

When 'God' Decides To Start Over #Chapter 36: Gate of the Mad Ball - Read When 'God' Decides To Start Over Chapter 36: Gate of the Mad Ball

Chapter 36: Chapter 36: Gate of the Mad Ball

Qin Shi wasn't slow to react; she was genuinely shocked.

She had never seen anyone able to manipulate E-level magic equipment to such a degree. Even among the top ten Magic Armor Masters, aside from God, it was hard to say if anyone could achieve such feats.

Especially that magical, almost theatrical Demon Light Ball; it left her feeling incredible. It was the first time she realized the Demon Light Ball could be used in this way, a technique even God had never shown.

Clearly, the opponent was merely an E-level magic equipment manipulator, yet somehow she felt there was no need to worry about him.

Qin Shi now understood why the giant magical creature suddenly released her from its grip earlier; it must have been hit by the Magic Armor Master's Demon Light Ball.

Seizing the moment when the giant magical creature was injured, Qin Shi launched a frenzied attack, managing to smash the remaining two eyes of that creature.

With continuous attacks, the giant magical creature's wrecked head was completely shattered, and its massive body collapsed with a thunderous crash, causing the earth to tremble.

Having dispatched the giant magical creature, Qin Shi searched for the Magic Armor Master from earlier but found no trace of him.

"Who exactly is that Magic Armor Master? Does the Southern Cross Federation have such a Magic Armor Master?" Qin Shi was full of questions.

While Qin Shi fought with the giant magical creature, Li Xiu had already gone far in the direction Qin Shi had come from.

Fighting magical creatures is the mission of a Magic Armor Master, and Li Xiu didn't want to see a Magic Armor Master capable of manipulating S-level magic equipment get killed, which is why he lent a hand.

Unexpectedly, the other was so slow to react, standing there stunned for so long without returning to the battle.

"This set of magic equipment is too lousy; I need to find a decent set somehow." Li Xiu thought to himself.

Now Li Xiu felt the trials were indeed useful; those two hits with the Demon Light Ball were based on the principles of a curveball and a butterfly ball from baseball.

However, to be able to play like Li Xiu, there is likely no one else in the world.

"You are indeed a very strong Magic Armor Master," said Ah Fei, who had witnessed the entire battle, suddenly speaking to Li Xiu walking beside him.

"Thanks for the compliment," Li Xiu smiled.

"Now I'm relieved; that God is definitely not as strong as you. Once you have a higher-grade magic equipment, it should be easy to kill him," Ah Fei continued.

"Well, that's hard to say for sure," Li Xiu smiled wryly in his heart.

Tyrone City was quite prosperous, and when Li Xiu saw the words "Tyrone City," he frowned.

Of course, he knew what kind of place Tyrone City was, and precisely because he knew, he understood that the current situation was quite unfavorable.

The relationship between the Southern Cross Federation and his location, Space City, was severely strained, with multiple small-scale armed conflicts breaking out.

Due to geographical reasons, Tyrone City and Space City hadn't directly clashed, but as one of the main cities of the Southern Cross Federation, Tyrone City had closed its air routes with Space City as well. The possibility of flying back to Space City was out, leaving only land or sea routes.

Sea magical creatures frequently appeared, increasing the risks; unless necessary, Li Xiu didn't want to take the sea route.

Traveling by land, he wasn't sure how long it would take to reach Space City. Large swaths of uninhabited area lay ahead, with countless magical creatures possibly lurking within, making it likely unsafe.

"Better figure out some way to get a decent set of magic equipment first," Li Xiu had never been troubled about magic equipment his whole life.

Space City is the best location for magic equipment technology, hailed as the Holy Land for Magic Armor Masters. In Space City, Li Xiu could freely choose from the best, top-notch new magic equipment produced by all the top magic armor laboratories.

This was one reason why Li Xiu chose to join Space City back then; it boasted the world's best magic armor laboratory and the most advanced magic equipment. He could use all kinds of new types of magic equipment for training, having damaged numerous S-level new magic equipment during training, sometimes even directly being controlled to the point of scrapping during extreme tests.

One could say that Li Xiu alone had used up more S-level magic equipment than other Magic Armor Masters might see in a lifetime.

He rummaged through the base and gathered some Demon Cores; although most were E-level and D-level grades, the quantity was considerable. Along with a few Demon Cores knocked off from the Metal Coffin, purchasing an S-level magic equipment might be difficult, but he should be able to easily secure an A-level set.

However, in the Southern Cross Federation, magic equipment is considered a forbidden item; private transactions are not allowed. Li Xiu could not reveal his true identity in the Southern Cross Federation, so figuring out where to purchase magic equipment was another problem.

Arriving in Tyrone City, one can only take it step by step.

Li Xiu and Ah Fei found a small hotel and settled in, planning to first gather some information before making plans.

Upon entering, the hotel owner was engrossed in watching a football match, paying them no mind, only mentioning three hundred bucks a night, requiring them to pay before checking in.

"How many days will this cover?" Li Xiu pulled out a roughly one-carat sapphire and placed it on the counter.

The owner glanced down, noticed it was a sapphire, and immediately his eyes lit up, his coarse fingers pinching the sapphire for a closer look.

In no time, the owner's face was filled with a smile, "Guest, how long will you be staying?"

"I'll leave it here as collateral; just let us stay for now and count the days. Get us two rooms and some food," Li Xiu said.

"Alright, I'll take you to your rooms." The owner was very enthusiastic, welcoming them to the guest room.

The guest room was quite simple; just a set of wooden huts, without even air conditioning. Each room only had a noisy desktop fan with metal blades, which looked very antique.

The rooms also lacked a bathroom; to use the bathroom, one had to go to the courtyard behind, where a public restroom was located.

The only good aspect was that, surprisingly, this rundown hotel had a hot spring pool, allowing Li Xiu to enjoy a relaxing bath.

The Southern Cross Federation was wealthy, but its ordinary citizens were poorer than those elsewhere.

"What's the owner's name?" Li Xiu casually asked when the owner came to deliver the food.

"Just call me Old Luo," Old Luo said with a smile, always easy-going with wealthy guests.

"Old Luo, is this popular around here?" Li Xiu pointed to Old Luo's phone, which was playing a football match, the players seemingly all local.

"It's popular, very popular. If one can make a name in the league, maybe even catch the eye of the City Lord, who might lead them into that Golden Ball Trial Ground, fame and fortune would follow..." Old Luo spoke passionately, dripping with excitement, as if he already had fame, fortune, and a harem.

In Old Luo's fantasy, Li Xiu finally understood why football was so prevalent in Tyrone City.

The City Lord of Tyrone controlled a trial ground called the "Gate of the Mad Ball," unlike the Sea Heaven Trial Ground; the Mad Ball Trial Ground was almost entirely developed, with trial projects having been thoroughly understood, minimizing danger. Unless trying suicidal final trials, generally the risks were small.

The trials at the Mad Ball Trial Ground were all football-related, explaining why football was so popular in Tyrone City.

The Tyrone City Lord used the football league to select Trial Takers, helping him earn Demon Cores within the Mad Ball Trial Ground.

Li Xiu originally had no interest in the Mad Ball Trial Ground but was intrigued by something Old Luo said inadvertently.

Chapter 37: Chapter 37 Possible Reasons

"The rewards from the Mad Ball Trial Ground can turn an ordinary person into a Magic Armor Master?" Li Xiu asked Old Luo incredulously.

"Yes, currently, Tyrone City's top Magic Armor Master, Kun Sha, was initially a Trial Taker. It was because he passed the trials at the Mad Ball Trial Ground that he became a Magic Armor Master, and the City Lord rewarded him with a set of S-grade Demon Armor. It's a noble profession, being a Magic Armor Master; who doesn't want to be wealthy, have honor and status? Unfortunately, I lack the talent, otherwise I too would want to give it a shot at the Mad Ball Trial Ground..." Old Luo said regretfully, unclear if he lamented his lack of talent or the missed fame and fortune.

"This is quite interesting." Li Xiu mused.

At Sea Heaven Trial Ground, although Li Xiu was attracted by the bizarre trial grounds and magical rewards, he still didn't understand why his good friend insisted he should become a Trial Taker even on his deathbed.

The Trial Ground is indeed magical, and those rewards are tempting indeed, but they don't have much impact on Magic Armor Masters, whose combat strength ultimately depends on their armor and control skills.

Li Xiu thought perhaps the mysterious entrance ticket might be the reason his friend urged him to become a Trial Taker, but he hadn't fully grasped what the ticket's destination entailed.

He only knew that hitting the Metal Coffin with the Blood Pattern Revolver would yield items, currently known to be Demon Cores and Skill Rings.

Li Xiu hadn't used the Skill Ring yet, so he was unsure about its level.

The three Demon Cores, although not yet assessed, seemed of varying levels to Li Xiu's experienced eye.

One of the Demon Cores had significantly lower energy, at most D-grade, possibly even E-grade, while the other two could range from B-grade to S-grade, requiring assessment to verify.

If Demon Core drops are random and can appear at any level, then what about Skill Rings? If Skill Rings are also random, then theoretically, with enough luck or shots, one could acquire numerous Skill Rings, possibly even S-grade ones.

Besides Demon Cores and Skill Rings, could there be other items?

All these questions intrigued Li Xiu, urging him to explore further.

Unfortunately, Sea Heaven Trial Ground was inaccessible for the time being, but that wasn't a major issue.

Li Xiu's physical condition wasn't sufficient to wield the Blood Pattern Revolver repeatedly; even with self-harming methods, he couldn't sustain many shots and might harm his body, rendering the risk unworthy.

Li Xiu initially planned to improve his physical condition before seeking an opportunity to head to Sea Heaven Trial Ground.

Suddenly hearing that someone acquired the talent to become a Magic Armor Master through the Trial Ground piqued Li Xiu's interest immensely.

"Old Luo, what are the conditions to join your football league here?" Li Xiu inquired.

"No conditions; anyone can join, even outsiders, as long as a team is willing to accept you," Old Luo lowered his voice mysteriously, "Have you played football before? If you have, you might want to try it out. Even if you don't become a noble Magic Armor Master, trying as a Trial Taker can yield some benefits, like body strengthening. Our neighbor Old Wang participated once, and his body transformed remarkably after the trial; his wife hears him late into the night, more potent than Indian God Oil..."

"Played a few times, not bad, I suppose." Li Xiu cut the conversation short, uninterested in hearing more.

"You're thinking of going to the Mad Ball Trial Ground?" A Fei asked Li Xiu.

She was puzzled, as Li Xiu was already a powerful Magic Armor Master, why risk participating in trials.

"This is the Southern Cross Federation, far away from the Space City of God. Plus, there's no direct flight to Space City, nor high-speed trains or any such transport; even roads have been destroyed by magic spirits. If you want to meet that God, we'd have to traverse land ourselves. Before that, I need to obtain a set of advanced Demon Armor, because if we encounter magic spirits in the wilderness, we'd face near-certain death." Li Xiu explained.

"What's the relation to you going to Mad Ball Trial Ground? Don't we have enough Demon Cores from the base for you to buy Demon Armor? If you're short, my collection is available for you." A Fei offered placing her bag of Demon Cores before Li Xiu.

"It's not about Demon Cores. For instance, if you're an ordinary person and suddenly ask someone to sell you a nuclear bomb, do you think they'd sell it to you? Demon Armor is the same, especially advanced ones; they're not something you can buy just because you have money, you need connections first." Li Xiu explained patiently.

"If it's true what Old Luo said, Mad Ball Trial Ground has rewards that allow one to become a Magic Armor Master. Whether or not I actually obtain the reward, I can declare that I received the talent to become a Magic Armor Master and awakened such

talent. Even if the Tyrone City Lord doesn't gift me a Demon Armor, I can still rightfully purchase one from him."

A Fei understood the reasoning and nodded, "What if the Tyrone City Lord doesn't sell to you?"

"Even if he doesn't, strengthening my body at the trial is better than waiting for a chance here, right?" Li Xiu laughed.

"I want to go too." A Fei immediately said.

"Let me check the situation first." After dinner, Li Xiu went out, using money to make things happen, soon fully understanding the circumstances within.

In Tyrone City, there are twelve football teams, mostly controlled by wealthy and influential persons in Tyrone City, with complex underlying interests.

The twelve football teams primarily provide labor for the Tyrone City Lord, but not just any labor.

Because lower-level trials at the Mad Ball Trial Ground are easily passed, and even those unaware of football can pass trials if physically fit.

High-level trials are different, where mere physical prowess isn't enough, unless one has extraordinarily high physical standards.

Such Trial Takers are rare and incapable of mass-source Demon Cores.

Thus, the Tyrone City Lord greatly needs skilled Trial Takers to maximize Demon Core acquisition.

After all, E-grade trials only reward E-grade Demon Cores, and likewise for other levels; securing high-level Demon Cores demands passing advanced trials.

Though difficult, it's easier than slaying magical spirits.

Behind the twelve football teams are wealthy bosses earning sizable benefits, hence intensely recruiting, never missing talented players, even establishing youth training camps and children's football bases, nurturing from a young age.

Chapter 38: Chapter 38: Any Position Works

"This is truly sinful!" Li Xiu couldn't believe that the trial supposedly doesn't require any people to die. Even for the well-understood Trial Ground, someone would die during advanced trials. This was Li Xiu's own experience.

For trials below C level, with good control, no one might die; but for trials above C level, sometimes you simply couldn't avoid people dying.

Starting soccer training from a young age wasn't much different from training Death Warriors.

Of course, the background and interest chain of the twelve soccer teams were far more complex and darker than Li Xiu had gathered.

Li Xiu was just a passerby now, unable to change anything, so he could only take care of himself first. He planned to try his luck with a nearby soccer team.

The soccer team's field was much more rundown than Li Xiu had imagined. It's hard to believe that in such a city where soccer was so popular, a league team didn't even have a professional soccer stadium.

The field was in a large courtyard, and outside, many kids were peeping over the wall watching the players train inside.

At the gate hung a sign that read "Madman Soccer Team."

Next to the gate was a table with a tattered white cloth bearing the words "Recruiting Players."

Behind the table sat a nearly spherical fat man, head down, playing with his phone.

"Are you recruiting players here?" Li Xiu walked up to the table and asked the fat man.

"Yes, what position do you play?" The fat man lowered his phone, raised his head, and scrutinized Li Xiu.

"What positions are available?" Li Xiu genuinely didn't know what soccer positions there were; he hadn't bothered to learn about them.

"You don't even know what positions there are; what kind of mess are you trying to make here?" The fat man said with a displeased face.

"I'm saying I can play any position; does the team have an available spot?" Li Xiu didn't want to change teams anymore, going back and forth wasting time, so he forced an explanation.

Anyway, he just wanted to catch the City Lord of Tyrone City's attention through a team to participate in the trial, it didn't matter which team it was.

"Any position? Can you be a goalkeeper?" The fat man spoke in a bad tone, eyebrows raised as if in provocation.

"I can." Li Xiu nodded earnestly.

He was indeed capable as a goalkeeper; when it came to trajectory judgement, no one was more adept than Li Xiu. As long as the opponent's ball speed wasn't too fast for his body to react, blocking a ball wasn't difficult.

"Alright, register and come with me, we'll have a try-out first." The fat man took out a form for Li Xiu to register, mainly the name, place of origin, and such.

After registering, the fat man just glanced at it without asking anything, then brought Li Xiu into the courtyard.

"Baal, this brother is here to try out as a goalkeeper, give him a test." The fat man said to a burly man in the field training like a tank.

The sturdy man wasn't exceptionally tall, about 1.8 meters, but his body was built like a bull, running like a tank.

"Fatty, just him? Really?" Baal gave Li Xiu a once-over, then disdainfully turned his head and questioned the fat man.

"Whether he can or can't, try it and you'll know." The fat man pursed his lips.

The fat man knew well that not just anyone could be a goalkeeper.

Previously, being a goalkeeper might not have been dangerous, but now you couldn't know how many body-enhanced Trial Takers were on the field, some even possessing skills.

Who knew what kind of balls they could kick out, there were countless cases of goalkeepers being crippled on the field, many teams replacing three or five goalkeepers in a season was normal.

Trial Takers without a particularly high degree of body enhancement playing as goalkeeper was no different from courting death.

The fat man mistakenly thought Li Xiu was too boastful, sincerely wanting to teach him a lesson, hence he let Baal, with tremendous power, give him a trial.

If Baal's kicked ball was close enough, it could kill someone. In previous matches, there had been a goalkeeper who had his sternum shattered by Baal's kicked ball, piercing into his heart, dying right there on the field.

Li Xiu changed into the jersey and gloves, standing at the goalkeeper position.

Baal placed the ball at the penalty spot, the fat man standing outside didn't stop him, wearing a face ready for a spectacle.

Seeing Li Xiu standing in front of the goal posing to save, the fat man thought inwardly, "At such a close distance, if you don't catch it, then forget it; but if you do catch it, you'll probably be half dead even if you survive."

"Fatty, who is this guy you're letting Baal trial him and even kick penalty shots; isn't this just trying to kill him?" The players who were training gathered around, one among them laughed and spoke to the fat man.

The fat man pursed his lips and said, "Don't speak nonsense; how can this be killing him? The guy himself said he can play any position, no matter how he kicks, it's not a problem."

"Oh wow, such bragging rights, huh?" The players laughed, such words only uttered by someone who hadn't woken up or had a problematic mind.

Bam!

While they were talking, Baal took two small running steps and kicked towards the soccer ball.

The ball held no technique but charged straight at Li Xiu's chest, the ball's tearing of the air creating a humming sound, the strength enough to make people shiver.

At such a close distance with such speed, dodging seemed impossible.

Li Xiu didn't intend to dodge, directly using both hands to tip the ball over the goalpost.

"Strong force!" Though using skill to tip the football away, Li Xiu still felt a slight numbness in his hands from the impact.

"Not too bad!" A player seated on the bench spoke, drawing all players' attention to him.

Getting this person's compliment was already a rare occurrence.

This was Kun Sha, the man who became a Magic Armor Master through the Mad Ball Trial, holding dual identities as Tyrone City's top Magic Armor Master and top player.

Originally, such a person didn't need to participate in football matches; but unlike those seeking fame through football, Kun Sha genuinely loved playing, so even as the city's top Magic Armor Master, he still frequently participated in matches.

"Baal, test a few properly, don't mess around." Hearing Kun Sha speak, the fat man quickly shouted to Baal.

Baal grimaced in a twisted way at the fat man, bizarrely replying, "Aren't I testing properly?"

"Oh no, Baal's old problem is back, should I go stop him?" The fat man looked at Kun Sha for advice.

Though he was the team manager, he could only manage regular players; for big shots like Kun Sha, he could only lick boots.

"No need, Baal won't kill him." Kun Sha lay back on the bench, covering his face with a towel, speaking casually.

"Won't kill him?" Though this was spoken by Kun Sha, the fat man and other players didn't quite believe.

They knew Baal's strength well; especially when looking at Baal's expression, anyone familiar knew his frantic old problem was back, and Baal was very frightening at such moments.