

The Lord 191

Chapter 191: Already a King

After the battle, everyone rejoiced, and Liu Subai walked over with a look of gratitude. She paid her respects to Zhao Fu as she said, "Thank you, young sir, for your kindness by helping me take revenge!"

Zhao Fu was also quite happy about obtaining a Town so easily. When he heard Liu Subai, he lightly laughed and replied, "It's nothing!"

Liu Subai was quite surprised to hear Zhao Fu laugh. He had always given her a very dangerous aura, and this laugh made him seem much less scary.

Following this, Liu Subai also lightly laughed and turned around, announcing in a loud voice, "This young sir is not only the person who saved my life but also someone who has helped me take back Mountain Willow Town. He has helped me take revenge, and I am unable to pay back such a great favor. I'm willing to give up the position of Mayor to this young sir."

This officially transferred the rule of Mountain Willow Town to Zhao Fu!

However, while some people were in support of this, others were against it. To them, Zhao Fu was a mere outsider. Even though he had done a favor for them, giving the entire Town to him was simply overdoing it.

Sun Xiaowei didn't know of the agreement between Liu Subai and Zhao Fu. As such, he walked up and decided to try to persuade Liu Subai. Even though Zhao Fu was quite powerful and capable, Sun Xiaowei was only loyal to the Liu family. In his heart, Zhao Fu was more suitable as a Vice-Mayor.

"No need, Mountain Willow Town will still belong to the Liu family. The role of Mayor will be taken up by the Liu family's eldest daughter, Liu Subai."

Suddenly, Zhao Fu's quiet voice sounded out clearly.

Those words caused everyone to become incredibly confused, but Zhao Fu didn't explain. He entered the Town Hall and chose to conquer Mountain Willow Town and make it a subsidiary of the Great Qin Town.

Immediately, a black dragon-inscription light filled Mountain Willow Town, and Great Qin's information entered everyone's minds, making them feel completely stupefied. Only now did they find out that Zhao Fu's true status was that of a King!

After conquering the Town, Zhao Fu didn't obtain any Achievement Points. A system announcement told him that conquering a Town a short while after it had just been conquered didn't give Achievement Points – after all, Zhang Hong had only recently conquered the Town.

Following this, Zhao Fu walked out and saw everyone staring at him in shock. Zhao Fu realized that they now knew his status, so he took off his black cloak and allowed them to see his true features.

When they saw his well-proportioned body, black clothes, black hair that reached his waist, and his delicate and handsome face that was filled with majesty and dignity, they couldn't help but kneel and shout, "Your Majesty!"

"You can all rise!" Zhao Fu said and faintly smiled as he looked at the mass of people kneeling.

Everyone got up, and the shocked expressions on Liu Subai and Sun Xiaowei's faces didn't disappear. Zhao Fu's gaze fell on them as he said, "Liu Subai, you're now the Mayor, and Sun Xiaowei is now the Commander of Mountain Willow Town. Don't let me down!"

When they heard the system announcement in their minds and what Zhao Fu said, the two of them came to their senses and paid their respects to Zhao Fu again. They now understood why Zhao Fu didn't want the position of Mayor – he was already a King! No wonder he didn't want that position. Following this, Liu Subai and Sun Xiaowei started to go through the numbers for the battle.

Zhao Fu looked at Zhang Hong's corpse and found that it was SS grade, so he put the corpse into his King's Ring.

Zhang Hong also had a spatial ring, and Zhao Fu looked into it with great interest; however, he found that there were only some money and items, disappointing him.

"Your Majesty, there's no need for you to tire yourself out; this lowly one will come and serve you." The bandit he had caught at the start, Deng Ke, immediately ran over and started to curry favor with Zhao Fu.

Zhao Fu looked at him but didn't refuse.

"Ma... jesty..." Little Sha appeared beside Zhao Fu with blood all over him. He had only just learned how to speak, so he wasn't good at it yet. However, he could understand most words.

Hearing this, Zhao Fu looked down at Little Sha. His face was covered with blood, and adding on his ferocious appearance, he looked quite terrifying. Of course, this blood didn't belong to him – he had killed many people during that battle, and the blood belonged to all of the people he had killed.

At the same time, the killing aura coming from his body had become stronger. The Kill Equipment Set contained the power of killing and became stronger by killing.

Zhao Fu patted his little head and smiled as he said, "Go and take a good bath; someone will bring you lots of yummy food and new clothes for you."

Little Sha looked up at Zhao Fu, who was patting his head, and a trace of an unfamiliar emotion appeared in his heart, causing his ferocious gaze to somewhat soften. He stiffly squeezed out a smile – he was quite happy but didn't know how to smile.

Zhao Fu turned to look at Deng Ke and gave him a meaningful look – he wanted Deng Ke to look after Little Sha.

Deng Ke could only squeeze out a smile that was as stiff as Little Sha's. Deng Ke was incredibly terrified of Little Sha, and even though he was desperately unwilling, he still had to do it. As such, he nodded and took Little Sha away.

Over at the other side, Sun Xiaowei had finished compiling the numbers from the battle. Before, Mountain Willow Town had 23,000 or so people, and there were now roughly 20,000 left. Out of the 4,000 soldiers, roughly 2,500 were left.

Most of the deaths were from Zhang Hong's side, while Zhao Fu's side only had a few hundred casualties. They didn't bother counting the equipment and items because they all belonged to Mountain Willow Village anyway.

This event inflicted some serious losses on Mountain Willow Town, and it would only recover after a period of time. Now that Sole Wolf Village had been conquered and relocated by Zhao Fu, the bandits also joined Mountain Willow Town and became a part of the Town. Now, Zhao Fu decided to return to Great Qin. He had left for more than half a month, and he missed the Great Qin Town quite a lot.

After a few hours, Zhao Fu found Little Sha again. He was now wearing his own little clothes, and his face had been washed clean. The difference between him right now and the previous day was like the difference between the heavens and the earth.

"Your Majesty, please come back and visit Mountain Willow Town often," Liu Subai said as she smiled at Zhao Fu. Even though she hadn't known Zhao Fu for long, she was quite reluctant to see Zhao Fu leave.

Zhao Fu nodded and used the teleportation channel, causing him and Little Sha to instantly disappear and reappear within a main city. He then teleported again, returning to the village he had established to reach here.

Those who were in charge of looking after that village were delirious with joy when they saw Zhao Fu, and they said that they were going to report to the upper officials. However, Zhao Fu stopped them, as he was planning on returning to the Great Qin Town immediately.

Chapter 192: Return of the King

Zhao Fu took Little Sha and used the teleportation channel. Their bodies once again blurred and after doing this a few times, and they finally appeared at the Great Qin Town's teleportation channel.

The soldiers standing guard were surprised to see that Zhao Fu had returned and paid their respects as they cried out, "Your Majesty!"

Zhao Fu nodded as he walked out of the teleportation channel. News of Zhao Fu's return spread like the ripples from a boulder hitting the water of a still lake. Very soon, all of Great Qin became incredibly lively, and many of the upper-level figures hurried over.

After walking out of the teleportation channel, Zhao Fu felt that there was something strange about the atmosphere of the Great Qin Town. It seemed to be quite oppressive and tense, causing Zhao Fu to frown.

Zhao Fu lowered his head and patted his clothes, waking the three sleeping Flower Spirits. After waking up, the three Flower Spirits made their way out of Zhao Fu's clothes and curiously looked around. They found that it was just as Zhao Fu had described, with flowers all over the place. This place also had a

strange attraction to them, so they quite liked Great Qin. They started to fly about and look around. Seeing this, Zhao Fu smiled.

“Your Majesty!” At that moment, Bai Qi and a group of people came to the teleportation channel. When they saw that Zhao Fu had arrived, they all cried out with joy.

Zhao Fu looked at the group of people walking towards him, a few unfamiliar faces within the group. Following this, they went to the Town Hall, where Zhao Fu sat in the main seat and listened to Bai Qi and Li Si’s reports. After all, much had happened while he hadn’t been in the Great Qin Town.

After listening to all of the reports, Zhao Fu didn’t say anything and just sat there, sinking into his own thoughts. The people below waited nervously, and the hall was incredibly quiet as no one dared to make a sound.

Imperial rule? A militaristic state? From the current situation, this indeed quite suited Great Qin, and it could allow Great Qin to rapidly develop. While Zhao Fu hadn’t been present, Great Qin’s growth had simply been shocking.

The area of Great Qin’s territory had greatly expanded, and the surrounding 400-kilometer radius area was now within Great Qin’s control. Moreover, Great Qin’s population had reached 100,000 with 20,000 soldiers, and its strength had greatly increased.

This made it so that Zhao Fu couldn’t oppose the imperial rule of Great Qin. Moreover, this was bound to happen sooner or later, as Zhao Fu’s empire was Great Qin, not just any normal empire.

However, Zhao Fu was troubled as to whether he should indeed turn Great Qin into a fully militaristic state. The benefits were that it resulted in great growth and suited Great Qin’s current state, and this was the most rational decision. However, Zhao Fu’s dream wasn’t to turn Great Qin into a powerful, cold killing machine. The oppressive and tense atmosphere in the Great Qin Town had made him quite uncomfortable.

Zhao Fu wanted to turn Great Qin into a place filled with all sorts of emotions; a place that was filled with laughter. He wanted it to become a place where people could feel bliss and security – this was the ideal state for a nation, as opposed to being a cold killing machine.

Right now, Zhao Fu’s ideal vision for Great Qin stood in opposition to the rational choice!

The rational choice was often the most realistic choice, and it allowed one to do what was possible in one’s circumstances. The ideal state was more like a dream, and even though it was quite beautiful, it wouldn’t always be achievable. Both choices had their advantages and disadvantages!

After thinking for a long time, Zhao Fu could only decide to take a step back and try to reconcile the two as best as he could. He decided to support the expansion of Great Qin through warfare, but he decided to reduce the amount of fighting and killing. Even though this would reduce the speed at which Great Qin developed, Zhao Fu thought that it was worth it. After all, these people were all his subjects, and they were giving their all to Great Qin.

Zhao Fu decided to give them all some time to relax their tense nerves and allow them to experience some joy. Balancing tension and relaxation was the best way to develop.

Zhao Fu came back to his senses and looked at Bai Qi seriously.

Bai Qi suddenly felt a sense of suppression, and a wave of nervousness washed over him. Droplets of sweat gathered at his forehead as he cupped his fists, humbly apologizing, "Your Majesty, I overstepped my bounds this time. Please punish me."

Upon hearing this, everyone was shocked – the time for judgment had come. Even though Bai Qi had done everything for the sake of Great Qin, he had indeed gone too far in a sense. He had acted far beyond his authority without asking for Zhao Fu's permission, and he had even gone all-out in warfare and established a new regime. If this was in the ancient times, Bai Qi would have been immediately sentenced to death.

Everyone present didn't want to see such a thing happen, so they all stepped forward and pleaded for leniency on Bai Qi's behalf.

Seeing this, Zhao Fu laughed and said, "When did I ever say that I was going to punish Commander Bai? Even though Commander Bai acted beyond his bounds, it was because I was stuck in East Green, and his methods were quite effective. Great Qin has indeed developed greatly."

Hearing this, everyone let out a sigh of relief.

Zhao Fu continued, "However, I feel that some things need to be changed. Great Qin needs to continue to develop, but the commoners are also important."

Zhao Fu told his subordinates everything that he had just been thinking about, delighting them. Following this, they started to discuss how to implement this.

Following this, orders were continuously sent out, causing the dark haze hanging above Great Qin to quickly disappear. Everyone felt as if he or she had finally seen the blue sky after a long time, and many people were finally able to relax and smile. They deeply felt that it was much better now that His Majesty had returned.

After concluding the discussions, Zhao Fu looked at the unfamiliar faces. Some of them had been promoted because of their outstanding performance on the battlefield, and they had become Generals.

One of them was a young man in gray. Even though his looks were quite ordinary, his aura was quite calm and steady. He gave off an impressive atmosphere but seemed quite reserved – he seemed like the type who acted behind the scenes.

When he saw him, Zhao Fu remembered the historical figure who had awakened when Great Qin had leveled up into an Intermediate Town. Back then, Zhao Fu didn't know who it was, but he realized it was this person in front of him. Name: Wei Liao

Grade: SSS

Title: None

Profession: Commander

Achievement Points: Commoner (0/200)

Race: Human

Age: 26 (100)

Loyalty: 100

Stats: Strength: 10, Intelligence: 10, Constitution: 10. Agility: 10

Cultivation: Stage 0

Cultivation Technique: Great Qin Mantra

Skills: None

Equipment: Grey Robe

“Wei Liao?” When he saw his name, Zhao Fu thought back to the information he knew about this person. Wei Liao was someone who had made heroic contributions to Great Qin’s unification of China. His abilities were extraordinary, and the First Emperor of Qin had valued him greatly. He was even permitted to live close to the Emperor and eat with the Emperor.

Compared to Wang Jian and Meng Tian, Wei Liao’s contributions weren’t in leading troops into battle but in controlling the situation in each battle. He was one who specialized in control and strategy, so he wasn’t as famous as Wang Jian and Meng Tian.

However, that didn’t mean that his capabilities were lacking. Even though Great Qin’s Generals were as common as clouds and Great Qin had many excellent Commanders, Great Qin was able to unify the six states mostly because of his leadership in military talks and his control over the state of the war. At the same time, Wei Liao was one of the representatives of the School of the Military.

Chapter 193: Natural Disasters

Zhao Fu was overjoyed that Great Qin had obtained yet another famous Commander. After discussing some more matters, they concluded their talks.

Zhao Fu went to Great Qin’s City Heart and took a look at Great Qin’s stats now that it had become an Intermediate Town.

Village Name: Great Qin Town (Legendary)

Level: Intermediate (4,890/450,000)

Village Area: 100 square kilometers

Village Territory: 2,180 square kilometers

Residents: 62,950/120,000

Military: 9,640/34,000

Popular Support: 85

Village Special Stats: Territory Crop Output +80%, Territory Crop Growing Time -80%, Population Limit +60%, Residents' stats can randomly +5, Soldiers' stats +6%, Population Attraction +70%, chances of attracting higher grade population +70%

Subsidiary Village Limit: 142

Subordinate Villages: Logue Village, Jean Village, Dorun Village, Li Family Village, Wolf Village, Ferocious Tiger Village...

The Great Qin Town's stats had increased by the normal amounts, and he could now have an additional five Generals. The overall resistance to natural disasters was 70%, and 60% of that was because of the Heaven Prayer Platform's stats after it had leveled up. The Earth Temple had also developed well, and many residents had made sacrifices of incense, helping it level up into a Level 1 Earth Temple.

[Level 1 Earth Temple]: Contains a trace of divine power and can protect a piece of land. It requires sacrifices of incense, and the more incense there is, the more powerful the Earth Temple will become. Current stats: Crop production time -20%, crop output +20%, resistance to natural disasters+10%

"System announcement! Your Town's overall crop production time has reached the limit of -100%. Normal crops' growing time will be their base growth values; Stage 1 and above spirit plants will have diminished buffs depending on their Stage."

This was because the Great Qin Town's base stats and the Earth Temple's stats combined to 100% reduction to crop production time. Theoretically, this meant that when Zhao Fu's people planted crops, they would mature nearly instantaneously.

However, this wasn't necessarily the case. Every crop had its own base growth value, which special stats couldn't affect. For example, the food crops that Zhao Fu's people grew had a base growth value of 12 days, so the minimum time it took them to mature was 12 days.

In the future, even if the Great Qin Town leveled up and its stats increased, it wouldn't be able to reduce the growing time for those food crops – 12 days would still be the absolute minimum.

However, this didn't mean that the stats were completely useless. Even though they couldn't reduce the growing time for food crops, they were still useful for reducing the growing times for spirit plants above Stage 1. After all, spirit plants had different growth rates. Now that the three Flower Spirits had joined the Great Qin Town, with their special skills that reduced growing times by a further 50%, Great Qin's spirit plants would grow much faster. Soon, the Hundred Origin Grass matured, and they started to mass produce pills out of it.

After taking care of many matters, Zhao Fu started to walk around the Great Qin Town, looking at the changes in the Great Qin Town that had happened while he was gone. Some things greatly shocked Zhao Fu.

Finally, he went to the Den and found Little Black, Little Gray, and Little White.

They had been playing about, but when they saw Zhao Fu, who they had not seen in a long time, they rushed up and affectionately rubbed against him. Zhao Fu smiled as he patted their heads and played with them for a while.

After checking up on them, Zhao Fu called Bai Qi, Wang Jian, and Wei Liao, Great Qin's three most important Commanders, and headed towards North Nam.

North Nam was the name of a region, and after so long, Great Qin had finally opened up a path to Vietnam. North Nam was the boundary between China's domain and Vietnam's domain.

There were both Chinese people and Vietnamese people in that region, and because of the location, the indigenous residents there knew both Chinese and Vietnamese and practiced the cultures of both countries. It was just like a border from the real world.

Zhao Fu had called the three of them together to plan out how they were going to take over the entirety of Vietnam. From the very beginning, Zhao Fu had planned to leave the chaotic region of China, and he was going to use Vietnam as a stepping stone to take over all of China.

Bai Qi, Wang Jian, and Wei Liao were all famous historical military leaders, so they were most likely more farsighted than he was. Zhao Fu brought them along because he wanted them to personally take a look and see if they had any suggestions.

The four of them all put on black cloaks and repeatedly used teleportation channels until they reached North Nam!

North Nam had four main cities: Cowtooth City, Paleoroom City, Freelight City, and Saber City, and they first went to the Freelight City.

The first of those two main cities were controlled by Vietnamese-speaking indigenous residents, while the latter two were controlled by Chinese-speaking indigenous residents.

This region wasn't very peaceful – differences in language, culture, and traditions often resulted in conflict, making this border region quite chaotic.

Moreover, most of the nations around China were quite antagonistic towards China. After all, many of them had been subjugated by China in the past, and none of them were willing to accept this. As such, they often mocked and provoked China.

However, ever since Zhao Fu had gathered China's Fate and released that domineering dragon's roar, the massive shock caused the surrounding nations to temporarily settle down. But, there were still countless small clashes.

Zhao Fu and his party first observed the situation in Chinese-controlled Freelight City before going to the Vietnamese-controlled cities.

They found that the cities were like two nations at war with each other. What surprised Zhao Fu was that while North Nam's four governmental factions didn't directly participate, they also set up camps for battle. Vietnamese players who killed Chinese players, or vice versa, would receive one Camp Point, which operated like the Merit Points of other cities. They could be used to exchange for equipment and items, but they would only be gained for killing players and not indigenous residents.

One Camp Point was worth 10 silver coins, which was 1,000 copper coins. That was \$10,000 in the real world, which was quite a hefty sum of money. This made all of the players in North Nam quite bloodthirsty.

At the same time, the main cities didn't restrict the usage of teleportation channels. Vietnamese people and Chinese people could go wherever they wanted, but the governmental factions didn't care at all about the fights between them.

Back then, when Zhao Fu and his party had visited the Vietnamese-controlled cities, ten or so people set their eyes on them with ill intentions and openly attacked them. They were easily killed by Bai Qi, and their corpses lay there peacefully. Everyone who passed by didn't even bother to look at those corpses as if this was completely normal. No one bothered to do anything about those ten or so corpses, shocking Zhao Fu.

Chapter 194: Deathly Aura

Zhao Fu had long since read on the forum that border regions were extremely chaotic and cruel, and only after seeing it for himself did he realize the extent of these rumors.

When he saw that the two sides were like fire and water and always at war with each other, an idea surfaced in Zhao Fu's mind. After all, where there was war, there was always a great opportunity for profits!

Zhao Fu took out his map and found that out of the ten border regions between Vietnam and China, seven regions, including North Nam, formed a line. North Nam and the six other regions in the line had the greatest contact with China, so Zhao Fu decided to develop his businesses in those regions.

Zhao Fu not only wanted to make massive profits here, but he also used a large amount of money to hire servants. Now, as they unlocked more and more regions, they earned incredible sums of money. Sometimes, they even worried about not being able to spend all of their money.

That concluded the matters for the day. Zhao Fu told Bai Qi and the others to return to the Great Qin Town to summarise their plans and ideas, while he stayed there to purchase properties and open restaurants.

However, Zhao Fu could only open restaurants on the Chinese side, as the restaurants would most likely be smashed on the Vietnamese side. Because of this, he didn't go there for now.

After doing these things, Zhao Fu started to consider creating a player faction. He had wanted to create one for some time, and it seemed like the time had come. As a Chinese person, he wouldn't be able to develop on the Vietnamese side, but if he wanted to conquer Vietnam, he would have to send people in to gather intelligence.

However, after walking around, apart from finding a few people who wanted to kill him, he couldn't find anyone useful.

Zhao Fu soon realized the difficulties of establishing a player faction. One had to find people who were loyal and capable, and they also had to be able to keep their identities a secret. Once a person's identity was exposed, no matter how powerful he or she was in the Heaven Awaken World, if he or she wasn't protected in the real world, he or she could be easily killed.

Because of this, Zhao Fu decided to give up on forming a pure player faction. He instead decided to form the core of his faction from indigenous residents and the periphery from players. That way, establishing his 'player faction' would be much easier.

There were many benefits to establishing a player faction: it would allow one to gather intelligence easily; there were many players; and the players wouldn't truly die. Those were the biggest advantages of a player faction.

Zhao Fu thought about it and set his eyes on a Vietnamese indigenous resident who had decent looks. While she had her guard lowered, he swept her into an alleyway in an instant.

This indigenous resident had been walking along in a good mood when a dark figure had suddenly grabbed her and forced her into an alley.

She was immediately scared witless and thought that Zhao Fu wanted to do something to her, so she desperately struggled. She tried to scream for help, but just as she opened her mouth, it was covered, and she was taken over to a secluded corner without being able to resist.

Tears fell from her eyes – she knew what was going to happen next. She had never thought that the chastity she had protected for 20 years would be taken in such a way. When she thought about that, even more tears flowed out. At that moment, she heard the man speak in a language that she didn't understand, but she knew that it was Chinese. She realized that Zhao Fu was a Chinese player and saw him hand over a Life-and-Death Contract.

When she saw the contract, her heart became cold. She thought that it wasn't enough for this man to just sully her; he wanted to control her life and death as well. If that was the case, she would be better off dead.

"I won't agree! Kill me if you dare!" the young woman said in Vietnamese as she looked at Zhao Fu resolutely. She decided that she wanted to keep her chastity and stop this pervert from getting his way.

However, just as she finished speaking, a hand gripped her neck and raised her up. Immediately, a suffocating feeling came over her, and she desperately struggled. Feeling a cold gaze on her, she started to feel terrified, and her entire body trembled.

A deathly aura slowly crept into her mind, and she could feel that she could no longer breathe. Her consciousness became hazy, and she wondered if she really was going to die. In the last moment, her fear overwhelmed her, and she chose to give in.

The person immediately released her and put her back on the ground, where she desperately gulped in air. Only after a while did she recover.

At that moment, the man handed the contract over, and she could only weep with grief as she accepted. The contract turned into motes of light and entered her body.

Suddenly, the man's voice sounded out, "What's your name?"

Even though she couldn't understand the words, she could now understand the man's intent. She lowered her head as she sobbed and said, "I'm Ly Qinqian!" Zhao Fu saw how pitiful and wronged she

looked, and he felt that he had gone too far. He felt quite sorry and comforted her by saying, “Don’t worry; now that you’ve submitted to me, I’ll definitely treat you well in the future.”

When she heard Zhao Fu, she was able to slightly relax because, under the contract, she now belonged to him.

“Alright, I’ll take you back now,” Zhao Fu said as he stretched out his hand.

Ly Qinqian still thought that Zhao Fu wanted her body. She looked around and found that this place wasn’t very suitable for that sort of thing, so she nodded and held Zhao Fu’s hand as she got up.

Following this, she went with him and used many teleportation channels before arriving at a very beautiful place. There were flowers everywhere, and a faint flowery fragrance filled the air.

“Your Majesty! Your Majesty!” the people around Zhao Fu respectfully said to him when he arrived. Ly Qinqian couldn’t understand Chinese, but she could feel that this man had an important and esteemed position.

Zhao Fu slowly took off his cloak, allowing her to see his appearance. His delicate and handsome face gave off an aura of majesty and authority, and it made Ly Qinqian feel that she couldn’t look at him directly. She lowered her head, not daring to look up, and wondered why he would do such a thing to her if he had such an esteemed status.

She followed behind him until they came to an empty plot of land.

“Right here?” Ly Qinqian looked around. Even though there was no one else around, it was still out in the open. Her face became red, and she said with an embarrassed expression, “Sir, can’t we find a small forest to do it in?”

Zhao Fu looked at her with a confused look and replied, “It won’t be convenient to do it in a forest; I think this place is quite good.”

Ly Qinqian’s face became completely red and felt that this person was quite perverted. However, since she now belonged to him, she would do whatever he asked her to. Just as she was about to start taking off her clothes, Zhao Fu stretched out his hand.

“This is for you!”

Zhao Fu handed over a City Creation Stone that he had bought earlier. Since he had set his eyes on Vietnam, he would need many Vietnamese people to achieve his goals. If any Chinese people went over, they would likely be ineffective and would be mistreated. As such, Zhao Fu gave Ly Qinqian a City Creation Stone to create a village that would spawn indigenous Vietnamese residents who were loyal to him.

Chapter 195: Blood God

When she saw the City Creation Stone in Zhao Fu’s hands, Ly Qinqian looked quite surprised. She knew the value of City Creation Stones – each one of them could be sold for an incredibly high price. What’s more, the one in Zhao Fu’s hand was a Blue grade one.

He had said that he would treat her well, but she had never thought that he would give her something so valuable so quickly!

Ly Qinqian's hatred towards Zhao Fu greatly decreased, and because she hoped that he would continue to treat her well, she started to take off her clothes.

"What are you doing? Hurry up and use it!" Zhao Fu said to Ly Qinqian with a confused expression on his face.

Hearing this, Ly Qinqian also looked quite confused, not understanding Zhao Fu's intentions.

Zhao Fu was quite frustrated and said, "Use the City Creation Stone now!"

Ly Qinqian finally realized why they had come here, and she squatted down and pressed the City Creation Stone against the ground. It fused into the ground, and after a blue wave of light rippled out, a few buildings materialized.

"This village is yours from now on. If you want to manage it, you can manage it yourself. If not, you can give it to someone else to manage," Zhao Fu said before turning and leaving.

Ly Qinqian stood there, flabbergasted – she hadn't expected things to just end like that. Zhao Fu hadn't tried to do anything to her, and after almost taking off her clothes a few times, she felt as if she had misunderstood something.

Zhao Fu returned to the Great Qin Town and called Bai Qi, Wang Jian, and Wei Liao over because he wanted to listen to their plans for Vietnam. As for Ly Qinqian's village, he would be able to start putting it to use once it had spawned some villagers. Half a day passed, and Zhao Fu and the three others finally finished their discussion. They had finished making plans for the early stages, and Zhao Fu's assets would slowly move into North Nam in preparation for his servant plan.

Suddenly, Zhao Fu remembered something he had forgotten – he had two corpses that he hadn't refined yet. One was Gu Feng's SSS grade Corpse, and the other was Zhang Hong's SS grade corpse.

If he refined them, he would obtain an SSS grade Orb and an SS grade Orb. Most of Zhao Fu's current Generals were S grade. He wasn't sure who to promote, so he had some difficulty deciding on who to give these two Grade Orbs to.

However, after thinking about it, Zhao Fu decided to give the SSS grade Orb to Xiao Jian. His performance while Zhao Fu hadn't been around had been excellent; just his team alone had brought back 20,000 people. Bai Qi had said many favorable things about him when reporting to Zhao Fu.

Zhao Fu didn't have anyone in mind for the SS grade Orb, so he decided to put it in the military rewards to encourage his soldiers.

Zhao Fu took these two corpses to the region of bones. There wasn't much change here, and it still looked the same. There was still an eerie atmosphere about the place, and Zhao Fu placed Gu Feng's corpse within the formation. 30 or so energy crystals immediately disintegrated as a formless energy covered Gu Feng's body, and his fleshly essence slowly dissolved, revealing his bones.

Finally, Gu Feng's fleshly essence was completely refined, and the formless energy disappeared. Gu Feng's corpse turned into a pile of useless bones and fell to the ground. What surprised Zhao Fu was

that apart from a Grade Orb, there was also a blood-red pill that gave off a bloody light. “What is this?” Zhao Fu walked over and picked up the blood pill. This blood pill was about as big as a longan fruit, and it gave off a faint bloody light. It seemed like it was completely formed of blood and even gave off a striking gory smell.

[Blood God Pellet]: Stage: Stage 3, Description: A medicinal pill refined from a Stage 3 corpse that contains massive cultivation power. After using it, it can greatly increase one’s cultivation, but it is limited to those at Stage 2. This pill can only be used once.

Zhao Fu had never thought that he would obtain this Blood God Pill from refining a corpse. What was significant about it was that it could greatly increase one’s cultivation.

Zhao Fu couldn’t help but feel excited. He then suddenly thought of something, and he quickly placed Zhang Hong’s corpse onto the formation.

Following this, the formation activated!

20 or so of the energy crystals disintegrated, and a formless energy covered the corpse. Zhang Hong’s corpse was refined, and apart from a Grade Orb, there was another Blood God Pill.

[Blood God Pill]: Stage: Stage 2, Description: A medicinal pill refined from a Stage 2 corpse that contains massive cultivation power. After using it, it can greatly increase one’s cultivation, but it is limited to those at Stage 1. This pill can only be used once.

This Blood God Pill was Stage 2, as it had been refined from a Stage 2 corpse. Its description was more or less the same as the Stage 3 Blood God Pill, though its restrictions were different – the Stage 3 Blood God Pill could only be used by someone at Stage 2, while the Stage 2 Blood God Pill could only be used by someone at Stage 1. A person could only use a medicinal pill of each stage once.

Zhao Fu found that he had guessed correctly – refining corpses with a high cultivation level would yield Blood God Pills. In that case, what about Stage 1 corpses? Zhao Fu excitedly traveled to Battle City and collected a few Stage 1 corpses to test his theory. Because of how many battles happened at Battle City, it was easy to find and take corpses.

Zhao Fu threw the corpses onto the formation and obtained Stage 1 Blood God Pills. These Blood God Pills could only be used by someone at Stage 0, and it could also only be used once.

Now that he had confirmed it, Zhao Fu was so excited that he couldn’t help but burst into laughter. He had greatly underestimated the Heaven and Earth Refining Formation – no less than expected from a Heaven-Defying Magic Formation.

Now that he had these Blood God Pills, Zhao Fu didn’t have to worry about not having high-Stage soldiers. He could easily create an army filled with high-Stage soldiers and sweep across the world. Who would be able to stop him?

“Hahaha...” Zhao Fu simply couldn’t express the joy he felt, so he could only laugh loudly. At the same time, he felt silly for discovering such a heaven-defying effect so late.

However, he had to first test the effectiveness of these Blood God Pills. Zhao Fu excitedly returned to the surface and called over a few soldiers of different cultivations.

These soldiers were at Stage 0, Stage 0-5, and Stage 0-8. Zhao Fu gave each of them a Stage 1 Blood God Pill and told them to consume it. After consuming the pills, they sat down and started to cultivate as blood-colored auras started to rise from their bodies.

Time gradually passed, and Zhao Fu waited beside them. Soon, he felt their auras becoming stronger and stronger.

The first soldier opened his eyes. He was the Stage 0 soldier, and his cultivation immediately leaped to Stage 0-4. The second was the Stage 0-5 soldier, and his cultivation immediately progressed to Stage 0-8. Finally, the Stage 0-8 soldier opened his eyes – his cultivation had risen to Stage 1.

This was enough to demonstrate the Blood God Pills' incredible effects, and Zhao Fu was relieved. It was a pity that one could only use the Blood God Pill for one's current Stage only once. Otherwise, he would be able to produce Stage 1 soldiers with just a few Blood God Pills. Nevertheless, the Blood God Pills would be able to greatly shorten the amount of time it took to increase his soldiers' cultivations.

Chapter 196: King's Guard Profession

Right now, Great Qin had less than ten Stage 1 soldiers, and most of them were around Stage 0-7 to Stage 0-8. With the Blood God Pills, Zhao Fu would be able to develop a whole team of Stage 1 soldiers incredibly quickly.

Right now, the most important thing to do was to obtain a large amount of Stage 1 corpses because the Blood God Pills were refined from corpses. At the same time, refining corpses consumed energy stones, and a large figure at that. Refining a Stage 1 corpse required ten energy stones, which was 100 gold coins. Refining ten Stage 1 corpses would cost Zhao Fu 1,000 gold coins.

Zhao Fu now faced a big problem – only main cities had that many Stage 1 corpses, and it wouldn't be so easy to obtain a large number of them. He could kill many city guards, but he would no longer be able to stay at such a place. In fact, another devastating battle might erupt.

Moreover, Zhao Fu didn't dare to use his Nation Armaments for the time being. After the previous battle, Great Qin's Fate still hadn't fully recovered.

It was only at cities like Battle City that he would be able to easily obtain Stage 1 corpses, but even still, he wouldn't be able to obtain the numbers that he wanted.

Furthermore, regarding energy stones, at 100 gold per corpse, refining 100 corpses would cost him 10,000 gold coins. Even though Zhao Fu was now quite rich, spending such a large amount of money still made Zhao Fu's heart ache.

Right now, he could only wait for a good opportunity. Following this, Zhao Fu went to Battle City and went to see Ge Nia, who was becoming more and more famous.

By now, Ge Nia's cultivation had reached Stage 0-8, and this was because he had been suppressing his cultivation. This was because he was already able to fight with those at Stage 1, and if he broke through to Stage 1, he would only be a match for those at Stage 2. Even within Battle City, there weren't many of them.

As such, Ge Nia suppressed his cultivation and kept it from rising too quickly so that he could continue to hone his skills here. However, his time here would come to an end – once Ge Nia broke through to Stage 1, he would be done here. Afterward, he would become Zhao Fu's personal bodyguard. By now, Ge Nia had already become one of the most famous people in Battle City!

Zhao Fu went to find the big man, Zheng Li, and gave him a large sum of money in exchange for keeping any Stage 1 corpses for him.

Corpses were quite useless, and they would normally be dragged away to be casually buried. Zheng Li had never expected to receive so much money for such a thing, and even though he didn't know what Zhao Fu was going to do with the corpses, he knew not to ask. Instead, he cheerfully agreed to keep all the Stage 1 corpses from the Arena for him.

There would usually be around 20 Stage 1 corpses per day in Battle City, and Zhao Fu would have to make do with this figure for now. After taking care of these matters, Zhao Fu returned to the Great Qin Town.

Zhao Fu suddenly felt that his cultivation was quite close to breaking through to Stage 1, so he looked at the last Stage 1 Blood God Pill.

He returned to his room and sat cross-legged on the bed before consuming a Blood God Pill. He felt a massive wave of energy emanate from his dantian, and that massive cultivation power caused Zhao Fu's cultivation to quickly rise. Bloody traces rose up from his body as his aura became more and more powerful. At that moment, he felt a formless barrier around him, and he gathered his strength. He then released it and broke through that barrier. Following this, his body trembled, and Zhao Fu realized he had broken through to Stage 1.

At the same time, a few system announcements sounded out within his mind. He ignored them for now and steadied his new cultivation. This took quite some time, and it was only at midnight that Zhao Fu opened his eyes and breathed out a breath of impure air.

Zhao Fu could feel great changes in his body after breaking through to Stage 1 – he felt much stronger than before, and this wasn't just because of the stats but because of the power within himself growing stronger.

Zhao Fu stood up and familiarised himself with his new strength before looking at his stats. They had all risen due to his new cultivation, and his lifespan had also increased by 10 years. Finally, Zhao Fu checked the system announcements that he had ignored earlier.

"System announcement! Congratulations, you have broken through to Stage 1."

"System announcement! Because your cultivation has reached Stage 1, your King Profession has unlocked the King's Guard Profession."

Zhao Fu ignored that first announcement, but he was surprised and curious when he saw the second one. What was the King's Guard Profession? Following this, Zhao Fu started to read through the information given to him by the system.

The King's Guard Profession came from the King Profession. It also wasn't a type of military profession. Instead, it was a master-servant relationship. The more powerful the master was, the more powerful the servant would become as well.

This was because the King's Guards also possessed King's Power; however, it wasn't from themselves but from the person with the King Profession.

The King's Guard Profession was similar to the role of imperial bodyguards in ancient times. Right now, Zhao Fu could have three King's Guards, and he quickly decided who they would be. However, because it was midnight, he decided to do it tomorrow. From the information he received, he found out that he also had to condense a King's Seal.

Every King had his own unique King's Seal that represented him. They were usually characters or a simple image.

If a King also had a family, the family would be referred to as a Royal Clan. A King's Seal was the insignia for every Royal Clan, which meant that if Zhao Fu had descendants, they would belong to his Royal Clan, and his King's Seal would be passed on, representing his Royal Clan. This was quite important!

Following this, Zhao Fu started to think about what he would use for his King's Seal. After thinking for a while, Zhao Fu finally decided what it would look like.

First, it needed to have a dragon in it. While dragons didn't represent absolute strength to Chinese people, they represented the sovereignty of an Emperor.

However, if his King's Seal was just a dragon, it would be too simple. Furthermore, Zhao Fu wanted to keep his King's Seal consistent with those used in ancient China, and he wanted it to be something that represented Great Qin.

Zhao Fu decided to have nine dragon inscriptions with the head of each connected to the tail of the next, forming a circle. There was a character at the center, Qin. However, it wasn't written in simplified Chinese but in Qin Script!

Qin Script was the writing used after Great Qin united China. It looked more elegant than the other character systems and was filled with a fine and mysterious feeling. Finally, Zhao Fu chose the color of the King's Seal to be black! After deciding what his King's Seal would look like, Zhao Fu sat cross-legged on his bed and closed his eyes. He calmed his heart and used his King's Power to draw a symbol within his mind.

This King's Seal was incredibly important, so Zhao Fu had to be incredibly careful. He drew the King's Seal stroke by stroke using his King's Power, and each stroke made him feel an immense pain as if his soul was being stabbed.

Once the King's Seal was formed, it would form Zhao Fu's Origin Seal, and it would be imprinted onto his soul. It would never be changed, and it would be passed down through his bloodline.

Chapter 197: Warding Items

Early the next day, just as the sun rose, a few birds flew through the air and chirped. Another day had come.

Within his room, Zhao Fu was still sitting cross-legged on the bed, and his face was incredibly pale. His body was covered with cold sweat, and soon, he collapsed to the ground in exhaustion.

He had finally finished forming his King's Seal, and he was both mentally and physically drained. However, to be able to successfully form his King's Seal, it was worth it.

After resting for a while and regaining his strength, Zhao Fu asked Ge Nia, Tuoba Qing, and Little Sha to come see him.

Very soon, those three people arrived at his room. They went to his side and were quite curious as to why Zhao Fu had called them here.

Zhao Fu explained to them the King's Guard profession, and after listening, their expressions were all quite different.

Ge Nia's expression was quite serious and dignified. It was as if what Zhao Fu had explained was what he had been preparing himself for all this time.

Little Sha was only eight years old, and he looked at Zhao Fu in a confused manner. Even though he didn't understand what was going on, he was happy with being able to stay by Zhao Fu's side. The fear he felt towards Zhao Fu had quickly become affection after spending time with him.

Tuoba Qing's face became slightly red, and she looked embarrassed. She was only 17 years old, and becoming a King's Guard meant that she would spend her life by Zhao Fu's side. She was very willing to do this, as she greatly wanted to repay Zhao Fu, but she couldn't understand why she felt so embarrassed about it. "Do you all understand what I'm asking? If you're not willing, I won't force you," Zhao Fu said to the three people in front of him.

The three people nodded, and Little Sha and Tuoba Qing followed Ge Nia's lead, kneeling down and saying, "I am willing to serve my King!"

Following this, they closed their eyes and slightly raised their heads towards Zhao Fu.

When they all accepted, Zhao Fu took out a dagger and slashed open his palm, causing his blood to slowly flow from the cut.

Zhao Fu raised his palm and pointed it towards them, calling out softly, "King's Guards!"

The blood flowing from Zhao Fu's palm turned into three orbs of blood about as big as a fingernail that shot into the three people's foreheads. After entering, a black symbol appeared on their foreheads – it was a circle formed of nine dragons with the character 'Qin' within it. It gave off a mysterious and domineering feeling and was filled with majesty.

After this symbol appeared, it gave off a black light, and they trembled. Following this, the black light brought with it King's Power as it entered their bodies.

Their bodies started to go through unknown changes, and after a while, the black light gradually grew faint. The black symbol on their foreheads slowly disappeared, and they once again opened their eyes, a black light flashing within them.

At this moment, their bodies were all giving off extremely noble and mighty auras – this aura came from Zhao Fu, and a link formed between them and Zhao Fu.

They were now King's Guards and could use King's Power. This King's Power was weaker than the one Zhao Fu possessed, but it was still incredibly powerful. After making the three of them King's Guards, Zhao Fu felt a wave of weariness. The fatigue from forming the King's Seal the previous night hit him all at once, and he could only ask the three of them to leave before he started sleeping.

By the time he woke up, it was already night time. After resting, his body felt much more relaxed. Now that he was at Stage 1, he could use a Stage 2 Blood God Pill, so Zhao Fu consumed one.

The next day, Zhao Fu opened his eyes – by now, his cultivation had reached Stage 1-4. This speed was simply unimaginable, and he looked quite delighted as he left his room. He planned to go to Holy Light City and talk to He Xianru.

He wanted to ask how he could get rid of the azure energy within his body and what the Phoenix Dragon Constitution that Wu Qingniang had mentioned was. He felt that He Xianru knew much more about these matters than he did, so he planned to consult with her.

However, after using the teleportation channel to go to Holy Light City, Zhao Fu found that there seemed to be another festival. There were many people wearing monster masks, and there were also many people selling talismans, peach wood swords, bells, and black dog blood – all sorts of evil-warding items.

Zhao Fu asked someone about this, and he found out that this festival was called the Ghost Festival! This festival was also called the Hungry Ghost Festival or the Ullambana Festival, and it was similar to Halloween. Legends said that the doors of the lower realm would be opened during that time and that countless monsters and ghosts would come out, creating mayhem and havoc. However, they would drop Ghost Crystals when killed.

Ghost Crystals were the same type of item as Flower Tears, and they could be used to exchange for Ghost Crystal Points at main cities. Similarly, they could be used to exchange for countless items. The Ghost Festival lasted for 12 days, and it started at midnight tomorrow. However, the Ghost Festival wasn't something that everyone could participate in like the Ten Thousand Flower Festival, as the Ghosts would attack people. Some of the Malicious Ghosts were incredibly strong and ferocious.

There wasn't much danger involved the Ten Thousand Flower Festival, as it was just collecting Flower Tears. However, if one wasn't careful, one could lose his or her life in the Ghost Festival, so some people wouldn't participate this time.

However, even if one didn't participate, one would still have to be careful and remain within buildings. If one went out and was spotted by a Ghost, one could still be attacked. As such, many people bought evil-warding items.

Zhao Fu looked at the time and decided that he had enough time to visit He Xianru before going back to make preparations. He went to the Westfall Restaurant, and despite not seeing her for a while, she looked just as beautiful, elegant, and mysterious.

He Xianru prepared some dishes, and they sat down together. He Xianru got up and poured Zhao Fu a cup of wine as Zhao Fu started to ask her about the azure energy.

He Xianru thought for a moment before replying, "That sort of suppression energy is quite difficult to get rid of, and it can only be slowly dispelled. Alternatively, you can get rid of it if you destroy the source."

When he heard this, Zhao Fu was quite disappointed, so he asked his next question, "What's a Phoenix Dragon Constitution?"

Upon hearing this term, He Xianru suddenly gave Zhao Fu a mysterious smile, confusing Zhao Fu. Following this, He Xianru explained, "Since ancient times, dragons have represented emperors, and phoenixes have represented imperial concubines. There are those who are destined to become kings and emperors when they are born, Sons of Heaven, and there are also those who are destined to be imperial concubines, Daughters of Heaven.

"The Phoenix Dragon Constitution is a noble constitution that destines the person to become an imperial concubine. However, this sort of constitution is quite special; within the phoenix aura, there's a trace of dragon aura. If her husband's aura – the Son of Heaven's aura – can suppress her, she'll become an immense source of support and help.

"However, if the Son of Heaven's dragon aura is too weak and cannot suppress her, she'll devour the dragon aura and grow stronger, eventually suppressing the Son of Heaven or even replacing him. However, only a single family has the Phoenix Dragon Constitution, and that is the Wu family!"

When he heard He Xianru's final sentence, Zhao Fu felt a sense of shock within his heart.

Chapter 198: Ghost Moon

Zhao Fu suspected that He Xianru knew something – there seemed to be something hidden within that smile of hers. This caused Zhao Fu to slightly frown.

In response, He Xianru faintly smiled and elegantly put some food onto Zhao Fu's plate with her chopsticks. She looked at Zhao Fu as she said softly, "Your Majesty, do you not trust me?"

When he heard this, Zhao Fu stopped frowning. After such a long period of time, Zhao Fu had long since stopped being guarded against He Xianru, and he had started to view her as one of his own people.

Zhao Fu apologetically laughed and raised his wine cup, draining it in one gulp.

He Xianru stood up and once again filled Zhao Fu's cup as she asked, "What are Your Majesty's thoughts on the Ghost Festival?"

Zhao Fu thought about it, but he didn't have any concrete plans yet. After all, he didn't know much about the Ghost Festival, so he could only go about it step by step. As such, he told He Xianru about his very basic plans.

He Xianru's expression didn't change as she took out 12 small statues from her spatial ring. They were about 30 centimeters tall and made of peach wood. They were statues of divine generals, and they looked quite real and imposing. Zhao Fu took them and had a look:

[Yin General Ghost-Suppressing Formation]: A powerful formation strengthened by Yin Yang techniques. When set up within a structure, it can reduce Ghosts' strength by a certain amount.

After seeing this information, Zhao Fu felt quite delighted. He felt that He Xianru wasn't from the School of Gourmet but from the School of Yin Yang. Otherwise, she wouldn't be able to possess such a powerful Yin Yang item.

Facing Zhao Fu's gaze, He Xianru lightly smiled as she reminded him, "Your Majesty, your food's going to get cold!"

When he heard this, Zhao Fu decided to put these matters aside, and he turned his gaze to the food on the table. He Xianru's culinary skills were simply exceptional – even the simplest dishes made by her tasted heavenly.

After leaving the Westfall Restaurant, Zhao Fu first went to the Exchange Stone Stele and took a look to see what was being offered this time. He found that while the focus of the best rewards for the Ten Thousand Flower Festival was equipment, the best rewards for the Ghost Festival were 40 Ghost-related military professions. These military professions were also ranked:

[Hundred Ghost Illusionist]: S+ grade Military, Description: A profession that can create illusions, Effects: Receives skill [Ghost Illusion]. Profession Change Limit: 300.

[Ghost Whisperer]: S grade Military, Description: A profession that uses ghost voices to attack, Effect: Receives skill [Ghost Voice]. Profession Change Limit: 300.

[Ghost Summoner]: S- grade Military, Description: A profession that can summon ghosts, Effect: Receives skill [Ghost Summon]. Profession Change Limit: 300.

[Ghostgod Swordsman]: A+ grade Military, Description: Powerful swordsmen who have Ghostgod's Power, Effect: Receives [Ghostgod's Power]. Profession Change Limit: 300.

[Berserk Ghost]: A+ grade Military, Description: A Ghost-type profession with explosive strength, Effect: Receives skill [Berserk Ghost]. Profession Change Limit: 300.

[Evil Ghost Saberman]: A+ grade Military, Description: Powerful sabermen who have Evil Ghost's Power, Effect: Receives [Evil Ghost's Power]. Profession Change Limit: 300.

[Ghostmonster Cavalry]: A+ grade Military, Description: Powerful cavalymen who have Ghostmonster's Power, Effect: Receives [Ghostmonster's Power]. Profession Change Limit: 300.

[Great Ghost Shieldbearer]: A+ grade Military, Description: A profession with powerful defensive abilities, Effect: Receives skill [Ghost Shieldbearing]. Profession Change Limit: 300.

[Netherghost Archer]: A+ grade Military, Description: A strange Archer profession, Effect: Receives skill [Netherghost]. Profession Change Limit: 300.

[Tenghost Warrior]: A+ grade Military, Description: A powerful Ghost-type warrior profession, Effect: Receives skill [Tenghost]. Profession Change Limit: 300.

After looking through these professions, Zhao Fu found that the Profession Change Limit was always 300 soldiers. Each of them was a powerful profession, and because most current professions were around E grade, these A grade or above professions were incredibly powerful.

Even though Zhao Fu had ten SS+ grade King's Undead Cavalry, there were only ten of them, while these professions could allow 300 soldiers to change professions. The first three professions would definitely be powerful professions even in later stages.

Following this, it was time to make preparations. Zhao Fu went to the market and bought a large number of talisman papers. Holy Light type skills were also hot in demand, and they were quickly bought. Talisman papers were also mass produced, so it was possible to buy them in bulk at cheap prices.

In the end, Zhao Fu bought three types of talisman papers:

Ghost-Slaying Talisman: A talisman that can be stuck on a weapon, giving it Ghost-Slaying properties and increasing its damage towards Ghosts.

Evil-Negating Talisman: Injuries caused by Ghosts leave a Ghost-type corrosion. This talisman can heal such injuries.

Evil-Warding Talisman: Carrying this sort of talisman can give one protection, making it so that weaker Ghosts will not dare to approach.

Ghost-Slaying Talismans were for attacking; Evil-Negating Talismans were for healing; and Evil-Warding Talismans were for protection. After buying a large number of the three types of talismans, Zhao Fu returned to the Great Qin Town.

After he set up the Yin General Ghost-Suppressing Formation on the town walls, the 12 statues gave off waves of gray light and connected with each other, creating a formless formation. Once the formation was set up, a gray wave of light rippled out from the center of the Great Qin Town. Following this, Zhao Fu received a system announcement:

"System announcement! Congratulations, you have successfully arranged the Yin General Ghost-Suppressing Formation. Ghosts within your territory will be suppressed by the formation, and their strength will be reduced by 20%."

After hearing this system announcement, Zhao Fu couldn't help but marvel at He Xianru's abilities. This item was incredibly valuable right now – reducing Ghosts' strength by 20% made it much easier for Zhao Fu and his soldiers to take down Ghosts. Let alone 20%, even 1% would be a great help.

After setting up the Yin General Ghost-Suppressing Formation, Zhao Fu recalled all of the soldiers outside of the Great Qin Town and searched for peach trees in the Great Qin Town's territory.

Whenever they found any, they would cut them down and use them to make arrows. They also prepared a lot of rooster blood and black dog blood, things with Yang attributes.

After making these preparations, everyone nervously waited in anticipation. Time gradually passed, and soon, it was midnight.

Suddenly, changes started to happen within the heavens and the earth. Gray fog started to rise from the ground, and an eerie feeling started to fill the land. The silver moon in the sky became gray, and it looked like a sinister ghost moon.

At that moment, terrifying howls sounded out from all around them, and strange and sinister figures started to appear. The Ghost Festival... had begun!

Chapter 199: Yin Qi Filled World

Zhao Fu stood on the town walls and looked at a mob of thousands of figures. They wore tattered clothing and had pale skin, messy hair, and terrifying faces. They gave off a gloomy and sinister aura, but because these were all normal Ghosts, they weren't very powerful.

"Fire!"

When Zhao Fu gave the order, the Archers released their rooster blood covered peach wood arrows. They arced through the air and formed a rain of arrows as they descended on the thousands of Ghosts.

These normal Ghosts were quite unintelligent, and because they only possessed their basic instincts, their movements were quite clumsy and awkward.

Chi, chi, chi...

Arrows pierced through one Ghost after another, after which sizzling sounds sounded out. White smoke rose up from the Ghosts, causing them to howl in pain.

These special arrows would deal very little damage to normal people, but they were very effective against Ghosts. Many of the Ghosts, who were hit in their vitals, cried out before their bodies disintegrated, turning into ghostly qi. After the Ghosts died, they dropped a gray rhombus-shaped crystal.

The surviving Ghosts furiously rushed towards the Great Qin Town, but after a few waves of arrows, the thousands of Ghosts were all killed. Zhao Fu went down from the town walls and ordered his people to start collecting the crystals.

There were 4,000 Ghost Crystals in total. These Ghosts were all the weakest type, and they weren't very important. The more powerful Ghosts could only be found in the wilderness outside of the town.

Normally, ordinary Ghosts would roam around aimlessly by themselves instead of gathering like this. The only explanation for a large number of Ghosts to gather like this was that a Ghost King had appeared.

Zhao Fu organized his 20,000 soldiers into teams of ten and sent them out to start exploring. Zhao Fu also gathered 20,000 residents and provided them with equipment. He then stationed them inside and outside of the village to kill ordinary Ghosts.

Sometimes, special Ghosts would appear within villages, towns, or cities, catching people off-guard and giving them a big fright. However, these Ghosts normally weren't very strong, but they still needed people to defend against these Ghosts.

As for the rest of the residents, they could only stay indoors and stick talismans on the doors and windows to prevent Ghosts from entering. The Ghost Festival could be quite dangerous, and in order to keep the residents safe, Zhao Fu ordered most of them to stay indoors.

Within most main cities, every door and window was closed with talisman papers stuck on them. The streets were extremely quiet, and the lighting was quite dim. A cold wind howled, and with the ghostly moon in the sky, it made every city seem like a creepy and terrifying ghost city.

Most residents didn't plan on participating in this festival because it was too terrifying and dangerous. As such, they decided to go to bed early and wait for the next day. Ghosts were normally afraid of sunlight, so they would usually hide during the day and come out at night. However, some of the more powerful Ghosts were more resistant towards sunlight.

Nevertheless, some people mustered their courage and went out onto the streets. Right now, the world seemed to be filled with Yin Qi and Ghosts, turning into a world of Ghosts. It was incredibly gloomy and eerie, making those walking on the streets to feel a chill on their backs. "Boss, let's go back! This Ghost Festival is too scary, and it's different than real life – there really are Ghosts here," one lackey-looking person said as he shivered and looked around him.

A well-built young man ahead snorted as he replied, "What are you so afraid of? Don't you remember what it said in that ghost movie we watched before? I really want to meet a female ghost and screw her a couple of times!"

The lackeys thought back to the ghost movie and remembered the female ghost's seductive body, and they no longer felt as afraid. They even laughed as well.

However, their expressions suddenly froze because a red figure appeared behind their boss without warning.

The well-built youth still hadn't realized it because he was still caught up in his fantasies. He laughed with glee, and when he came to his senses and realized that his lackeys were abnormally quiet, he turned around and looked.

Immediately, he gasped – behind him, there was a female ghost with long hair in red clothes. However, her face was completely distorted, looking incredibly terrifying.

The well-built youth was quite shocked and quickly swung his saber. However, the ghost behind him didn't dodge, and she was fine even when the saber cut her. This was because normal weapons couldn't harm ghosts unless they could release energy attacks like saber light or if they were the type of equipment that countered Ghosts.

“Heheheheh...” the female ghost coldly and eerily laughed, and everyone who heard it trembled. Seeing this, the well-built young man immediately turned tail and ran, throwing all of his lecherous thoughts aside. However, the female ghost chased after him, and a few heart-wrenching screams sounded out in the night air, causing the creepy atmosphere to become even more terrifying.

In actuality, this was a type of Vengeful Ghost that was created from vengeful thoughts. That was why their faces were so twisted and horrifying. However, saber light, sword light, and weapons with talisman papers could still easily kill them.

Elsewhere, Zhao Fu led a team of 50 soldiers, which included Tuoba Qing, to search for Ghosts. Zhao Fu also brought Little Black and Little Gray.

The lighting was quite dim, making it difficult to see. The team held torches as they advanced, and Zhao Fu rode Little Black at the front while Tuoba Qing was allowed to ride on Little Gray.

At this moment, Little Gray suddenly stopped and pressed against the ground, looking like it was preparing to battle, and it howled. An animal’s senses were superior to a human’s, and Zhao Fu raised his hand, signaling for his team to stop. Following this, they discovered 30 or so Ghosts in front of them.

Most of them were ordinary Ghosts, but there was one who was different. This Ghost looked like an elderly person and had a few strands of white hair on his head. His body was quite thin, and his eyes seemed to pop out, looking quite monstrous.

Furthermore, his fingernails were as long as a finger and blood-colored. His body gave off energy ripples, and it seemed at least ten times stronger than normal Ghosts. Despite being some distance away, they could feel an aura of violence coming from him.

This wasn’t an ordinary Ghost – it was a Malicious Ghost!

Malicious Ghosts were many times stronger than ordinary Ghosts. Zhao Fu raised his hand, and the Archers behind him drew their bows. As soon as Zhao Fu lowered his hand, arrows started shooting out.

Chi, chi, chi...

The arrows were as fast as lightning, piercing through one Ghost after another. These arrows were made of peach wood and extremely effective against Ghosts. However, they quickly found that these arrows weren’t very effective against Malicious Ghosts.

Facing the arrows, the Malicious Ghost waved its hand, and five rays of bloody light, which were extremely sharp, shot out and disintegrated the arrows heading towards it. This Malicious Ghost seemed quite powerful, so Zhao Fu turned to Tuoba Qing and said, “You go and deal with it!”

Zhao Fu brought Tuoba Qing along because he wanted her to gain some experience. By now, Tuoba Qing had already put on the Assassin profession’s equipment, and because it was quite tight, it emphasized her tender curves, making her look quite stunning.

Chapter 200: Ghostworld Stone

When she heard Zhao Fu, Tuoba Qing drew the blood-red sword on her back. This sword was quite large and exquisite-looking, and it was a double-handed sword that had a blade that was three finger widths wide. This was the second form of the Blood Equipment Set; Tuoba Qing was the second person who had grasped the Legacy of these Equipment Sets.

However, she was different from Little Sha. Even though she had received the Legacy, she was unable to use it fully because she didn't have much battle experience and wasn't very familiar with killing. Her experiences couldn't compare to Little Sha's, which was why Zhao Fu had brought her with him this time.

Tuoba Qing brought out her sword and started to walk towards the terrifying Malicious Ghost. Because she was still a young girl, she couldn't help but feel nervous.

The Malicious Ghost stared at Tuoba Qing walking towards it and gave off a dense killing intent. It roared before rushing towards her and looked incredibly violent, bloodthirsty, and savage.

The Malicious Ghost was very fast, and it looked as if it disappeared from where it was standing. It appeared before Tuoba Qing in the next second, its sharp claws grabbing towards Tuoba Qing's heart. All Ghosts liked to eat hearts, as they were a source of nourishment and could cause them to become stronger.

Facing the Malicious Ghost's attack, Tuoba Qing felt quite shocked, but she reacted quickly. She swung her large blood-red sword, and because of her immense strength, a massive whoosh sounded out. The wind from swinging her sword could be felt from even ten meters away.

Seeing such a mighty and ferocious strike, the Malicious Ghost was quite surprised. It quickly retreated, avoiding this blow.

When she saw the Malicious Ghost retreat, Tuoba Qing took a step forward, raising the large blood-red sword with both hands. She leaned forwards as she slashed downwards, releasing a powerful blood-red sword light. The Malicious Ghost's expression became one of terror and it leaped to the side. Tuoba Qing's attacks were quite fierce and bold; she was essentially a heavy-weapon warrior.

However, seeing this, Zhao Fu slightly frowned because her profession was an Assassin, not a Warrior. Even though she released the berserk power of the Legacy, she hadn't used any of the agility and the instant-kill characteristics of an Assassin.

Within the battlefield, Tuoba Qing continuously attacked the Malicious Ghost with ferocious attacks, continuously suppressing it. The Malicious Ghost used its strange and unpredictable movements to continuously dodge, making it so that Tuoba Qing had no way of dealing with it.

Seeing this, Zhao Fu said, "Little Qing, retreat for now."

When she heard this, Tuoba Qing looked at Zhao Fu and retreated from the battle. Tuoba Qing knew that her performance hadn't satisfied Zhao Fu, and she felt quite disappointed.

Zhao Fu dismounted Little Black and walked towards the battlefield, saying in an instructional tone, "Little Qing, remember that you're an Assassin! Watch closely; this is the path that you walk."

Zhao Fu walked towards the Malicious Ghost and slowly stretched out his hand, which had three rings, yelling softly, “Blood-Wielder’s Power!”

The Assassin’s Lord Ring immediately shined with a blood-red light, which entered Zhao Fu’s body. The power from the Blood Equipment set entered Zhao Fu’s body, causing traces of blood-red aura to rise from him, and Zhao Fu made a grabbing motion with his hand.

Shing!

The large blood-red sword hummed as it flew into Zhao Fu’s hand. Because Zhao Fu had the Assassin Lord’s Power, he could use the power of the 12 Equipment Sets and the equipment.

The instant the large blood-red sword entered Zhao Fu’s hand, he instantly disappeared and appeared in front of the Malicious Ghost. He swung the sword with just as much force as Tuoba Qing had, and the wind howled as it slashed towards the Malicious Ghost.

The Malicious Ghost seemed extremely shocked and strangely cried. Its claws shined with a blood-red light as it tried to block the strike.

Bang!

A heavy sound rang out, and the Malicious Ghost was blasted back by ten or so meters. It coughed up a mouthful of green blood, but the instant it landed, Zhao Fu flew by and appeared behind it, raising his sword and slashing downwards with a might that was strong enough to split mountains.

Chi!

A massive blood-red sword light flashed, cleaving the Malicious Ghost’s body in half, causing green blood to spurt everywhere.

Following this, the Malicious Ghost’s body collapsed, turning into countless traces of ghostly qi. A blood-red rhombus-shaped crystal, a small, tattered black sack, and a rock fell to the ground.

All of this happened in the space of a few seconds – Zhao Fu had easily killed the Malicious Ghost using the Blood-Wielder’s Power. Tuoba Qing walked over in shock and looked at Zhao Fu in worship as she said, “Your Majesty, you’re so powerful! I know what I should do.”

Zhao Fu smiled and returned the large blood-red sword to her, saying, “That’s good! I have high hopes for you.”

Tuoba Qing’s face became red, and she nodded her head in embarrassment.

However, Zhao Fu’s gaze wasn’t on Tuoba Qing’s body but on the three items that the Malicious Ghost had dropped. He picked them up and started to look through them. The first one was the blood-red rhombus-shaped crystal:

Malicious Ghost Crystal: A Ghost Festival Item that can be exchanged in main cities for 1,000 Ghost Crystal Points. Ghost Crystal Points can be used to exchange for items in the Exchange Stone Steles.

Just like Flower Tears, Ghost Crystals were worth ten Ghost Crystal Points. However, comparatively speaking, Ghost Crystals were worth much more than Flower Tears, so items cost less Ghost Crystal

Points. This Malicious Ghost Crystal was quite good – it gave 1,000 Ghost Crystal Points, which was the equivalent to 100 normal Ghost Crystals.

Following this, Zhao Fu looked at the second item. It was a black, old, rotten-smelling sack.

Ghost Treasure Sack: A mysterious little sack carried by Ghosts. After opening it, one can obtain a type of treasure.

Zhao Fu was quite interested in this little sack and opened it. A black light shot out, and a black dagger appeared within it. The black dagger floated in front of Zhao Fu while the sack turned into motes of light and disappeared. Zhao Fu looked at the dagger's stats: Ghostshadow Dagger: Grade: Silver, Stats: Strength +2, Agility +2, Description: A dagger that contains ghostly qi. It is one of the items of the Ghost Treasure Sack.

The equipment's stats were ordinary, but it was still an unexpected gain. Zhao Fu casually put it away before looking at the last item, the rock.

The rock was grey-colored and shaped like a square. It felt quite rough to the touch, but its material was quite cold, making one's hairs stand on end when holding it.

City God Rock: One of the Ghostworld Stones. Collecting ten City God Rocks will result in one obtaining a City God Temple that can protect residents and ward off evil.

"City God Rock?" Information about the City God Temple appeared in Zhao Fu's mind. While its uses were similar to the Earth Temple, protecting residents, there were some slight differences. The City God Temple protected people and prevented disasters, while the Earth Temple was for favorable conditions.

Moreover, the City God was an Official of the Underworld, and he was also responsible for capturing and punishing Ghosts who disturbed the human realm.

Zhao Fu was interested in the City God Temple and wanted to create one to see what its stats were like. As such, he continued searching for Ghosts.