.

The guards and peasants of the Benitez Manor still resisted, with hope in their hearts.

Hoping to rely on their numerical advantage to win this battle.

Then...

Let Earlie lead the armored cavalry to kill until they dare not resist.

As the commander appointed by Lord Master Lynn.

Wesley naturally knew that guards and peasants symbolized labor force!

The more labor brought back for Lord Master Lynn, the more accumulating labor force.

The development speed of Lord Master Lynn's territory would be faster!

But.

This is only if he can bring these labor forces back for Lord Master Lynn.

If they are not killed into trembling fear, if they don't dread.

It's easy to have unrest or rebellion on the way of transporting them back to Morgan Town.

In that case.

Let Earlie lead the armored cavalry to slaughter openly!

At the same time, it can temper this batch of armored cavalry's will.

One must realize.

Awaiting the arrival of death and ending someone's life both require exceptionally strong psychological resilience!

...

On the other side under the night.

Callum, mounted on a horse, constantly urged the horse forward.

Drives~ Drives~ Drives~

The urgent sounds of driving the horse echoed continuously from Callum's mouth.

The sounds of the armored cavalry charge, the anguished cries of the guard peasants in the dark behind him.

Naturally all entered Callum's ears.

But were directly ignored by Callum.

Self-talk words continuously came from Callum's mouth.

"What bullshit Guard Captain."

Chapter 1100: Extraordinary Archery

"What loyalty to the damn Manor Lord."

"Once you're dead, no one will remember the great things you did."

"Surviving is the most important thing!"

Galloping past the gravel and muddy roads, through fields of farmland.

In the darkness ahead, the familiar outline of a three-story building emerged.

It was the Benitez Manor!

Callum couldn't help but quicken his horse's speed once more.

A little while later.

Callum entered the clearing before the square, sharply pulling on the reins to stop his horse.

With a series of pained whinnies, the horse finally halted.

Without a moment of hesitation, Callum dismounted and strode quickly towards the interior of the manor.

As Devant gathered the guards and peasants in the manor, the awakened maids had already gathered in the reception hall.

Seeing Callum hurriedly rushing towards the depths of the manor and climbing the stairs, the maids were full of confusion.

Callum ignored the maids' gazes completely.

His steps were swift, covering three steps in two, he climbed the stairs to the third floor of the manor.

Callum turned his body, heading straight for Lady Dalia's room.

At this moment.

Callum couldn't care about Lady Dalia's secret relationship any longer.

Standing before the double wooden doors of the bedroom, Callum raised his clenched right hand and knocked on the door.

His low voice rang out.

"Open the door."

Perhaps it was because Callum's knocking was too loud.

Or maybe because Lady Dalia heard Callum's voice clearly.

Lady Dalia's cold voice came from behind the double wooden doors.

"Callum, are you crazy?"

"It's so late, and you dare come looking for me?"

"If the master finds out, we both will end up hanging on the gallows!"

Hearing the voice from behind the double doors, Callum immediately frowned, glanced behind him, and after taking a few steps back, he charged towards the door.

Just before reaching the door, Callum lifted his right leg and kicked fiercely.

Crack~

With the sound of wood snapping, the tightly closed double doors were kicked open.

Inside the room, Lady Dalia's frightened voice cried out.

"Oh my! Callum, have you lost your mind?"

"Such a loud noise is certain to attract the master's and the guards' attention..."

Striding in, Callum scanned the bedroom.

By the dim light of the wall-mounted oil lamps.

Callum could clearly see.

Lady Dalia's voluptuous and fair body lying on the bed.

But at this moment.

Callum had not the slightest interest!

Averting his gaze from Lady Dalia's round white skin.

Callum moved towards a wooden chest not far away.

Reaching the chest, Callum bent down, inspecting the iron lock in the gap of the chest and lid.

Callum straightened up, gripping the scimitar at his waist.

With a metallic scrape, the scimitar was drawn.

With a wave of his right arm, the blade chopped down on the lock.

With a sound of cutting and falling, the lock rolled to the ground.

Callum's eyes lit up, not bothering to put away the scimitar, he opened the chest in front of him.

However.

Seeing the chest filled with silk and satin clothes, Callum instantly frowned.

As a frequent visitor to Lady Dalia's room, Callum naturally knew these were all her clothes.

Unwilling to give up, Callum grabbed all the clothes from the chest and tossed them out.

Even after overturning the contents, Callum still did not find what he was looking for.

Lady Dalia, casually draped in a thin blanket, approached Callum from behind and rebuked him.

"Callum, have you lost your mind?"

"I may admire your physique, but that doesn't mean you can act recklessly in my room!"

"Even if I can't bear children for the master, I'm still his legal wife!"

Callum ignored Lady Dalia's words, focusing his gaze on her as he asked impatiently.

"Where's the money? The master's money, where is it hidden?"

Initially, Lady Dalia was about to scold him further.

But when she saw Callum's cold expression, she was frightened into silence.

Her faltering voice came out.

"You... you know, the master hasn't been in the bedroom for a long time..."

"Naturally, he wouldn't leave the money here for me to manage..."

Callum quickly thought for a few seconds, muttering to himself.

"The study... Yes! It must be in the study!"

With that, Callum headed out of the bedroom without a backward glance.

Looking at Callum's departing figure, Lady Dalia was filled with terror and hastily asked.

"Callum, what on earth is happening?"

Callum still did not stop.

But his impatient response reached Lady Dalia's ears.

"If nothing goes wrong, the master has already died under the charge of the armored cavalry!"

"If I were you, I'd pack up and flee immediately."

"Once the armored cavalry suppresses the guards and peasants, the next step is to come to the manor!"

Lady Dalia, her legs only partially covered by the thin blanket, followed to the bedroom door.