

The Lord 91

Chapter 91: Sacrifice Ceremony

Early in the morning, a cool breeze blew over as a trace of light stretched from over the horizon. In the blue sky, the moon had not fully disappeared yet.

The Great Qin Village's residents all came to the Heaven Prayer Platform, which had a few flags inserted in it. A red carpet was rolled down the steps, and rows of valiant soldiers stood on both sides of it.

"His Majesty has arrived!"

A loud and clear shout sounded out as the residents and soldiers all kneeled down. Zhao Fu was wearing his Dark Gold Dragon Crown and Dark Gold Dragon Robe, and he gave off the might of an Emperor as he walked out. Zhao Fu was followed by Li Si and his other main subordinates.

Zhao Fu slowly started to walk up the steps, while Li Si and his other subordinates kneeled.

Zhao Fu walked up one step at a time, his heart feeling incredibly clear. There was a table on the Heaven Prayer Platform, on which there were candles, an incense-burner, and offerings.

Just as Zhao Fu reached the top of the Heaven Prayer Platform, the golden sun slowly rose from the east, piercing through all darkness. As golden sunlight fell on Zhao Fu's body, he seemed to glow with light, and he seemed to not only be majestic but also divine.

Zhao Fu walked over to the table and lit three sticks of incense before bowing. He then held the three sticks of incense as he said, "Today, this one comes as the Legatee of the Great Qin Empire to hold the first Heaven-Sacrifice Ceremony. I come with my subjects to offer our sacrifices to the heavens. We hope the heavens can see our sincerity."

After saying this, Zhao Fu placed the three sticks of incense in the incense-burner, closed his eyes, slightly raised his face, and calmed down his heart, sensing the heavens and the earth.

BOOM!!!

A massive explosion seemed to ring out within Zhao Fu's mind. A boundless, ancient, mysterious aura descended, and Zhao Fu opened his eyes to see countless spots of light descending like snow. The scene was indescribably beautiful, and after these spots of light descended on flowers, they became translucent Flower Tears.

Zhao Fu was overjoyed. The method He Xianru had told him about had indeed worked, and after concluding the Heaven-Sacrifice Ceremony, Zhao Fu sent orders for his people to collect these Flower Tears. Afterwards, they found that there were 1 million Flower Tears in total, which was worth 10 million Flower Tear Points. Naturally, Zhao Fu was incredibly happy.

However, he could only carry out another Heaven-Sacrifice Ceremony after waiting for a long period of time, but he was already quite content. After all, 10 million Flower Tear Points was an astronomical amount of Flower Tear Points.

Within the 1 million Flower Tears, Zhao Fu's people also found 10 pink Flower Tears and azure Flower Tears, which were even rarer. By combining 10 azure Flower Tears, he would be able to obtain a Level 2 Flower Fairy's Blessing.

[Level 2 Flower Fairy's Blessing]: Effectiveness: Three years, Description: The Flower Fairy's wonderful blessing. It increases the speed at which flowers within your territory grow by 200% and the time it takes for flowers to wilt by 200%. Has a chance to attracting Flower Spirits.

The Level 2 Flower Fairy's Blessing decreased the growing time by another 100% and increased the wilting time by another 100%. The small chance of attracting Flower Spirits also became 'a chance.'

Zhao Fu only had three azure Flower Tears, but he was not in a rush to collect all 10. He combined 10 of the pink Flower Tears, which turned into a pink orb the size of a pearl, and took it to the center of the Village before choosing to use it.

The pink orb slowly rose from Zhao Fu's hand and flew into the sky, turning into the image of a beautiful young girl. The young girl looked to be only 15 or 16 years old, and she wore clothes that were made of flower petals. This was most likely the Flower Fairy!

After the image of the Flower Fairy appeared, she lightly laughed before spreading out her hands, causing countless flower petals to descend. A pink wave of light spread out, and following this, the Flower Fairy's image slowly disappeared. At this moment, Zhao Fu received a system announcement that said that the Great Qin Village had received the Flower Fairy's Blessing.

After taking care of this matter, Zhao Fu took a large amount of food to the Orc City and took out Gunador's command medallion, gaining him access to Gunador's tent.

"Respected Vice-Lord, I've brought a large amount of food. How many Flower Tears have your people collected?" Zhao Fu said from under his black cloak.

Gunador confidently smiled and took out 10 normal spatial rings. Zhao Fu took them and found that each of them contained 100,000 Flower Tears, meaning that the 10 rings contained 1 million Flower Tears in total. This was the result of 200,000 Orcs collecting Flower Tears.

Zhao Fu was incredibly happy when he saw so many Flower Tears, and they exchanged the goods based on the rate that they had negotiated. Just like that, Zhao Fu had obtained another 1 million Flower Tears.

"Let us continue our partnership! I hope that respected Vice-Lord can continue gathering Flower Tears." Zhao Fu put the Flower Tears into his King's Ring as he cupped his hands and smiled.

After obtaining so much food without losing a single soldier, Gunador was also ecstatic and quickly nodded as he smiled. Gunador was also happy because he was using something that was useless, Flower Tears, for something that he needed, food.

After both sides obtained what they wanted, the transaction was perfectly concluded.

Not long after Zhao Fu left, a well-built Orc, who gave off a sense of pressure, walked in and said unhappily, "Gunador, who do you trust this human and even trade with him?"

The smile on Gunador's face did not fade at all as he replied, "I didn't trust him; we're merely engaging in deals that benefit both of us!"

"But if he has so much food, why don't you just take it by force?" the Orc retorted loudly.

Gunador smiled as he shook his head and said, "Bodili, can you think before speaking? You should learn from humans in that regard. Violence isn't always the best solution. Do you want a bit of food or a lot of food?"

Bodili, the well-built Orc, dumbly replied, "Of course it's a lot of food!"

"Then it should be clear to you!" Gunador replied.

However, after listening to Gunador, Bodili asked with a hazy look, "Gunador, what do you mean?"

Hearing his words, Gunador, the most intelligent Orc in Kaki City, felt incredibly helpless.

"What is it? Explain!" Bodili seemed to become interested and once again asked Gunador.

Gunador shook his head with annoyance and felt that Bodili was quite an oddity. Even though Orcs sought strength, that did not mean they were stupid – Bodili was just exceptionally stupid. If Gunador answered his question, he would be swept into a whirlpool of questions and wouldn't be left alone for days.

However, Bodili was a mighty fighter – apart from Lord Kaki, there was not a single Orc among the 200,000 or so Orcs who could defeat him.

In order to make Bodili quickly leave so that he could make arrangements for the food that he had received, Gunador quickly said, "Lord Kaki seems to want to see you; go and pay him a visit!"

Bodili nodded and believed that Kaki really wanted to see him, so he left. It was evident how easy it was to trick this fellow.

Back at Holy Light City, Zhao Fu converted his 2 million Flower Tears into 20 million Flower Tear points. Following this, Zhao Fu looked at the top three pieces of equipment on the Legendary Rankings. However, a purple light suddenly flashed as one of the 37 pieces of Legendary grade equipment suddenly disappeared, shocking Zhao Fu.

Chapter 92: Sky Demon

How could someone have exchanged for a Legendary grade equipment already? Even though it was one of the lowest ranked ones, this was enough to shock countless factions, making them understand how intense the competition was. All of the factions started to madly buy Flower Tears, aiming to constantly buy them.

The disappearance of one of the pieces of Legendary grade equipment somewhat shook Zhao Fu's heart, reducing his confidence in obtaining one of the top 10 pieces of Legendary grade equipment. As the saying went, there are mountains beyond mountains and heavens beyond heavens.

Zhao Fu did not waste any time and returned to the Great Qin Village, and he instructed his people to quickly collect Flower Tears.

Time always went by faster when one was busy. Soon, night fell, and Zhao Fu watched Li Si do his calculations before he reported, "Your Majesty, we collected 150,000 Flower Tears this time!"

Zhao Fu couldn't help but sigh again. Right now, they only had 2.27 million Flower Tears, which was still not enough. After returning to Holy Light City to convert the Flower Tears into Flower Tear Points, he saw that two more of the 37 pieces of Legendary grade equipment had disappeared. Now, three pieces of equipment had already been claimed.

After looking at this, Zhao Fu was about to leave when he suddenly heard someone call out to him. He turned and saw that it was Jiang Rou.

"What is it?" Zhao Fu softly asked Jiang Rou.

Jiang Rou looked around before pulling Zhao Fu to an alley where no one was around, making Zhao Fu quite curious.

"This is for you!" At this moment, Jiang Rou handed him a normal spatial ring. Zhao Fu took it and looked inside, and he found about 6,000 Flower Tears within it. When Zhao Fu saw this, he immediately returned it to Jiang Rou.

Jiang Rou asked curiously, "Zhao Xin, could it be that you don't need them? Don't worry, these Flower Tears belong to me, not the Jiang family."

Zhao Fu knew that he definitely couldn't accept them. Right now, all of the large families were desperately gathering Flower Tears. If her family found out that she had given him Flower Tears, she would be strictly reprimanded, and her life would become quite difficult.

Zhao Fu was somewhat moved by her actions. Since Jiang Rou had treated him as a friend by taking such a risk to help him, how could he let her potentially suffer?

Zhao Fu lightly laughed and shook his head, and he didn't give any reasons. Instead, he only said, "Thanks, but I can't accept it!"

Jiang Rou took back the spatial ring. Each of them talked about his or her own situation, and they were able to gradually relax. Zhao Fu no longer felt as worried and anxious as before, and Jiang Rou did not feel as much pressure and nervousness.

Afterwards, both of them smiled before leaving.

.....

The next day, Zhao Fu once again brought a large amount of food to Gunador's tent. He found that apart from Gunador, there was also an exceptionally strong Orc. He gave Zhao Fu a powerful sense of suppression, and he was more than 10 times stronger than the main cities' Stage 1 guards.

This Orc caused Zhao Fu's pupils to contract because he could feel that this Orc had definitely reached at least Stage 3 in terms of cultivation.

However, Zhao Fu's expression did not change because he had a powerful Nation Armament to rely on.

"Respected Vice-Lord, I've once again brought a large amount of food. Have you prepared the Flower Tears?" Zhao Fu cupped his hands as he smiled.

Gunador also smiled as he replied, "Esteemed guest, I've already prepared them!"

As he spoke, Gunador brought out 12 spatial rings. Zhao Fu was incredibly delighted, and after looking through them, he found that they collectively held 1.2 million Flower Tears. He then reciprocated by taking out the corresponding amount of food.

After completing this transaction, Zhao Fu felt quite strange. From the beginning until now, the powerful Orc by Gunador's side had not said anything. He just sat there with his mouth closed and dumbly looked at him. Zhao Fu started to feel that this Orc had some sort of mental illness.

Following this, Zhao Fu decided to quickly leave. He was not afraid of normal dogs, but he was afraid of the type that would suddenly start madly biting him.

After Zhao Fu left, Bodili finally let out the breath he was holding and said, "I feel that this human is not simple at all!"

Upon hearing this, Gunador was quite shocked and asked, "How did you know?"

Bodili immediately replied, "Because he wasn't afraid of me glaring at him!"

Gunador was speechless and ignored Bodili as he started to make arrangements for the food.

.....

After returning to the Great Qin Village, Zhao Fu mounted Little Black and brought Little Grey along as he personally went out to search for Flower Tears.

This time, he mainly relied on Little Grey's nose to find where large amounts of flowers were. However, there definitely weren't any nearby because this area had long since been searched by normal Grey Wolves, so Zhao Fu planned to go further.

Zhao Fu rode on Little Black and followed behind Little Grey as it ran along. What surprised Zhao Fu was that he actually made a great discovery. They discovered a concealed valley, where there were all sorts of flowers growing. Zhao Fu was delighted to find a violet Flower Tear, which was even rarer than azure Flower Tears.

The violet Flower Tear was as big as a marble, and it hovered above a red rose as it gave off a mysterious and majestic violet light.

If one combined 10 violet Flower Tears, one would be able to receive a Level 3 Flower Fairy's Blessing.

[Level 3 Flower Fairy's Blessing]: Effectiveness: 3 years, Description: The Flower Fairy's wonderful blessing. It increases the speed at which flowers within your territory grow by 400% and the time it takes for flowers to wilt by 400%. Has a high chance of attracting Flower Spirits.

Surprisingly, the Level 3 Flower Fairy's Blessing did not increase the stat bonuses by another 100%. Instead, the stat bonuses were double that of the Level 2 Blessings, increasing the stat bonuses by 200%.

There was also a high chance of attracting Flower Spirits. However, it was a pity that the violet Flower Tears were incredibly rare, as until now, he had only discovered a single one, while the Orc City had not found even one. At the same time, a single violet Flower Tear was worth 10,000 normal Flower Tears.

By now, Zhao Fu had collected seven azure Flower Tears, and soon, he would be able to obtain a Level 2 Flower Fairy's Blessing.

Afterwards, Zhao Fu returned to the Great Qin Village and took some people to the concealed valley to collect Flower Tears.

At night, there was no moon in the sky. There were only a few dim stars in the sky, making the night seem quite dark.

This time, they had collected another 830,000 Flower Tears, and another eight pieces of Legendary grade equipment had disappeared. This time, one of them was the seventh-ranked equipment, [Sacred Heaven].

This information made countless factions nervous and tense to the extreme, and Zhao Fu also started to feel worried. Early in the morning the next day, Zhao Fu headed to the Orc City to trade with Gunador again. This time, the Orcs had collected 1.3 million Flower Tears, allowing Zhao Fu to finally rest at ease.

Now, Zhao Fu had a total of 5.6 million Flower Tears, which were worth 56 million Flower Tear Points. It was just enough to exchange for the first-ranked piece of legendary equipment, [Sky Demon].

After traveling to Holy Light City, Zhao Fu felt somewhat nervous. After choosing the option to buy [Sky Demon] with his Flower Tear Points, it immediately entered his King's Ring.

Suddenly, a half-orange and half-violet light shined from the stone stele as something that caused almost all of the factions to collapse with shock and terror happened: the top-ranked piece of legendary equipment, [Sky Demon], disappeared from the list.

Chapter 93: Sky Demon Domain

"How is this possible??"

Countless faction leaders stared at where the Sky Demon had been. Now that even the top-ranked equipment had been claimed, what about the second and third? Would they still be able to obtain one of the top 10 pieces of Legendary grade equipment?

"Hurry and get those Flower Tears as quickly as possible! Get them at any cost! I don't care if you have to buy them or take them by force; just get them!" countless leaders yelled as their eyes became bloodshot.

Now that the top-ranked piece of equipment, Sky Demon, had disappeared, they had all suffered a massive blow to their hearts. The shock was much greater than the seventh-ranked equipment, Sacred Heaven, being claimed.

When Sacred Heaven had disappeared, all of the factions had felt incredibly tense. This told them that the top 10 pieces of equipment were no longer safe, and anyone could claim them at any moment.

Now that the top-ranked piece of equipment, Sky Demon, had disappeared, what this meant was that all of the remaining pieces of Legendary grade equipment could be claimed at any second. This made all of the leaders feel as if their hearts were on fire.

Most of the player factions guessed that a super-powerful system governmental faction had acted. However, all of the Lords of the main cities were incredibly shocked. They all wanted one of the three Half-Epic grade weapons, and none of them had thought that the top-ranked piece of equipment, Sky Demon, would suddenly disappear. As such, they all quickly acted.

Si Ji, Di Wutian, Ji Shenming, and Liu Ye all wanted to possess Sky Demon because swords were the symbol of a king. China's 5,000-year-old history was filled with swords, and the top-ranked piece of equipment was not only a sword but also a Half-Epic grade piece of equipment.

They had all envisioned themselves wielding this sword, and it would have opened the Path of Kings for them, helping them establish their empires.

However, now, Sky Demon had been claimed by someone else, and they all been given a massive blow. Their confident expressions disappeared, and their faces became incredibly pale. However, they were soon dealt even bigger blows.

Because of what Zhao Fu had done, the system governmental factions had all quickly acted. Dragon Soul, Demigod, Vast Sun, Eighth Mountain, and Djinn, which were all in the top 6, quickly disappeared.

This not only made the 4 Legatees' faces become even paler, but all of the leaders of the player factions felt horrified as well.

Right now, only the eighth-ranked piece of equipment, Lightning Fang; the ninth-ranked piece of equipment, Frozen Soul; and the tenth-ranked piece of equipment, Spirit Tree, remained out of the top 10 pieces of Legendary grade equipment.

An even more intense competition erupted over the last three Legendary grade weapons.

Of course, Zhao Fu did not know about any of this. After obtaining Sky Demon, he was incredibly excited and happy, and he immediately returned to the Great Qin Village.

When Zhao Fu's subordinates heard that Zhao Fu had obtained Sky Demon, they all felt ecstatic.

Zhao Fu took out Sky Demon. It was a pure-black sword, and it was about 1 meter in length. The edge of the blade seemed to give off a demonic light that wanted to devour people, and there was a picture of a savage demon on the sword hilt and blade. The hilt seemed to be covered with black scales, and it felt icy cold when held in one's hand. The entire sword had a demonic feeling, giving off an evil, cold, murderous aura.

Suddenly, Sky Demon started to hum as it violently trembled. In the next moment, it broke free from Zhao Fu's hand and stabbed into the ground. Following this, large amounts of demonic qi streamed into the ground, and the ground started to turn black as if it was stained by ink. The darkness quickly spread until it covered the surrounding 10-meter radius area.

A figure slowly appeared and stood on the hilt of the sword. She slowly opened her large, black wings, revealing her appearance.

She was a female demon and was quite tall. Her jet-black hair fell to her waist, and she had the horns of a sheep on her head. Her face was quite beautiful, and it was to the point that it made one feel suffocated when looking at her. She had a pair of fangs, and her blood-red eyes gave off a cold air as she looked at Zhao Fu. Her voice contained a trace of arrogance as she said, "Human, you think you're good enough to wield me?"

When Zhao Fu saw this demon, he remembered Sky Demon's description. It had been forged from a Sky Demon's corpse, which was most likely the demon in front of him. More accurately speaking, the being in front of him was the sword spirit. She used to be a Sky Demon, but she was killed by some entity. Not only was her corpse forged into a weapon, but her soul was also sealed into the weapon, turning her into a sword spirit.

Zhao Fu did not like her arrogant tone and the fact that she was standing so high up and was looking down at him while she spoke. Zhao Fu remained expressionless and coldly harrumphed as he stepped forwards, and a black domain filled with dragon inscriptions burst forth from his body.

Zhao Fu released his King's Domain, which covered 30 meters, completely suppressing the Sky Demon Domain that the Sky Demon had released.

This caused the Sky Demon to become quite shocked, and just as she wanted to retaliate, Zhao Fu once again coldly harrumphed. He released all of his might, and the domain expanded from 30 meters to 50 meters. The Sky Demon's domain completely collapsed, and it turned into wisps of demonic aura as it dissipated.

The Sky Demon's face was quite pale, and her blood-red eyes stared at Zhao Fu as if she wanted to say something.

Zhao Fu stretched out his hand towards the sword and closed it into a fist. The Sky Demon turned into a ray of black light and shot back into the sword, and a formless energy pulled the Sky Demon Sword into Zhao Fu's hand.

Suddenly, a voice sounded in Zhao Fu's mind, "Hmph, human, I never thought you would have obtained King's Power. However, when I'm at the peak of my strength, I won't fear you."

Zhao Fu sent his King's Power into the sword until the Sky Demon became subdued. Now, Zhao Fu finally had the chance to look at its stats.

[Sky Demon – Sword]: Grade: Half-Epic, Stats: Strength +20, Intelligence +15, Constitution +10, Agility +10, Description: An extremely powerful demonic sword forged from a Sky Demon's corpse.

The sword's stats were incredibly close to Epic grade, and it was only lacking an opportunity. Zhao Fu's heart leapt when he thought of the General Soul.

The General Soul was equivalent to 10 Soldier Souls, and fusing 10 General Souls could create a General Armament. However, in terms of energy, a General Soul could not compare to 10 Soldier Souls.

Zhao Fu decided that he would use his General Soul to raise the Sky Demon Sword to Epic grade. After making the decision, he took out the General Soul and chose to fuse it with the Sky Demon Sword.

As the General Soul slowly fused with the Sky Demon Sword, the Sky Demon Sword started to float in the air and flash with violet and orange light. As the light covered the sword, it seemed to go through some sort of change.

Suddenly, wind and clouds swirled as golden clouds appeared in the sky. The violet light coming from the Sky Demon Sword dimmed before completely disappearing, and it was replaced by an ancient orange light. The golden clouds in the sky seemed to extend for hundreds of kilometers, and rainbow light streamed down from the heavens, which was accompanied by heavenly music. The scene was truly beautiful and awe-inspiring.

The Sky Demon Sword in the air finished its evolution and slowly floated down. Creating Legendary grade equipment resulted in abnormal signs, and this abnormal sign was caused by the Sky Demon Sword rising to Epic grade.

Zhao Fu caught the Sky Demon Sword as it floated down. Its aura seemed a bit more murderous, and it now felt better in Zhao Fu's grip.

Suddenly, a voice sounded out in his mind, "Owner! I still want more!"

Chapter 94: Holy Light Group

Zhao Fu was quite surprised when he heard the Sky Demon's tone change so quickly. However, he still refused, saying, "I don't have any more!"

"Hmph! What a stingy human."

This Sky Demon's attitude changed incredibly quickly and Zhao Fu was left speechless. After saying this, the Sky Demon fell silent, and Zhao Fu looked at its stats again.

[Sky Demon Sword]: Grade: Epic, Stats: Strength +30, Intelligence +25, Constitution +20, Agility +20, Description: An extremely powerful demonic sword forged from a Sky Demon's corpse.

Each of the four stats had been increased by 10 points, and there seemed to be some special power within it that could not be displayed by the system's numbers. For equipment with equipment spirits, one had to rely on the equipment spirit to release the special power.

Some equipment, such as the Sky Demon Sword, allowed the user to wield high-tier powers. Zhao Fu tightly gripped the Sky Demon Sword, and large amounts of demonic qi flowed out from it as he flicked his hand.

Whoosh!

A ray of black sword light flashed, and a 5-meter long gash appeared in the ground, with traces of demonic qi rising up from it. This was [Sky Demon's Power], which was many times more powerful than a normal demon's power.

After looking at the Sky Demon Sword's stats, Zhao Fu put it away within his King's Ring. He felt quite content after obtaining the Sky Demon Sword, and it solved the problem of him lacking a suitable weapon.

Moreover, after the latest transaction with the Orcs, Zhao Fu now had 10 azure Flower Tears. He combined them to form an azure orb, which he used to obtain the Level 2 Flower Fairy's Blessing.

As for the violet Flower Tears, Zhao Fu now had three drops. Because of how rare they were, Zhao Fu was not sure if he would be able to collect 10 before the end of the Ten Thousand Flower Festival – once the Ten Thousand Flower Festival ended, all of the Flower Tears would disappear.

Now that he had obtained the weapon that he wanted, Zhao Fu started looking at the other items. It was already the fourth day, and the Ten Thousand Flower Festival would end in another three days. As such, he could most likely obtain a few more items.

Zhao Fu went to Holy Light City and looked at the Exchange Stone Stele. He was surprised to find that the top 10 pieces of Legendary ranked equipment had all suddenly disappeared – just what had happened? Of course, Zhao Fu did not know about the panic that he had caused after purchasing the Sky Demon Sword.

Zhao Fu started looking at the other items. There were almost no City Creation Stones left because there were not many to begin with. As such, he started to look through the skills, medicinal pills, and special items.

In the end, he found a few useful things. However, it was a pity that he had already used up all of the Flower Tears he had, and he could only look at the items for now.

After going through the remaining items, Zhao Fu was about to leave when he saw a youth wearing a set of armor leading a large group of players to the Exchange Stone Stele. The players all made way for him and started to discuss in low voices, saying, "I wonder how the Holy Light Group's harvest has been this time. I heard Liu Nanmi took them into the inner regions of the Forest of Horrors!"

"Holy Light Group?" It was the largest player faction in Holy Light City. Zhao Fu glanced over and felt that the youth in the lead was quite interesting. He was giving off faint ripples of Holy Light energy, but Zhao Fu understood that everyone had their own fortuitous encounters, so he did not take it to heart. In the end, Zhao Fu decided to remain in the crowd and spectate.

When Zhao Fu was wearing his cloak, apart from those who knew him well, it was very difficult to recognize him. After all, Zhao Fu wasn't the only one wearing a cloak – in the Heaven Awaken World, one's appearance and voice did not change. If someone offended a person in the Heaven Awaken World, the offended party could easily find the offender in the real world from his or her appearance and voice. As such, many people wanted to avoid trouble by wearing cloaks.

Liu Nanmi walked to the Exchange Stone Stele to exchange Flower Tears for Flower Tear Points, while the Holy Light Group stood behind him. At this moment, a spectating player curiously asked someone from the Holy Light Group, "Bro, I heard that the Holy Light Group went into the inner regions of the Forest of Horrors, and I respect you all a lot. Can I ask how many Flower Tears you guys collected?"

The person who was asked had a pleased smile on his face and replied, "But of course – the Holy Light Group is the strongest faction in Holy Light City. This is how many Flower Tears we've obtained."

After saying this, the person smiled and raised one finger.

Seeing this, the player who had asked was quite surprised and asked in shock, "10,000 Flower Tears?!"

Hearing this, the person from the Holy Light Group laughed and replied, “No, 100,000 Flower Tears!”

“What?”

The people around them were greatly dismayed and revealed expressions of shock as the person who had originally asked said, “The Holy Light Group obtained that many Flower Tears?! I’d already be overjoyed if I had 100 Flower Tears.”

Hearing the discussions around them, a look of pride appeared on the Holy Light Group’s members’ faces. Everyone else looked at them with admiration, and someone immediately asked, “Captain Liu, is the Holy Light Group still accepting people?”

By now, Liu Nanmi had finished at the Exchange Stone Stele and smiled as he replied, “The Holy Light Group will always be accepting anyone who can pass our test.”

“I want to join!”

“Me too!”

“Please take me, Holy Light Group!”

Countless people shouted out, and the scene became quite lively and raucous. Zhao Fu smiled – to him, who had already spent more than 5 million Flower Tears, 100,000 Flower Tears was nothing. However, to normal people, it was already an astronomical figure.

Those who heard that the Holy Light Group had obtained 100,000 Flower Tears were given a big fright, but if they heard that Zhao Fu had obtained more than 5 million Flower Tears, they would have been shocked to death.

Currently, Zhao Fu didn’t plan to establish a player faction because it was quite difficult to manage. No one wished to be bound by rigorous rules, and loyalty would be quite low. No one would be willing to be completely loyal and make great sacrifices for him, and when danger came, they would be the first to turn tail and run.

What’s more, if players died, they would respawn at another place. If Zhao Fu spent a lot of time and resources nurturing an elite and he or she died, all of that would have been a waste.

As such, the large family’s factions very rarely recruited players. Rather, they nurtured people who were completely loyal to them – it was much better to spend resources on those who they could count on rather than those who were there to leech resources.

Even though the large families did not have many people, in terms of battle strength, player factions might not be able to win against the large family’s factions. As such, the player factions with foresight would not accept just anyone. The resource consumption would be too great, and nurturing those without loyalty or ability would simply be a waste of their time.

As such, only by developing a strict test, allowing only those with value to join, and then slowly developing their sense of belonging would they be truly loyal.

Zhao Fu knew this very well, and because he had many things to take care of, he didn’t plan, at least for now, to establish a player faction. Perhaps in the future would consider it.

Chapter 95: Underworld Nightmare

Afterwards, Zhao Fu returned to the Great Qin Village to take care of other matters. It was the fifth day of the Ten Thousand Flower Festival, and he once again went to the Orc City to carry out a transaction. After obtaining 1.1 million Flower Tears from the Orc and combining them with the 100,000 or so Flower Tears that his own people had collected, Zhao Fu went to the Exchange Stone Stele and converted them all into Flower Tear Points before using them to purchase something Zhao Fu had previously had his eye on.

[Hundred Origin Pill – Pill Recipe]: Grade: Blue grade (Stage 2), Required Ingredients: Hundred Origin Grass, Dried Five Root, and Bear Zoysia. Effects: Can increase cultivation speed by 400%.

The Hundred Origin Pill Recipe cost 12 million Flower Tear Points, and Zhao Fu once again spent all of the Flower Tear Points he had. However, this was worth it because the Hundred Origin Pills were twice as effective as the Little Spirit Pills.

At the same time, the Hundred Origin Pill's main ingredient was the Hundred Origin Grass, a Stage 2 medicinal grass. It would be more difficult to find than the Little Spirit Grass, so finding it would require some luck.

Zhao Fu also obtained another two violet Flower Tears, increasing the total to five so far. There were only two days until the Ten Thousand Flower Festival ended, and Zhao Fu started to worry that he would not be able to collect enough violet Flower Tears in time.

Time gradually passed, and soon, it was the sixth day of the Ten Thousand Flower Festival. Now, all of the weapons on the Legendary Rankings had been claimed. Countless factions had gone mad over the 37 pieces of Legendary grade equipment, and those who had obtained one were naturally quite happy, while those who had not felt incredibly depressed.

Most of the Legendary grade equipment had most likely been obtained by the system's factions, and only a couple of them were purchased by player factions. To be able to obtain the top-ranked piece of equipment, Zhao Fu was definitely the biggest winner.

On the sixth day, Zhao Fu obtained another 1.2 million Flower Tears from the Orcs, and he decided to use these Flower Tears to buy three items.

Two of them were medicinal pills, while the other was a material.

[Clearsky Gold]: Grade: Gold, Description: A type of ordinary Gold grade material that can be used to forge Gold grade equipment.

Compared to directly exchanging for Gold grade equipment, exchanging Flower Tear Points for materials was far more cost-effective. Rhode was about to make a breakthrough and would be able to forge Gold grade equipment soon, so Zhao Fu was not worried.

When Zhao Fu thought about Gold grade equipment, Zhao Fu couldn't help but think of Gongsun Lin and wonder how she was doing.

The two medicinal pills were:

[Bloodraising Pill]: Grade: Gold (Stage 4), Description: A medicinal pill that can upgrade a beast's bloodline [Note: Humans or Humanoid creatures cannot use this pill].

Of course, these two medicinal pills were for the Grey Wolf King, Little Grey, and the Black Forest Horse King, Little Black. The Gold grade material cost 500,000 Flower Tear Points and the Bloodraising Pills cost 350,000 Flower Tear Points each, resulting in Zhao Fu once again spending all of the Flower Tear Points he had.

As for the violet Flower Tears, Zhao Fu had only received one today, bringing him to a total of six. With only one day remaining, it seemed that he would need some extraordinary luck on the last day if he wanted to collect 10 of them.

After returning to the Great Qin Village, Zhao Fu called Little Grey and Little Black over. Zhao Fu had promised them that he would help them become more powerful, and as a King, he couldn't break his word.

After they came over, he gave them each a Bloodraising Pill. Little Grey and Little Black definitely had bloodlines because they were not just Chief class creatures. Just from the differences between them and ordinary Grey Wolves and Black Forest Horses, Zhao Fu could tell that there was something special about them.

After Little Grey and Little Black devoured their Bloodraising Pills, changes started to happen within their bodies.

"Neigh!!!!"

Little Black became quite frantic, and it began galloping about as green fire started to rise up from its body. The green fire continuously increased until it completely covered Little Black, and it continued to whinny in pain within the flames.

"Awoooooo!!!!!"

After Little Grey devoured the Bloodraising Pill, it terrifyingly howled as silver light started to stream out from its body. It raised its head and howled in pain as the grey on its body slowly receded.

Their voices seemed as if they could cause rocks to shatter, and as they screamed in pain, all of the Grey Wolves and Black Forest Horses in the surrounding 10-kilometer radius area started to howl and scream along with their kings.

The Great Qin Village suddenly became filled with howls and whinnies, giving Li Si a big fright. He quickly ran out to where Little Grey and Little Black were, and he saw the astonishing changes that they were going through. Li Si was just about to say something to Zhao Fu when Zhao Fu raised a hand. Li Si understood and respectfully retreated to one side.

Zhao Fu stood with a calm expression as he watched the changes that Little Grey and Little Black were going through. Even though Zhao Fu knew that they were going through a lot of pain, this transformation was something that they had desired.

Within the green flames, Little Black gave off a terrifying surge of power. Its body did not change much, but the short, black horn on its head rapidly grew until it was about 30 centimeters long, and it gave off a cold light.

A while later, the green flames around Little Black's body slowly died down, and Little Black's transformation finished. Now, there were some more changes to its appearance.

Apart from its black horn, its green eyes now looked like two balls of green flames, and they gave off an eerie feeling. Its body was even darker than before, and there were four small balls of flames around its four hooves. The aura around Little Black's body was also many times more powerful and dangerous.

Following this, Little Grey's body gave off large amounts of silver light until it covered the 10-meter radius area around Little Grey. Silver motes of light filled the area, making the scene look quite beautiful. The tuft of silver fur on Little Grey's head suddenly shined like a flame, and the greyness in Little Grey's fur disappeared before being replaced by a white-silver color.

Finally, Little Grey also finished its transformation.

Its body was now three times bigger than before, and it was now as big as a cart. All of its fur was now silver-colored and felt quite soft. Its eyes had also become silver, and its aura became more powerful and mysterious.

After Little Grey and Little Black completed their transformations, the normal Grey Wolves and Black Forest Horses calmed down. Little Grey and Little Black rushed over to Zhao Fu and started to lick him to express how excited and happy they were.

Zhao Fu laughed and stroked their heads as he looked at their stats. Apart from their stats greatly increasing, he found that Little Black had awakened a bloodline called [Underworld Nightmare] and had obtained [Underworld Nightmare's Power]. Little Grey had awakened a bloodline called [Star Moon] and had obtained [Star Moon's Power].

"Congratulations, Your Majesty!" Seeing the shocking changes to Little Grey and Little Black, Li Si walked over and smiled as he congratulated Zhao Fu.

Zhao Fu smiled and nodded. Little Grey and Little Black continued to affectionately rub their heads against Zhao Fu, and Zhao Fu patted them on the head before telling them to go and play. Zhao Fu went to take care of other matters, and soon, it reached the seventh day: the final day of the Ten Thousand Flower Festival.

Chapter 96: Flower Tears

On the last day, Zhao Fu's luck seemed to be looking up. His people had found two violet Flower Tears in the morning, bringing him to eight drops in total. Also, because the festival ended at 12 AM the next day, Zhao Fu did not go to the Orc City in the morning, and he instead decided to at 9 PM.

Now that he had eight violet Flower Tears, just to be safe, Zhao Fu decided to see if anyone was selling violet Flower Tears to safeguard against not finding any more by the end of the day.

He walked around Holy Light City but didn't find anything, so he went to Soldier Forest. After wandering around, he saw many people surrounding a street stall that had its goods laid out on the ground.

The stall piqued Zhao Fu's curiosity, so he walked over. He was delighted to find that the owner of the stall was selling a violet Flower Tear. Of course, countless people wanted violet Flower Tears because a single one was worth 10,000 normal Flower Tears.

The reason it hadn't been sold yet was because it cost too much. The owner wanted 3 million silver coins for it, which was 300 million copper coins or \$3 billion in the real world.

This was simply a ridiculous price – after all, normal Flower Tears were worth, at most, 20 silver coins, so a violet Flower Tear should only be worth 200,000 silver coins. However, even if the rarity of the violet Flower Tear made it worth much more than 200,000 silver coins, it should not be worth 3 million silver coins. Because this was the final day of the festival, if he could not collect 10 violet Flower Tears, he would only be able to use the violet Flower Tears as 10,000 normal Flower Tears.

If this violet Flower Tear was sold on the first day, it might have been sold for 500,000 silver coins because it may have been possible to collect 10. However, now that the festival was drawing to a close and many people had given up, it was only worth around 300,000 silver coins.

The owner of this stall had been extraordinarily lucky. He went with a large team to collect Flower Tears, but instead of finding any Flower Tears, he was chased by someone who tried to kill him. In the end, he fell down a mountain slope and found this violet Flower Tear.

After making some inquiries, he heard that most large factions only had pink Flower Tears and hadn't even seen azure Flower Tears, much less violet Flower Tears, which were even rarer. He realized how rare violet Flower Tears were, which was why he dared to ask for such a high price.

Zhao Fu went up and asked if the person was willing to sell it for 300,000 silver coins, but he was immediately rejected. He then offered 500,000 silver coins, but the owner of the stall adamantly refused to accept anything below 3 million silver coins.

Zhao Fu continued to try to bargain with the owner of the stall, causing everyone around him to be shocked. Even a normal faction would not be able to spend so much money, and if it wasn't for his tone, they would have thought that he was from a powerful system faction.

Since the owner of the stall was so stubborn, Zhao Fu didn't try to continue negotiating. Zhao Fu had already made great concessions, and he was not willing to spend 3 million silver coins. After all, even though he made a lot of money, he also had great expenditures. It would take him at least half a month to save up 3 million silver coins.

Many of the people nearby excitedly went over to Zhao Fu and said that they were offering high rates for converting Heaven Awaken World currency to real-world currency. However, Zhao Fu had no interest in real-world currency because money in the real world would become completely worthless when the Heaven Awaken World devoured the real world.

Now that Zhao Fu had eight violet Flower Tears and was only missing two more, he planned to go to the Orc City to see if they had collected any. If all else failed, he would have to accept being screwed over by the high price because it would be too much of a pity to give up after collecting so many.

Following this, Zhao Fu went to the Orc City. Gunador was felt quite surprised when Zhao Fu had not come to trade in the morning, but when he remembered that the Ten Thousand Flower Festival ended at the end of the day, he realized that Zhao Fu would most likely come at night. Seeing Zhao Fu come now, he was quite surprised.

“Esteemed guest, have you come to trade?” Gunador asked as he welcomed Zhao Fu into the tent.

Zhao Fu lightly shook his head as he replied, “Respected Vice-Lord, not right now. Because the Ten Thousand Flower Festival is ending at the end of the day, I will come at 9 PM. I’m here now to ask if your people have collected any violet Flower Tears.”

Gunador realized what this was about. The Orcs were not interested in the Flower Fairy’s Blessing because they did not like flowers, so they did not care about the differences between the Flower Tears.

After listening to Zhao Fu, Gunador took out a spatial ring, retrieved a violet Flower Tear, and handed it to Zhao Fu as he said, “Esteemed guest, these are very rare, so we’ve only found one so far!”

Zhao Fu was quite delighted and accepted the violet Flower Tear. Now, he had nine violet Flower Tears and only needed one more. Zhao Fu thought about it and thanked Gunador before arranging a time at night and going back to Soldier Forest.

Now that he only required one more violet Flower Tear, he had to take the loss. Even though Zhao Fu really didn’t want to go through with it, he had no other choice. It had been incredibly difficult to gather these nine violet Flower Tears, and without a tenth, he would not be able to obtain the Level 3 Flower Fairy’s Blessing. This caused Zhao Fu’s heart to feel quite uncomfortable.

However, after returning to Soldier Forest, the only thing Zhao fu found was the stall owner’s corpse. The stall owner had died quite pitifully: he had been hacked to death by many swords and sabres. Players’ bodies would only disappear after one day in the Heaven Awaken World, so Zhao Fu was able to see the corpse when he returned.

Only after asking around did Zhao Fu find out that not long after he had left, a group of people had come over right after the patrolling guards went by and risked their lives to kill the stall owner. In the Heaven Awaken World, anyone who killed someone else would obtain everything that the victim had on him.

Following this, even though the group of people was chased down by the guards, a few of them were able to escape with the violet Flower Tear.

Hearing this, Zhao Fu sighed. As long as the benefit was great enough, there were no such things as safety and security to those who possessed valuables. This sort of thing was not unexpected. After all, even if the violet Flower Tear was worth only 200,000 silver coins, that would be \$200 million in the real world, which was why some people would risk everything to take it.

Of course, normal shops had their own guards, who could massacre a group of players instantly. However, this sort of street stall was not as safe.

Now that the only violet Flower Tear he had found for sale had been stolen, Zhao Fu started to worry about the final violet Flower Tear, and time continued to gradually pass.

At 9 PM, Zhao Fu's own people had collected 160,000 Flower Tears, but there were no violet Flower Tears. Following this, Zhao Fu went to the Orc City, which was his last hope. This time, the Orc City had collected 1.7 million Flower Tears, but the Orcs had not collected any violet Flower Tears. This caused Zhao Fu's heart to plummeted – now, there were only three hours left until the end of the festival.

Zhao Fu quickly went to Holy Light City and walked around. He was called over to the Westfall Restaurant by He Xianru, and upon seeing him, He Xianru smiled and stretched out her hand. Within it was a violet Flower Tear.

Chapter 97: Dreamwoven Palace Dress

"How do you have a violet Flower Tear?" Zhao Fu asked as he received the violet Flower Tear from He Xianru with a delighted expression on his face.

He Xianru lightly laughed, "I took a walk outside of the city!"

Even though He Xianru had made it sound quite simple, Zhao Fu understood how difficult this would have been. He put the violet Flower Tear into his King's Ring and said sincerely, "Thank you!"

He Xianru looked quite surprised as she replied, "Your Majesty, there's no need to be so courteous. Everything I've done is my duty as a subject."

Zhao Fu lightly shook his head as he replied, "That's not the Path of Emperors that I believe in. I understand that my own power is limited and that an empire cannot lack people like you."

Hearing Zhao Fu's words, He Xianru respectfully bowed and did not say anything. Zhao Fu quickly returned to the Great Qin Village, combined the 10 violet Flower Tears, and chose to combine them.

Just like before, the violet orb slowly rose from Zhao Fu's hands and floated into the sky. It turned into the image of a beautiful girl, but the difference was that the girl no longer looked illusory. Instead, it looked quite real. What's more, there seemed to be intelligence in her eyes, and they did not look dead like before.

Just like last time, the girl lightly laughed and spread out her hands, causing countless flower petals to descend from the sky, creating an incredibly beautiful scene. Following this, a violet light spread out.

However, this time, the girl's body did not disappear. It instead slowly floated down from the air and came in front of Zhao Fu before softly hugging him.

This caused Zhao Fu to feel quite stunned. However, he could feel that this girl seemed to be alive. He could feel her breath and smell a faint flowery fragrance from her.

Zhao Fu did not do anything, and in the next second, the girl's body turned into motes of light before dispersing.

System announcements sounded out within Zhao Fu's mind, telling him that he had obtained the Level 3 Flower Fairy's Blessing and a 'Flower's Embrace.'

[Flower's Embrace]: Effectiveness: Permanent, Description: The Flower Fairy's embrace is the most wonderful blessing. This blessing will increase your charm towards females, and it will make it easier for spirits to like you.

Zhao Fu never expected to receive such a blessing after using the violet Flower Tears. However, it did not seem very useful to him – if a playboy had obtained it, it would have been like 'giving wings to a tiger,' but it seemed like a waste for Zhao Fu to have it.

After obtaining the Level 3 Flower Fairy's Blessing, Zhao Fu traveled to Holy Light City, as he still had 1.8 million Flower Tears to spend.

It was now 11 PM, and there was only one hour left until the Ten Thousand Flower Festival finished. However, the streets were still quite lively, and there were still lights everywhere.

Zhao Fu went to the Exchange Stone Stele and looked at the remaining items. He first exchanged for three Gold grade materials, spending 1.5 million Flower Tears. He continued looking and found a detailed map of the Heaven Awaken World.

The map was quite large, and it had roughly every region. It was definitely quite useful, but it was also expensive – it cost 2.5 million Flower Tear Points, which was 250,000 Flower Tears.

"Alright!" Zhao Fu understood the value of the map, so he chose to buy it.

His eyes continued to pass over item after item until they fell on a dress. The dress was violet-colored, simple, and unadorned, but it still looked quite beautiful and gave off a mysterious feeling.

[Dreamwoven Palace Dress]: Grade: Silver, Stats: Intelligence +3, Agility +2, Constitution +1, Description: A dress woven from Fantasy Spider Silk. The dress also has some illusion and recovery properties.

No wonder this dress seemed so beautiful – it was made from Fantasy Spider Silk. Fantasy-type materials were quite rare, and after he looked at his remaining 50,000 Flower Tears, Zhao Fu decided to buy it since there was not much else that he could spend those Flower Tears on.

Zhao Fu bought it with his remaining points, and he decided to give it to He Xianru. After all, she had helped him quite a lot this time.

He headed to the Westfall Restaurant and presented the Dreamwoven Palace Dress to her, making her surprised. Because of Zhao Fu's personality, she had never thought that he would buy her a dress. However, she quickly accepted it and thanked him for it.

Following this, Zhao Fu went out of the Heaven Awaken World. Because he did not have his own intelligence network, he could only collect information about the various factions through the Heaven Awaken World forum. Only then would he be able to gauge their strength and not be a frog at the bottom of the well.

Zhao Fu opened up the Heaven Awaken World forum and started to look through it. The top thread right now was about the owners of the 37 pieces of Legendary grade equipment. This greatly piqued Zhao Fu's interest, so he clicked on it and started reading.

Number 1, [Sky Demon]: Obtained by an unknown faction (My guess: It was probably one of the most powerful system factions. Even though we don't know who it belongs to, it will definitely become a great obstacle for players, so please be careful!)

Number 2, [Dragon Soul]: Obtained by an unknown faction (My guess: It definitely belongs to one of the most powerful system factions because it disappeared only a few minutes after Sky Demon disappeared.)

Number 3, [Demigod]: Obtained by an unknown faction (My guess: It definitely belongs to one of the most powerful system factions, but the faction should be weaker than the above two factions. It's still an existence that player factions can only look up at.)

The top five pieces of equipment were all obtained by unknown factions, but the sixth-ranked piece of equipment, Djinn, was confirmed to have been obtained by one of the system's factions, Moongazing City.

After reading the guess on Sky Demon, Zhao Fu couldn't help but laugh at 'it will become a great obstacle for players, so please be careful!'

He knew his own strength very well, and he had only obtained Sky Demon through much luck and fortune. If he had been a few minutes late, the Sky Demon Sword definitely would have been taken by the second-ranked faction.

It seemed that apart from Zhao Fu, none of the factions that had obtained one of the top six pieces of equipment were player factions. However, the seventh-ranked piece of equipment, Sacred Heaven, which was the first equipment to be claimed, was actually taken by a player.

The player was the descendant of the famous King Arthur of the western world... Tina Pendragon.

This sent alarm bells to countless factions, especially to China, which was supposedly the most powerful country so far. A powerful force apart from China had already appeared.

The following three pieces of equipment, [Lightning Fang], [Frozen Soul], and [Spirit Tree], were respectively claimed by Great Xia, Great Zhou, and Great Shang.

Chapter 98: Ancient Fallen Clans

The eleventh-ranked piece of equipment was obtained by the Roman Empire's Legatee, the descendant of Augustus Caesar; the twelfth-ranked piece of equipment was obtained by Great Han; and the thirteenth-ranked piece of equipment was obtained by Pharaoh Akhenaten's descendant.

The next seven pieces of equipment on the rankings were all obtained by system factions, while the twenty first-ranked piece of equipment was obtained by Great Tang.

All of this information caused Zhao Fu to be quite surprised and intrigued. The twenty second-ranked piece of equipment was obtained by Oda Nobunaga's descendant; the twenty third-ranked piece of equipment was obtained by the Tsarist Empire; and the twenty fourth-ranked piece of equipment was obtained by ancient India.

The remaining pieces of equipment were all obtained by the system's factions. It was clear how lucky Zhao Fu had been to obtain the top-ranked piece of equipment, Sky Demon, and it was also clear how intense the competition was.

Moreover, Legendary grade equipment contained massive amounts of power, and they were the symbols of the powerful. Even if one had 100,000 pieces of Gold grade equipment, one might not have a single piece of Legendary grade equipment. It was evident just how rare Legendary grade equipment was, and it could not be viewed as merely a step up from Gold grade equipment.

After looking through this information, apart from the Chinese factions, the one that Zhao Fu paid the most attention to was King Arthur's descendant. It was completely unexpected that she would obtain Sacred Heaven so quickly, and Zhao Fu had a premonition that she would become one of his greatest enemies.

Sitting on his chair, Zhao Fu sank into deep thought before slowly breathing out looking at the Heaven Awaken World forum again to see if there was anything else. Soon, Zhao Fu found a grave matter, which was that some of the Ancient Fallen Clans had been revived.

Ancient Fallen Clans referred to clans that had died out. Even though they still had some descendants here and there, the clan or family itself had perished and no longer existed in the real world.

For example, in China, there were the Nine Li Clan led by Chiyou, who fought against the Yellow Emperor; the Spring and Autumn Period's Yi Clan in the east, Man Clan in the south, Rong Clan in the west, and Di Clan in the north; the Han Dynasty's Xiongnu Clan, Tokhara Clan, Xianbei Clan, etc...

These clans did not have players entering the Heaven Awaken World, but they were instead revived within the Heaven Awaken World as indigenous resident villages of the Heaven Awaken World. They were also different compared to normal indigenous resident villages. Not only did they have a bloodline, but they also had their own history, culture, and traditions.

Their appearance was not very favorable to the Chinese players, and there were often reports of places being attacked by the Xiongnu Clan, Liao People, or Jin People.

After looking at that forum thread, Zhao Fu felt a headache coming on. This world was simply too chaotic, and based on the current situation, the future would be filled with rivers of blood, mountains of corpses, and the death of countless heroes.

The Ancient Fallen Clans had the same starting points as players, so they did not have anything above Towns, though this might change in the future. However, while players could come back to life after they died, the Ancient Fallen Clans' people would die a true death. In other words, once the entire clan fell, it would be exterminated forever.

The Heaven Awaken World was most likely giving these clans a final chance – if they grasped this chance, they would be able to continue existing, and if they couldn't, then they would be completely exterminated.

After looking through these things, Zhao Fu headed back into the Heaven Awaken World with some worries on his mind. Now that the Ten Thousand Flower Festival had ended, everything returned to normal.

Zhao Fu reorganized the four exploration teams and sent them off in different directions to explore. At the same time, he ordered them to keep an eye out for any Ancient Fallen Clans around the Great Qin Village. Even though the Heaven Awaken World was quite chaotic, there were many opportunities within it. Now, the Great Qin Village could attack Human indigenous resident villages, Outlander Villages, and the Ancient Fallen Clan Villages.

Holy Light City's business had returned to normal. Before, because of the Ten Thousand Flower Festival, there were a countless number of people heading outside of the city to look for Flower Tears, so all businesses had taken a big hit. After the festival had concluded, business started to return to normal.

Zhao Fu felt that there was not much else for him to do because there was nothing else that required his personal attention. Everyone had their own things to do, so Zhao Fu was quite bored. Thus, he decided to do some town planning for the Great Qin Village.

In actuality, Zhao Fu had left this to Li Si, and he had done quite well: the Great Qin Village was split into four regions: North, South, East, and West, just like the system main cities, and they were further divided into the Residential District, Business District, etc. Everything was orderly and well-planned.

The planning and building of the Great Qin Village did not require Zhao Fu to personally act, as his people had already done a good job. They might be able to sell some special products after Intermediate teleportation channels have been researched and the road to the outside world was opened up.

Zhao Fu thought of a unique fruit in the Forest of Horrors, which was the Black Forest Fruit. They were about as big as plums, and they had black skin and red flesh. The taste was quite good, and since his territory was so large, it would be a waste not to grow any.

Black Forest Fruits could be sold to the outside world as special products and would earn them a decent amount of money, so Zhao Fu started to order some people to plant many Black Forest Trees.

Time continued to pass, and soon, a few days had passed. On this day, Bai Qi came to report that his cultivation had formally broken through to Stage 1.

This delighted Zhao Fu, as the Great Qin Village finally had someone who was at Stage 1. At the same time, Zhao Fu opened up Bai Qi's stats page with a curious expression on his face and had a look.

Name: Bai Qi

Grade: SSS

Title: [God of Killing]

Profession: [Stage 1 General]

Achievement Points: Commoner (68/200)

Race: Human

Age: 24 (110)

Loyalty: 100

Stats: Strength: 38, Intelligence: 22, Constitution:29, Agility: 25

Cultivation: Stage 1-0

Cultivation Technique: Great Qin Mantra

Skills: Qi Slash, Basic Sword Technique...

Equipment: Ice – Star Slashing Sword...

After looking through Bai Qi's stats, Zhao Fu found that apart from the changes in his stats, his profession had become 'Stage 1 General' and his lifespan had increased by 10 years from 100 years to 110 years.

Zhao Fu did not pay attention to all of this – he first looked at the difference between the Stage 1 General profession and the original General profession.

[Stage 1 General]: C+ grade Military, Description: A profession obtained through a General leveling up, Effect: Can train the General's [Unique Military Profession].

[Unique Military Profession – Unnamed]: D- grade Military, Description: Soldiers personally trained by a Stage 1 General. They can be a historical military profession or a new military profession. Current limit: 100 people. Effect: Receives a skill based on the profession.

Zhao Fu was quite delighted, as any of his Generals who reached Stage 1 would be able to train their own military profession. What's more, the Unique Military Profession was D-grade, which meant that it was not weaker than the Outlanders' Special Professions.

Chapter 99: Iron Eagle Elite Soldiers

Even though Stage 1 Generals could only have 100 people with their Unique Military Profession, as they became stronger, they would be able to train more people with that profession.

There were two types of Unique Military Professions: one was creating a new profession, while the other was choosing a historical profession, such as Great Qin's famed Iron Eagle Elite Soldiers.

Developing a new profession or choosing a historical profession had their own advantages. Developing a new profession meant that one could adapt to one's circumstances and focus on one's advantages. In other words, developing a new profession meant that one would have a profession that was most suited to one's current situation.

On the other hand, historical professions have been tempered by history and refined through bloody battles, so they would be quite powerful.

Zhao Fu decided not to make this decision by himself, and he asked, "Bai Qi, what do you think?"

Bai Qi was not in a hurry to reply. He thought to himself for a while before replying, "Your Majesty, I think that it's best to go with a military profession that I'm familiar with, rather than creating a new profession."

Zhao Fu nodded and asked him about the Unique Military Profession.

[Iron Eagle Elite Soldier]: D- grade Military, Description: Great Qin's most elite soldiers, who not only possess extraordinary swordsmanship but are also proficient in cavalry and infantry battles. Effect: Receives skills [Stage 2 Sword Technique] and [Horsemanship].

Since Stage 1 Generals could train soldiers with Unique Military Professions, the number of Generals became quite important. No wonder the General profession could only be unlocked upon raising one's Village to a Town.

Moreover, after reaching Stage 1, every Step that increased Bai Qi's cultivation would increase all of his stats by +2.

Zhao Fu's cultivation was only at Stage 0-7, and it was still quite far away from Stage 1. His talent at cultivation was quite lacking, but after obtaining King's Power and Fate's power, his cultivation speed had already greatly increased.

If it wasn't for the King's Power and Fate's power, Zhao Fu was sure that his cultivation would still only be at Stage 0-5. Of course, the strength of a faction did not depend on the Lord's personal strength but the faction's overall strength. Apart from Bai Qi, the person with the highest cultivation was Old Logue.

Back when Zhao Fu had attacked Logue Village, Old Logue was already at Stage 0-6, and now, he was at the peak of Stage 0-9, only a single step away from Stage 1. He was slightly faster than Zhang Dahu, who was SS grade and joined later than him.

Zhao Fu wondered what sort of military profession Old Logue would unlock in the future, and he hoped that it would be a Magic-type profession. Currently, low-grade Magic skills were becoming more and more useless, so Zhao Fu didn't waste money buying low-grade skills like Fireball. After all, they could be easily blocked by the shields that people used now. The main cities sold high-grade Magic skills, but there were not many of them, making them not as useful.

Zhao Fu allowed Bai Qi to pick all of the people who he wanted to train for the Iron Eagle Elite Soldiers, and soon, the exploration teams, who had been out for a few days, returned as well. They brought with them two Normal grade City Creation Stones, and Zhao Fu now had 32 villages under his control. They also reported that they had found an Advanced Outlander Village.

This Outlander Village was different to the ones Zhao Fu had found before: the Outlanders this time looked like rats.

Zhao Fu was quite interested and gathered his army. After traveling for a little more than a day, he arrived at the Outlander Village.

These Outlanders were indeed different. They were about 1.6 meters tall and had humanoid bodies; however, they had rat heads, rat fur, and rat tails.

What made Zhao Fu especially surprised was that the Outlander Village seemed to be built next to a historical remnant. The historical remnant looked like a palace, and it was built against a mountain. The stone materials used were a white color, and the structure had mostly collapsed, with only a few sections remaining. The historical remnant looked quite ancient and seemed to be from a long time ago.

Zhao Fu was quite delighted, as historical remnants often contained massive benefits.

For example, the underground passage and the region of bones could be said to be historical remnants, and now that they had found another one, Zhao Fu couldn't help but feel excited.

However, even without doing anything, the rat people, the Ratfolk, had discovered Zhao Fu's forces. This was because the Ratfolk were incredibly sensitive to changes in their environment. After all, when rats felt the wind blow or the grass move, they would immediately run.

The Ratfolk in the village, who were originally laughing and chatting, suddenly looked serious, and the Ratfolk outside quickly rushed into the village.

When Zhao Fu saw that they had been discovered, he smiled and rode Little Black forwards, leading the 10 King's Undead Cavalrymen behind him and a large number of soldiers and Skeletons.

Seeing so many enemies, the Ratfolk within the village immediately started to panic, and they started to speak in their language, worry etched onto their faces.

There were roughly 6,000 Ratfolk in the village, and there seemed to be two types of military units: Ratfolk with machetes and Ratfolk with bows and arrows.

The village was built right next to the massive historical remnant, and just the walls alone were around 10 meters tall. What's more, there did not seem to be any doors, only a 2-meter wide hole. It had been completely filled up, making it quite difficult for Zhao Fu to attack.

"Your Majesty, what should we do?" Zhang Dahu asked as he cupped his fists respectfully.

This time, because Bai Qi was training his Iron Eagle Elite Soldiers, he had remained in the Great Qin Village and had not come with them.

Zhao Fu ordered to surround them – after all, even if Zhao Fu's soldiers attacked, they would not be able to enter. As such, they could only surround them for now. Since the Ratfolk didn't seem to be a farming race, they would run out of food sooner or later. However, Zhao Fu's soldiers might have to wait a while.

Hearing this, Zhang Dahu surrounded the Ratfolk Village with 4,000 soldiers. The Skeletons did not do anything because they did not possess intelligence, while the 10 King's Undead Cavalrymen only accepted orders from Zhao Fu and no one else.

Seeing that they had been surrounded, the Ratfolk chattered to themselves as they looked around warily, seeming to make plans.

Suddenly, Zhao Fu thought of something and called Zhang Dahu back. He said something to Zhang Dahu and told Little Grey to go along with Zhang Dahu.

Within the Ratfolk Village, a few elderly Ratfolk who had white whiskers chattered to each other, and one of them said in their language, "We've been surrounded by humans; what should we do?"

Another elderly Ratfolk replied in a raspy voice, "Even though we've stocked up on food, if these humans continue their encirclement, we'll run out of food sooner or later."

"Right now, we can only fight with those humans and show them how powerful we are," another elderly Ratfolk said resolutely.

“Absolutely not! That human commands many different races, including Orcs, and he has many types of professions within his army. They have sufficient food, and that human can even command those damned Undead.”

Chapter 100: Sneak Attack

“If we charge out, they’ll definitely send the Undead at us to reduce our strength and then use their elite troops to wipe us out. We’ll definitely lose,” the elderly Ratfolk who had spoken first rebutted.

“What do you think we should do then?” asked the one who had wanted to fight.

Suddenly, one of the elderly Ratfolk who had not spoken yet finally said, “In the beginning, didn’t we dig three tunnels to use as contingencies? Right now, we have two options: use those tunnels to slip away...”

“No!”

Before he could finish speaking, he was cut off by the others. One of them said, “If we have to escape, we have to take the City Creation Stone with us. However, choosing to relocate will cause too great of a change, and that human will definitely notice. We also can’t leave the City Creation Stone behind. Although we’ve guarded this historical remnant for so long, we’ve only unlocked a small part of it. Do you really want to give all of it away?”

“Ai!” the Ratfolk who had suggested escaping through the tunnels sighed as he said, “Looks like we’ll have to use the tunnels at night and use our special forces to deal a heavy blow to the Human army.”

All of the other Ratfolk nodded. Right now, there was nothing else that they could do.

The sun gradually dipped below the horizon, and a red sunset glow covered the land. Soon, the stars started to shine in the sky.

As night completely fell, sparkling stars appeared in the sky, but there was no moon. However, because of the stars, it did not seem too dark.

Zhao Fu’s soldiers started to light torches and cook dinner. There didn’t seem to be any wariness within the army, and it was as if they didn’t take the Ratfolk seriously at all. In fact, some soldiers even took out wine and started to drink.

This caused the Ratfolk sentries on the walls to become quite furious, and they thought to themselves, “_We’ll show these Humans our might soon!_”

The night deepened, and soon, it was 12 AM. On the face of things, it looked that there were only a few teams patrolling around Zhao Fu’s camp, while everyone else had gone into their tents to sleep.

The Ratfolk felt that their opportunity had arrived, and they started to execute their plan.

A team of rats passed through the three tunnels and arrived outside the village, with Zhao Fu’s army between them and the village. There were roughly 2,000 Ratfolk in this team, while the Ratfolk on the walls silently lowered ropes.

Following this, the Ratfolk on the walls descended from the ropes and positioned themselves on the other side of Zhao Fu's army. This pincer attack was perfect, and there were no flaws with the plan. If Zhao Fu's forces were attacked on two sides, they would fall into great danger and would most likely be sent running.

The 2,000 Ratfolk behind Zhao Fu's forces crept out of the tunnels and rushed towards Zhao Fu's camp, when suddenly...

Swish, swish, swish...

The sound of the air being torn sounded out, causing the Ratfolk to yell, "Ambush!!"

The Ratfolk immediately scattered, but most of them were still covered by the rain of arrows. A countless number of Ratfolk was shot to death by the chaotically falling arrows.

Zhang Dahu came out of hiding and laughed, "His Majesty was indeed right; the Ratfolk are just like rats and like to dig holes. Luckily, Little Grey's nose is better than a dog's, and it discovered these three secret tunnels."

"Awoo!!!"

Little Grey happily howled at Zhang Dahu and bared its teeth, looking as if it was going to bite him. Zhang Dahu looked quite awkward and quickly said, "Alright, alright, I won't compare your nose to a dog's nose anymore!"

"Awoo!!!" Little Grey continued to howl with displeasure.

Zhang Dahu thought about it and realized something, and he said helplessly, "I won't call you Little Grey either; I'll call you Grey Wolf King."

To Little Grey, the name 'Little Grey' could only be used by Zhao Fu, and everyone else could only call it Grey Wolf King.

Only then did Little Grey lie on the ground with a satisfied look on its face, and Zhang Dahu turned his gaze back to the battlefield. He saw tens of abnormally agile figures dodge past the dense rain of arrows and escape. Their attire was quite strange, and it looked like they were wearing hoods.

Since most of the Ratfolk had been killed, he didn't order his subordinates to continue shooting arrows. Instead, he took some soldiers to chase after those 10 Ratfolk who had escaped.

One hour later, the Ratfolk in front of the walls were still anxiously waiting, wondering what was going on. It was already an hour past the planned time, and it seemed like the group of 2,000 Ratfolk had not made even a single move.

Within the Ratfolk Village, the Ratfolk elders paced about anxiously within the Village Hall, wondering what had happened to the team of Ratfolk soldiers. Within their hearts, they felt a trace of uneasiness.

.....

"What?" Zhao Fu's expression darkened as he looked at Zhang Dahu's kneeling figure and Little Grey, who looked quite innocent, lying down next to him.

After a while, Zhao Fu let out a breath and asked, "Speak! With 1,500 men, how did you fail to catch some Ratfolk, with even 50 people being injured?"

Zhang Dahu breathed out before reporting, "Your Majesty, I carried out the ambush as you ordered, and everything went quite smoothly. However, there were tens of Ratfolk who were abnormally agile, and they were able to dodge all of the arrows. They escaped, and of course, I gave the order to chase them down. However, after running into the forest, they were like fish that had returned to the sea, and they disappeared without a trace.

"However, relying on the Grey Wolf King's nose, we were able to follow them. However, we didn't expect them to set an ambush. Of course, we used Your Majesty's tactics, but unexpectedly, 50 of our brothers were still injured. Despite this, we were able to kill 20 or so of the Ratfolk, but we were unable to find any of the other ones. I've already ordered people to hide near the tunnels; as soon as they appear, we'll kill them immediately."

"Oh? The Ratfolk are that strong?" Zhao Fu said in surprise. It wasn't that he didn't believe Zhang Dahu, but he simply didn't expect a few tens of Ratfolk to be so powerful.

"Your Majesty, I brought back a few corpses, and you can take a look yourself," Zhang Dahu said.

Zhao Fu nodded, and a few soldiers brought in a few Ratfolk corpses.

Zhao Fu had a look and found that they were indeed different compared to normal Ratfolk. They wore black cloaks with hoods, which were large enough to cover their appearances. Underneath the cloaks were tight-fitting clothes that did not restrict their movements, and there was a short sword tied to each of their hands. There were also mechanisms on their arms that could extend and retract the short swords.

Zhao Fu used the Corpse Examination skill to look at the corpses, but he found that their grades were all quite average. However, he could not tell what profession they had.