

Wow 671

Chapter 671: crush

Since the situation had escalated to an outright stance under the sunlight, let it all be brisk and straightforward.

For the maggots within the city, Bai E had little patience left to spar with them.

Watching what seemed like a suddenly authoritative silhouette, Aglaya was completely taken aback.

Before her eyes, the synthetic general, who had always maintained a calm facade devoid of any emotions or tendencies, suddenly became profound and obscure, elusive.

'Can he really do it?' she wondered.

The strength of the beastman leader who had escaped was unknown, and they were unable to pinpoint his location accurately.

Though General Bai E's Spiritual Energy cultivation was indeed formidable, how much of his strength he could exert in a battle where Spiritual Energy was forbidden... was hard to say.

Moreover, Zoro of the Elf Race truly and reliably eliminated two of the city's top combatants, his strength witnessed by all.

It was still that center stage, under everyone's watchful eyes, where Bai E stepped onto with light and steady footsteps, and unsurprisingly, facing him was Zoro, representing the Elf Race for the third time.

Indeed, every member of the Elf Race followed the path of elite strategic development, but it was impossible to bring the entire wealth of their tribe on a single mission.

Among the twenty or so tribespeople present, each had their specialization, covering almost every field that humans were adept in.

Seeing Bai E's familiar face approaching, Zoro, who had seen him once on the battlefield against the beastmen, smiled and clenched his fist, "Xunying said you're very strong and told me to be careful."

He couldn't forget the look of admiration for a powerful opponent in Xunying's eyes when he had said those words, an emotion he had never even shown to himself.

Put simply, he was jealous.

Therefore, he decided to strike even harder.

"..." Bai E smiled indifferently, hands open and empty, "What do you want to compete in?"

A bare-knuckle fight, a battle with nimble weapons.

This Elf walking the path of a warrior seemingly had no particular weakness.

"Let's go with hand-to-hand combat, you're not going to back down, are you?" Zoro smiled somewhat provocatively.

Hand-to-hand combat could inflict enough hidden injuries; wounds caused by weapons were too conspicuous and made it easier to determine the winner, therefore not ideal for inflicting serious harm.

"Fine by me," Bai E nonchalantly waved his hand, agreeing to the challenge.

Neither party exercised their right to veto one and choose one, reaching a consensus through negotiation, which was the custom from the previous two matches.

But...

When the brain trust heard this decision, they exploded in uproar, for the pre-arranged right to veto one and choose one was intended to seize the advantage in the mode of combat.

The lack of experience could be cited for the first two matches, but the precious lessons paved by the failures of their predecessors were invaluable.

This Elf named Zoro apparently had a lesser command over agile weapons compared to his prowess in hand combat; their "King of Shadows" just lacked a little bit of luck, or else there wouldn't have been a need for General Bai E to step in.

Now, seeking comfort seemed futile as they should choose a style their opponent was weak in... or at the very least avoid their opponent's strongest suit, "hand-to-hand combat," right?

"Why did he just agree to it like that!"

"That Elf named Zoro is a master fighter; not even the captain of our city lord's personal guards could match him. How could General Bai E possibly be his match?"

"But does anyone know what General Bai E is most skilled at?"

"Mecha!" someone immediately answered.

"..."

"Maybe light weaponry, his skills with the longsword were quite impressive during the Castle Exorcism battle."

"Hurry and have them change to light weaponry!"

"The contestants have already decided on the mode of combat... it can't be changed now."

"Ah!"

And so, another entry was added to General Bai E's personal records - "arrogantly overconfident."

As the "begin" signal sounded, Zoro's face revealed a cold, mocking smile, "There is no room for regret now."

"..." Bai E didn't respond and simply stood still with his eyes closed, his presence emanating around him.

Unperturbed and composed.

"What does he mean by that?" The spectators on both sides scratched their heads in confusion.

Only the injured Xunying and her team members, sitting together, looked at their compatriot Zoro with worried eyes and silently prayed, "Please be careful..."

Beware not to be killed... After all, despite being elves, they aren't as resilient as orcs.

"Playing tricks!" Zoro sneered, and his not-particularly-bulky body shot out like an arrow, straight to the point.

"Buzz!"

A dodging punch failed to hit its target, not because the opponent dodged it in time, but when he got close to the human named Zhou, his movements in every direction seemed suddenly hindered by innumerable pulling forces.

Some pulled his foot upwards, some pulled his fist downwards; the forces pulling from all directions momentarily complicated his control over his body.

As a master fighter skilled in combat, he naturally would not face such immense abnormal conditions and forcibly clash with the opponent.

When he stopped moving, he was surprised to find that the strange forces disappeared instantly, as if they had never been there.

Exploding from his feet, he prepared to thrust forward again.

Regrettably, the moment his body began to move, that bizarre force resurfaced from every direction, trying to hinder his action.

'What kind of weird stuff is this!' Zoro coldly snorted internally, his strength surged, and he forcibly broke free from those restraining forces.

These were merely forces with a pulling resistance, not yet decisive enough to significantly influence the situation. If this Bai E hoped to achieve victory solely through these strange methods, then he was in for severe disappointment.

"Whoo~"

The invisible air currents twined and flowed with the movement of Bai E's hand, and Zoro, who had gotten dangerously close, discovered that the forces tangling around him suddenly increased during the flick of the opponent's palm.

At the same time, in a final backward jerk, a definite impact struck his chest mid-air, and his opponent also seemed to fly lightly backward from a sort of "recoil" force, escaping once more from that dangerous proximity.

'Splitting Palm?' Zoro wondered in his mind.

In a situation where the use of Spiritual Energy was not allowed, achieving such a feat with sheer physical strength and skill was no easy task.

Observing that this human named Bai E indeed had some skills, no wonder Yue Ying had mentioned this human's name several times.

But mere fleeing is the absolute act of a coward!

"Boom!"

His figure flashed; thunder suddenly roared.

The instantaneous burst surpassed the speed of sound, the sonic boom acting like thunderclap, also serving to intimidate the opponent.

"Buzz!"

However, as he approached, that strange force once again surged from all around, greatly increased in strength, causing Zoro to feel panicky for the first time.

Would the opponent's bizarre technique grow stronger over time?

And at this untouchable distance, his own method of continually identifying the opponent's weaknesses in battle to guide or secretly strike had nowhere to be used.

Continuing this fight... he might truly lose!

With a sense of alarm in his heart, Zoro became even more determined, his energies bursting forth, ignoring the pulling forces around him.

And this time... Bai E did not dodge.

After several collisions, the power within his domain had accumulated to an overwhelming extent.

When Zoro charged in again, Bai E controlled his energy with a twist of his palm, landing multiple strikes at once that almost instantly broke down Zoro's body balance, though this was just for an instant.

An outstanding martial artist always maintains control over their body.

But the stronger the attempt to control, the deeper one falls.

Fully trapped within the "Abyss" controlled by Bai E, Zoro, like a drunken man, swayed, controlled by Bai E's maneuvers, and ultimately lost complete control over himself.

With a turn of his hand, Zoro's body was spun around by Bai E and brought in front of him, and then, with what appeared to be a gentle push of the palm, his body was flung away instantly, the full power of the "Abyss" accumulating in one explosion, all focused into that single push.

"Boom!"

Like a sack of broken cloth, his body smashed far onto the metallic ground of the combat arena, making "bang bang" sounds with two bounces...

Chapter 672: Is it still Bai E 505?

The field fell into complete silence.

Not just the elves, even the human spectators who had watched the previous two matches felt somewhat conflicted at this moment.

The bizarre performance on the field looked too much like cheating with spiritual energy... Surely their own people, having lost the first two matches, hadn't grown so desperate as to start cheating openly in this one?

You cheat if you must... but does it have to be so blatant?

We can hardly cheer for this.

What to do? Pretend not to see... As long as we win.

In the midst of this eerie quiet, the accusation from the Elf Race side sounded extremely harrowing, "You're cheating!"

"It must be your use of despicable means that ambushed our kin!"

"You can request to fight another round." Bai E stood in the field, responding expressionlessly.

What the elves imposed on humans was bound to be repaid.

Only then could they gain a deeper acceptance from the many bystanders from the depths of their hearts.

'This scene feels a bit familiar...' The thought flashed through Storm's mind but vanished in an instant.

This match could not be lost, nor, indeed, could any match.

Only by claiming every victory could the wager agreed upon with humanity be completely honored.

When sitting in a position with such stakes, any semblance of personal dignity became trivial.

Even if psychologically one didn't really believe the opponent had cheated, as long as there was a chance, they would not sit by and watch it slip away.

This match...

"I will go."

Storm stood up and said with a deep voice.

Of the kin who came this time, only his power was above that of Zoro. If he wanted to be more certain, he could only turn to Yue Ying, who was already stationed here... But she was guarding the Prophet, and it was not good to disturb her.

Through the combat between that human named Bai E and Zoro, Storm indeed understood why this human warrior was the only human pointed out by Yue Ying.

Although all the monitoring on the field and the spiritual energy suppression bracelets were provided by the humans, the elves' perception was no trivial matter either.

There truly was not the slightest fluctuation of spiritual energy, but something closer to the "Way".

This human named Bai E was also a mighty being on the path of the Way!

Descending from the stand to the field, Storm voluntarily wore the spiritual energy suppression bracelet assisted by the field's sideline staff, and then he truly looked at the human warrior in front of him with a calm face, his gaze carrying a subtle hint of admiration: "I can tell that your archery has elements from our Elf Race. Has Yue Ying taught you anything?"

Bai E's gaze flickered, never expecting such a hidden truth to be thrown out in public.

The contact between Yue Ying and himself was known only to the two of them.

Others wouldn't even speculate, or else some hints of it would have reached his ears by now.

However, now that his opponent had pointed it out so openly, even if he denied it, those in the city who were curious about his sudden rise would not let go of this possibility.

Does it matter? Does it not? Might he be labeled as someone who fraternizes with another race? Who knows?

But one thing was certain, the elf named Storm who pointed out this fact at this moment was definitely harboring some ill intentions.

"She never taught me to hold back in a fight." Bai E's gaze turned slightly frosty, whether to garner support or to prove himself, he needed to win decisively, "I will defeat you."

Since it was already mentioned, might as well admit it generously.

Skulking and hiding would only make it seem more suspect.

"Good!" Storm's handsome face beamed with a bright smile, "That's what I think as well."

Any warrior who does not fully embrace battle cannot make significant progress on this path.

Once he truly stepped onto the battlefield, he too was a pure warrior.

"Then... let's begin."

As Storm's voice fell, breezes began to brew around him.

Protected by the Wind King, this was the unique power of his Way.

Feel the wind, control the wind, become the wind.

In many cases, he was the embodiment of the wind.

Light-footed, he seemed to dance out of the dust.

Considering the human warrior also seemed to possess a certain ability to control the wind from what had just happened, it was unknown how this would stack up against his own Wind King's Protection.

Watching the two poised figures on the field, the elves in the audience started to show signs of impatience for the first time.

"Storm will definitely be alright, won't he?"

"In front of Storm, that human surely won't be able to cheat anymore!"

"Do you really think that human cheated? How could he cheat in front of everyone? If Zoro lost, it's because he was careless."

"That human's abilities are somewhat similar to Storm's, he surely won't be caught off guard."

"Xunying, haven't you seen that human in action? What do you think the odds are between him and Storm?"

The pain from old injuries made Xunying's face turn somewhat pale, and at that moment, she furrowed her brows deeply and remained silent.

She was not optimistic about the outcome of this battle.

After all, in her view, even Storm... probably couldn't defeat her as swiftly as that orc did.

Meaning even Storm might not be as powerful as that orc, and that human general who had dominated the orc like a child...

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If Yue Ying isn't fighting, who dares say they have even a fifty percent chance?

All one can hope for is that the "Wind King's Shelter" of the storm can create some trouble for the opponent...

...

["Lucky Strike" Charge +3.]

Bai E's eyes, upon receiving this unexpected prompt, indifferently avoided the storm's fist, which wasn't particularly huge.

Compared to Zoro, the Elf known as Storm was indeed slightly more troublesome.

After falling into his Abyssal Domain, Bai E could distinctly feel another force that could contend with it to some extent.

Before the power within the Abyssal Domain could peak due to repeated collisions, the invisible force surrounding the opponent was completely capable of neutralizing the pulling force of the Abyssal Domain on him.

This allowed him to closely approach without being thoroughly toyed with and completely defeated like Zoro.

"Swoosh, swoosh, swoosh!" Storm's strikes were as fast as startled swans, and his movements were far more agile than a fish in water.

Seeing Storm immediately display a sort of "suppression" effect upon entering the fray, the Elves spectating burst into excitement, "I told you he's no match for Storm!"

"Once he's up against Storm, his true colors are revealed, aren't they?"

"Zoro was just careless, not expecting humans to have such strange tricks up their sleeve, otherwise he wouldn't have lost."

Unfortunately, the smiles on their faces didn't last more than three seconds, as the sound of a physical collision instantly resonated throughout the arena.

"Bang!"

The fist landed solidly on Storm's abdomen, and even his light-as-a-feather body was blasted away by the punch.

With a "duang," he crashed against the edge of the Spiritual Barrier around the field, then plummeted down.

"Bang!"

The sound of his body crashing onto the ground rang out like a warning bell in every Elf's heart.

...

"How could this be?"

'It's still come to this...!' Xunying's face, already pale, turned even frostier upon hearing the exclamations of his fellow kin, with only a bitter smile hanging on his lips.

How could that human general be strong just because of that strange ability?

In his initial encounter with the beastman, he relied solely on his pure physical strength, suppressing the beastman without giving him a chance to fight back!

Did they really think getting close would lead to victory?

Having observed the entire battle between the human general and the beastman, she was well aware that the human general's initial fight with the beastman was purely a display of brute force without much technical advantage.

It was just that the beastman was a blockhead, lacking any method to turn the tables when overpowered by strength. If it had been that human general from that time, perhaps Storm, or even Zoro, might have found a way based on skill to maybe pull off a lucky win.

But it seemed as though, in the battle with the beastman, looking for a way to save energy, the human general had honed his combat skills to the point of seamless integration.

Facing him now, at the pinnacle of his abilities, Xunying didn't think anyone she knew, aside from Yue Ying, stood even a half-chance at defeating him.

She just hoped... that Storm wouldn't lose too badly.

...

Storm, having risen from the edge of the Spiritual Barrier, shook his head, feeling dazed.

Despite their Elves' seemingly fragile bodies, they didn't flinch when it came to taking a beating.

Although the punch had disoriented him greatly, the few seconds of shock hadn't caused any fatal damage.

The punch had caused more damage to the head...

At this moment, his mind was in a blank white haze.

There was a kind of pristine beauty, untouched by corruption.

What happened?

Was I punched?

This punch... did it really throw me from there, to here?

The lightning-fast moment just now was already a blur to him, but the lingering feeling of that punch in his body was still there to be savored.

This... how am I supposed to fight this?

I thought it was just a bit of strange ability that sneakily took down my own kin, Zoro, when suddenly the opponent pulled out a new advantage and told me that this was actually my trump card.

How do you fight this?

Storm's mind was a maze of confusion, but the opponent wasn't going to give him much time to think.

Bai E didn't actually mind giving this somewhat dazed opponent a bit more time to think of tactics.

It's always better to discover one's own weaknesses during the sweat of battle to make early amends than to be fatally struck at a critical moment by an enemy.

But unfortunately, the audience wouldn't allow it, nor did Bai E believe he had that ability.

Landing from afar like a cannonball, Storm instinctively dodged with the lightness of a feather.

But this time... he keenly felt that the pulling force on his body was far stronger than at the beginning.

Storm, who controlled similar abilities, immediately became vigilant, realizing the true nature of this human warrior's ability—

It drew on the residual power from the battle, whether his own or his opponent's, turning it all to his own use.

As the fight progressed, this restraining force would only get stronger.

His protection from the Wind King was fixed, but the opponent's strength increased with the fight.

And it wasn't born from Spiritual Energy, nor did it have any issues of endurance...

You can't withstand it up close, and fighting at mid-range is just a slow death.

The conclusion was clear at a glance, and reason returned to Storm's mind.

Instead of losing all dignity to a beating by the opponent, it was better to admit defeat!

At least one could then ensure a healthy body and a clear mind for the subsequent battles and strategic rivalry with the humans.

With this thought, Storm shouted, "I concede!"

"Whoosh!" The fist, with the force of the wind, stopped less than twenty centimeters from Storm's face.

Bai E raised an eyebrow slightly and withdrew his fist.

Since the opponent had already surrendered, it wasn't appropriate to pursue and attack relentlessly.

Only he felt a bit regretful internally, 'Such a crafty creature.'

Not having been able to give a sound thrashing to this blabbermouth annoyed Bai E.

However, from the humans' perspective, achieving victory without a fight was seen as a higher level of skill.

"General Bai E!"

"Awesome!"

Cheers thundered through the air!

Even if some of the less combat-savvy spectators felt the victory was too easy, there was also a sense of guilty pleasure, as if their own people had secretly cheated.

But the opponent had formally conceded, so could they report their own side?

The frustration of having lost all previous contests against the Elf Race was finally exhaled fiercely, making General Bai E, in the eyes of all the human spectators, instantly the strongest warrior in the city! Without peer!

Watching Storm return, still somewhat disheveled, the old human said with a beaming smile, "I'm sorry, but it seems we've won this contest."

Storm tried to keep a stern face, merely snorting coldly, "A win or loss in one or two contests doesn't mean anything! I admit, occasionally there are a few exceptional individuals among your human warriors. We may have lost this contest, but in the next..."

"What do you mean 'may'?" the old man chuckled coldly, pressing the point.

"That's right!" Storm, choked by the retort, glared fiercely at the other, but the occasional pain in his chest made it hard for him to maintain his composure, and he quickly changed the subject, "But in the next contest, you won't be so lucky! Our contestant remains the same. What about yours?"

"Ours?" The old man's lips curled into a cold smirk, firmly and fiercely uttering a name, "General Bai E!"

The old man had initially refused General Bai E's request to participate in all the contests.

But after the first contest's decisive victory by General Bai E, one couldn't help but feel an unrealistic hope for him.

For politicians like them, such illusory hope was the last emotion they should harbor.

But what could be done, when he was Bai E?

And with the endorsement of Helen of the Scientific Research Institute, since they had already won one contest, why not let General Bai E try again?

Once again hearing the name that instinctively made one's heart tremble, Storm stiffened, "Still Bai E?"

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Realizing that his behavior might reflect poorly on the Elf Race, Storm's expression tightened, and he quickly resumed his usual aloof and proud demeanor, "Hmph, the next contest is about understanding technology, what can a mere martial artist achieve?"

There can never be an all-around talent in this world. Even the elves, who have lifespans far longer than humans, rarely possess expertise in every area.

Using one's hands and one's brain are naturally two opposing domains. Even their mighty Prophet, after deeply studying the path of fate, had seen her talents in combat gradually wane.

If their Prophet couldn't be proficient in everything, Storm certainly didn't believe that an ordinary human... Even if his strength as a martial artist was indeed a bit formidable, could he also be a renowned scientist with profound research in technology?

Impossible! Absolutely impossible!

Storm's mouth curled into a proud and icy smile, "I'm just reminding you that if you humans insist on this decision, we certainly won't refuse."

Although the old man also harbored some doubts about General Bai E's ability in scientific research, he wouldn't show any sign of weakness, replying without conceding an inch, "We'll see!"

"Then we'll see."

Both sides huffed coldly and turned to leave.

The competition in technology was straightforward: if the previous round was about reverse engineering each other's racial technological products, this round would be about reverse engineering a "public good."

On this planet, aside from humans and elves who possess remarkable levels of technology, there was only one other option: artificial intelligence.

"So, the second contest is about who can quickly transform these creations from artificial intelligence into types that their own race can easily use!" the judge declared, looking at the elf and human contestants with an expressionless face, "Do you both understand?"

"Understood."

"Understood."

Bai E and the scientist from the Elf Race both nodded calmly.

The products of artificial intelligence technology were unfamiliar to both sides.

Although artificial intelligence's origins were closely tied to humans, ever since they became a brand-new form of life, their technology, inherited from the Golden Age, had been optimized to adapt to this new life form.

This optimization for mechanical adaptation was the core barrier in their technology, so even humans, who nominally share a technological lineage, had no particular advantage in this respect.

At least on the surface, it seemed fair to both sides.

Humans had seized a variety of artifacts from artificial intelligence—transport vehicles, armored cars, motorcycles, gun carriages, and so forth.

As creations of artificial intelligence, these objects naturally held research value.

But adapting them for human use came at too great a cost; it was far more efficient to dismantle and recycle the materials, even building a new one from scratch would be cheaper than attempting to modify them.

Moreover, the number of samples wasn't large enough to be significant.

So they were neither recycled nor studied with much interest, and were left to gather dust in storage.

Only today, under these special circumstances, did they finally find a modest use.

Looking at the array of artificial intelligence creations before him, Bai E murmured internally, 'Add points!'

[Payment: 600 points of scientific research experience, 300 points of universal experience.]

[Current artificial intelligence artifact mastery experience 500/500, you have successfully mastered "Level 3 Artificial Intelligence Artifact Mastery," and you synchronously receive 3 technology points.]

[Artificial Intelligence Artifact Mastery (3/3 level): You are thoroughly familiar with the conversion of all artificial intelligence artifacts, except for "Giant Constructs" and "First Generation Artificial Intelligence," into human-compatible artifacts and maximizing their effectiveness. You also possess skilled manual abilities, and from now on, given the necessary auxiliary equipment, you can transform artificial intelligence artifacts into human-compatible types with "extremely high" efficiency.]

This was a proficiency in transforming artificial intelligence artifacts that had dropped from a First Generation Artificial Intelligence he had previously encountered, which was likely akin to a mechanic among artificial intelligence, as it had created most low-level artificial intelligence, thus being entirely familiar with their core barriers. Having inherited human technology from the Golden Age, it was also well-aware of human characteristics.

This mastery made the transformation between human and artificial intelligence technological products crystal clear. With this special knowledge applicable to the current contest, this was exactly his field of expertise.

The moment he possessed the knowledge, looking again at the artifacts before him, what once seemed like mere constructs suddenly became clear and understandable.

While still gazing at those seamlessly integrated mechanical artifacts, their interior structures appeared crystal clear to Bai E's eyes; his mind instinctively came up with several modification plans, each with more than one approach.

The difference between manned and unmanned designs is unimaginably vast. Whether human observation is required, including post-transformation designs, must comply with detailed technical specifications such as fluid dynamics.

Although looking like "vehicles" created by artificial intelligence, to fully harness their true functions is an entirely different challenge compared to simple modifications for compatibility.

After brusquely moving a vehicle into the modification bay, Bai E, familiar with the process, set to work effortlessly.

Images from both modification bays were simultaneously displayed to all the spectators; however, many in the audience had shown a lack of interest even before the contest began.

Chapter 675 'Fortunately, they are allies'_2

The last scholar contest was quite dull, with two so-called scholars tinkering away for ages, only to end up with extremely calm and icy operations.

It was completely silent throughout, without even a hint of excitement to be seen.

However, the moment this contest began, those audience members who had been dozing off suddenly opened their eyes wide.

"Holy shit!"

"Is this dude starting again?"

Familiar faces, familiar inexplicable maneuvers.

In contrast to the other side's cautious scanning and research, this side was bustling with vigorous and bold actions.

The sound of mechanical cutting echoed clearly in the ears of every spectator through the broadcast screen, creating a lively atmosphere as if composing a rousing orchestral piece.

"..."

Storm turned his head askance, full of suspicion in his gaze towards the elder, 'Are you playing dirty?'

Had the humans already deciphered the technological barriers created by the mechanical beings and kept it a secret all along, unwilling to use it to supplement their forces, preferring to spring it on them in today's contest against the Elf Race?

It didn't make sense!

Would they really not utilize their technology just for today's illusory contest?

Did the humans also have a Prophet of their own?!

"He must be messing around!"

"Just posturing, don't panic!" There was some restlessness among the other elves sitting beside Storm.

"What's the use of being fast? A rushed modification is a waste of effort."

The speed of modification was one aspect of the contest's scoring, but the functionality of the modified product was another important component of the score.

Without too much guessing, the outcome soon became apparent.

Looking at the completely transformed technological creation on stage, everyone's eyes sparkled with eagerness to try it out.

It looked quite professional, but could it actually be used?

"How about getting someone to take it for a test drive?" The elder glanced at the Elf Storm beside him, somewhat nervously ordering his subordinates.

The modification was so quick, even faster than the Scientific Research Institute's people, but was it any good?

What if it was all show and no substance, falling apart as soon as it started?

They would be the laughingstock of the elves for eternity.

"Understood! Sir!"

The driver responsible for testing the vehicles drove several different ones around the professional test track for a few laps, and when he got out, his eyes were blank, "Aren't you testing some new types of vehicles?"

Converted from mechanical beings' vehicles?

He felt nothing off?

It perfectly matched human driving habits, with every detail seamlessly integrated, as if it was designed specifically for humans.

How could this have been modified from a mechanical creation?

Everyone must be joking with me.

The driver was certain of it.

Under the "pressure" from Bai E, the Elf Race's scholars had to speed up their modifications.

The product, which looked a bit awkward, appeared before everyone's eyes, just judging from its appearance.

Bai E's product was of a piece, as if it was custom-made based on a professional designer's blueprint.

The Elf Race scholars' product... it was hard to describe, one could only say it had a certain Orcish technology's charm.

Sitting inside his scholars' modified vehicle, an elf wanted to say a few good words after driving around the track a couple of times, but he couldn't help spitting out a mouthful of foam.

Still, he stubbornly gave a thumbs up, shouting loudly, "Good!"

The vehicle behind him burst open with a thunderous crack, expressing deep agreement.

"..."

"..."

Storm's face was as dark as charcoal, "Next match!"

"Although we have already won three out of three matches, we humans are still the masters of this world, and we're willing to give you a chance to challenge us. If you can win one match next, we're also willing to compete with you from the beginning again," the elder said with a smile.

Returning an opponent's own words without changing a letter is the ultimate delight.

"No need!" Storm's face turned utterly dark.

He had never expected that this human martial artist, who seemed a bit slow-witted, would also possess such profound technological expertise.

No wonder Yue Ying mentioned him several times in intra-race communications, it seemed that there really was something exceptional about him.

And a city capable of nurturing such an all-around talent must indeed have some unique advantages.

Was their complete defeat before genuinely just showing weakness?

If that were the case... forming an alliance with this city didn't seem entirely out of the question.

Unintentionally, Storm's mindset had begun to shift.

However, his expression hardened in determination the next moment—no matter what, they could not afford to lose the next two matches!

If they lost again, they would have to consider whether elves would have significantly lower status and no say in the partnership.

After all, if they were inferior in every aspect, what position would they have to negotiate?

"Next is the exploration and understanding of high-dimensional space, and we still have Danniro as our representative," having reconciled himself to the prospect of cooperation, Storm instantly changed his arrogant demeanor to one that was serious and meticulous.

But the old man's words instantly made his blood pressure surge again, "Our representative will still be Bai E."

"???"

'Do humans have no other talents apart from Bai E?!

This thought almost showed on his face as Storm looked disapprovingly at the old man before him, suspecting that after winning three matches, he was trying to give elves some semblance of dignity.

Humans love to keep up appearances!

After all, how could anyone truly excel at everything?

...Excel at everything?

...Excel?

...Excel?

"Danniro? Danniro? Wake up?!" As he heard his people calling the participant's name, Storm just closed his eyes, feeling a throbbing between his eyebrows.

Understanding and exploring the high-dimensional world can be done in a very simple way—

Both sides would take turns to visit each other's "spiritual" worlds, experiencing the other's perception and insights into the high-dimensional world. This was a common communication method among the spiritual energy practitioners of the Elf Race.

Such exchanges typically reveal vague content that is unspeakable, indescribable, almost like a psychological suggestion.

This reciprocal visit can be a contest, but it often serves as mutual improvement, filling in each other's gaps.

The original intent of the five matches was indeed to foster mutual understanding and bonding between the personnels of the two races... at least that was the pretext everyone maintained.

But now...

What exactly had Danniro seen in the other's world that made him faint so quickly?

What on earth did you see, hey!

Storm approached Bai E, for the first time initiating conversation with this unique human, "What exactly did you show him?"

"It was the 'image' I 'saw' when I first awakened my spiritual energy," Bai E replied calmly.

Bai E had never considered this method of "visiting" before, but following the instructions of the Elf Race's referees, he controlled his spirit to allow the other party into his mental world. The moment after they entered, they fainted.

Looking back, Bai E could vaguely understand from the feedback of spiritual energy that the other party must have seen the gorgeous cosmic 'image' he perceived at his initial awakening of spiritual energy.

And the reason it was this image... Perhaps it was because the initial awakening image is similar to a "home background screen" for each spiritual energy awakener, isn't it?

If not deliberately controlled, the first glimpse during a "visit"... would reveal it.

"Initial awakening?" Storm felt a throbbing in his temples and couldn't help feeling some resentment, 'Yue Ying, what else haven't you clarified to us!'

If just the image from the initial awakening could make Danniro faint at a glance, what level of an image was it?

What kind of monster is this Bai E...?

But fortunately, he is now an ally of the Elf Race!

"Then let's proceed to the next match," Storm had already resigned himself to the fact of their defeat.

Outmatched in skills, there's nothing to say.

"Next match, the hunt, the demon!"

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"Okay, our next contestant will still be Bai E!"

"Fine then." Storm sighed, feeling as if everyone had become numb.

It didn't matter anymore, it was still possible for there to be those talents who knew a little of everything in this world.

This was also normal, their Prophet was actually someone who knew a little of everything...

The hunting ground for demons was in high-dimensional space, after all, the probability of encountering demons in the material world was actually not high.

Waiting passively guaranteed an encounter with demons, but seeking them out actively was not an easy task.

Only in that mysterious high-dimensional space, there were endless demons waiting to be hunted.

Humans and the Elf Race rarely ventured into high-dimensional space to find those demons, even when studying high-dimensional spaces, they were conservative and restrained.

But when it came time to hunt demons, all that was needed was... to burn one's Spiritual Energy while releasing the suppression of one's own spiritual light.

When burning Spiritual Energy, the reflection of human or elf Spiritual Bodies in high-dimensional space appeared like a bright lantern in that "dark" space. The more intense the burning, the farther its light could reach, naturally increasing the probability of attracting more demons wandering in that mysterious space.

This kind of active behavior was generally tantamount to courting death, but it became necessary when both races communicated and understood each other's capabilities.

"You two can start now." The referee said softly to the human and Elf Race participants seated before him.

The one who hunted demons of higher quality and quantity within the allotted time would be the victor.

High-dimensional space lacked the concept of time and space, so this time was based on the bodies in the real world.

No matter how the Spiritual Body roamed in high-dimensional space, the closely related body still existed in the material world.

By relying on this connection, the perception of time passage by the body in the real world could serve as a "time" beacon for the agreed-upon actions in high-dimensional space.

Bai E nodded, finally really connecting the knowledge he had read in the books with reality.

As he and another contestant from the Elf Race closed their eyes together and transferred their consciousness to their Spiritual Bodies projected in high-dimensional space, the world before Bai E transformed dramatically.

This was somewhat different from the learning he had followed behind Yue Ying before.

Previously, it was about exploring the "self," with Spiritual Energy turned inward and converging; now, it was for exploring the "world," so the Spiritual Energy was open and active.

It was constantly receiving all sorts of "information" from the outside world to complete the observation of the "world."

Through the "eyes" there was darkness...

Physical attributes had no meaning here, only pure spiritual force was eternal.

Moreover, the darkness seemed alive, writhing at the edges of vision like some kind of soft-bodied creature, with "probing" tentacles and stinging sensations intermittently stimulating Bai E's spiritual senses.

Those with higher Divine Power were more likely to ascertain more truths about the "world," naturally making their Spiritual Energy more powerful, but... the closer one was to the truth, the more one risked being assimilated and corrupted by the high-dimensional space.

The ignorant are fearless, while the knowledgeable face tribulation.

Bai E tentatively began to burn his Spiritual Energy, and the self-imposed restraints on his body and soul quietly lifted their long-standing dual control.

The arm before him began to emit a holy white light, and Bai E curiously lifted his arm, observing the specific details of his Spiritual Body in high-dimensional space.

"Hee hee hee hee hee~"

The low, strange laughter emerging from the darkness likely indicated that the first emotion Bai E exhibited—curiosity—would summon a demon related to the associated authority.

Similarly, demons wandering in high-dimensional space, if a hint of "emotion" suddenly appeared rippling through space, a demon with a related authority would be more likely to sense the change from a farther "distance."

As for the rank of the demon, it was purely a matter of luck.

There was nothing absolute in high-dimensional space, unless one entered hand in hand, blending Spiritual Energy beforehand. Otherwise, even if individuals entered high-dimensional space side by side in the material world, this mysterious space would separate them into completely unrelated areas.

What was in the area was pure luck.

One might run into a dormant great demon, or there might be nothing at all, with Spiritual Energy burning for a long time without even a single demon noticing.

If one wanted to return, one should look at the "feet" or scrutinize the core of oneself.

There was a shining light point, the channel through which consciousness returns to the physical body in the material world.

Of course, this return might seem like "an instant" in the material world, but in high-dimensional space... one must ensure there are no enemies nearby that can disrupt the return.

Otherwise, the Spiritual Body returning would be completely defenseless, and even the most powerful beings would struggle to escape an attack from even the most ordinary low-level demon.

"Hee hee hee hee hee~"

The numerous strange laughs from the darkness were hard to locate and count.

Bai E just cautiously enveloped his entire body with Spiritual Energy, ready for anything.

One breath...

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Two breaths...

Ten breaths...

A hundred breaths...

The close connection of his physical body to the material world informed Bai E that in fact, not much time had passed outside, yet his spiritual body in the high-dimensional space felt as though a long period had elapsed.

An emotion similar to nervousness could infinitely magnify the spiritual body's vague sense of "time" in high-dimensional space, gradually expanding what was originally an "instant" to something nearing "eternity."

Yet, the will of any creature is hard-pressed to remain focused and concentrated for extended periods, and with "time" passing, the spirit will inevitably relax.

The spirit is the source of spiritual energy; spiritual energy is the manifestation of the spirit.

Any change in the spirit will be immediately reflected in the spiritual energy.

Those cackling laughs from the darkness had this very purpose, to use scare tactics to make Bai E expose a fatal flaw on his own initiative.

Born from the first covert conspiracy plotted by the deities of cunning, what is managed is not only mankind's strong curiosity but also the origin of all conspiracies and tricks in the world.

In the darkness, numerous "eyes" watched the ignorant prey, and these low-level demons, able to inherit only a single ability, felt immensely proud and utterly satisfied simply by seeing their targets fall into deep panic at their manipulation.

Be afraid... Be terrified...

Then expose your fatal flaw, and let me tear apart your entire spiritual body and feast upon it!

"Pfft!"

The luminous spiritual body, like a bright light bulb, somehow flickered in perception and, upon reappearing, had already punched through its own mist-like true form.

In the glowing palm was clutched a "core", emitting even denser black energy, which was none other than its own demon "true name."

The demon true name is both a sort of moniker and a kind of "object".

"Pfft!"

As the glowing palm squeezed gently, this fragile core instantly crumbled to pieces.

Annihilation in the high-dimensional space is thorough, and not just common low-level demons but even more formidable primeval demons cannot escape this iron rule.

Perhaps in the future, during another massive surge of emotional ripples, a demon of the same origin might be reborn, but it would be a clueless newborn, having forgotten all previous memories and experiences.

As the core crumbled, the surrounding space once again fell silent, still as a stagnant pool.

And the faint whiff of energy released after the core's destruction was silently drawn into a clearly visible bracelet on Bai E's spiritual body.

The trials in high-dimensional space are unknown and unheard to others, but the end results can always be recorded by means.

The spiritual creations of mankind are diverse, and it's rather easy to craft spiritual objects that can record how many demons as well as their ranks have been killed.

Glancing at the bracelet, Bai E sighed softly, "The lowest level of demons."

And even then, only one...

The commotion that felt like being surrounded by numerous demons was actually just the handiwork of such a lowly thing skilled in playing some "little tricks."

Once its location is confirmed, a light strike is enough to be fatal.

Looking around at the darkness, Bai E frowned—continuing like this was not going to be acceptable.

It seemed he had arrived at a "desert" within the high-dimensional space, where letting out just a little spiritual light was insufficient to attract many demons.

If a contender from the Elf Race was lucky enough to plunge right into a horde of demons, and if he were to lose this contest due to luck... Bai E felt somewhat unwilling to accept that.

So, he once again relaxed a little control over his spiritual light.

No matter how skilled and brave one is, in the face of such an entirely unfamiliar domain, Bai E still did not dare to let loose from the beginning.

Now loosening the suppression again, the spiritual light emanating from Bai E's spiritual body became brighter and reached a bit "farther".

It was like bait cast into the center of a lake, quietly awaiting the school of fish to strike.

One breath...

Two breaths...

Ten breaths...

A hundred breaths...

This time the passage of time was unmistakably real.

The tight connection to his physical body informed Bai E that indeed, so much time had passed.

But not a trace of movement could be seen in the darkness around him.

Oh no, could he have truly entered a desert?

A sense of alarm rose in Bai E's heart, and he felt like exiting and restarting.

Logging out and back in is equivalent to refreshing one's "address" in the high-dimensional space.

But this process also requires time, so Bai E decided to wait a little longer... and once again relaxed some control over his own spiritual light.

It's getting brighter... and bigger...

The darkness always remained as quiet as a pool of stagnant water, making one can't help but wonder if they had entered a fake high-dimensional space.

Isn't it said that numerous demons wander in high-dimensional spaces, and spirits with "extremely good" or rather "extremely bad" luck might even encounter the true "native creatures" of these high-

dimensional spaces, terrifying entities that all demons, including the Great Demons, would avoid at all costs? Moreover, all these entities had one thing in common—they would pounce upon seeing shining Spiritual Energy.

But how come now, even when I am about to unleash my Spiritual Energy to the fullest extent, there is still not the slightest movement from demons around me?

Bai E really couldn't bear it anymore. Fortunately, he used his Spiritual Energy as a loudspeaker, directly turning on the free mike mode for the entire area, "Hello? Is anybody there? Can someone come out? I'll even take a demon! A Great Demon or a Prince would do too, hello?"

...

The same was true for the mysterious observing viewpoint focusing on the human Spiritual Body in the darkness, which was seemingly oblivious to the oddities around it; its core surged with aggravation.

'So frustrating! So frustrating!'

Can't you detect such a huge anomaly?

This is a high-dimensional space, for goodness' sake!

Where would you ever find such a "place" so clean for you to merrily flounce about?

Don't you realize you've fallen into a "trap"?

Do you know that?!

...

As real time in the material world truly elapsed, Bai E's Spiritual Body roamed freely through the high-dimensional space as if entering an uninhabited domain, getting sick of using the free mike as he gradually adapted to the erosion of his Spiritual Body by the environment.

Time was ticking away, and if I don't find a demon soon, I could forget competing.

Wouldn't it be too sad if I lost due to a stroke of bad luck?

Should I relog to refresh my spawn point?

As these thoughts churned, Bai E frowned slightly, then realized another possibility—

It couldn't be, the high-dimensional space actually harbors such a "harmonious" spot, right?

Previously, when I unleashed my Spiritual Energy to battle in the material world, my Spiritual Body was subjected to attacks by all manner of ghoulish spirits in the high-dimensional space.

It can't be that I have just unluckily or lucky stumbled upon a high-dimensional wasteland devoid of any demons this time, can it?

Hence, when I looked at my surroundings again, the Spiritual Energy of the "Heavenly Eye" spread like a tide in every direction.

In the high-dimensional space, this marvelous place, Spiritual Energy is not as limited as in the material world.

Those who are equally strong willed and possessed of Spiritual Energy can even temporarily reshape the world with their will.

Bai E's "Heavenly Eye" Spiritual Energy was like a spring connected to the vast ocean, constantly gushing forth with Spiritual Energy that carried an "exploratory meaning."

...

The sinister observing viewpoint finally felt a smidgen of satisfaction when it saw the target finally realizing the problem.

He finally knows something's wrong! He finally knows something's wrong!

Explore! Research! Uncover the truth! And then... fall into boiling, "fear."

I am the master of this world! I will also be the master of your fate!

However, watching the gushing Spiritual Energy, the mysterious core began to tremble a little once more.

Too... much...

How is there still more?

Is his Spiritual Energy inexhaustible?

The surging Spiritual Energy soon went from a fountain to a pond, a stream, a lake, and... a vast ocean.

So much Spiritual Energy pouring out seemed poised to exceed the carrying limit of the "world" I had created in an instant.

The smallest unit that made up this Spiritual Energy was like a myriad of small, vibrant eyeballs, with the pupils in the middle of the white part darting around flexibly.

Those curious "eyeballs" peering outwards were like cameras infused with will, scrutinizing every detail of the world they had created with great care.

At one moment, even the "Lord of Fear" felt as if... those eyeballs were looking at me!

Then, in the next moment, the countless "eyeballs" that had been sweeping everywhere suddenly, in unison, turned their gaze towards my location!

Chapter 678: down?

The master of fear, who was targeted by countless "eyeballs" fraught with intent, felt his core shaking insanely, plunging into an absolute climax.

Any source of fear could resonate with the core, but his own fear was obviously unable to empower him.

The lord of fear only felt his demonic true form trembling as the toxin named fear invaded the depths of his soul.

As a result, the special domain closely connected to his will shattered instantly amidst quivering, and a similarly gloomy but more active dark space reappeared before Bai E.

However, his spiritual body had already swiftly navigated through this oceanic or space-like realm, rapidly approaching the location of the lord of fear.

Unlike dealing with demons in the material world, which could only be hurt with Exorcism Essential Oil, everything in the high-dimensional space was both appearance and true form.

The "bodies" that appeared there were essentially conjured from Spiritual Energy, so facing this old foe again, Bai E no longer needed to rely on the once crucial Exorcism Essential Oil to inflict enough damage.

Of course... the current Bai E was hardly comparable to the Bai E without Spiritual Energy.

The surge of Spiritual Energy that burst forth didn't dissipate right away; upon discovering this phenomenon-causing adversary, Bai E's diffused Spiritual Energy had already begun to weave "ropes."

Zhou, who could previously exhibit the "capture" effect with his "Heavenly Eye" Spiritual Energy, naturally allowed Bai E to achieve the same level now.

A cage of Spiritual Energy engulfed both of them, forming an "octagonal cage" from which only one could emerge victorious.

Bai E wouldn't bother with such elaborate methods for low-level demons, but such a high-grade "Origin Demon" was not often encountered.

Under his gaze, clear words floated above the head of the demon now engulfed in fear—

"[??? (Demon) (Chaos) (Elite) —Use 'Lucky Strike' to kill and drop: Certain (Combat Experience 6000 points); High Probability (Trait: Emotion Absorption); Possible (Spiritual Energy (Fear): 100); Extremely Low Probability (High-dimensional Origin Fragment*1)]"

Within the high-dimensional space, this being born here no longer possessed immortality.

As long as it sustained enough damage, this current "lord of fear," materialized by "fear," could be completely killed.

The high-dimensional origin fragment previously obtained from a demon prince of the war faction had appeared again, and collecting three pieces was necessary for it to take effect. The second piece had now emerged, hinting that only demons of a certain rank could produce such high-level resources. Bai E certainly couldn't let this go.

Spiritual Energy condensed in Bai E's hands, and amidst a misty aura, the familiar shape of a Longsword slowly revealed itself— the Blade of Ruling Hearts.

This enchanted weapon, which had ascended during the battle against a great demon of desire, reappeared in Bai E's hands.

Last time it was used to strike at demons of desire, so all the bonuses on this magic sword were aimed at them.

Now having encountered another high-rank demon, it was a good time to use it to farm experience for the weapon's ascension.

The enchanted Longsword emitted a cool brilliance, each slash carrying a despairing aura of death.

The lord of fear felt his body being savagely sliced under the snow-like sword light, with even his deepest core trembling violently with each strike.

Last time, with such an advantage, Bai E found that nearly impossible sliver of hope in a desperate situation and turned the tables, which filled him with dread for this human.

And now, at the start of their second encounter, he was outright displaying an almost crushing posture...

If he could find a way to defeat me when his power was far less than mine, what can I do when his strength is above mine?

Fear completely overwhelmed its mind, facing Bai E's attacks, it could only think about fleeing without any intention of resistance.

"[The soul-eating demonic blade has absorbed a small portion of the target's essence; the special attack effect is upgrading 2450/3000.] (Cumulative)"

This might be the easiest encounter with a demon that Bai E had ever experienced.

The master of the space was also subject to the dominance of fear.

When fear devoured the mind, the fearful incarnation known as the "lord of fear" could only be driven by pure emotion, spiraling into absolute loss of control.

An opponent who only retained the most basic combat instincts of evasion and blocking was merely a moving target.

As its health rapidly depleted, the lord of fear had only a sliver of life left.

The high and mighty Demon God, imitating the pleading posture of humans, knelt to beg for mercy like those enslaved refugees in the cave, deeply groveling on the ground, "I submit! I submit! Just do not kill me, and I'll do anything for you! Here is my true name, you can take it. If you find me the slightest bit disagreeable, a simple squeeze could end my life!"

"[Faced with the submission of a high-dimensional Demon God with infinite potential, you decide...]"

Bai E's icy gaze fixed on the fully obedient lord of fear before him, who, mired in boiling fear, lacked any capability to devise plots or schemes.

The true name, under the scrutiny of the "Heavenly Eye" Spiritual Energy, was intricately and tightly connected to its body and was clearly its true core.

Chapter 679 down?_2

A high-dimensional demon with immense potential and willing to surrender?

Bai E extended his hand slowly towards the core that represented the true name of the Lord of Fear...

Feeling the gaze that prowled up and down around him like a sharp blade, the Lord of Fear trembled like a quail.

With his head bowed low, he retracted all his sensory capabilities towards the outside world, like an ostrich burying its head in the sand, displaying an attitude of complete submission as he entrusted his fate to the other party.

"Pfft~"

A soft shattering sound transmitted directly from the true name that represented the absolute core to the body above, and the Lord of Fear, realizing what had happened, finally dared to raise his head to look at the expressionless human spiritual body before him.

"Why...why?"

A high-dimensional Demon God completely under control as a loyal subordinate, was an honor inconceivable to any human being.

But him...but him...

How could he reject it?

How could he possibly reject it?

A sense of annihilation stemming from the laws welled up; the Lord of Fear, trying futilely to grasp at something with its ghostly claws, eventually became nothing but a calm and harmless ripple in the high-dimensional space amidst an expanse of deep and obscure darkness.

The ripples finally trembled twice, returning to absolute calm.

[You chose to crush the true name of the surrendering demon, rejecting its contract offer.]

[Loot acquired: Battle Experience 6000 points, Trait: Emotional Absorption, Spiritual Energy (Fear): 100, High-dimensional Origin Fragment*1.]

The spiritual energy with an attribute of fear was being gradually deprived of its fearfulness, transforming into pure spiritual energy and slowly merging into the sea of Bai E's own spiritual energy.

When this absorption process was complete, Bai E's spiritual energy was set to surge by another 100 points.

In the high-dimensional space where the concept of time and space did not exist, a moment in the real world was sufficient for the spiritual mill to completely eradicate the emotion of fear.

[Your Spiritual Energy +100/100, Current Spiritual Energy: 570/570.]

The cultivation increases of Spiritual Power Managers always occurred incrementally, point by point. It was rare to encounter such a situation where spiritual energy surged instantaneously.

The sudden explosion of spiritual energy that surrounded Bai E instantly tensed the spirits of all the external Observers watching the two contestants.

In a way, spiritual energy, which could represent the laws of the high-dimensional space, also had multi-dimensional expressions. When a spiritual body in high-dimensional space bursts with spiritual energy, corresponding fluctuations of spiritual energy also occur around the body of material world that is closely connected to the spiritual body.

External Observers who cannot follow the contestants at all times could use this to roughly determine what possible situations the contestants might be encountering.

In a dire situation, people from the outside also have the ability to forcibly pull the consciousness back from the spiritual body to the physical one, causing some damage and loss to the soul but better than being eternally toyed with by those demons in that mysterious and unpredictable high-dimensional space.

In fact, from the very beginning, they felt something was off about Bai E's spiritual energy.

If the spiritual energy of the competing Elf Race contestant could be likened to a calmly flowing stream, then Bai E's spiritual energy was like a raging tsunami.

At a certain moment, the sudden surge not only startled the fearful Lord who had set up a trap, but also made all the external Observers start to tense up.

Such a sudden fluctuation pointed to only one possibility—Bai E had encountered a demon.

And it was a difficult opponent!

Otherwise, a normal outburst wouldn't be so tumultuous and decisive.

Feeling the spiritual energy fluctuations that seemed to envelop everything, Storm, who had never imagined a human could possess such strong spiritual powers, was completely stunned.

"Is your General Bai E a rank three or a rank four spiritual power powerhouse?"

Otherwise, how could one explain the terrifying magnitude of spiritual energy that felt like the sound of waves echoing in one's ears, causing palpitations?

Aglaya lifted her brows indifferently and replied, "Rank two."

"Rank two?" Storm was taken aback, "How could it be rank two?"

"Once General Bai E returns, you can ask him yourself," Aglaya replied softly, her gaze turning somewhat worrisome as she watched Bai E's physical body sitting cross-legged in its original place.

One breath...

Two breaths...

Ten breaths...

Bai E's spiritual energy aura maintained a considerably high level of fluctuation; could it really be that he had encountered some troublesome opponent?!

The elderly man, who had always been indifferent towards Bai E, an artificial being and disposable asset, began to worry as well, looking around in the hope of finding some opinion to refer to, "General Bai E won't have met with any mishap, will he?"

"Should we pull him back?"

"Yes, we cannot afford to lose General Bai E."

"Although General Bai E's spiritual energy is almost endless, if this eruption continues, I'm afraid he might have encountered some high-tier demon that he can't beat..."

"Even the great demons of the Desire series are no match for General Bai E. Could that place really pose a difficulty for him?"

"That's hard to say..."

The so-called "Thousand-Faced" demon from the Desire series might already be considered an absolute high-level demon in the eyes of most humans, perhaps even the strongest demon to descend into the material world. However, this "strongest demon" is nothing much in the demons' home dimension—high-dimensional space.

A slight miscalculation and one would run headlong into one of the Four Gods or the true native creatures of the high-dimensional space; then, the feast would really begin.

Although the probability of such an event is so small it's practically negligible, a small probability is still a probability. If it truly occurred, there would be no help for it.

"So, General Bai E... he won't be so unlucky, will he?"

As General Bai E's formidable spiritual energy fluctuations persisted, the elderly man became increasingly tense, "Why not... take a simple vote? Aglaya, what do you think?"

Dealing with demons may be the Arbitration Place's domain, but making judgments about situations like this one is a specialty of the Spiritual Power Managers Center.

Faced with the elderly man's question, Aglaya, her brows lightly furrowed, dared not make a rash decision. After hesitating for a moment, she still bit her lip and said, "I think... we should trust General Bai E."

"You all should trust him too," a gentle voice suddenly rang out from afar.

The calm and soothing voice reached everyone's hearts, causing an instinctive surge of endless goodwill toward the owner of the voice.

All eyes turned towards the direction of the sound, and they saw two slender figures moving toward them with an unhurried yet swift grace.

"Prophet!"

"Prophet!" The elves, led by the Storm, instantly bowed in greeting.

The human leaders, who had long heard of the Elf Race Prophet's name, all nodded with smiles and greeted softly, "Prophet."

A slight smile on her lips, the Wind Elf's gaze lingered on the figure with closed eyes sitting cross-legged, and her ruddy lips parted slightly, "General Bai E is not in danger; you can rest assured."

Her prophetic abilities certainly couldn't show her a future too detailed; however, amongst the fragmented and blurry visions, this human warrior would undoubtedly lead everyone through the barriers... there was no doubt about that.

Therefore, nothing could stand in his way before that moment.

Calm eyes quietly observed the expressionless human face, and ripples stirred in the heart of the Wind Elf.

Only when she truly confronted him, observing from up close the "battler" engaged in combat, could she from the depths of her soul feel that shocking spiritual illusion spoken of by Yue Ying...

An eternally burning, cold sun.

This human body was certainly not his true form!

Where did he truly come from? And what future was he bringing to this world?

"Shush!"

The sudden surge of spiritual energy made everyone tense, but upon sensing that Bai E's spiritual energy aura had become even more profound after the fluctuation, everyone on the scene looked at each other in disbelief.

"General Bai E's level of spiritual energy... has improved again?"

Chapter 680 He can!

And the improvement wasn't just a little bit.

The connection between the Spiritual Body and the physical body is indeed precise, but it isn't so detailed that it can reflect everything without exception.

The dramatic fluctuations that are happening now can only mean that General Bai E's level of Spiritual Energy has risen again during his trials in high-dimensional space, and not just risen, but skyrocketed!

Dozens? Hundreds? Otherwise, such a degree of aura change would not have occurred!

No one knows exactly what situation General Bai E encountered in high-dimensional space, but to be able to achieve such breakthroughs in combat is still an incredible advancement.

For a moment, all spiritual energy practitioners felt a tinge of envy. They didn't know how long they would have to endure hardship to accumulate dozens or hundreds of points of Spiritual Energy, and yet, General Bai E had managed such growth instantly with just one high-dimensional training session.

No wonder General Bai E rose above those who came before him, easily accomplishing feats that others could not achieve in a lifetime.

Just as everyone was still marvelling at General Bai E, a similar intense fluctuation of Spiritual Energy appeared on the Elf Race contestant seated cross-legged beside Bai E.

The moment she sensed it, Yue Ying, who was quick to glance over, was startled. A form of scrutiny from higher-dimensional space traced back to her the moment she observed her clansman's condition through her "sight".

That look carried the thoughts of its owner, and someone like Yue Ying, a powerful wielder of Spiritual Energy, would instinctively keep every sense enriched and strengthened by Spiritual Energy.

Even a mere gaze connected to Yue Ying's own "spirit", and observation was always mutual; while she observed others, they were also observing her...

It was like a fierce beast from the darkness suddenly lunging at her, and the quick-reacting Yue Ying immediately severed all control over that line of sight, including the slightest bit of spirituality contained within it.

Although this action might mean she would forever lose some of her capacity for Spiritual Energy, it was still better than being pounced upon by that unseen beast.

Yue Ying stepped back half a step with a slight stagger, her complexion somewhat pale.

Clan member...

Sensing the abrupt strangeness of her older sister, Yue Ying immediately supported her sister's soft hand and softly asked, "What's wrong?"

Yue Ying replied with a hint of a bitter smile, "Garuda... I fear he won't be able to return."

"How can that be?" Yue Ying's first reaction was one of disbelief.

However, the other Elf Race members present didn't question the Prophet's authority in the least. They had already accepted the hard-to-accept reality the moment they heard Yue Ying's words.

"What should we do?" Fengbao looked at the Prophet with a solemn expression, seeking guidance.

Yue Ying frowned slightly, remaining silent.

Seeing such a wary expression on her sister made Yue Ying realize almost immediately what kind of existence they might be dealing with.

"Could it be... Him?"

"Mhm..." Yue Ying nodded slightly, her expression bitter.

Even a so-called Prophet, of course, wasn't omniscient.

Furthermore, the more powerful the being, the greater the turbulence they could cause, let alone in a place like high-dimensional space, where the concept of precognition is meaningless. Beings who voluntarily enter such chaos naturally cannot foresee their own fates or disasters.

Apart from some rough knowledge about an individual's destiny to predict personal fortunes and misfortunes to an extent, she couldn't do much more.

And such precognition wasn't something that could be done casually; except for those marked by fate as "core" individuals, all other beings were mere backdrops.

The fact that a clan member encountered "that one" during this competition was an unforeseeable event for her as well.

Even if this so-called "that one" was actually just a "false god" within a seal, its authority was still not something she could contend with.

The "disaster" nurtured by the Elf Race was an absolute nemesis for all of its members.

"We'll have to give up on him..." Realizing this, Fengbao's face fell as he voiced the unbearable decision.

Getting lost in high-dimensional space and dying in the material world are two completely different fates.

In the material world, even death, aside from causing regret amongst Elf Race kin, didn't really lead to much emotional upheaval.

But to get lost in high-dimensional space, they, the Elf Race, would almost certainly fall under the control of "that one."

That meant enduring torment that could last tens of thousands of years, virtually endless.

Every member of the Elf Race could empathize, only hoping that if one day they too fell into such a plight, their companions would grant them eternal peaceful slumber.

"Not... Prophet of the Elf Race, what exactly has happened to your people?"

The human elder asked in confusion from the side.

The cryptic discussion among the Elf Race left the human listeners completely bewildered.

All they knew was that the Elf Race's contestant had probably encountered some unimaginably formidable opponent.

As for how they, while in the material world, could "see" what was happening in high-dimensional space, that must be attributed to their tribe's magical "Prophet", right?

"If it's some kind of formidable enemy, we could totally pull him back, right?"