

The Lord 101

Chapter 101: Working in the Dark to Serve the Light

These Ratfolk seemed essentially the same as normal Ratfolk, and Zhao Fu could not see anything special about them. Normal Ratfolk were not very strong, and compared to the Great Qin Soldiers, who had all sorts of stat bonuses from the Great Qin Village and could almost fight Orcs one on one, it should not have been a problem for them to deal with Ratfolk.

From their attire and weapons, it seemed that these Ratfolk were so powerful because of their profession, which was definitely linked to the historical remnant.

Zhao Fu's interest in the historical remnant grew greater and greater, and he looked at Zhang Dahu kneeling figure as he thought to himself and said, "Rise!"

Zhang Dahu let out a sigh of relief. He had been fully prepared to be punished by Zhao Fu, and he didn't expect Zhao Fu to not even blame him, much less not punish him.

If this matter really was Zhang Dahu's fault, Zhao Fu definitely would have punished him. However, Zhang Dahu had no faults to speak of, so why would Zhao Fu punish him? As the saying went 'planning is with man, but accomplishing is with heaven.' No matter how detailed and well thought out a plan was, unexpected things could still happen, so Zhao Fu did not blame Zhang Dahu.

Following this, a few captive Ratfolk were brought over to Zhao Fu, and he forced them to capitulate before taking them to convince the rest of the Ratfolk to surrender.

"You should know by now that your 2,000 soldiers have been killed by my forces. Now, you have less than 4,000 soldiers and will not be able to withstand my attack. Look at how many different professions we have and how fairly all of the different races are treated. As long as you surrender to me, I won't mistreat you at all!"

Zhao Fu shouted as the Ratfolk loudly interpreted. Even though this never worked, it was something that Zhao Fu was determined to do each time, as the best-case scenario was always obtaining a village without sacrificing anyone.

Hearing Zhao Fu's words, the Ratfolk started to panic. They finally realized why the team of 2,000 Ratfolk had not acted – it was because they had all been killed. With only 4,000 Ratfolk left, how could they stop the humans?

This news quickly reached the few elderly Ratfolk, and they all heavily sighed – the bad feeling that they had turned out to be true.

"Now that they've found our tunnels, we won't even be able to escape. Even if we continue to defend, we won't be able to last for long. What do you all say we should do?" one of the elderly Ratfolk asked.

"How about we surrender? We've definitely lost, and just holding out like this isn't a solution," another elderly Ratfolk said gloomily.

“Absolutely not!” the elderly Ratfolk who had advocated for battle before yelled.

“What do we do then, if we don’t surrender?” the Ratfolk who wanted to surrender asked somewhat angrily.

The other Ratfolk paused and thought, and he suddenly had an idea. He said, “We still have a chance!”

Hearing his words, the other elderly Ratfolk quickly asked, “What is it?”

The elderly Ratfolk who had been advocating battle said, “As long as we can capture their leader, the enemy will do as we say. We can also kill their leader, making them like a headless dragon. They won’t be able to sustain the attack against our village and will have to leave!”

“What should we do then? Should we send out all of our special soldiers to assassinate their leader?” one of the other Ratfolk asked.

“That might not work. Even though our special soldiers are quite powerful, we’ve already alerted the enemy of their strength. The enemy leader must be incredibly wary right now, so it’ll be difficult for our soldiers to make a move,” the Ratfolk with the raspy voice said.

Hearing this, the other elderly Ratfolk nodded.

Suddenly, one of the elderly Ratfolk realized something and said, “Isn’t the enemy leader trying to get us to surrender? We can pretend to surrender and have our special soldiers prepare an ambush!”

This plan received all of the other elderly Ratfolk’s approval.

Following this, they went on top of the wall and shouted down to Zhao Fu, “Respected Lord! We’re willing to surrender, but we want to talk with you about the details of our surrender. Please ask your soldiers to retreat a bit. We would like to talk with you by yourself, and neither side will bring any soldiers.”

Without even thinking about it, Zhao Fu could tell that the Ratfolk were plotting something with this ‘surrender.’ However, after thinking about it, Zhao Fu agreed and told his soldiers to retreat.

Zhang Dahu understood the danger of this because he had suffered at the hands of the special Ratfolk – they were incredibly stealthy and could launch incredibly sudden attacks. He couldn’t help but say, “Your Majesty, it’s too dangerous; please don’t go. I’ll go in your place.”

Zhao Fu lightly shook his head and said, “There’s no need; I know what I’m doing!”

Zhang Dahu did not say anything else because he trusted Zhao Fu. Zhao Fu was his King, so he took all of the soldiers and retreated 5 kilometers. However, he still made preparations to save Zhao Fu if necessary.

It was midnight right now, so everything was quite dark. There was a bonfire beside Zhao Fu, and the tall flames illuminated the surrounding 20-meter radius area.

Zhao Fu stood next to the bonfire as Zhang Dahu led the soldiers and retreated.

When the elderly Ratfolk saw that Zhao Fu had agreed to their request, they felt ecstatic and started to carry out the plan.

A while later, Zhao Fu saw the main entrance, which was a massive tunnel, slowly become unblocked, and a few elderly Ratfolk walked out. Seeing this, a smile appeared on Zhao Fu's face. From the information that he had gleaned from the surrendered Ratfolk, these elderly Ratfolk were in charge of managing the village.

At a hidden region, a countless number of black figures used ropes to descend from the walls before blending into the night and slowly moving towards Zhao Fu.

The elderly Ratfolk slowly walked towards Zhao Fu until they were 10 meters away from him. They smiled and looked incredibly harmless, and it was as if they really were going to surrender. "Respected Lord, where are you from?"

The elderly Ratfolk wanted to make Zhao Fu let his guard down and attack when he wasn't expecting it. However, Zhao Fu did not care about this at all, and he looked around himself as he coldly laughed and said, "What are you all still waiting for?"

Hearing Zhao Fu's words, the elderly Ratfolk were shocked as their expressions changed, and they yelled in a cold, savage voice, "Kill this Human!!"

Following this, countless Ratfolk in black hooded cloaks appeared around Zhao Fu. There were roughly 200 of them, and their hoods hid their appearances, making them seem quite mysterious. They flicked their wrists, and the two short swords on their arms extended outwards – these were called hidden blades. Their movements were incredibly agile, containing a trace of elegance, and they turned into countless black blurs that streaked towards Zhao Fu.

Zhao Fu's smile became cold as he drew the Sky Demon Sword, which gave off a cold, evil, murderous aura, and he slashed with it. In that instant, his King's Domain was also released to the fullest, covering the surrounding 50-meter radius area.

Chapter 102: Nothing is True, Everything is Permitted

Within the King's Domain, everything seemed to move many times slower to Zhao Fu. However, even despite this, the Ratfolk were still abnormally fast, and they reached Zhao Fu in an instant. They slashed out with their hands, and their hidden blades shined with a cold light as they swept towards Zhao Fu's neck.

Luckily, Zhao Fu was not the same person as before. Even though these Ratfolk were powerful, they were on a completely different level compared to Zhao Fu. Just as the first Ratfolk appeared in front of Zhao Fu, he raised the Sky Demon Sword in his hands and slashed downwards as fast as lightning.

As a sword light flashed, large amounts of blood spurted out from the Ratfolk's chest, splitting him from the shoulder to the abdomen. His corpse and guts fell to the ground, dying in red.

Following this, the second Ratfolk appeared to Zhao Fu's right. Zhao Fu gripped his sword and swung to the right – another sword light flashed, and the second Ratfolk was also cleaved in two, the two halves of its body and its organs falling to the ground.

A third Ratfolk appeared behind Zhao Fu, and Zhao Fu whirled around in the blink of an eye, instantly stabbing into the Ratfolk's heart. In just an instant, the Sky Demon Sword's terrifying energy completely blasted open the Ratfolk's chest.

Then came a fourth, a fifth, a sixth...

Underneath their hoods, their eyes were incredibly determined and revealed no fear. Despite facing death, they bravely ran forwards and didn't cry out even upon death.

This was something that they would carry to the grave. They still remembered the sentence that sounded when they placed their hands on that stone stele, “_I am an assassin!”_

As long as they could kill their target, they could ignore all else. Right now, only by killing Zhao Fu could the Ratfolk Village be saved and return to normal. Only then would every Ratfolk's life become better – this was something that they were determined to do, which was why they did not fear death.

The Ratfolk Assassins were extremely fast, and their methods were quite crafty and devious. They aimed for his vitals, whether they were Zhao Fu's eyes, neck, or heart.

It was impossible to see their movements with the naked eye – one could only see streaks of black with two cold white lights. However, as soon as the Ratfolk Assassins appeared around Zhao Fu, they would be instantly killed by him.

However, the Ratfolk Assassins were incredibly strong, and they were like ghosts that could slip past through any gap. If Zhao Fu lost focus for even a split second, he would be dealt a fatal blow, causing all of his hairs to stand on end.

At this moment, a Ratfolk Assassin appeared in front of Zhao Fu, and his hidden blade glinted as it stabbed towards Zhao Fu's heart, forcing him to turn his body to the side.

However, the moment he turned, another Ratfolk Assassin appeared to his right and slashed his hidden blade towards Zhao Fu's throat. Zhao Fu could only raise his foot and kick outwards, sending the Ratfolk Assassin flying right before his blade made it to his neck.

However, in the next instant, yet another Ratfolk Assassin appeared behind Zhao Fu, thrusting his hidden blade towards the back of Zhao Fu's head. Just as it was about to succeed, Zhao Fu quickly spun around, sending black sword qi out and blasting that Ratfolk Assassin away. Under the effects of the powerful sword qi, the Ratfolk's body was slashed into a countless number of pieces.

The Ratfolk were abnormally powerful, and even though Zhao Fu looked like he was in an incredibly dangerous situation, the Ratfolk could barely harm him. After all, as soon as they came close, there was only be a single result waiting for them: death!

Blood continuously spurted into the air, and lives were continuously lost. Soon, there were only 30 of the original 200 Ratfolk Assassins remaining. The ground was littered with a countless number of broken corpses, dying the ground completely red. It was a completely hellish scene, and a strong stench of blood and gore filled the air.

The elderly Ratfolk had never expected Zhao Fu to be so powerful, and by now, Zhang Dahu had almost led the army to where Zhao Fu was. Seeing that their plan had failed, the elderly Ratfolk ordered 10

Ratfolk Assassins to stall Zhao Fu while the other 20 Ratfolk Assassins escorted the elderly Ratfolk back into the village.

Zhao Fu calmly stood his ground. He looked at the 10 Ratfolk Assassins who had surrounded him, and they all attacked him from different directions.

He slashed out with his sword, and a black, crescent-shaped arc of sword light swept out. It passed through the 10 Ratfolk Assassins' bodies, causing them to fly backwards and cough up a mouthful of blood. Their internal organs were completely obliterated, and they were dead by the time they hit the ground.

Zhao Fu continued to stand there calmly, and fresh blood was dripping off of the Sky Demon Sword.

Suddenly, all of the blood on the ground was sucked towards the Sky Demon Sword by an invisible force. The Sky Demon Sword rapidly absorbed all of the blood and cheerfully hummed, as if it reveled in this massacre.

"Owner... hurry... continue... I want more!!" Zhao Fu heard a voice that was faintly panting, and he was speechless. He looked at the escaping elderly Ratfolk and slowly raised the Sky Demon Sword, pointing it towards them.

An image of a demon with massive wings burst forth from the sword and flew towards the 30 escaping Ratfolk. The image was incredibly fast, and it shot past the 30 Ratfolk in an instant.

Immediately, all of the Ratfolk stopped moving, and their bodies started to wither until they became dry corpses and fell to the ground.

This was 'Sky Demon's Feast,' a skill that summoned a massive image of the Sky Demon that could devour all fleshly essence, which would be absorbed by the sword. This was one of the Sky Demon Sword's many special abilities, and it was one of the most powerful aspects about an Epic grade weapon.

"Master! Hurry... I want more... it's not enough!"

Zhao Fu once again heard the Sky Demon's voice, and he put it back into the King's Ring. Immediately, he heard the Sky Demon's angry voice say, "Hmph, human, I won't like you if you keep acting like this!"

Zhao Fu did not pay the Sky Demon much mind; after all, its attitude tended to change quite quickly.

By now, Zhang Dahu and the soldiers had arrived. He saw everything that had happened and arrived quite quickly, but he still knelt and said, "Your Majesty! This subordinate deserves death for arriving late!"

Zhang Dahu looked at the corpses on the ground that he had dealt with. When had a King ever fought at the front while the subjects were at the back? As such, Zhang Dahu also brought the other soldiers to beg for forgiveness.

"Alright, everyone rise." Zhao Fu did not care about this too much.

Following this, Zhao Fu ordered his soldiers to surround the Ratfolk Village again. Before, the elderly Ratfolk had wanted to kill Zhao Fu, making it so that the army would become a headless dragon. However, who would have thought that Zhao Fu would be the one alive while the other died.

Without any leaders, the Ratfolk Village fell into chaos. The Ratfolk started to panic as they looked at the soldiers surrounding their village. Zhao Fu once again asked them to surrender, and as expected, all of the Ratfolk decided to surrender.

Following this, Zhao Fu went into the Ratfolk Village and went to the entrance of the historical remnant. There was a white stone stele that was two meters tall and had been eroded by the passage of time. The surface was quite uneven, and there were some words carved on it. Even though Zhao Fu could not read the words, upon looking at them, he could still understand what they meant.

“We work in the dark to serve the light. Nothing is true, everything is permitted. Under our hidden blades, all are equal!”

Chapter 103: Assassin

After looking at this stone stele, Zhao Fu entered the historical remnant. There were already torches lit within the historical remnant, so it wasn't too dark inside. The Ratfolk must have explored at least part of it already, and the Assassin profession was most likely from here.

Zhao Fu continued to advance and arrived in a large hall. The hall was 30 meters wide; the ground was made from glossy marble; and there were paintings on the ceiling. The paintings depicted people living happily in blissful days, and the people had joyous smiles on their faces.

The only thing in the hall was a stone stele in the middle. The stone stele looked like a Profession Change Stone Stele, but it was different compared to the ones Zhao Fu had seen before: this stone stele was white and had six sides.

Zhao Fu walked over and looked at it:

[Assassin – Order] (Juvenile): B grade Military, Description: An assassin who worships the light and aims to create a wonderful world, Effect: Receives skill [Assassination Technique].

This was most likely the Assassin profession that the Ratfolk Assassins had. B grade professions were quite powerful, and even though Zhao Fu had SS grade King's Undead Cavalry, there were only 10 of them, while many people could change their professions to the Assassin profession.

What's more, it was quite useful. In the future, he would be relying on them for intelligence and assassination tasks, and their names would become famous together with Great Qin, causing countless people to shiver at their names.

Zhao Fu looked forwards and saw a tightly-shut pair of large doors. It seemed that the Ratfolk had not explored past this area, and Zhao Fu walked over to the doors to open them. However, a wave of energy from the doors pushed Zhao Fu away, and a system announcement told him that only those with the Assassin profession could open these doors. Zhao Fu thought about it for a second before returning to the Profession Change Stone Stele and placing his hand on it.

Right now, Zhao Fu had the King Profession and the Demon Priest Profession. However, these were both fairly special professions: the King Profession did not count as a military profession and the other was a religious profession. Of course, Zhao Fu did not believe in or worship Kerr.

Zhao Fu wondered if he could obtain the Assassin profession and decided to test it out. However, he did so primarily so that he could open those doors.

After placing his hand on the stone stele, a system announcement sounded out in his head!

“Would you like to become an Assassin?”

Zhao Fu apprehensively chose ‘yes,’ following which the stone stele gave off a faint light. The scene before Zhao Fu’s eyes blurred as he appeared in another place. This place was quite similar to the hall that Zhao Fu had been in, but it was quite dim. It also gave off a mysterious and dignified feeling.

Apart from this, there was now a person in front of Zhao Fu. This person’s attire was similar to what the Ratfolk Assassins from before wore, and he also wore the hood that covered his facial features. The clothes he wore below the waist were also quite tight, but they would not restrict his movements. From the shape of his body, he seemed to be a man.

He stood there silently as if he didn’t exist, and his icy eyes stared at Zhao Fu from under the hood.

Zhao Fu stood there calmly and looked back at the man while wondering what was going on. He remembered choosing to accept the profession before appearing at this place.

The man continued to stare at Zhao Fu when the pendant on his chest suddenly gave off a faint white light, and he slowly said with a slightly hoarse voice, “Preserve the light in your heart, remember that you are an Assassin. We work in the dark to serve the light; nothing is true, everything is permitted; under our hidden blades, all are equal!”

After the man spoke that final sentence, the scene before Zhao Fu’s eyes blurred and he returned to the hall that he was in before, as a system announcement sounded out, “Profession change successful!”

This profession was not simple at all, and Zhao Fu decided that he needed to examine it closely. Zhao Fu was surprised that he had to be judged before he could obtain the profession, which was different to all of the other professions.

Zhao Fu looked at his Assassin profession. He obtained not only stat bonuses but also many skills: Stealth, Blur, Assassination Technique, Ghost Form, Knife Throwing, and Hidden Blade Control.

Of course, with Zhao Fu’s status, he wouldn’t be using the profession to carry out assassinations or intelligence-gathering. However, it would still be useful to him because it allowed him to see what was on the other side of those doors.

Zhao Fu stood in front of the doors and pushed them open. This time, the doors did not reject him, and he was able to open them easily.

Behind the doors was a dim passageway. Zhao Fu thought about it for a second and ordered his soldiers to prepare for him the black hooded clothes and the two hidden blades. Zhao Fu guessed that since the doors required the Assassin profession to open them, what lay beyond them was related to the profession, so he had to make sufficient preparations.

“Your Majesty, do you want some of us to come with you? It might be very dangerous inside!” Zhao Fu’s trusted subordinates asked with worried expressions on their faces.

Zhao Fu shook his head and replied, “No need. It might be quite dangerous inside, but because it could be a type of Legacy Trial, there shouldn’t be any fatal dangers inside. Don’t worry too much!”

Hearing this, Zhao Fu’s subordinates retreated to one side.

After making preparations, Zhao Fu stepped into the passageway, and the doors slowly closed behind him. Zhao Fu did not move once he entered. Instead, he observed his surroundings before finally walking forwards after not finding anything.

His surroundings were quite quiet, and the only sound he could hear was his own breathing. Combined with the dim environment, the atmosphere was quite frightening.

Zhao Fu followed the passageway until he arrived in a strange region. The region was incredibly big, and it seemed like a forest. It was still quite dim in this forest, and the sky was a grey-white color, while the grass and trees were a deathly grey color. The ground was covered with rotten and withered leaves, and the entire region was filled with the aura of death.

Zhao Fu looked around for a moment, planning what to do, when a large tree in front of him seemed to come to life, whipping its branches towards him.

This was simply too unexpected, and Zhao Fu quickly tried to jump backwards. However, the branches were simply too big, and it was impossible for Zhao Fu to fully evade them. As such, he quickly crossed his arms and unleashed his King’s Domain, forming a 2 meter wide black protective shield that was covered with dragon inscriptions, but he was still sent flying backwards.

After landing on the ground, Zhao Fu tried to go another way, but when he came near the forest, the large trees once again came to life and started to attack Zhao Fu. Luckily, he was prepared this time and managed to evade them. This happened a few times, making it impossible for him to enter the forest.

Zhao Fu could only stand still and think to himself for a moment. If he wanted to advance, he would have to pass through this forest, but with the trees attacking him, it was impossible for him to enter the forest. He must have overlooked something.

Suddenly, a realization flashed in Zhao Fu’s mind as he smiled with understanding. He marveled at his momentary stupidity and thought back to the words that the man had said to him when he obtained his profession: “Preserve the light in your heart, remember that you are an Assassin.”

Before, he had been thinking as a normal person, rather than as an Assassin. Now that he was an Assassin, he should be thinking as an Assassin did.

First, in order to enter a place as an Assassin, he would have to suppress his breathing and his aura. Zhao Fu used Stealth to hide his aura, and even his breathing was barely detectable. After he suppressed his aura and breathing, he slowly approached the large tree.

Chapter 104: Underworld Demon

This time, the large tree did not attack, and Zhao Fu inwardly let out a sigh of relief. The forest was quite large, and because he had to use Stealth the entire time, he couldn't relax, or the trees would start to attack him. This was quite difficult, as using Stealth required a lot of his concentration.

However, if Zhao Fu wanted to advance, this was necessary. Zhao Fu carefully crept forwards, his mind fully alert. Soon, Zhao Fu quickly hid behind a large tree because he had discovered a monster ahead.

The monster had a human-like body, was 2 meters tall, and had grey-white skin. Its arms were quite long, and it was to the point that they were trailing on the ground. Its hands were like claws, and the monster did not have a face, only a pair of large ears.

Upon seeing this monster, Zhao Fu quickly ducked behind a tree. It did not seem to notice Zhao Fu, and after a while, it finally left.

Following this, Zhao Fu continued onwards. However, he saw another monster like the one from before. However, this one did not have a pair of large ears, and it instead had a large eye on its face.

The monster turned its head, and Zhao Fu was given a big fright – he had been discovered.

In the next second, the monster disappeared and reappeared in front of Zhao Fu. It raised its right claw and vigorously slashed downwards at Zhao Fu.

“_So fast!_” Zhao Fu marveled inwardly. He immediately activated the mechanisms attached to his hands, causing the two hidden blades to extend outwards, and Zhao Fu crossed his arms in front of his body.

Bang!

A massive force smashed into his arms, making him slide back by 5 or 6 meters. It had to be known that Zhao Fu's stats were comparable to that of a Stage 2 guard's, but because his cultivation was lacking, he was still forced backwards. It was evident how powerful this monster was. No wonder the Ratfolk had been unable to get past this area – it would have been impossible for them to win against this monster.

Facing this monster, Zhao Fu had no choice but to use his King's Power. He sent his King's Power into the hidden blades, and the silver-white blades looked as if they had been dyed black, with dragon inscriptions moving along the surfaces of the blades.

This time, it was Zhao Fu's turn to attack. He leaned forwards as his legs explosively pushed off from the ground.

Bang!

The ground cracked as Zhao Fu's body turned into a black blur and shot towards the monster.

The monster stood its ground calmly when it saw Zhao Fu rush at it. When Zhao Fu came within two meters of it, the monster swept its right arm out as fast as lightning, and its sharp claws gave off five rays of light that seemed to be able to crush rocks.

Zhao Fu raised the hidden blade on his left hand and blocked the monster's claw as he stabbed the hidden blade on his right hand towards the monster. The monster was able to react incredibly quickly, and it stretched out its other hand and grabbed onto Zhao Fu's right arm.

Zhao Fu was greatly shocked, and in the next moment, the monster threw Zhao Fu like he was a sandbag.

Bang!

Zhao Fu was thrown 10 or so meters away and crashed into a large tree. The tree trunk trembled, and quite a few leaves fell from the tree.

Cough! As Zhao Fu fell to the ground, he coughed up a mouthful of blood. The monster was incredibly strong, and if he wasn't careful, he would be heavily injured. Zhao Fu took out a healing pill and ate it before standing up.

At this moment, the monster's large eye was staring at Zhao Fu without a trace of emotion. Following this, the monster's body vanished and appeared before Zhao Fu, its claw reaching towards Zhao Fu as if it wanted to dig out his heart.

Zhao Fu quickly leaped to the side and avoided its claw.

Bang!

A muffled explosion sounded out as its claw stabbed half a meter deep into the tree trunk. Right after dodging the claws, Zhao Fu saw an opportunity and slashed out with his hidden blade towards the monster. However, in the next second, the monster whipped its other claw towards Zhao Fu.

Zhao Fu's hidden blade was unable to connect with the monster at all, and his entire body was sent flying again. After hitting the ground, Zhao Fu felt as if his body was going to collapse, and he thought to himself, "_How is this monster so strong and so fast?!"_

However, Zhao Fu suddenly realized that he had forgotten something, and he thought to himself, "_Aiya, I'm an Assassin!"_

Assassins were extremely fast and incredibly agile, and Zhao Fu had not used the strengths of his profession at all.

At this moment, the monster once again appeared in front of where Zhao Fu was and raised its arms, slamming them down on Zhao Fu, who was on the ground.

Zhao Fu immediately activated Ghost Form, which was a skill that could allow his body to become abnormally agile.

When the monster's claws were about to hit him, Zhao Fu's body performed a strange twist as he narrowly avoided the monster's attack, and he quickly flipped to his feet from the ground.

In the next second, Zhao Fu immediately used Blur, and he quickly ran and leapt around the monster. The monster looked around with its single eye to track Zhao Fu's movements.

Suddenly, a black blur flashed near the monster. However, when it tried to grab the monster, it caught nothing. Zhao Fu appeared at the other side of the monster's body, but it was able to react incredibly quickly, swinging its other claw towards Zhao Fu.

However, Zhao Fu bent backwards as lithely as a snake and dodged the attack. As he swung back up, his hidden blade slashed across the monster's waist, leaving a 15-centimeter wide injury.

"Roarr!!!" the monster howled in pain. It turned its body and tried to claw Zhao Fu, but Zhao Fu's body had already turned into a blur and reappeared five meters away.

This was the first time that Zhao Fu had been able to hit the monster, and he was quite happy. However, his expression became serious because he saw that the wound he had created healed in just seconds, and it was to the point that there was not even a scar left.

After the wound closed, the monster once again rushed at Zhao Fu. Zhao Fu decided to use the Assassin profession's speed and agility to its fullest by choosing to evade and dodge instead of meeting the monster head-on.

At the same time, Zhao Fu gradually discovered the monster's openings. Every time it attacked, it would leave openings on both sides of its waist. Zhao Fu could take advantage of this and continuously injure the monster, but no matter how much he injured it, it would be able to quickly recover, and its strength did not seem to go down at all.

There was almost no way to defeat this monster, and Zhao Fu could only think like an Assassin. He realized that he had been making a mistake: Assassins existed to assassinate their targets, and this required them to kill in a single blow. Often, Assassins would only have a single chance, and once they missed it, the opportunity would not present itself again.

Normally, the lethal areas were the heart and the head, and this monster's weaknesses were most likely those two places as well. After coming to this realization, Zhao Fu started to face off against the monster again.

He first left a few injuries on the monster's stomach and waist area, causing it to roar angrily and attack Zhao Fu wildly. Its claws glinted with light, and anyone who was hit by them would have been reduced to scraps.

Zhao Fu quickly dodged, his heart incredibly calm without a trace of panic. He did not continue attacking because he had completely immersed himself in the identity of an Assassin. Only that way would his heart fully fuse with the Assassin profession.

As the monster madly rained down attacks, Zhao Fu continuously dodged. Suddenly, Zhao Fu's eyes flashed as he ducked under one of the monster's swipes, leaned forwards, stretched out his right hand, and used the Assassination Technique. His hidden blade flashed with a dark light as it stabbed forwards.

Chi!

The sound of the hidden blade piercing into flesh sounded out as the hidden blade pierced the monster's heart. At that moment, both parties stopped moving.

Chapter 105: Twelve Statues

After piercing through the monster's heart, Zhao Fu instantly withdrew his hidden blade and retreated. The monster's corpse powerlessly fell to the ground before turning into grey air, leaving behind a grey, 5 centimeter long, rhombus-shaped crystal.

When the monster finally died, Zhao Fu let out a breath and looked at the grey crystal on the ground. He walked over with a curious expression on his face and looked at it.

[Underworld Demon Crystal]: Can be fused with a piece of equipment, giving it [Underworld Demon's Power].

Underworld Demon's Power was most likely that monster's power, so that monster was most likely an Underworld Demon. Zhao Fu wondered what sort of creature it was.

At the same time, he didn't know what would happen if he fused the Underworld Demon Crystal into a piece of equipment. Right now, Zhao Fu's hidden blades and clothes were still White grade, so fusing the Underworld Demon Crystal into them would be a waste. Of course, Zhao Fu had other higher grade equipment, but Zhao Fu felt that the Underworld Demon Crystal was more suited to Assassin equipment.

Just as he was about to leave, the Underworld Demon with a large pair of ears, drawn over from the previous battle, charged over.

This Underworld Demon did not have eyes, and it relied solely on its hearing. Its pair of large ears could catch all traces of sound, and if one could find a way to deal with it, it would be quite easy to deal with. However, if one could not find a method to deal with it, this Underworld Demon would be even more troublesome than the Underworld Demon with the eye.

After appearing, the Underworld Demon immediately leaped at Zhao Fu, and he did not even have the chance to hide. The Underworld Demon swiped its claws at Zhao Fu, and Zhao Fu's body turned into countless black blurs as he dodged the attack.

In actuality, this was quite useful to Zhao Fu. It would take some time for Zhao Fu to become accustomed to fighting on the frontlines from watching from the backlines. Even though he had gained immense power, he lacked the means to use this power. In other words, he lacked battle experience – his King's Power was also something that could only be developed through battle.

Zhao Fu quickly dodged, as this Underworld Demon attacked even faster than the previous one. Despite his speed and agility, there were many occasions where he was almost hit.

Zhao Fu knew that he couldn't continue like this, and he suddenly remembered his Knife Throwing skill. Throwing knives were leaf-shaped knives that were roughly as long as a dagger. The blade was quite thin and incredibly sharp, and it could deal a great amount of damage. This was one of the long-range abilities that [Assassin – Order] had.

Zhao Fu had prepared some throwing knives beforehand, and he immediately retreated 10 or so meters before taking out two throwing knives. He flicked his wrists, sending the two throwing knives towards the Underworld Demon. They were incredibly fast, and they looked like two rays of white light as they traveled towards the Underworld Demon. The sound that they gave off was quite quiet, but because the

Underworld Demon had astonishing hearing, it was able to knock the two throwing knives away with its claws.

Zhao Fu wasn't disappointed when he saw this because he had found a way to deal with the Underworld Demon. Upon realizing this method, a smile appeared on his lips.

Because Zhao Fu's face was covered by his hood, his smile looked quite mysterious and somewhat dashing.

This time, it was Zhao Fu who attacked first. He used the throwing knives to continuously attack the Underworld Demon from different places, and all of them were knocked away by it. Following this, Zhao Fu threw another two throwing knives, but this time, after he threw them, he moved extremely quickly and suppressed his aura as he followed right behind the two throwing knives.

Bang! Bang!

The Underworld Demon waved its arms, and its steel-like claws once again knocked the two throwing knives away. By now, Zhao Fu was right in front of the Underworld Demon, and he slashed his hidden blade towards it. The Underworld Demon finally noticed Zhao Fu and tried to grab him with its claws.

However, just as the hidden blade and the claws were about to clash, Zhao Fu suddenly stopped attacking and dodged to the side. The instant that the Underworld Demon's claws missed, Zhao Fu left a gash on the Underworld Demon's side. This caused it to roar with fury, and it raised its claws before smashing them down on Zhao Fu.

Bang!!

The Underworld Demon's claws crashed onto the ground, leaving a large crater, but by now, Zhao Fu was already behind the Underworld Demon. He stabbed out, his hidden blade giving off a black light as it stabbed into the Underworld Demon's heart.

The Underworld Demon's body immediately dissipated, turning into grey air, and an Underworld Demon Crystal fell to the ground. Zhao Fu picked up the crystal and continued onwards.

.....

Seven days later, Zhao Fu arrived at the end of the forest. Over the seven days, Zhao Fu had killed 459 Underworld Demons, and he had correspondingly obtained 459 Underworld Demon Crystals.

It seemed that Underworld Demon Crystals were guaranteed drops from Underworld Demons, and they were not as rare as Soldier Souls. As such, Zhao Fu fused two Underworld Demon Crystals into his hidden blades, causing their stats to change.

[Hidden Blade]: Grade: Blue, Stats: Strength +1, Agility +1, Description: A normal hidden blade that has been strengthened by an Underworld Demon's Power. The Assassin skills used with this hidden blade will be strengthened, and the hidden blade has received a small armor-piercing effect.

Before, the hidden blades did not have any stats, but now, the two hidden blades had two points of stats, the Assassin skills used with the hidden blades were buffed, and the blades received a small armor-piercing effect. Even if someone was wearing armor, the hidden blades could still pierce through them, so these two hidden blades had now become perfect assassination tools.

After these seven days, Zhao Fu had finally arrived at the end of the forest, which meant that Zhao Fu was about to pass the trial. There were two large doors at the end of the forest that were like the ones that Zhao Fu had entered to arrive in this space. However, there were 50 or so Underworld Demons guarding them.

It would be quite difficult for Zhao Fu to deal with 50 Underworld Demons at once, so he thought about what to do. The goal wasn't to kill the Underworld Demons but to pass through here. As such, he made some faint noises in the forest and lured over only the Underworld Demons with ears.

Now, there were only 20 or so Underworld Demons with big eyes in front of the doors. Zhao Fu didn't hide anymore, and he directly rushed over. After the rigorous training that he had gone through over the past seven days, Zhao Fu seemed to have become a different person in terms of both strength and mental state.

Under his hood, Zhao Fu was shrouded with a mysterious and icy aura, and he rushed over like a black shadow. Of course, the 20 or so Underworld Demons immediately noticed him and rushed towards him.

Chi!

Just as they started fighting, Zhao Fu tilted his head and dodged one of the Underworld Demon's claws before stabbing the hidden blade on his right hand into its heart. Everything had happened extremely quickly, and now, Zhao Fu's movements were all incredibly smooth and proficient.

Zhao Fu did not even bother to look at the Underworld Demon he had just killed before turning and plunging his other hidden blade into another Underworld Demon's heart. These Underworld Demons, which had been a big problem for Zhao Fu in the past, were no longer a problem. After quickly killing these Underworld Demons, he put away the crystals that they had dropped.

Zhao Fu slowly opened the pair of doors at the end of the forest before arriving in another hall. This hall was the same as the hall from before, but the difference was that apart from there being a Profession Change Stone Stele at the center, there were also 12 stages around it with 12 statues and 12 sets of equipment.

Chapter 106: Equipment Sets

The 12 statues on the stages were all wearing clothes similar to what Zhao Fu was wearing, making it impossible to see their facial features. Based on the shapes of their bodies, there were males and females, young and old.

Of course, Zhao Fu did not recognize these statues, but these 12 people were all undoubtedly experts, as even their statues gave off a sense of suppression.

Zhao Fu looked at the 12 sets of equipment at the feet of the 12 statues. The sets had a ring, two hidden blades, and a set of clothes.

The three pieces of equipment were all grey, but despite this, each equipment set looked quite extraordinary. The rings had exquisite patterns and inscriptions on them; the hidden blades gave off a light that made one feel a chill; and the clothes felt incredibly mysterious.

Zhao Fu walked over to one of the equipment sets and had a look.

[Underworld Shadow's Ring – Battle]: Grade: Gold, Stats: All stats +4, Description: One of the pieces of the Battle-wielder's Equipment Set. This piece of equipment is a piece of legacy equipment that can evolve with its owner. It contains hidden power from its last owner. When all three pieces of the equipment set are equipped, the owner can obtain the last owner's Legacy.

[Underworld Shadow's Sword – Battle]: Grade: Gold, Stats: Strength +12, Agility +7, Description: One of the pieces of the Battle-wielder's Equipment Set. This piece of equipment is a piece of legacy equipment that can evolve with its owner. It contains hidden power from its last owner. When all three pieces of the equipment set are equipped, the owner can obtain the last owner's Legacy.

[Underworld Shadow's Clothes – Battle]: Grade: Gold, Stats: Strength +6, Agility +7, Constitution +6, Description: One of the pieces of the Battle-wielder's Equipment Set. This piece of equipment is a legacy piece of equipment that can evolve with its owner. It contains hidden power from its last owner. When all three pieces of the equipment set are equipped, the owner can obtain the last owner's Legacy.

After taking a look, Zhao Fu found that these 12 equipment sets were not ordinary at all. Not only were they pieces of legacy equipment, but they could also grow stronger as their owners grew stronger. They would be worth a lot from just this alone. What was even more important was that the owner could obtain the previous owner's Legacy.

Zhao Fu guessed that the owners of these pieces of equipment were all supremely strong existences, and these 12 statues were statues of them.

The other 11 equipment sets were the Soul Equipment Set, War Equipment Set, Kill Equipment Set, Light Equipment Set, Fantasy Illusion Set, Corrosion Equipment Set, Darkness Equipment Set, Blood Equipment Set, Terror Equipment Set, Tree Equipment Set, and Void equipment Set.

These 12 Equipment Sets all contained the power of Legacies, so Zhao Fu put all of them away. Now, after Zhao Fu left, he would be able to create an Assassin organization.

After obtaining these things, Zhao Fu was confident that the Assassin organization that he created would become one of the most powerful Assassin organizations in the world. Its name would resound under the heavens, and it would become one of the most feared organizations in the world.

Zhao Fu did not choose any of these 12 equipment sets to use for himself because he wanted to give these 12 equipment sets to the heads of the organization. Zhao Fu felt that the equipment set for the true leader would be further on.

Zhao Fu then went to take a look at the Profession Change Stone Stele at the center of the hall. It was also for [Assassin – Order], but it was different than the one from before.

[Assassin – Order] (Mature): A grade Military, Description: An assassin who worships the light and aims to create a wonderful world, Effect: Receives skill [Level 1 Assassination Technique].

The main changes were that 'Juvenile' had become 'Mature' and 'B grade' had become 'A grade.' The skill did not change, but it was strengthened.

Zhao Fu guessed that this profession was also a profession that could become stronger. Perhaps after the next trial, the profession would be S grade, and it would go from 'Mature' to 'Perfect.' There might even be 'Ultimate' in the future.

In other words, this Assassin profession might be a terrifying SSS grade Military profession – this caused Zhao Fu's heart to tremble with excitement.

Zhao Fu placed his hand on the Profession Change Stone Stele, and the scene before his eyes blurred as he appeared in a dim space. There was also a person standing in front of him. This person's aura was many times stronger than the first person who had appeared to him.

"473 Underworld Demons killed in total. Trial passed!" a cold voice said.

Following this, Zhao Fu was returned to the place where he was before, and his Assassin profession became A grade. After looking at his skills, he felt quite satisfied.

After pushing open another set of doors, Zhao Fu continued onwards. He was soon blocked by a blood-red barrier, and when he tried to push through it, he was stopped. After thinking about it, he said, "We work in the dark to serve the light. Nothing is true, everything is permitted. Under our hidden blades, all are equal!"

This time, Zhao Fu was able to pass through the blood-red barrier. After coming out, he found himself in a strange place. He was in the middle of a ruins, and the sky was blood-red. His surroundings were deathly quiet, but there was a dense feeling of blood and killing intent.

What made Zhao Fu's heart sink was that all of the powers within him had been sealed, including his King's Power, bringing him to the state of a normal person. At the same time, Zhao Fu received a message to kill all the people here while surviving. As such, Zhao Fu started to cautiously proceed.

Three days later!

Zhao Fu's body was covered with injuries, making him look like a person made of blood. His breathing was ragged as he weakly pushed open the doors to exit this region.

He arrived at a hall, and after looking around, he was somewhat disappointed because there was almost nothing in here. Could it be that his guess had been wrong? Only after walking forwards did he notice a grey ring on the Profession Change Stone Stele.

[Assassin Lord's Ring]: Grade: Legendary, Stats: Strength +12, Agility +20, Constitution +6, Description: Increases one's Assassin skills by 200%, and all damage from Assassin skills towards you are reduced by 60%.

Bonus Skills:

[Detection Domain]: All creatures that come within 100 meters of you will be detected by you.

[Master-Servant Power]: This ring and the 12 Legacy Equipment Sets have a master-servant relationship, and you can use their power.

After seeing this ring, Zhao Fu let out a sigh of relief – it seemed that his guess had been correct. The ring's stats were quite powerful, and he would be able to try the 12 different sets' powers. Right now, he needed to recuperate, as he had suffered heavy injuries.

Zhao Fu had the King's Ring on the index finger of his right hand and the Assassin Lord's Ring on the middle finger of his right hand.

Following this, Zhao Fu placed his hand on the Profession Change Stone Stele, which upgraded his profession into S grade, and the title became [Assassin – Order] (Perfect). Zhao Fu understood what he had experienced over these past three days, and he did not want to go on. As such, he walked to the passage on one of the other walls and left the historical remnant.

Chapter 107: Great Qin's 10 Departments

After arriving outside, everyone who had been waiting for him let out a sigh of relief. After all, Zhao Fu had been inside for 10 days, and they couldn't help but worry. When they saw Zhao Fu finally come out, they could put their minds at ease.

Seeing how bloodied Zhao Fu was, Bai Qi quickly went over to support Zhao Fu and asked worriedly, "Your Majesty, how were you injured so heavily?"

By now, Zhao Fu's injuries had stabilized, but he was still relatively weak. He smiled and gave a simple description of the things within the historical remnant, causing everyone to be astonished.

After returning to the Great Qin Village, Zhao Fu made a full recovery after one or two days. He then returned to the Ratfolk Village and had a look around. The Ratfolk Village was a Silver grade Village, and now, Zhao Fu had five Silver grade Villages.

Following this, Zhao Fu went to the Ratfolk Barracks and found three Profession Change Stone Steles.

[Ratfolk Soldier]: F+ grade Military, Description: Soldiers among Ratfolk, Effect: Receives [Attack Sabre Technique].

[Ratfolk Archer]: E- grade Military, Description: Archers among Ratfolk, Effect: Receives [Precise Archery].

These two military professions were quite ordinary, and Zhao Fu did not pay them much attention. However, Zhao Fu was quite curious about the third profession.

[Scout]: D- grade Military, Description: Ratfolk who are extremely sensitive to their surroundings, Effect: Receives [Detection].

After seeing this profession, Zhao Fu realized that this was how they had been discovered earlier. This profession would be quite important in future battles.

Zhao Fu decided to leave 2,000 Ratfolk in the village and took the other 2,000 to the Great Qin Village. It wouldn't be too dangerous for them to be here considering how difficult it was to attack the place and the teleportation channel that was built.

Over at the Bronze Concentrate Mine, Zhao Fu took back 500 soldiers, as the surrounding 100-kilometer radius area was now under the Great Qin Village's control, so there was no need to be as worried as before. Moreover, after such a long time, Zhao Fu's total population had reached a bit over 27,000 people, so Zhao Fu decided to increase his army to 6,000 soldiers.

At the same time, the Great Qin Village now had 110,000 EXP and was 40,000 EXP away from becoming a Town. Zhao Fu was also 200 Achievement Points away from becoming a Second-Ranked Baron.

Since the Great Qin Village was about to become a Town, they couldn't continue developing like it was a village. The first thing for them to do was to build proper walls, which required them to excavate rocks.

For the next few days, Zhao Fu and Bai Qi took a look at the surrounding mountains and found a good material for the walls. The material was called Whitesteel Rock, and it contained some metallic properties. As such, it was tougher than normal rocks and would be good for building walls.

They also drew a detailed town map and made precise plans. That way, there wouldn't be any problems with the future development of the Great Qin Village. Right now, the Great Qin Village was placed in the middle of many Normal grade Villages.

There were also four important villages to the north, south, east, and west of the Great Qin Village, which protected the Great Qin Village. These villages were all Silver grade Villages and had decent potential.

In the future, Zhao Fu would also use this sort of development strategy to defend the Great Qin Village. After all, the Great Qin Village was the foundation of everything, so he needed to give it absolute protection. The Great Qin Village was something absolutely necessary for reviving the Great Qin Empire in the future, so it held an incredibly high position in Zhao Fu's heart.

Of course, Zhao Fu would not personally take charge of the construction – he left this to the Gnomes and Dwarves. The Dwarves were knowledgeable about construction and the Gnomes were proficient in engineering, so they would work quite well together.

Zhao Fu also realized that because the Great Qin Village would become a Town soon, they would also need to make changes to the management structure. After discussing with Bai Qi and Li Si, Zhao Fu decided to create a few departments.

The first was the Construction Department, which would be in charge of all construction and maintenance.

The second was the Residential Department. Zhao Fu had almost 30,000 villagers, and he needed a comprehensive census register. A census register was not just to keep records of residents, but it would also help them better manage the people. Therefore, a nation had to have a census register.

The third was the Research Department, which would be in charge of research and development.

The fourth was the Agricultural Department. Right now, arable land was essentially under military control, so no one owned the land. The Agricultural Department would not only be in charge of crops but also the management of medicinal plants, fruits, and vegetables.

The fifth was the Animal Department, which would be in charge of animals. The department would be in charge of raising and feeding warhorses and breeding livestock. Not all creatures were spawned by the system in the Heaven Awaken World, so some kinds of livestock have to be bred.

The sixth was the Equipment Department, which would be in charge of managing and creating military equipment.

The seventh was the Medicine Department. This department was not only in charge of refining medicinal pills but also responsible for creating medicine and healing the injured.

The eighth was the Military Department, which would oversee all military matters. This would be managed by Bai Qi, and as the Great Qin Village developed, Bai Qi would return to his role as Chief Commander.

The ninth was Internal Affairs Department, which would manage the various matters within the villages. This was similar to the Executive branch in most governments, and the department would be managed by Li Si. Li Si had been the Prime Minister of the Qin Empire, so he was quite suitable for this role.

The tenth would not be disclosed to the public: the Night Department, which only the high-ranking members of the Great Qin Village would know about.

The Night Department would be the Assassin organization, and its full name was 'Eternal Night.' Zhao Fu wanted it to be a shadow that would forever stay out of sight and be an eternal night that would strike fear into countless people.

Currently, Eternal Night already had 150 people. These 150 people had gone through various tests set by Zhao Fu, and they had finally passed the initial trial in the historical remnant.

However, most of these people only had the B grade Juvenile Assassin profession. Only five of them obtained the A grade Mature Assassin profession – these people were the crème of the crop. Only after they passed did Zhao Fu find out that the only requirement to pass was to kill three Underworld Demons.

They were not like Zhao Fu, who had powerful Legacies and powers – they all relied on their own strength and received heavy injuries to kill three Underworld Demons. This greatly shocked Zhao Fu.

Out of these five people, four of them were male and one of them was female, and Zhao Fu already knew three of them.

Chapter 108: Underworld Equipment Set

Among the three people who Zhao Fu knew, Wang Ergou and Guo Binglin was a part of that group. He had asked them to have a go, as Wang Ergou had a nimble mind and Guo Binglin was an attentive and thorough person. Eternal Night would not merely carry out assassinations. It would also do intelligence gathering as well, so it needed all sorts of people.

Zhao Fu had high hopes for Wang Ergou and Guo Binglin, so he asked them to try. Both of them had not disappointed Zhao Fu, and they had almost risked their lives to finally kill three Underworld Demons, obtaining the A grade Assassin profession.

They were both quite proud and joyful that they had killed three Underworld Demons, which were all incredibly powerful beings. Only those who had fought against the Underworld Demons would understand how terrifying they were.

Only by giving it their all and even putting their lives on the line had these five people risen above the other 140 or so people. Of course, they had been filled with pride when they finished. However, when they saw the rankings for the number of Underworld Demons killed, they were shocked to see that the top-ranked person had killed over 400 Underworld Demons.

Even a single Underworld Demon could almost kill them, and if they had to kill over 400 Underworld Demons, there wouldn't even be a speck of them left afterwards. What shocked them even more was that the top-ranked person was Zhao Fu, their Majesty!

Now, none of them felt prideful, and they instead humbly lowered their heads and no longer thought about this matter.

The five of them respectfully half-knelt on the ground, while Zhao Fu sat on a chair above and smiled as he looked at them.

He glanced past Wang Ergou and Guo Binglin, and his gaze fell on the last person who he knew and said, "Liu Mei, were you really so bored that you went and tried as well?"

Liu Mei glared at Zhao Fu and said unhappily, "Your Majesty, why can't I try? I always thought that I was suited to be an assassin."

"Hahahaha..." Zhao Fu couldn't help but laugh out loud.

Seeing that Zhao Fu had started laughing, Liu Mei felt quite displeased, but because she couldn't do anything about it, she continued to glare at him.

Zhao Fu finally stopped laughing after a bit. Indeed, Liu Mei had the skill to pass the trials, and because she was acknowledged by the stone stele, she did possess some talent.

Zhao Fu did not mind her glare and looked at the remaining two people. One was a skinny youth, while the other was a normal-looking middle-aged man. The youth was called Ling Hongfei and the middle-aged man was called Zou Qi.

As Zhao Fu looked at them, both of them respectfully lowered their heads – they were not like the other three people, who Zhao Fu had valued from the beginning. They were ordinary people who had grasped this opportunity, and now that they had been summoned by Zhao Fu, it most likely meant that they would be valued by Zhao Fu in the future. As such, they couldn't help but feel somewhat excited and nervous.

After looking at the five people, Zhao Fu took out the 12 Legacy Equipment Sets and said, "Since you've passed the trial, I'll give you a corresponding reward. These are 12 Legacy Equipment Sets, and each contains its own special power. Pick a set based on your preferences, but make sure you think about it carefully, as it may be with you for life!"

The five of them earnestly nodded and looked at the 12 sets of equipment in front of them. They couldn't help but touch the equipment sets and feel the auras that they gave off.

In the end, Guo Binglin chose the Soul Equipment Set. Because Zhao Fu possessed the Assassin Lord's Ring, he had some understanding of the 12 powers that the equipment sets possessed. The Soul Equipment Set possessed a mental-type legacy.

Liu Mei chose the Fantasy Equipment Set, which possessed an illusion-type legacy. Wang Ergou chose the Corrosion Equipment Set, which had a poison-type legacy that could corrode bodies. Ling Hongfei chose the Darkness Equipment Set, which had a ghost-type legacy and would give him powers similar to those of the Undead. Zou Qi chose the Tree Equipment Set, which had a healing-type legacy and would aid in recovery and healing.

These five legacies were all decent, but the most powerful were the War Equipment Set, Kill Equipment Set, Blood Equipment Set, and Battle Equipment Set. These four legacies all focused on killing and fighting, so their legacies' powers were quite monstrous.

However, despite those four equipment sets being the most powerful, none of the five people chose them. Of course, Zhao Fu would not force them because he knew the importance of choosing something that suited oneself.

The five of them put the equipment sets on, after which each of the equipment sets gave off large amounts of grey aura that entered their bodies. Their auras changed, and they obtained not only increased stats but also a special legacy power.

Zhao Fu left things at that. He had given them the opportunity, and it would now depend on their own efforts and luck to see how they would use those powers.

After this, there were not many other matters for Zhao Fu to take care of, so he went to take a look at the construction of the Great Qin Village's walls.

The next day, a golden light flashed at the Origin, and the Great Qin Village spawned an S grade villager. Li Si quickly took him to Zhao Fu.

Zhao Fu saw that the new villager was a refined-looking middle-aged man who was wearing scholar's robes, and he looked at his stats.

Name: Meng Haoran

Grade: S

Title: None

Profession: [Learned Teacher]

Achievement Points: Commoner (0/200)

Race: Human

Age: 32 (100)

Loyalty: 80

Stats: Strength: 6, Intelligence: 10, Constitution: 6, Agility: 7

Cultivation: Stage 0

Cultivation Technique: None

Skill: [Teaching and Educating]

Equipment: Scholar's Robes

"Learned Teacher?" Zhao Fu softly said after looking at Meng Haoran's stats.

Hearing this, Meng Haoran respectfully cupped his hands together as he said, "Your Majesty, this subordinate is indeed a teacher."

Zhao Fu thought for a moment and felt that it was time for the Great Qin Village to build an academy and to invite a few teachers to teach the children.

Zhao Fu was not opposed to the Confucians, who promoted learning, and he quite often agreed with their ideology. Moreover, learning and studying were not merely about reading and writing words but about broadening one's perspectives and making one more cultured.

However, Zhao Fu was opposed to studying for the sake of studying. For example, the Eight-Legged Essay of the Ming Dynasty, a type of essay that had to be mastered to pass the imperial examinations, completely constricted people's thinking. Thus, China started to fall behind, and by the end of the Qing Dynasty, almost any nation could bully China. Even until now, it was one of the greatest humiliations of China's history.

Zhao Fu decided that an academy was absolutely necessary because he couldn't just depend on finding and spawning talents. He would also have to develop talents.

Chapter 109: Soldier Alliance

In the real world, no matter if it was a country or a company, they would always be competing over talented people. Moreover, it was often stressed that science, technology, and education were essential to the development of a country.

Even though the Heaven Awaken World was in chaotic times, people still needed to learn and study. The civil and the military made up for the shortcomings of the other, and only by developing both would one's faction become stronger.

In the future, Zhao Fu would welcome any Confucians to join his faction, but he would not reject the Hundred Schools of Thought and place the Confucians on a pedestal. Zhao Fu was adamant that all Schools of Thought had their own uses and applications, and one could not only focus on Confucianism.

At the same time, with such great competition, any faction would welcome any of the Hundred School of Thought's people. However, Zhao Fu knew that he had to proceed carefully – he was still much too weak, and in the real world, anyone could easily crush him and put him to death. As such, he had to be cautious in all things.

Following this, Zhao Fu chatted with Meng Haoran about a few things that he wanted to be taught, before ordering people to start constructing an academy and to start gathering some important books.

After he set all of this into motion, Zhao Fu had a look at the time, and when he saw that there wasn't anything else for him to do, he returned to the real world. After coming back to the real world, Zhao Fu ate some food before opening up the Heaven Awaken World forum.

At this moment, a familiar woman's voice sounded out from outside his door. Zhao Fu opened the door with a curious look on his face and saw Wu Qingniang, who had now changed into casual clothes, but she still gave off an exceptional aura. He asked, "Why are you here?"

Wu Qingniang lightly smiled and replied, "What, you don't welcome me?"

Zhao Fu shook his head and stepped out of the way, and Wu Qingniang walked in. After looking around, she sat on a sofa and asked, "Zhao Fu, you're in the Heaven Awaken World as well, right?"

Zhao Fu's heart slightly tightened, but his expression did not change. After all, almost everyone had a Heaven Awaken Stone, so it was not so strange. He nodded.

"Where are you?" Wu Qingniang curiously asked.

Zhao Fu had to think before answering this question. If he gave too much away, he might find himself in trouble, but if he lied about being somewhere else and was exposed, that would also bring him problems. As such, he decided to say that he was in the Forest of Horrors, as he had never shown his face in public, "I'm at the Forest of Horrors!"

Wu Qingniang felt somewhat disappointed and said, "You're so far away from me! That's right, I have a friend, Dong Junhua, who established quite a big faction in the Forest of Horrors – it's called Soldier Alliance. Do you want me to introduce you to him?"

"Soldier Alliance? Dong Junhua?"

Zhao Fu never thought that she would have friends in the Forest of Horrors. Soldier Alliance was the largest player faction in Soldier Forest, and Dong Junhua was the leader and founder of Soldier Alliance. Zhao Fu had been keeping an eye out on the other various factions, so he knew some things about it.

Zhao Fu thought about it before refusing, "Thanks, but there's no need. I'm used to being by myself."

"Alright!" Wu Qingniang did not insist, and she changed the topic, saying, "Then in the future, when the regions are all connected, you should come to where I am!"

Zhao Fu felt quite perplexed and asked, "Why?"

Wu Qingniang lightly smiled as she said flirtatiously, "Because I fancy you!"

Zhao Fu stood there in silence, not knowing what to say.

Wu Qingniang felt quite frustrated and explained, "I fancy your potential, alright? If you join me, I'll provide you with many benefits."

"I don't need anything," Zhao Fu calmly replied without his expression changing at all.

Wu Qingniang stared into Zhao Fu's eyes with her beautiful eyes as she asked, "Really? Are you really not interested in money, beautiful women, or power?"

"Mm!" Zhao Fu replied.

"Then what about me? Are you interested in me? I might just take you as my wife!"

Wu Qingniang suddenly walked up to Zhao Fu and put a finger under Zhao Fu's chin as she smiled. She gave off an indescribably domineering air and spoke in a way that could cause many girls to go crazy.

However, Zhao Fu grabbed her hand and gave off the majestic might of an emperor as he said, "Even if I become interested in you, it'll be me taking you as my wife!"

Zhao Fu suddenly returned to his normal demeanor as he lightly chuckled and let go of Wu Qingniang's hand, his emperor's aura completely gone.

Wu Qingniang had initially been given a great fright, and she wondered if she had imagined it. She had just made a joke, and when she heard what Zhao Fu said, she couldn't help but laugh. At this moment, a voice said from the other side of the door, "Big Miss Wu, time is up!"

Wu Qingniang stopped laughing, and her confident and domineering aura returned as she said, "Zhao Fu, I welcome you at any time!"

Zhao Fu nodded.

Following this, Wu Qingniang left. On the way, she remembered Zhao Fu's words, and she couldn't help but smile. She was interested in Zhao Fu's strength and believed that his potential was limitless. However, she did not believe that Zhao Fu would be able to take her as his wife because she believed that there was not a man in this world who was worthy of her. As such, Wu Qingniang couldn't help but laugh and shake her head, casting that matter aside.

When Zhao Fu saw that Wu Qingniang had left, he let out a sigh of relief. He had accidentally let out his emperor's might before, but he had been able to cover it up quickly.

Following this, Zhao Fu scrolled through the Heaven Awaken World forum, but because he didn't find anything, he returned to the Heaven Awaken World.

After returning, someone came to report that Old Logue had broken through to Stage 1, becoming a Stage 1 General. Now, the Great Qin Village had two people at Stage 1. Zhao Fu called Old Logue over to him and started to discuss the Unique Military Profession with him.

Chapter 110: Midland Continent

Even though Old Logue was an Outlander, Zhao Fu did not discriminate between races. No matter if it was before, now, or in the future, he would view all races as equal, so he treated Old Logue quite well. Zhao Fu called Old Logue over, and Zhao Fu saw that Old Logue looked a bit younger than before – perhaps this was the effect of having 10 years added to his lifespan.

After chatting with Old Logue, Zhao Fu found that after he had become a Stage 1 General, he could choose from three types of Unique Military Professions:

The first was to develop a new profession. Because Old Logue's profession was Demon Priest, it was possible for his profession to have Demon's Power, though it was likely to be quite weak.

The second was to choose the Iron Eagle Elite Soldiers as well because it was not just Bai Qi's Unique Military Profession but the Great Qin's Unique military Profession. All of Great Qin's Generals could choose to develop this profession.

The third was for Old Logue to choose a Goblin profession to make his Unique Military Profession, such as Goblin Warrior.

Zhao Fu asked if Old Logue could train a magic-type military profession, but Old Logue replied that this wasn't possible. If Old Logue had an Elemental Mage profession, it would have been possible for him to develop such a profession. However, Old Logue's profession was Demon Priest, which was a religious profession, so he could not develop a magic-type profession.

After listening to Old Logue's explanation, Zhao Fu felt somewhat disappointed, and he asked, "Old Logue, which one will you choose?"

Old Logue took this matter very seriously because he could not change his mind once he made his decision. After thinking about it, he saluted Zhao Fu before replying, "Your Majesty, I choose the Goblin Warriors as my Unique Military Profession."

Zhao Fu was quite surprised, as neither Bai Qi nor Old Logue had chosen to develop a new profession.

Developing one's own profession required a lot of time and effort, and it would be quite weak in the early stages. Professions that had already been established had their own skills and strengths, but developing one's own profession carried a lot of uncertainty.

However, a profession developed by a Stage 1 General would not necessarily be weaker than a historical or race profession in the long term. They all had their own advantages, and since Bai Qi and Old Logue had made their decisions after much consideration, Zhao Fu did not try to interfere with their decisions.

Zhao Fu nodded and replied, "Alright, go and take care of this matter then!"

Old Logue respectfully cupped his fists. He had only just broken through, and after stabilizing his cultivation, he had immediately come to meet with Zhao Fu. There were now many things for him to take care of.

Not too long after Old Logue left, Bai Shan happily came over and reported, "Your Majesty, we've finished researching Intermediate teleportation channels!"

Hearing this, Zhao Fu was delighted. Intermediate teleportation channels could transport people a maximum of 5,000 kilometers away and transport 50 people at once. With Intermediate teleportation channels, Zhao Fu could put into motion his plan of opening up routes to other regions.

He told Bai Shan to research Advanced teleportation channels before asking some soldiers to call Bai Qi over. He spread the map of the Heaven Awaken World that he had obtained from the Ten Thousand Flower Festival on the table and looked at where the Forest of Horrors was.

In the map, the Heaven Awaken World was split into four main continents, which were separated by the ocean that contained a countless number of islands. The largest continent was incredibly big and was larger than any two of the other continents combined.

This continent was labeled as Midland Continent, which was where China was. The other three continents were Westwonder Continent, which was where most of Europe was; Southwild Continent, which was where most of Africa was; and Northbleak Island, which was where America and some other countries were.

There were also a countless number of islands in the east, which were labeled as 'Eastern Island Region.' These were all countries with smaller populations.

This was where the various countries in the real world were in the Heaven Awaken World. After obtaining this map, Zhao Fu had used the information he had obtained from the Heaven Awaken World forum to roughly figure out where all of the countries were located in the Heaven Awaken World.

First, Midland Continent.

Midland Continent was at the center of the map, and it was the continent with the most countries in it. At the center of Midland Continent was the most powerful country in the continent. It was like a massive dragon, while the countries around it were like starving ferocious beasts that were unable to shake the massive dragon. This powerful country was China!

In ancient times, China was the center of civilization, and now, it was at the center of Midland Continent, becoming the center of the Heaven Awaken World.

With China's massive population and countless ancient legacies, there was no other country that could vie for this position. Right from the beginning, Zhao Fu knew that China would definitely be the largest battle region in this world.

For now, Zhao Fu focused on the area surrounding the Forest of Horrors. Zhao Fu found where the Forest of Horrors was on the map – it was to the side of the area that China occupied in Midland Continent. During the few days after Zhao Fu entered the Heaven Awaken World, he, Bai Qi, and Li Si all decided to go to Vietnam as soon as possible, so as to leave the region that China was in for now.

Vietnam was about seven regions away from the Forest of Horrors. In the real world, Vietnam was not a very big country, and now that it was in Zhao Fu's sights, that was just bad luck.

Of course, all of this was thinking far into the future. Zhao Fu first looked at the four regions around the Forest of Horrors. They were Red Plum Plains, Hundred Bamboo, Little Valley, and East Green.

Zhao Fu then looked at where the Great Qin Village was within the Forest of Horrors, and he found that the region closest to the Great Qin Village was Little Valley.

By now, Bai Qi had arrived and saw Zhao Fu seriously looking down at the map. He understood why Zhao Fu had summoned him because he had heard about the Scholars successfully researching Intermediate teleportation channels.

It was mainly because of Bai Shan – whenever he researched something, he would run around yelling about it, so the news always traveled quite quickly.

Bai Qi cupped his hands respectfully and greeted Zhao Fu, "Your Majesty!"

Zhao Fu looked up and saw that Bai Qi had arrived, and Zhao Fu smiled and said, "Bai Qi, it's time to set the plans we made a long time ago into motion."

Bai Qi smiled as he replied, "Congratulations, Your Majesty!"

"Alright, let's skip all of the formalities. Have a look at this map; in the future, what area should be used as the Great Qin Village's foundation and what areas should be used as barriers?" Zhao Fu asked.

Bai Qi walked over and looked at the map before discussing with Zhao Fu the Great Qin Village's future plans.