

The People's God: Sacrificing Trillions to Ascend

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Chapter 37 - Challenging the Big League

Han Wu submitted his application to challenge Demigods for his next match. The receptionist confirmed with him multiple times, since almost no one would want to challenge someone above their rank. He had to plead with them before they submitted the application.

It took some time before the higher-ups of the Blood Coliseum approved the application and started combing through the list of Demigods for Han Wu's match.

Even though the Blood Coliseum hadn't advertised his upcoming match against a Demigod, people somehow caught wind of it and began to gather.

"I've heard of the Locust Plague before. He's a newbie who joined the Blood Coliseum less than 30 days ago. He must think that he's unbeatable amongst Divine Beings and chose to go against a Demigod instead. Isn't he too arrogant? I hope that Demigod will put him in his place. I'm going to make my bet now."

"A Demigod has a higher core level and can equip more Sacred Objects. More importantly, a Demigod has Divine Aspects and can use their Divine Skills. Why would the Locust Plague challenge a Demigod?"

"I think he's become overconfident after dominating the Divine Being rank. I've checked his data before, and he's actually lost three times."

The crowd, thinking Han Wu was being overconfident, scoffed at his immaturity. Since most of them thought they would yield swift and effortless returns by betting on the Demigod, the odds for Han Wu's match dramatically increased to 100:1.

Han Wu, after seeing the odds, had a brilliant idea. While he could not place a bet on himself as a challenger, he could ask Tian Wen to do so on his behalf. Han Wu's request left Tian Wen perplexed, as it seemed their roles had unexpectedly reversed, with Han Wu becoming the teacher instead. Regardless, he acknowledged that 10 million Divine Points was a substantial sum, even for a Demigod.

Why do I feel that Han Wu is actually very rich? Since when could he easily take out 10 million Divine Points?

Despite harboring reservations, Tian Wen thought that it was good for Han Wu to be confident.

Tian Wen staked 10 million Divine Points on Han Wu's win, and further showed his trust by adding 5 million from his own pocket. While a loss would be financially painful, it would be manageable. However, if his student emerged victorious, he stood to win a massive 500 million Divine Points!

After placing the bets, Tian Wen approached Han Wu and patted his shoulder. "Han Wu, I've placed my money and my hope on you. You've got to win! If you do, I will buy myself a God equipment to celebrate your victory!"

Though confused as to what his victory had to do with his teacher buying himself a piece of God equipment, Han Wu chuckled in response. "Thank you, Teacher."

Clearing his head of those thoughts, he headed towards the Blood Coliseum's landing pod and proceeded to enter his divine realm.

Even though Han Wu leveled up his Core a couple of times, he still hadn't equipped any additional Sacred Objects. He still had just two Sacred Objects equipped to his Core—the Incomplete Rank 2 Sacred Object: Law of Gluttony and the Rank 1 Sacred Object: Poison Orb. He still had four more Rank 1 Sacred Objects of high quality and two Rank 1 Skill Gems.

Just as Han Wu was about to equip his Sacred Objects, Yuan Zhong, the God whose weapon he was fixing, called to request for his daily Sources of Sacred Objects.

After passing the 100 Source of Sacred Objects that he had prepared beforehand to Yuan Zhong, Han Wu casually mentioned, "You've told me before that you can easily get any Rank 4 Sacred Objects or below, right?"

"Master, I have a lot of Rank 4 Sacred Objects and below in my divine realm. Let me know if you need anything specific."

Han Wu was elated. "I need some strong Rank 2 Sacred Objects, preferably with the poison, earth, dark, or fire attribute."

"Give me a minute."

Yuan Zhong swiftly prepared 50 Rank 2 Sacred Objects and passed them to Han Wu.

After analyzing them, Han Wu found that all were of excellent quality. He sighed, admiring how rich Gods were.

He ignored the Rank 1 Sacred Objects in his own inventory and started shifting through the Rank 2 Sacred Objects for anything useful. It took him some time, but ultimately he found two Rank 2 Sacred Objects that fit his locusts.

[Rank 2 Sacred Object: Molten Earthflare. Possesses both earth and fire attributes. Increases core race's defense, status resistance, and recovery.]

This was a suitable Sacred Object for the Abyss Bugs.

[Rank 2 Sacred Object: Shadow Nail. Dark attribute. After equipping to the core, it will allow compatible units to learn the Rank 2 skill, Shadow Nail. Launches a nail made from the shadows at the opponent's shadow to restrict their movement.]

Unsurprisingly, the Dark Curse Bugs were very compatible with the Shadow Nail.

Han Wu equipped both Sacred Objects to his Core and a wave of energy washed over his core race. Though many of the locusts exhibited no changes to their body, about 80% of the Abyss Bugs were affected by the Rank 2 Sacred Object: Molten Earthflare, making their exoskeletons thicker and fiery red, and 76% of the Dark Curse Bugs were affected by the Rank 2 Sacred Object: Shadow Nail.

Overall, Han Wu managed to reinforce 4 billion of his locusts with the addition of the two new Sacred Objects.

He was now ready for his match. However, before he could even check the data on his newly mutated locusts he received a notification.

[Challengers, please prepare for your match.]

Han Wu was instantly teleported back to the arena. This time however, the arena for their match was 10,000 sq km large, fit for a match between a Divine Being and a Demigod.

The crowds were cheering loudly from above.

"Elephant Lord, stomp him to death!"

"Elephant Lord, show him the power of a Demigod!"

"Locust Plague, hang on and win! I've bet a lot of money on you!"

From the chaotic sounds around him, Han Wu gathered that virtually no one had bet on him. His opponent was a Demigod with the title Elephant Lord. The Elephant Lord

wasn't wearing a mask. He had golden hair, pale skin, strong limbs, and was at least 2.2 m tall. He was like a giant compared to Han Wu.

The Demigod Elephant Lord said arrogantly, "I never thought I would be so lucky today as to match against an arrogant Divine Being. Hey, newbie! Are you really fine with sending your forces to their death?"

He did not entertain even the slightest notion that Han Wu would present a formidable challenge. Han Wu chose to ignore the Elephant Lord's blatant provocation—he preferred to demonstrate his strength through his actions.

Seeing Han Wu remain silent, the Elephant Lord remarked, "Newbie, I admire your courage to challenge a Demigod, but courage alone can't beat me. I will show you how terrifying a Demigod can be. Come out, my mammoth army!"

A massive gate appeared behind the Elephant Lord.

The mammoth army's leader was a Heroic Fulgur Mammoth, a massive creature measuring ten meters in height and five meters in length, entirely enveloped in crackling lightning. Behind the Fulgur Mammoth were 250 Unique War Mammoths, each nine meters tall. The rest of the army included 740,000 Elite mammoth units.

The sheer size of the mammoth army caused the ground to shake as they advanced forward, prompting a wave of boisterous cheers from the Elephant Lord's numerous fans.

Savoring the exhilarating atmosphere of the Blood Coliseum, the Elephant Lord acknowledged his adoring fans with a wave and said to Han Wu, "Newbie, it's your turn! Do your best to entertain me!"

Chapter 38 - Mammoth Army

Though Han Wu was about to face a Demigod, he displayed no hesitation, immediately summoning his locusts out from the gate. The swarm was so vast that they obscured the very sky, effectively turning day into night.

Han Wu's opponent, the Demigod Elephant Lord, was shocked to see so many locusts. It was clear that Han Wu had spent a lot of time and resources nurturing them.

But having more units doesn't make them stronger. Even though both his locusts and my mammoths are Elite life forms, a single mammoth can single handedly crush 100,000 locusts, the Demigod remarked inwardly.

Having reached this conclusion, the Elephant Lord scoffed, "Are these all your forces? How disappointing." He harbored no doubt that Han Wu's efforts would be futile against his overwhelming army.

Han Wu smiled wryly, not deigning to reply. He continued to summon his units, bringing out his Elite Heavenly Demon Insects, Abyss Bugs, Dark Curse Bugs and Unique Locusts.

He also had especially mutated Unique locusts, including the Poison Heavenly Demon Insect affected by the Hive, Law of Gluttony, and Poison Orb; the Earthcracker Abyss Bug affected by the Hive, Law of Gluttony, and Molten Earthflare; and the Cloaked Dark Curse Bug affected by the Hive, Law of Gluttony, and Shadow Nail—a total of 18,000 Unique locusts under his command.

The sight of the Unique locusts caused the spectators to nearly tumble from their seats in shock.

“Are those Unique locusts? Why does he have so many?”

“Are they even locusts? What kind of Evolution Path did he discover for them to mutate so much?”

“I think Locust Plague must be from some influential family who was sent out to the outside world to refine his skills. How many resources did it take to produce such extraordinary locusts?”

Even the Elephant Lord, a Demigod, was forced to acknowledge Han Wu's exceptional talent, realizing that Han Wu's ability to evolve Common locusts into Unique locusts was a testament to his genius.

Han Wu could've actually multiplied their number by ten times if he had had one more day. He wondered what kind of reaction the audience would've displayed had he summoned 180,000 Unique locusts instead.

The Elephant Lord exclaimed, “Is this your true strength? I'm really looking forward to this fight!”

Han Wu, however, chose to ignore the Elephant Lord until the match finally started.

The Elephant Lord swiftly ordered his Heroic Fulgur Mammoth to unleash its ability, the Rank 3 mid-tier Lightning Breath. A surge of lightning arced forth from the mammoth's trunk, striking the locust swarm and electrocuting a large number of them, temporarily clearing the sky.

Han Wu didn't back down, instructing his Dark Curse Bugs to attack. “Rank 2 low-tier Shadow Nail!”

The Dark Curse Bugs unleashed a massive barrage of Shadow Nails, piercing the Heroic Fulgur Mammoth's shadow.

While a single nail posed no threat to the Fulgur Mammoth, the cumulative effect of their numbers was devastating. 10,000 nails slowed the mammoth down, 100,000 significantly restricted its movement, and 1 million nails rendered it completely immobile. The Fulgur Mammoth was ultimately rendered motionless!

Han Wu then commanded his Unique Poison Heavenly Demon Insects to attack. They fluttered their wings and dove down towards the Fulgur Mammoth. The momentum allowed them to impale the Fulgur Mammoth with their sharp horn.

Despite the Poison Heavenly Demon Insects' relentless assault, they could only manage to penetrate a maximum of 3 inches into the Fulgur Mammoth's thick hide. Such shallow wounds were of little consequence to the enormous creature.

The Elephant Lord laughed, "Your Unique locusts are weak! They are powerless, even with my Fulgur Mammoth immobilized!"

Han Wu, however, asked, "Are you sure?"

The Poison Heavenly Demon Insects instantly erupted in a cloud of poison, forcing their horns to embed themselves deeper within the Fulgur Mammoth's hide. The poison began to spread through the wounds, causing the Fulgur Mammoth immense pain.

Although one Poison Heavenly Demon Insect posed little threat to the colossal Fulgur Mammoth, Han Wu had plenty more to spare—6,000 to be exact. He would simply double the number of insects until he achieved the desired effect. While the Fulgur Mammoth was frozen in place, Han Wu could launch his attacks for as long as he pleased.

Seeing the danger, the Elephant Lord urgently ordered his mammoth army to stop the locusts and save the Fulgur Mammoth. Han Wu, in turn, commanded his locusts to swarm the oncoming mammoth horde, aiming to delay their advance.

The Elite mammoths were considerably easier to deal with compared to the Fulgur Mammoth, with many of the Elite mammoths dying to the poisonous explosions from the locusts. Upon witnessing the unfolding events, the Elephant Lord's expression turned serious, recognizing that he had underestimated Han Wu's capabilities.

While employing his full strength against a Divine Being was considered dishonorable, the Elephant Lord prioritized the survival of his units. Therefore, he chose to unleash his Divine Skills.

[Barbarous Divine Skill: Thick Armor.]

[Barbarous Divine Skill: Vigor.]

[Barbarous Divine Skill: Healing.]

While the usage of his three Divine Skills cost the Elephant Lord half his Divine Points, he deemed the cost worthwhile. The injured mammoths quickly healed, and a thick layer of armor, generated from their renewed vigor, formed around them. Consequently, the locusts' self-destructive attacks, though forceful, barely made a mark on the mammoths' thick armor, leaving them completely unscathed.

The mammoths responded with powerful swings of their trunks, causing significant casualties among the locust swarm. The locusts attempted to evade the attacks by ascending into the air, but a number of them were caught in the powerful suction of the mammoths' trunks and were crushed in the process.

Han Wu's army was losing.

"Your strength has compelled me to employ my Divine Skills. I will eliminate half your forces and then allow you to surrender."

Despite possessing the upper hand, the Elephant Lord chose to be merciful. He wanted to make a good impression on Han Wu, as he recognized that Han Wu was a genius capable of nurturing locusts into Unique life forms. Reasoning that Han Wu wouldn't remain a Divine Being, the Elephant Lord aimed to cultivate a positive relationship with him from the outset.

Han Wu, however, refused to surrender, knowing that he had yet to fully demonstrate his capabilities.

"Minotaurs, heed my command and charge!" Han Wu suddenly shouted, and another gate appeared behind him. The Minotaurs, hearing his orders, stomped into the arena filled with fighting spirit.

Sarman, the Heroic Minotaur, unleashed a powerful roar as he launched himself forward. The 2,604 Minotaurs following him surged forward into the huge army of 740,000 mammoths.

The Elephant Lord was stunned by the unexpected turn of events, and it took him a few seconds to finally realize what happened.

He has Minotaurs, an extremely strong race from the Demonic Civilization? How did he manage to tame them?

Han Wu, however, was far from finished. He watched the Minotaurs intently and upon seeing Sarman's totem eliminate a mammoth, he immediately called for his other race. "Skeletons, move forth!"

A second gate materialized behind Han Wu, from which a colossal, pale bone throne was ceremoniously carried out by the now 190 Skeleton Knights. The Skeleton Lord sat

on the throne with an air of royalty, but to Han Wu, the sight was laughable. It looked like a child playing pretend.

The Osteomancer and Skeleton Reanimator, both Heroic skeletons, stood attentively beside the Skeleton Lord, acting as his servants, ready to serve him at any moment.

The crowd were shocked to see what Han Wu had summoned.

“Hey, is that the infamous Heroic life form, the Osteomancer? Am I dreaming? Can someone pinch me?”

“I think I’m dreaming too. Maybe we can slap each other and both of us can wake up at the same time.”

“I want my money back! This isn’t fair! The Demigod only has a single Heroic life form but this Divine Being has three! He even has a Lord life form too. This is unreasonable! Who’s in charge of this match? Come out and explain yourselves!”

“They’ve rigged this whole thing! They’re just trying to rob us! The Blood Coliseum is a sham! I want my money back now!”

Han Wu was taken aback by the sheer intensity of the crowd's backlash upon summoning his skeletons. However, he disregarded their accusations, as they were directed at the Blood Coliseum, not him. His only concern was to achieve victory with the minimal use of his trump cards.

In a sudden motion, Han Wu jumped up to the throne, picked up the little Skeleton Lord, and then occupied the throne himself. “Skeleton Reanimator, it’s up to you now,” he said.

Despite its fury at Han Wu's commandeering of the throne, the little skeleton was bound to obedience, as Han Wu was its god. The Heroic Skeleton Reanimator, in a gesture of deference, nodded and bowed to Han Wu before leaping onto a flying locust. The locust carried the Skeleton Reanimator to an elevated position above the mammoth army, enabling him to utilize his skill on the nearby carcass of a dead mammoth.

The skeletal remains of a mammoth violently ripped itself out of its flesh prison and stood up. While it no longer had a nose, its tusks were noticeably sharpened. With a powerful charge, the skeletal mammoth rammed its sharpened tusks into a living mammoth, causing its swift demise.

Chapter 39 - Terrified by the Osteomancer

Every time a mammoth died, a skeletal mammoth rose, with the Skeleton Reanimator raising skeletal mammoths from each of the fallen mammoths as the battle went on.

The Demigod Elephant Lord, realizing the danger, roared in frustration, “These skeletons are so annoying; they're as persistent as ticks, refusing to be eradicated! Don't you dare think that a Demigod like me will surrender so easily! War Mammoths, use your Warpath skill!”

Driven by a furious charge, the 250 War Mammoths, their eyes glowing red, unleashed their Warpath skill, reducing the skeletal mammoths to shattered remains. The Fulgur Mammoth, also influenced by the Warpath skill, managed to break free from the Shadow Nails' restraints.

The Elephant Lord had successfully wrestled back the initiative, turning the battle in his favor.

“Elephant Lord, keep the pressure up and smash those skeletons!” Impressed by the formidable might of the mammoths, his supporters erupted in a chorus of cheers.

Han Wu called for his minotaurs to retreat, and in their place, sent the Osteomancer forward. Though initially small, the Osteomancer steadily increased in size as it manipulated bone shards to converge and accumulate around it with every stride.

With an abundance of bone fragments readily available from the shattered skeletal mammoths, the Osteomancer eagerly utilized them, swiftly transforming into a massive 20-meter bone giant.

The spectators shuddered in fear as they witnessed the Osteomancer's towering form, which stood at least twice the height of the Fulgur Mammoth. They were abruptly reminded of the Osteomancers' immense strength, a fact made clear in the viral war footage from the conflict with the Demonic Civilization. The Elephant Lord, upon recognizing the gravity of the situation, broke out in a cold sweat.

The Osteomancer's bone giant form was considered the strongest Heroic life form for a reason. It was a well-founded conclusion reached by the Divine Civilization after countless encounters and battles with the Demonic Civilization.

In a moment of frustration, the Elephant Lord slapped his forehead, lamenting his oversight in not immediately destroying the Heroic Osteomancer upon its summoning. Now it was too late, and he had to use everything he had to destroy it.

He gathered the last of his Divine Points to use one final Divine Skill.

[Barbarous Divine Skill: Magnify.]

Magnify was a Divine Skill that required a lot of Divine Points to use, the Elephant Lord concentrated its power on the Heroic Fulgur Mammoth, which promptly doubled in size, becoming as tall as the bone giant.

In an effort to shield their other units from the destructive shockwaves of the impending confrontation, Han Wu and the Elephant Lord strategically withdrew their other units and cleared a wide, open area, allowing the two behemoths to fight without interference.

With a surge of power, the Fulgur Mammoth unleashed its Lightning Charge, driving its electrified tusks deep into the bone giant, leaving behind two sizzling, charred holes. Sparks of electricity danced along the wounds as the tusks relentlessly tore deeper into the bone giant's body.

However, the bone giant, seemingly unaffected by the injuries, capitalized on the opening, swiftly seized the Fulgur Mammoth's trunk and executed a powerful throw over its shoulder, sending the crowd into a frenzy of cheers.

It wasn't just a regular shoulder throw; rather, it was a specialized skill that amplified the damage inflicted. It was one of the Rank 1 brawling skills that Han Wu had obtained for the Osteomancer to master.

The Osteomancer had learned ten of them, and while its original body was still fragile, it was now capable of unleashing a flurry of attacks in its bone giant form. The Fulgur Mammoth served as the initial target for the Osteomancer to experiment with its newly acquired brawling techniques.

The Fulgur Mammoth's vigor shield fractured upon hitting the ground, yet the creature itself remained relatively unscathed. It attempted to rise and resume its battle with the bone giant, but the latter swiftly denied it the opportunity.

The bone giant swiftly mounted the Fulgur Mammoth and pummeled its head with a flurry of strikes. These attacks were executed using the Rank 1 Heavy Punch skill, a brawling technique it had recently mastered.

The Fulgur Mammoth, mustering its remaining strength, finally managed to throw the bone giant off. It then attempted to stomp on the giant, but the giant, demonstrating its agility, evaded the attack with its Roll skill. With a rapid leap, the bone giant executed a powerful flying kick that struck the Fulgur Mammoth's face, sending it crashing to the ground once more.

Employing the same strategy as before, the bone giant mounted the Fulgur Mammoth and delivered a series of repeated blows. The Fulgur Mammoth's tusk, a symbol of its kind, succumbed to the bone giant's persistent and unyielding punches, finally breaking off.

The bone giant's remarkable agility left the Elephant Lord in a state of shock. He had never anticipated that his painstakingly nurtured Heroic Fulgur Mammoth would be so powerless against the bone giant's prowess. Having gained intelligence upon ascending to the Heroic rank, it felt a profound sense of humiliation and dishonor when its tusk was broken by the bone giant.

Although the Fulgur Mammoth put up a valiant struggle, the bone giant proved too agile and evaded its attacks with a swift roll, seizing an opportunity to trip the mammoth and resume its relentless punching. The bone giant then concentrated its attacks on the Fulgur Mammoth's other tusk, determined to break it.

The Osteomancer's remarkable brawling prowess exceeded Han Wu's expectations. It not only executed the techniques with effortless skill but also strategically used them to gain a decisive advantage, transforming the fight into a one-sided beat down. Additionally, it intelligently disabled the Fulgur Mammoth by effectively removing its primary and most dangerous weapons, its tusks!

Han Wu was pleased with the Osteomancer's impressive performance. He then shifted his gaze towards the other skeleton Heroic life form, the Skeleton Reanimator.

To maximize the survival rate of his Heroic life forms, he had acquired a variety of items, granting the Osteomancer offensive skills and the Skeleton Reanimator protective abilities. He looked forward to seeing the impressive strength the Skeleton Reanimator had attained.

While Han Wu was still lost in thought, the bone giant snapped the other tusk of the Fulgur Mammoth off.

The Heroic Fulgur Mammoth shook off the bone giant once again, but this time, rather than continuing its attack, it ran towards the Elephant Lord like a frustrated wife.

The Heroic Fulgur Mammoth's hide was thick, so it didn't suffer much injuries. However, its symbolic tusks had been broken and it felt so embarrassed that it refused to fight anymore.

The Elephant Lord was utterly unprepared for the Fulgur Mammoth's unexpected vulnerability. He attempted to reassure his demoralized mammoth before issuing a command for the remaining mammoths to launch a mass assault on the Osteomancer.

If he couldn't win in a one-on-one fight, he would win with numbers instead. It was a crude, yet effective, strategy for overcoming a strong enemy! He was determined to bring down the Osteomancer, even if it meant sacrificing most of his mammoths.

Chapter 40 - Blood Coliseum Successor

Undaunted by the approaching mammoths, the bone giant unleashed every single brawler skill it possessed, expertly executing shoulder throws, back throws, leg sweeps, and low kicks to effectively manage the incoming horde.

The bone giant, towering at 20 meters, effortlessly toyed with the eight-meter-tall mammoths. A single sweep of the bone giant's palm sent multiple mammoths hurtling

through the air. Yet, the sheer volume of the mammoth army, at 740,000 strong, provided them with a substantial numerical advantage.

The Heroic Osteomancer's endurance gave out after 15 minutes of intense combat. The bone giant form crumbled, leaving the frail Osteomancer exposed and vulnerable. Despite this, it had successfully taken down 20,000 mammoths. The Elephant Lord, driven by a desire to avenge his Fulgur Mammoth, seized this opportunity to order his mammoths to eradicate the exposed Osteomancer without mercy.

Han Wu, demonstrating his unwillingness to sacrifice the Osteomancer, immediately dispatched his minotaurs to encircle the mammoths and ensure its safety.

A scene of savage and bloody pandemonium erupted as both forces engaged in a brutal clash. Mammoths were mercilessly cut down, Minotaurs were obliterated to a pulpy mess, and swarms of locusts were turned to dust. Every single unit fought for their respective god's glory, battling to their final breath.

A wave of unrestrained excitement swept through the spectators, as they had not witnessed such a thrilling and entertaining match for a very long time. Impressed by the unwavering valor displayed by Han Wu's units, a portion of the spectators switched sides and began to fervently cheer him on.

"Locust Plague, don't stop fighting!"

"Locust Plague, destroy those mammoths with your skeletons!"

"Locust Plague! Your units are amazing! I want to give birth to your babies!"

Han Wu, hearing the encouraging cheers from the spectators, responded with a smile and continued to direct his forces with a flurry of commands.

While sending 2,600 minotaurs against 720,000 mammoths seemed like a disadvantageous proposition, the skeletons' arrival turned the battle around. The Skeleton Reanimator and the Skeleton Knights resurrected the dead minotaurs and mammoths, turning them into skeletal warriors who swiftly rejoined the fight.

As the battle intensified, Han Wu's army swelled in size. The Elephant Lord, in a desperate attempt to stem the tide, ordered his War Mammoths to unleash their devastating Warpath once more, obliterating swaths of skeletons. However, the Skeleton Reanimator simply pieced them back together, sending them back into the fray.

As the battle dragged on for three relentless hours, the Elephant Lord's patience wore thin, and his exasperation mounted. The numbers changed throughout the battle, starting with 740,000 against 2,600, then moving to 720,000 against 22,600, and finally settling at 680,000 against 62,600.

Realizing his impending defeat in the face of Han Wu's increasing army, the Elephant Lord resolved to obtain a Divine Aspect specifically designed to counter the undead once he returned to school. He swore to eliminate anyone who dared to stand in his way of acquiring that very Divine Aspect.

The match lasted an arduous 5 hours and 37 minutes, ultimately ending with the Elephant Lord's surrender, and marking Han Wu's first triumph over a Demigod opponent.

Once again, a massive array materialized, engulfing every corpse on the arena floor. Regrettably, even the newly formed skeletons were not exempt, as they were also absorbed by the array and converted into energy to create Core Fragments.

Han Wu sighed, expressing disappointment at the loss of his potential undead army, his dreams of skeleton domination crumbling to dust. He had been unaware that the arena's rules were absolute, leaving no room for any exploitable loopholes. He received the Core Fragments, and just as he was about to leave, he received an anonymous message. "Han Wu, the administrators of the Blood Coliseum wishes to meet you."

Without a moment's notice, he was abruptly and instantaneously transported into a luxurious and lavishly furnished room.

An old and authoritative voice resonated, "Han Wu, do not be afraid. We are the administrators of the Blood Coliseum. We will not harm you."

The voice seemed to originate from thin air, as Han Wu was the sole occupant of the room. For a brief moment, he wondered if the room itself was sentient... He squared his shoulders, channeling the composure of a student who'd once fought a Demigod with bugs and skeletons, and directly asked, "Why did you bring me here?"

"We have witnessed your performance, and even accounting for the strategic elements you utilized, your strength is apparent. You have earned the right to be a successor of the Blood Coliseum."

Han Wu was confused. He thought, *Does this mean that this whole time, all my battles were just job interviews?*

Regardless, the voice continued, "This is the Blood Coliseum, where our master identifies future successors through a series of demanding trials. To qualify as a candidate, one must demonstrate the ability to defeat a higher-ranked opponent. Will you accept this offer?"

Han Wu's heart raced as he quickly calculated how much money he could make by inheriting the Blood Coliseum. The Blood Coliseum was built on a massive piece of land worth several thousand Divine Essence. More importantly, there were many races that

visited the Blood Coliseum daily, with numerous races visiting daily for the spectacle of matches and the thrill of gambling.

Han Wu knew he could make a lot of Divine Points from the visitors if he inherited the Blood Coliseum. However, he was acutely aware that no opportunity came without a price. Such a stroke of luck was highly improbable.

Han Wu wasn't a fool. He reasoned that he could not be the first to meet the qualifying criteria. There had to be a catch.

He took a deep breath and asked, "Before I make my decision, I have some questions. How many other candidates are currently under consideration? Furthermore, what rewards, benefits, and responsibilities are associated with the candidate position?"

"It is indeed remarkable that you have not succumbed to greed. We will gladly address your inquiries due to your demonstrated sincerity. Excluding you, there are currently 349 candidates, with 221 of them being Divine Beings, 118 Demigods, 9 Gods, and 1 Major God. After becoming a candidate, you will obtain Permanent Coordinates to the Blood Coliseum. You can pay 1 million Divine Points to teleport yourself to the Blood Coliseum without using a teleporter, no matter where you may be.

"Additionally, you will receive the privilege to establish a specialized Blood Coliseum in your divine realm, specifically designed for the training of your units. Regarding your responsibilities, once the number of candidates reaches 500, the Blood Coliseum will commence its Succession Ceremony. We will choose the owner of the Blood Coliseum out of the 500 candidates. Your participation in this event is mandatory."

After the authoritative voice explained everything in detail, Han Wu frowned. His intuition told him that the Succession Ceremony, designed to determine the heir to the Blood Coliseum, would be a formidable challenge.

He thought the most likely thing would be a brutal elimination match where all 500 candidates would be forced to fight to the death until only a single survivor was left to claim ownership of the Blood Coliseum. However, it would be a while before the 500th candidate was determined. As he was only the 350th candidate, he realized that he had ample time before the Succession Ceremony. *I might even be a God King by then*, he thought.

Han Wu made his decision. "I accept. I will become a candidate."

The voice sounded pleased. "Congratulations for becoming the 350th candidate."

A flash of blood-red light imprinted a mark on Han Wu's wrist, the insignia of the Blood Coliseum. This mark, containing the Permanent Coordinates, enabled him to teleport to the Coliseum from any place.

With the process concluded, Han Wu found himself back in the main hall.

Tian Wen, sensing Han Wu's presence, swiftly ran over. "Han Wu, my lucky star! You've made us rich!"

Tian Wen handed Han Wu a card containing 1 billion Divine Points, the winnings from Han Wu's own wager. Han Wu's hands noticeably quivered with excitement as he took the card, never before having possessed such a vast amount of wealth. He experienced, for the first time, a predicament that only the wealthy encountered.

What do I even do with this much money?