

Wizard: Starting With the Knights Breathing Method

Chapter 16: Secrets of Getting Rich: Forging

The year 1005 of the Holy Calendar: the month of Germination.

It has been a few days since Levi's breathing method hit Level 3.

During this time, Levi carefully studied every book that mentioned wizards and books related to animal taming that Knight Fred brought him.

And soon, his proficiency in animal taming improved rapidly.

He was surprised he could improve his proficiency simply by reading.

It didn't take long for him to level up.

Levi Synder

Beast Taming: Level 2 (1/5000)

And it wasn't like he read a lot of books either.

There are many circuses in the Emerald Kingdom, and different circuses have different experiences related to animal taming. Every time Levi opens a book, he gains knowledge: about different nationalities, those in urban areas or the wild parts of the country. Every single one of them had different methods of taming animals.

In addition to reading, he would apply some of the theories he learnt to his three bears, increasing his proficiency.

As for his breathing method, this month alone, his proficiency has only increased by the hundreds.

If he were to reach the 10,000 mark under normal circumstances, it would take about two years.

I need to get the Black Snake Medicine on the agenda soon

Levi began to have a headache regarding this. Now, the cash flow of Blackwater Valley is only a few dozen gold coins.

The hundreds of animals are worth no more than one hundred gold coins, but they will never be sold. They are a great source of dairy and meat.

And Levi wouldnt dare to fish anymore.

How am I going to get rich quick? Rather, how can I use my proficiency panel to get rich?

At this moment, Knight Fred walked in and whispered with a frown, Master Levi, Milan asked about his father again.

His father is doing fine in the Wild Boar Gang, Levi simply replied. Hes the chief blacksmith for them now; well save him soon enough, but with our current situation

It was as if something tipped off in Levis head. He beckoned Knight Fred to follow him, and the two of them rode the only horse straight towards Milans house.

It has been more than a year since Milans father was kidnapped, and his Lord has yet to keep his promise.

Milan, Levi greeted as he stepped off the horse, dusting off his black cloak. Are you still worried about your father?

Yes, my Lord, Milan cautiously said as he knelt on the ground.

Levi helped him up.

I understand how you feel, but your father is safe in the Wild Boar Gang. We simply do not have the resources to start a fight with them; if we had fifty sets of armour for our knights, I wouldve led an army of men straight into the Wild Boar Gang and rescued your father.

Fifty sets? Milan trembled.

In this world, fifty sets of armour are incredibly difficult to obtain. Even the Earls, who are richer than Levi, may not be able to afford this.

Moreover, Milans blacksmithing experience isnt enough to craft armour. Only his father had the experience to do so, and even then, he could only craft two sets of armour per year. Fifty sets of armour are simply unachievable.

But do not fret; I shall do my best to help you, Levi smiled. Starting tomorrow, you will move into the castle and teach me the techniques of forging and smelting.

H-huh? B-but, my Lord, how could I possibly burden you with something so dirty?

Levi simply smiled at him.

Milan led Levi inside and watched his forging process carefully. He took the only book on forging from the blacksmiths store and left with Knight Fred.

Are you really planning to learn how to forge? Knight Fred seemingly made fun of Levi.

Yes.

In this world of war, most territories have self-sufficient economies sustained by small farmers.

Levi thought about it: if agriculture is the main economic driver, then Blackwater Valley simply cannot compete with them.

However, there is definitely a good prospect in blacksmithingforging anything from agricultural tools to weapons or even armour.

And as a lord who leads his people, he knows how valuable weaponry is.

If this goes through, then he will not be short on money.

And he was confident because of his proficiency panelan extra skill appeared on his panel.

Levi Snyder

Forging: Level 1 (1/1000)

For the longest time, Levi was limited by how nobles worked in this world, where all physical tasks were taken care of by servants, so he never thought of using his proficiency panel to practise these tasks.

Now, he is short on money, and his territory lacks talent and resources.

When he was observing Milan working, it was no surprise when a new skill popped up in his proficiency panel.

And as long as it can appear on his proficiency panel, anything he does is easy.

In the next few days, Levi sent people to move the blacksmith shop into his castle. He also tasked them to build a personal blast furnace, so he could learn forging in his downtime.

Milan was flattered; he never expected that the Lord would be willing to be his apprentice. He seems in touch with the people.

Levi needs to cultivate himself; he needs to become stronger.

In just a month, Levi's forging skills have reached Level 2.

This was much faster than he imagined and much easier than combat.

In his previous life, Levi once heard that if someone were to focus on one thing for a thousand hours, they could easily master many things. After all, time is the best teacher, and the potential of human beings is far greater than imagined.

Combined with his proficiency panel, everything he sows, he reaps instantly.

Three months later, he successfully forged a high-quality sword, which was about the same quality as the one Milan gave him.

Of course, these high-quality goods could only be regarded as garbage in his previous life. This is because there is no high-quality iron to forge the sword from.

And Levi has no idea how to fix this. His proficiency panel cannot change the quality of raw materials.

This made Milan taste the difference in skill between him and his Lord.

Chapter 17: Level 3 Beast Taming, [Heart of the Wild]

Time flies like an arrow, and the sun and the moon shuffle against one another like a shuttle.

Practising his breathing method, sword skills, blacksmithing, reading, looking after his bears. This mundane cycle repeated on and on, and the days of his cultivation went by quickly.

On the training ground, Levi and Knight Fred dashed around, competing against each other. Knight Fred used only one hand, and even then, his attacks were difficult for Levi to parry.

In the end, Levi was defeated.

Not bad. Last year, you could only last a minute; this year, you lasted five.

Enough with the flattery, Levi chuckled, fully knowing Knight Fred didn't even use a fraction of his strength.

Levi was absolutely no match for Knight Fred's sheer strength. After training, he left, and Knight Fred continued to train the military.

Levi sat down and opened his proficiency panel.

Levi Snyder

Black Snake Breathing Method: Level 3 (3666/10000)

Golden Cross: Level 3 (4399/10000) Special Effect: Vibrate [Advanced]

Beast Taming: Level 3 (Max) Special Effect: Heart of the Wild

Forging: Level 3 (1314/10000) Special Effect: High-Quality Forging

In the past year, he made great progress in four major skills.

The slowest and most gruelling was undoubtedly the Black Snake Breathing Method. In one year, he could only fill 3,000 of his proficiency bar. Without the medicine, it'll take at least two years for him to reach the fourth level.

This speed was admirable, but it wasn't enough for Levi.

This world is dangerous; if you have no strength, you can only humble yourselves and hide in the background.

The progression of the Golden Cross was fast as well. After another year or so, he'll be able to master the power of Ripple soon enough.

Then he'll be able to fight against Knight Fred, even if he's just a Quasi-Knight.

Beast Taming has reached its limit: Levi has read almost all the books on animal taming available on the market. Now, he was confident that he was the Master of Animal Taming.

To Levi's surprise, a special effect appeared after he finished levelling up his Beast Taming skill.

[Heart of the Wild: You can gauge the intentions of most beasts by observing their body language and sounds. You can also use your own body language to communicate with beasts perfectly.]

This change was great—the bears were no longer apprehensive towards Levi but instead treated him like family. He could also perceive the thoughts of the bears, which was heart-warming to him.

Therefore, with such powerful skills, the three cubs were all well taken care of by Levi, and their body sizes underwent earth-shaking changes within a year. They were nearly two metres in length and weighed over 300 kilogrammes.

An adult man can no longer subdue them without a weapon. Even just a firm slap from one of them could cripple Levi.

And they were just less than two years old.

Meanwhile, his forging has hit the third level as well.

[High-Quality Goods: Whatever your craft is considered a high-quality good.]

With this effect, his plans to get rich were set in motion.

In the past year, he has crafted a total of a hundred swords, of which fifty were of high quality and were used to arm his own men.

Before hitting Level 3, his swords were only occasionally high-quality, but now, every sword he crafts is a high-quality one.

Compared to Milans father, Toby, his swords would be far inferior to Levis. Levi had the strength and speed of a knight, while Toby was just an ordinary man.

However, if you want to become a forging master in the true sense of the word, forging long swords isnt enough.

Knight armours, which represent the highest achievement of a blacksmith, are the lifelong pursuit of every blacksmith.

Now, he has insufficient iron in his territory. Since iron is an important strategic resource, the Lords who have access to iron ore rarely commence trade with iron.

Levi intends to sell his swords. Then, he must start looking for iron ore in the mountains behind his territory. However, now that the mountains are covered with a blanket of heavy snow, he has to remain dormant until next spring.

Levi stopped forging for a while and devoted himself to breathing and swordsmanship.

The month of Winter soon came.

Levi, who was busy practising his breathing method, was suddenly awakened by the dreadful howling of wolves behind his castle.

And they didnt sound far from his castle.

Just as he was about to investigate, Knight Fred hurried in: Master Levi, our territory is under attack by a pack of wolves. There are about a hundred of them, and much of our livestock have perished. I shall lead some men to deal with them.

Excuse me? Levi's complexion changed. It was normal for a few wolves to infiltrate their territory once in a while, but a hundred?

Putting on their armour, they both rode horses towards the site of the incident.

Levi is now an advanced Quasi-Knight and has mastered the power of [Vibrate]. All of his men were armed with high-quality swords, and Knight Fred was there leading them as well.

There was no way that these beasts wouldn't be subdued!

Chapter 18: The Wolf is Coming

They're coming!

Help us! The wolves!

Cries after cries resounded in Blackwater Valley.

An extremely thin mountain wolf crept around the sheep pens behind a house.

And these gentle, harmless animals were absolutely no match for a vicious, hungry beast.

Charge!

The military soon stomped into battle, holding long swords and donning simple armour woven with rattan and wooden shields. They charged straight into battle to defend the townspeople's livestock, but some found themselves stuck to a single spot.

Sam, who had just joined the military this year, trembled on the spot. Although his performance was the best among the military, he found himself unable to move.

Facing the terrifying mountain wolf that seemed to stare straight into his soul, the sense of oppression overpowered him.

Sam! Get yourself together! a man shouted.

Captain, my legs don't work! Sam cried out, his crotch already wet from fear.

Fear washed over him: fear that was passed down from generation to generation, from civilization to civilization.

The wolf eyed him down and licked its snout; it had not eaten for a month, and it no longer feared the iron tools nor the raging fires created by man. It could only think of eating and

Mom Sam cried out as he closed his eyes.

Thwack!

A sharp arrow pierced through the sky, nailing the mountain wolf on the head with lightning speed.

The mountain wolf whimpered and simply fell to the ground, not even knowing what had happened.

Sam was still in a daze, wondering if he was still alive.

A powerful hand grabbed Sams shoulders, giving him a firm, reassuring grip.

Do not give up; stand up and hold the sword proudly in your hands! Fight with me! Levi encouraged.

Levi leapt away from Sam, and his arm seemed to distort the surroundings.

Slash!

With a single slash, the head of the mountain wolf was cut off, and blood splattered on Levis face.

[Golden Cross Proficiency +3]

Levi licked the blood from the corner of his mouth and shot his bow and arrow, killing a wolf who was devouring the stomach of a cow fifty metres away.

Sam, Knight Fred comforted. No matter how sharp the wolves teeth are, they are no match for the sword in your hand. Fight for your land!

Sam wiped away his tears as he looked at his Lord, slashing away at wolves without fear.

And Levi was five years younger than him.

Sam trembled and dashed forward onto the battlefield.

Knight Fred could see that Levi was drowning in bloodlust and quickly followed behind him.

A large-scale pack like this must have a wolf king in its midst.

Knight Fred believes that the wolf king was lurking, watching.

Sure enough, there was a deep howl that sounded from the mountains.

A wolf the size of a polar bear glared coldly at Levi and Knight Fred.

It could be felt that these two men were incredibly strong.

If those two were not dealt with, the losses of his pack might be much more serious than the time he fought the Great Northern Bear.

And he could smell the scent of bears on the younger mans body.

The Wolf King made up his mind: get rid of these two humans, no matter the cost.

It darted down the mountain, enough to put a cheetah to shame.

At the foot of the mountain, the corpses of many mountain wolves were piling up, but none of them backed down from trying to kill Levi.

However, Knight Fred guarded his side diligently.

Facing these wolves, Knight Fred unleashed his terrifying strength; the sword in his hand was like an impenetrable wall. Any wolf that crosses it is beheaded.

Levi could tell Knight Fred was using a breathing technique as well; in the cold winter, his body emitted white smoke, and his eyes burned with a fierce flame.

Master, something big is coming. I will face it, and you you must protect yourself. Knight Fred ordered coldly and called upon five men to guard Levi.

Levi nodded, and he could see a white blur rushing in the distance. The white figure dashed through three military men, knocking two of them into the air and crushing one of them into bits and pieces.

The Wolf King Levi muttered.

He drew his bow and arrows and shot at the Wolf King immediately.

Levi was confident in his archery but was shocked to see the Wolf King swipe his arrows away without even looking at them.

Knight Fred! Levi yelled. Do not underestimate it!

Chapter 19: Killing the Wolves

Knight Fred sped straight towards the white figure that pounced around the battlefield, and the Wolf King leapt a distance of more than ten metres, slashing his claws towards Knight Fred.

He immediately rolled over to the side and thrust his sword towards the Wolf Kings abdomen. Sure enough, the Wolf King simply twisted its body, dodging the sword like a dexterous cat.

He has never seen a mountain wolf like this before.

Clang!

His claws collided with his long sword.

The Wolf King yelped backwards; he felt a strong force vibrating from Knight Freds sword and knew he could not get hit with it no matter what.

Instead, the Wolf King dodged every single one of Knight Freds attacks, consuming his physical strength.

Knight Fred could see through his strategy and stood still, staring the Wolf King down.

Levi watched the battle between them helplessly. With his current strength, he'd be a bother to Knight Fred. He turned around and continued slashing at the ordinary mountain wolves.

Levi's bow and arrow were like Death himself; wherever he looked, a mountain wolf would die.

Soon, he finished using up all his arrows.

Levi unsheathed his sword and looked around. With his armour, he would be safe if there were just a few wolves surrounding him.

It's just that his men were perishing; their flimsy rattan armour could not defend against the terrifying bite of a mountain wolf.

Many of his men were injured, and he could see some wolves feasting on the corpses of his own men.

Levi could feel himself shaking with rage, and he killed the mountain wolves in a blind rage.

[Golden Cross Proficiency +3]

[Golden Cross Proficiency +2]

[Golden Cross Proficiency +4]

Soon, his armour was stained with wolf blood.

These serfs were pawns for nobles, but they were family to Levi.

He felt powerless knowing how worthless a human life was in this world.

I I need to become stronger!

Levi roared, and so did his stomach.

Damn it, Levi muttered. His breathing method was taking a toll on him. Do you have anything to eat?

The men were obviously taken aback by Levis bloodlust and trembled, N-no! My Lord! Well get you something to eat

No need, Levi simply replied, tearing off the hind legs of a mountain wolf and gnawing on them.

He didnt want to turn into a Mad Knight. If he toyed with this delicate balance, he might go mad and never come back.

He soon felt his sanity coming back to him but found that he was no different from the hungry wolves themselves.

In the end, most mountain wolves were dealt with, leaving only about 60. They all fled into the mountains without the Wolf King.

As for Levi, he lost seven men, twelve serfs, twenty cows, and thirty sheep

This loss was great for the likes of Blackwater Valley.

I need to cleanse this mountain of beasts once I become a knight. I cannot let them threaten my people.

Its a pity theres no gun in this world, Levi thought. Otherwise, he would abuse his proficiency panel for marksmanship. Even the terrifying Wolf King would be dead in a single shot.

Meanwhile, the fight between the Wolf King and Knight Fred was reaching a climax. The Wolf King could see many of its companions perishing and faltering, and Knight Fred slashed at its hind leg.

The Wolf King yelped as he rolled on the floor, limping away into the mountains, leaving Knight Fred in the dust.

Damn it, Knight Fred cursed. It got away.

No worries, Levi comforted. Let me take his blood and give it to my bears. The Wolf King cannot escape.

Chapter 20: Death of the Wolf King

The land was stained with blood and corpses.

Levi put Frostmourne away, his face heavy with emotions.

Bury the dead well, and send the wounded to George. Collect the beef, mutton, and wolf meat and sell the wolf skins to fur traders.

Yes, my Lord, Alford, Levis butler replied.

Alford was shaking from the experience but was shocked at how his teenage Lord was able to subdue these wolves with no effort. He reminded him of his former master, Baron Thord.

Soon, Levi and Knight Fred returned to the castle.

Here, let these bears smell the Wolf Kings blood on your sword.

Snow, Grey, and Fatty come here.

The three bears ran over immediately.

It was expensive to feed the bears; these beasts eat at least ten kilogrammes of meat per day, and the three of them were still young. If they become of age, they will surely eat nearly a hundred kilogrammes of meat per day.

Seeing Levi, the bears rushed over and stood up as if they were trying to give him a hug. They also sniffed at the blood stains on Knight Freds sword.

After one year of training, Levi could perceive their thoughts.

After smelling the blood, the bears became emotional, and Levi could hear them.

Youre telling me This wolf killed your mother?

The three bears simply growled in reply.

Take me to him. We shall avenge your mother and my people today.

I left a deep cut in the Wolf Kings leg, Knight Fred said. He cannot go far.

Bring ten of your strongest men, and let us go into the mountains, Levi ordered.

Levi and his men soon followed the three bears into the mountains.

The Wolf King bled all the way back, so it was easy for the three bears to track him down by scent.

Levi could tell the Wolf King was incredibly smart as the bears led their men through the forests of the mountains. He would keep going in circles and make twists and turns to trick anyone who might follow him. Levi and his men would run into a dead end several times because of this.

However, due to Levis proficiency in hunting, he was able to direct the bears and the men down the correct path, and soon they found the Wolf Kings den.

On a boulder, the huge Wolf King bit into the corpse of a mountain wolf.

It was eating its own kind.

After sensing Levis presence, it stopped and whined, and dozens of mountain wolves gathered around it.

The Wolf Kings eyes were blood-red, glaring at Levis party. It noticed the three bears, and he was right; the human did take in the bears.

Youre so majestic. Its a shame you are dying today.

Levi drew his bow and shot out an arrow. A mountain wolf swiftly leapt in front of the Wolf King and died.

The Wolf King continued glaring at Levi.

Levi gulped, feeling as if he was facing a person and not a wolf.

With a single howl, the wolves rushed towards Levi once again.

Knight Fred, stop the Wolf King. I shall deal with the other wolves.

Knight Fred rushed forward, and the Wolf King attempted to limp away. Knight Freds Ripple shattered the bones of the Wolf King. Otherwise, it wouldve recovered by now.

Not long after, Levi and his men massacred all the wolves at the cost of only four of their men being injured. This time, he brought a lot of arrows.

The three bears also displayed a terrifying strength that was inherent to Northern Bears.

The Wolf King lay limp on the ground. He was no match for Knight Fred in his injured state.

Knight Fred stood over the Wolf King, and his sword distorted the air around it.

In that trance, Levi could see the air rippling.

The Wolf Kings large head fell to the ground. Even in death, the Wolf King continued staring into Levis soul.

Stop looking at me, Levi muttered as he kicked the Wolf Kings head away.

Skin the wolf. This fur is worth at least five gold coins.

Tie these corpses to a sledge and pull them down the mountain.

Levi gave order after order to his men.

At the same time, Fatty ran up to Levi and growled as it rubbed its head on Levis.

Levi understood it immediately.

When Fatty was exploring the Wolf Kings lair, he found a cave with a strange human skeleton in it.