

Wizard: Starting With the Knights Breathing Method

#Chapter 11: Black Jar and Lamp Spirit - Read Wizard: Starting With the Knights Breathing Method Chapter 11: Black Jar and Lamp Spirit

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The lid of the jar popped open by itself, and a strange black smoke crawled out of it. The smoke quickly rose and distorted into a vaguely human figure.

What witchcraft is this?! Baron Bill yelled, swinging his hammer towards the smoke.

The Hog Rider stared.

The hammer passed through the smoke, hitting the ground with a loud thud.

Baron Wolf slashed his sword through the smoke, but it also passed through the smoke. His eyes widened as he yelled, Bill, this is an evil spirit! We need to run

Before he could finish speaking, two streams of black smoke penetrated their nostrils.

Baron Bills arms glowed with black light, and a strange howl resounded from his body.

It seemed that he was fighting for dominance against the smoke as he thrashed around in its grip, but Baron Bill soon lost the brilliance in his face, and the same happened to Baron Wolf.

The two of them fell to the ground, their eyes and mouths wide open in horror.

It seemed as if their energy was sapped out of their bodies in an instant, and wisps of white smoke were siphoned from their bodies into the jar, feeding into its physical form.

The two knights might look alive, but they were very much dead.

The evil spirit retreated into its jar, and a strange, otherworldly voice could be heard: I am very satisfied with this transaction. As promised, I shall make a move for your Brotherhood. The next trade will cost you three knights.

The evil spirits voice pounded in both of their ears.

The Hog Rider lowered his head and whispered, Yes, Spirit of the Lamp.

As we have discussed, the Hog Rider said coldly. The three of you were attacked by a legendary evil spirit, and both barons perished in battle. Only by the Holy Brilliance of the Loving Father did you escape with your life.

I understand, Baron Fox replied. But would they believe it?

It doesn't matter if they don't; no one will come for you. The church will use your words as a means to spread its word. The King himself will secretly be relieved that he doesn't have to oversee two barons anymore. Besides, you could simply show them their bodies; it would be impossible to explain how they died. It's a pity that the Black Snake Knight did not join us today, but as promised, here are your thousand gold coins. Pleasure doing business with you, and may chaos be with us.

Baron Fox waited until the Hog Rider left before sighing and picking up the bag of gold coins.

For his small territory, this was worth almost ten years of revenue.

With this money, he could easily purchase dozens of pieces of high-quality knight armour. Even at the risk of being discovered by the church, he had to.

That evil spirit. It seemed like Baron Bill was able to fight against it for a short while, but he died within seconds.

Baron Fox had lingering fears about how invincible the evil spirit was.

No matter. Now that the Brotherhood has come into possession of evil spirits, it is time for the Kingdom and the Church to suffer.

Winter was approaching, and Baron Fox had to do anything to become as strong as possible before winter fell.

Levi learnt by word of mouth that Baron Bill and Baron Wolf had encountered an evil spirit and died suddenly.

Levi could feel a drop of cold sweat running down his forehead.

It's good I didn't go, then. Even if the rumours aren't true, I'm sure Baron Fox had ill intentions.

He was dubious about the rumours. He knew evil spirits existed, but seeing that Baron Fox was still alive made him suspicious.

But Levi had more things to worry about.

Knights cant deal with them. That is something for wizards to deal with. Magic must be dealt with using magic.

Spring was over, and the summer of the Fire Moon was here.

After more than a month, the Churchs investigation into the deaths of Baron Bill and Baron Wolf came to a conclusion.

They were killed by an evil spirit.

For a moment, the country fell into a state of panicfor the longest time, evil spirits were mere urban legends, a lie that adults told to scare restless children. Now, its existence has been confirmed by the Church itself.

The Pope warmly reminded the people to always keep the Churchs Holy Radiance Badge close to them. This was how Baron Fox survived the ordeal.

Coincidentally, the price of these badges increased sharplyfrom the mere price of one gold coin to a hundred gold coins.

Nobles and aristocrats bit the bullet and bought them; none of them felt at ease without wearing one.

Meanwhile, the Blackwater Valley was largely unbothered by this.

Chapter 12: Farming is a Beautiful Thing

In the Blackwater Valley, a lush forest grew.

A river passed through it.

The crops in the territory were all growing fruitfully this year as the alpine waters that were rich in minerals fertilized them. It was a pity they could only plant one type of crop.

Everything was going smoothly, but Levi cursed himself for having no science or engineering background. Productivity and efficiency would be greatly improved if he knew how to integrate science into these processes.

Otherwise, he could be like the protagonists in other stories, being able to begin scientific revolutions thanks to their knowledge.

All he could do was learn by experience.

In this world, he wanted to pursue immortality. Becoming the lord of the land was but a stepping stone to this.

August: the month of the furnace.

It was hot in the South, but the Blackwater Valleys had the perfect temperature.

Knight Fred led his men to build canals that directed the rivers waters into the village, so the crops grew very well this year.

Levi called on his serfs to fish in the river for food and to sell.

Levi didnt venture out into the river on his own, however. He was deathly paranoid about encountering an evil spirit.

Levis strength grew day by day, and he needed to consume more and more meat. Levi could consume enough meat for ten people in a single day, but this is wasteful, so he thought of eating fish.

The fish in the river were mostly cold-water fish, like perch and salmon. It was delicious and rich in fat, which sustained Levi greatly.

He taught the chefs how to handle and cook the fishsteamed, braised, grilled, etc. Although it wasnt as delicious as the ones in his past life, it was good despite the lack of seasoning and spices.

Knight Fred also began eating fish after discovering how delicious it was. In the eyes of nobles and knights, fish was a low-grade food. This obviously shocked him, seeing a noble like Levi eat fish to save on costs.

Soon, the wheat turned gold, and the joy of the harvest was evident on Levis face.

Today was his weekly rest day, and he drank wine as he watched his serfs harvest the wheat at the foot of the mountain.

The weather was incredibly good, and he was confident that this years wheat output would be much higher than last years.

However, when the Harvest Moon (October) came, he was dumbfounded.

The output had increased by less than one per cent.

He sent for Knight Fred to investigate immediately.

Looking at the data from previous years, he found an interesting phenomenon.

No matter what, wheat production remains more or less the same throughout the years.

He discovered it was due to some draconian policy: serfs were considered the private property of the lord. A serfs income, whether it be wheat or other products, was to be handed over to their lord. Then, their lord would hand it over to their lord, and vice versa.

Over time, the serfs found that their job had no purpose and became lazy. Levi felt it was necessary to change this policy.

He called upon Knight Fred and was surprised to hear his thoughts.

This has been our culture, young master. How about punishing the serfs to meet a target? Then, theyll be motivated to do so.

Levi shook his head: No. We are not to punish them. We are to keep them well fed.

No harm in trying.

The Harvest Moon passed, and a new policy was implemented.

The women ran from house to house, yelling at their neighbours about the great news.

Listen up! Our lord announced that next year, from the start, each household only needs to hand over 60% of the wheat we harvested, and the rest belongs to us!

The serfs were stunned.

Is that true? Is he lying to us?

Are you questioning his authority?

N-no

In order to dispel their worries, Levi himself gave a speech to the people, announcing the decree. Hearing this, the serfs were overjoyed. For the first time in their lives, they felt that life was perhaps worth living.

In the blink of an eye, it was the month of the northern winds again.

On the training ground, Levis arms shook and distorted his surroundings, and his Frostmourne shone with a shiny lustre.

The hard, black stone before him was finely sliced into four pieces with a single, swift slash.

[Golden Cross Proficiency +1]

And the system beeped, indicating that he had levelled up.

Finally!

Levi Snyder

Black Snake Breathing Method: Level 2 (4502/5000)

Golden Cross: Level 3 (1/10000); Special Effect: Vibrate (Advanced)

Chapter 13: Storm Emperor and the Seven Gods

Levi felt addicted to this newfound power.

I must be fully capable of fighting against a QuasiKnight! I cant do that, however. Blood will be shed.

Levi put his sword away; it had been a year since he started practising his breathing method. He should be able to reach Level 3 by the end of this year.

At that time, he would become a Quasi Knight in the true sense.

All he had to do was condense the seeds of life to become an official knight.

That means he will have the power to defend himself and step into the ranks of powerful people in this world.

In general, breathing techniques are often harder to cultivate than weaponry.

He decided to continue training after a short celebration.

It was repetitive, boring even, but each time he saw the +1 appear on his proficiency panel, he felt that it was all worth it.

The month of winter soon came. It had been three years since the Millennium War broke out between the Emerald Kingdom and the Tuva Empire.

Small-scale conflicts continued between the two countries.

In essence, it wasnt the countries at war but the church.

The Holy Church believes in the Heavenly Father, while the Storm Church believes in the Storm Emperor. In order to expand their own influence, they want to expand their territories. Of course, it is difficult.

Today, there are seven large kingdoms and empires, and each of the people has their own beliefs.

Various forces are constantly fighting against each other peace simply isn't an option for them.

The purpose of the churches in these seven countries is to spread their faith. Therefore, the evolution of civilization seems inseparable from religion.

Meanwhile, in the Blackwater Valley

In the dense forest, hundreds of mountain wolves surrounded a giant silver-white bear who had just woken up from hibernation.

The bear stood at a height of 1.8 meters, and it was as long as 4 meters.

This was the beast of the North the Dire Bear of the North.

In adulthood, they are as strong as knights, and the best among them is as strong as a high-levelled knight.

Opposite the bear, the Wolf King leads the wolves. They are far inferior to the bear, however. But they have a numerical advantage.

However, even a pack of hundreds of wolves rarely provokes a giant bear.

This year's food has been relatively scarce for them, though.

This was originally the Wolf King's territory, but the female bear broke into it and competed with it, hunting its wolves from time to time.

Today, while the bear was hibernating, the Wolf King planned to deal with the female bear once and for all.

Unexpectedly, the bear was vigilant even in its hibernation. It wanted to run, but of course, the wolves caught up with ease.

Of course, it would not back down without a fight. It stood on its hind legs, and the wolves saw it as a god towering over them.

Many wolves began to retreat, but the Wolf King roared in order to boost his people's morale.

And the wolves and the bear fought against each other.

Countless mountain wolves pounced towards the bear, and the bear would slap them away. The wolves who didnt dodge its slap would be splattered into a pile of gore instantly.

Even a knight in armour would succumb to shattered bones.

In the end, the bear died after killing one-third of the Wolf Kings pack.

The Wolf King pounced forward, biting into the neck of the bear, and the wolves immediately pounced forward to enjoy their meal.

The bears roar sounded through the forest; there could only be one ruler in this territory.

This bear should be able to last the pack for about a month. What the Wolf King didnt know was that, in a den more than ten miles away, three little bears the size of calves cried out in the direction of their mothers cries, running aimlessly and in a panic.

They were born in this spring season; bears need more than seven years to mature, and they are less than a year old. They were big, but they had no idea how to hunt.

All they could do was sneak into human villages at night and scrape at the garbage to eat.

These three bears followed each other aimlessly, stumbling towards the Blackwater Valley, and what greeted them after was still unknown.

Living was difficult.

Chapter 14: Grimm's Travels and Witch Rollins

The New Year cameever since Baron Wolf and Baron Bill died, evil spirit attacks had been reported from time to time.

The Church responded by developing holy water, which was said to be effective against evil spirits.

You only needed to consume it once every seven days, and you would be able to prevent all the evils.

The first 3,000 bottles that were produced were sold out within a week, and they had zero negative reviews.

Levi thought that the nobles were really easy to deceive, but he couldnt exactly blame themthe Church had power over them.

Just how am I going to locate a wizard?

Levi rummaged through some books in his fathers study room, attempting to look for an answer. So far, this world has not developed paper yet, so books were made of parchment made from animal skin.

Ultimately, he found nothing.

Knight Fred hurried into the study with a smile and said, Master, I have brought you a birthday present that is beyond your imagination.

Levi was curious as to what gift Fred had gotten him; it was unusual to see him this excited. He saw Knight Fred ordering his men to push a cage with wheels and a curtain obscuring it.

Knight Fred lifted the veil, and three furry creatures could be seen curled up in a corner.

Bears? Levi asked.

Master, this is no ordinary bear, Knight Fred smiled. This is the cub of the Great Northern Bear!

Excuse me? Levi was stunned. How did they catch these ferocious beasts?

Last night, a peasant woman discovered something had sneaked into her yard and eaten her chickens; she yelled for the military, and they captured them. They may be young, but they were difficult to catch.

The bears were grey, black and white, and white. Knight Fred held the black and white one by the neck, and it bared its teeth and claws, trying to attack him.

The bear had chicken feathers stuck by its mouth too.

The other two cubs whimpered, seemingly worried for their sibling. These bears were strangely skinny, too.

Where is their mother? Levi asked. Wont she follow her cubs scent?

No worries, It seems like their mother died or abandoned them. The bears are currently in hibernation, so something must have happened to her. Each cub is worth about a hundred gold coins on the market, and many nobles have been seeking to tame them. Their reasoning is that they would like to own a beast that is as strong as a knight to protect them.

Levi scoffed, and Knight Fred chuckled: I suggest we raise these bears ourselves.

Alright, put them in the castle. We'll send some people to look after them; the grey one will be called Grey, the white one will be called Snow, and this black and white one Fatty. We shall feed this one the most.

Levi entrusted the cubs to his servants. It would take about seven years for them to mature, and he wasn't even sure if they would be useful until then. He decided it was best to rely on his own strength.

Sending the growling and screaming bears away, Levi asked Knight Fred, Knight Fred, have you encountered any books that speak of wizards?

You seem interested in wizards, Knight Fred smiled. I've sent someone to look for them; the books you speak of only detail them as a legend. Here's one book I got from a wandering trader.

Grimms Travels

The author was a person named Green.

Levi returned to his room and read it from the beginning.

Green stated that he was a travelling businessman from the City of Storms, and he mostly just recorded some anecdotes that he heard during his journeys as a businessman. One of these was about wizards.

In the 847th year of the Holy Calendar, a merchant ship I was on was wrecked due to a storm. I held onto a piece of wood and prayed to the Loving Father; perhaps it was because of my pious belief that I survived and washed up on an unnamed island. I was hungry and thirsty on that island, but that island housed magical creatures that subverted my imagination.

A three-legged toad with a beautiful face plastered on its back; a swan with six pairs of majestic wings, just like a seraph as the Church had told us; a mushroom that spoke the human language, and it fed me pieces of itself as I was starving; and I remembered a beautiful lady sitting next to me as I fell asleep by the mushroom.

I don't remember what happened after that. I found myself on a fishing boat when I awakened, and they said they found me floating on a wooden board, unconscious, but I know for a fact that I was on that island. Perhaps I met a wizard; only wizards are able to create such strange and magnificent creatures! And with that mushroom, the stubborn diseases that plagued me were healed in an instant; I felt younger and stronger. And that woman, that witch she must've saved me. I wanted to look for the island to thank her, but the island disappeared, and my hair was greying.

I left everything behind to look for this island; my family, friends. And they said I was crazy, but I know what I saw. I sold my mansion in the Emerald Kingdom. Perhaps the

eighth time is the charm. Before going to sea, I will write down everything I have experienced and publish the books at my own expense. If I cannot find her, I hope that the people who read this will find her in my stead.

That mushroom spoke to her in my limbo. I remembered her name as clear as dayRollins.

Chapter 15: Levi the Quasi-Knight

The City of Storms. That's where my father was born.

What Green had described was perfectly in line with Levi's imagination of wizardsw weird, powerful, yet mysterious all at the same time!

I can't rule out that Green was crazy, though. No matter what, the sea near the City of Storms may be a clue for me.

Levi noted this down silently and opened some other travel notes. None of them talked about wizards, and he found no helpful clues within them, so he burnt them all.

If only there was the Internet here

He then devoted the rest of his time to training. He was very close to breaking through Level 3 of his breathing method by the end of this month. He could become a Quasi Knight in no time.

During this period of time, he would visit the bear pen to check on their physical conditions.

If all three of them survive, then he will have three knights by his side. He wouldn't need a war horse by then, and he could commission a set of armour just for the bear.

Imagining himself riding into battle with an armoured bear made him ecstatic just thinking about it.

A bear is such a fitting mount in such a magical world!

Three military men were specifically tasked to take care of them around the clock, feeding them fish, wolf meat, venison, and goat's milk daily. Occasionally, some vegetables would be given so that they wouldn't die due to a lack of nutrition.

Levi interacted with them daily, planning to tame them through familiarity.

No matter what, mammals will always develop attachments at an early age.

Levi purchased a book from a wandering traveller on animal taming, An Introduction to Animal Taming in the Clown Circus, including some works by scholars of the kingdom who studied Giant Bears.

To Levi's surprise, after he had read the book, an extra skill appeared on his proficiency panel:

Levi Snyder

Black Snake Breathing Method: Level 2 (4899/5000)

Golden Cross: Level 3 (56/10000); Special Effect: Vibrate (Advanced)

Beast Taming: Level 1 (66/1000)

My god.

Levi was dumbfounded. He didn't know his panel would log different skills into itself like that. No matter what, he had learnt a new skill, which made him very happy. Moreover, it was practical and functional.

In order to verify his panel, he asked Knight Fred to buy all books related to animal taming from all over the country.

[Karens Beast Taming Handbook]

[Notes of Taming in the Royal Circus]

[Guide to Beast Taming]

And he bought these books at a very high price.

In this era, the price of books was very high, but in order to cultivate himself, Levi could only spend money.

This puzzled Knight Fred.

Master, are you planning to become an animal trainer?

No, I just want to use the correct method to tame these bears. These little guys are too wild, don't you think? Every time I visit them, they growl at me.

We're running out of money, young master. We only have sixty-eight gold coins in our bank now, he shrugged.

Don't worry. I have a plan for that.

Levi was still using his own methods to tame animals: food. No bear was going to refuse the smell of delicious, roasted venison soaked in honey.

They might be apprehensive toward Levi, but they would never refuse his food.

Seven days later, Levi's breathing method hit Level 3, his limbs instantly felt stronger, and his breathing rate was far higher than usual. The oxygen content in his blood rose sharply, and his physical fitness was off the charts. In the cold winter, white steam would emit from his body.

He has finally reached the standard of a Quasi Knight, and he opens his proficiency panel.

Levi Snyder

Black Snake Breathing Method: Level 3 (1/10000)

Finally.

Levi breathed a sigh of relief. Now it was time to gather the seeds of life to become an official knight.

Only 1% of Quasi Knights become qualified knights. He reminded himself.

Levi moved his muscles, feeling the surge of power within them.

He felt as though he did not need armour, and he could take on five mountain wolves with ease. He was as strong as three ordinary adult men, and upon lifting up his clothes, it revealed a rock-solid eight-pack that shone with a bronze lustre.

No ordinary person should hurt me with their hands and feet now, he thought. His breathing method has carried him incredibly far.

He estimates that he is five times as fit as an ordinary adult, which is similar to that of Knight Fred.

To become a Great Knight like his father and to be ten times as fit as an ordinary person was simply a dream that he was getting closer and closer to.