

Chapter 2241 – Anna’s Might

Once Shi Feng gave the command, Anna raised her staff and began to chant an incantation.

Two gigantic magic arrays, both with a 30-yard radius, appeared beside Anna, one pitch-black and one silvery-white. The instant these two magic arrays appeared, the surrounding Mana rapidly gathered to Anna.

“What a powerful Spell!” Astonished, Lifeless Thorn turned to look at the Personal Guard, who had remained idle near the rear line thus far.

Although he wasn’t a magical class player and wasn’t so sensitive toward Mana, he had seen powerful NPCs cast their Spells before, yet not even the Tier 3 NPCs he had seen could manipulate this much Mana with their Spells.

Normally, the amount of Mana a Spell manipulated was indicative of the Spell’s strength. The more Mana the Spell affected, the stronger the Spell would be.

In other words, the Spell Anna was casting was even stronger than a Tier 3 magical class NPCs Spells.

Meanwhile, Yan Ya, a Druid, could detect Mana far better than a Berserker like Lifeless Thom. In fact, her ability to perceive Mana could be considered above average among the many magical class experts on the raid team.

She specializes in both light and darkness?! Yan Ya stared at Anna for a moment, a little surprised.

Normally, magical class NPCs and players only specialized in one element. For example, some Elementalists specialized in fire-type Spells, while some specialized in ice-type. Although Elementalists could use other elements' Spells, those Spells were generally weaker than those of the caster's main element.

And yet, Anna was absorbing a frightening amount of both light- and darkness-type Mana from her surroundings. It was clear that the Personal Guard specialized in both elements.

Specializing in two elements wasn't as simple as being able to use Spells from two different elements. A caster needed to be capable of merging both elements' Spells as well. If one were successful, the resulting power of their Spells would be exponential.

Yan Ya could only think of two magical class players that specialized in duel-element casting, and both commanded an astonishing amount of combat power. The Fire Dragon Empire's magical class players had dubbed both players 'Duel Dragons,' and there were rumors that these two had the combat power to rival Tier 3 NPCs of the same level.

However, she now learned that Anna was similarly a duel-element caster, as well. She was even rarer than Dark-Gold Guards.

Before anyone could shake off their shock after sensing the Mana surge Anna had caused, the NPC in question raised her staff and completed her Spell.

Thirty-six magic arrays appeared around the Frost Monarch, some black and some white. Ying Yang Spears then shot forth from these magic arrays.

Every Yin Yang Spear was powerful enough to tear apart space itself. When the 36 Yin Yang Spears pierced the Frost Monarch's body, the World Boss could not help but cry out in agony.

-510,354!

-503,474!

...

A series of damages exceeding -500,000 appeared above the Frost Monarch's head, stupefying everyone present.

With just one Spell, the Frost Monarch's HP, which had barely budged before, had visibly fallen. Anna's DPS easily surpassed the entire team's.

"Is she a Tier 3 NPC?" Lifeless Thorn voiced his thoughts, starting at Anna.

Asura's members hadn't even dealt -20,000 damage with each attack, yet just one of Anna's attacks had dealt over -500,000. She was 10 levels higher than they were, but the difference between their damage outputs shouldn't be that large. The only reasonable explanation was that Anna was a Tier 3 NPC.

However, there was no doubt that Anna was only Level 96 and wore a Tier 2 Class Insignia. This proved that Anna was only a Tier 2 NPC, which confused Lifeless Thorn.

Anna's performance even stunned Zero Wing's main force members. None of them had thought that she would be this powerful.

Only Shi Feng remained unperturbed after witnessing the display.

Anna was an Epic Guard. Moreover, her Growth Potential had risen from 105 to 113 points after she became a Peak Class Yin Yang Saint. It was the highest Growth Potential he had seen in any NPC.

Anna had only been a Level 80 NPC when she had changed classes. Now that she had reached Level 96, the boons her Growth Potential provided were massive. After factoring in her Yin Yang Saint class's other abilities, she had even greater combat power than ordinary Tier 3 NPCs.

This was why Shi Feng dared to challenge the Frost Monarch with such a half-baked team.

Initially, he had wanted Anna to summoner her monsters to assist in the battle, but he had decided against that since controlling so many summoned creatures would waste some of Anna's energy. That would prevent Anna from exhibiting the full strength of the Yin Yang Saint class. Moreover, he had Kite to tank the World Boss, so summoning a Lord or Great Lord into battle would be meaningless.

As the Tier 2 Curse, Yin Yang Baptism, ended, Anna followed up with the Tier 3 Spell, Yin Yang Burst. This was also the Legacy Spell Anna had learned after reaching Level 90.

Anna raised her left hand as two energy balls appeared in her grip. The energy balls then transformed into beams of light that slammed into the Frost Monarch.

-1,434,884!

-1,441,067!

Everyone was flabbergasted once more when they saw these two damages.

Her damage can practically cover the entire team'.. As Solitary Nine watched Anna bombard the Frost Monarch with one powerful Spell after another, he gained a newfound appreciation for magical classes.

Even if Asura and Zero Wing's members stopped attacking, Anna could likely finish this raid by herself with the damage she could deal. She might just need a little more effort to defeat the World Boss.

With Anna's participation, the raid team's confidence skyrocketed. They turned their attention to dodging the Frost Monarch's AOE attacks, rather than risking death to deal more damage.

Time passed quickly, and the Frost Monarch's HP eventually fell to 20%.

After such a long fight with the Frost Monarch, the raid team's members had to admit that World Bosses had a variety of Skills. Even with Kite tanking the Frost Monarch, players had died from time to time. Moreover, the Power of Frost that continued to seep into their bodies had rapidly depleted their Stamina and Concentration reserves. Despite

fighting for less than 30 minutes, they all had less than 30% of their Stamina remaining

Without Anna's help, this raid would've been impossible.

The Boss is going berserk! Everyone, activate your Berserk Skills and attack with everything you've got! Shi Feng shouted when the Frost Monarch's frost spear suddenly vanished.

The Frost Monarch would become even more terrifying when it went berserk. It would directly manipulate the Power of Frost around it to layer its attacks.

Normally, a team would need around six MTs to stop these layered attacks, but among the MTs present, only Cola was capable of surviving one of these attacks, and that was if he had already activated his Berserk Skill. The World Boss would instantly kill the rest of the MTs, whether or not they had activated their Berserk Skills. The only option they had left was to kill the Boss before it slaughtered the team.

The Frost Monarch bellowed as soon as Shi Feng finished issuing his orders. The Power of Frost began to grow turbulent as it gathered to the World Boss. Not only did this significantly increase the Frost Monarch's Defence, but it also manifested six gigantic hands of frost energy around the World Boss. These six gigantic hands began to swat at the offending players.

Every hand was as powerful as the frost spears the Frost Monarch had thrown at the start of this raid. Only, the hands' Attack Speed wasn't as high as the frost spears'. In exchange for the reduced speed, the hands had a much larger attack range, with each possessing a 12-yard-radius AOE.

The moment the six hands descended, three Asura members died instantly.

However, the Frost Monarch's increased Defense shocked the raid team's members far more than the six gigantic hands. They had already activated their Berserk Skills, yet they dealt less damage than they had earlier...

As expected of the Frost Monarch, its famed Defense wasn't an exaggeration. When Shi Feng's sword struck the Frost Monarch's body, his entire arm went numb from the impact.

Getting past the Frost Monarch's frost armor with Dark-Gold Weapons had already been quite difficult, and now that it had entered its Berserk state, even Shi Feng's Killing Ray barely left a scratch.

As several more players died, Shi Feng knew that he couldn't afford to hold back, and he ordered Anna to use Summon Angel.

Within seconds, a spear-wielding Valkyrie dropped from the sky, and everyone felt their bodies grow heavier as her horrific aura washed over them.

Before anyone could react, the Valkyrie had appeared before the Frost Monarch and swung her Spear of Thunder at the World Boss.

Peng!

The Valkyrie's spear sliced through the Frost Monarch's armor like a streak of lightning before cracks began to form across the previously indestructible ice armor. The Frost Monarch cried out as it stumbled several steps back, and a damage of over -6,000,000 appeared above its head. The Valkyrie was even several times stronger than Anna.

When Asura's members saw the Frost Monarch stumble backward, their jaws nearly hit the ground.

The Valkyrie's attacks were extremely fast. Even after transforming its two hands into sharp blades, the Frost Monarch had failed to defend itself. It had been forced to use the six gigantic hands it had summoned against the Valkyrie's attacks.

However, a Tier 4 Valkyrie was no easy opponent, and her Life Rating was considerably higher than the World Boss's. Even while using the six colossal hands to protect itself, the Frost Monarch took one hit after another. The World Boss was utterly helpless against the Valkyrie.

When the Valkyrie's 10-second duration was almost up, she went berserk and used Thunder's Judgement. A purple lightning bolt then shot down from the sky and through the Frost Monarch's body, dealing over -15,000,000 damage.

"Good! The Boss is heavily injured! Everyone, focus on your attacks!" Shi Feng hurriedly shouted as the Frost Monarch's aura weakened.

The surviving raid team ignored the World Boss's six hands and desperately bombarded the monster.

12%... 10%... 8%...

As the Frost Monarch grew closer to its death, it began a frenzied slaughter.

By the time there were less than half of the original 200-man raid team, the Frost Monarch had 2% of its HP remaining. Gentle Snow, Zhao Yueru, and Violet Cloud stopped holding back and used their strongest moves.

Myth of Light!

Frostflame Hell!

Dimensional Fracture!

...

As these attacks struck the Frost Monarch, its HP bar visibly shrunk.

“Die!”

When the World Boss had less than 1% of its HP left, Shi Feng activated Divine Providence, Flame Burst, and Lightning Slash.

“I am immortal, human! You will not get away with this!”

The Frost Monarch snarled, its voice echoing throughout the Purple Frost Field, as its HP fell to zero, and its crystalline body crumbled to the ground...

Chapter 2242 – Frost Monarch’s Loot

The instant the Frost Monarch died, everyone’s experience bars exploded.

The Level 90 World Boss had provided a bounty of EXP. Lifeless Thorn and Asura's other members instantly climbed to Level 80. Although Zero Wing's main force members didn't level up, having already reached Level 86 and 87, their experience bars did grow by a large chunk. They had earned enough EXP to cover more than a full day of grinding.

"It's finally dead!"

As their experience bars filled, the raid team members breathed a sigh of relief. They celebrated their survival throughout the raid.

When the Frost Monarch had gone berserk, its attacks had become faster as its HP decreased. They hadn't been able to keep up, relying on luck to survive.

Fortunately, their overall DPS had been high enough for this raid. Had the battle continued for another 30 or so seconds, they might have lost their lives before the Frost Monarch died.

Once they had a chance to catch their breath, they turned toward the numerous items scattered around the World Boss's corpse.

"So many items dropped!"

"We're rich! That's the loot of a Level 90 World Boss!"

"That's right! Based on how much Mana is gathering around those items, they must be extraordinary!"

The survivors' eyes glowed with excitement when they saw the Frost Monarch's loot. With a casual glance, they could count more than 10 pieces of Dark-Gold Equipment and a few rare Dark-Gold Weapons.

After Level 50, monsters' drop-rates drastically decreased. High-ranked items like Dark-Gold Equipment became very difficult to acquire. Normally, players had to challenge 100-man, Hell Mode Team Dungeons to acquire weapons and equipment of such rank. Moreover, players would be lucky if a single piece of Dark-Gold Equipment dropped from each of the Dungeon's Bosses. One raid wouldn't even be enough to fully gear a player, not to mention a 100-man team.

Most of God's Domain's expert players would be envied among their peers if they had a single piece of up-to-date Dark-Gold Equipment.

Even among the Asura adventurer team, the main force members only wore a few pieces of Level 75 Dark-Gold Equipment, despite being one of the Fire Dragon Empire's top 10 adventurer teams.

Yet, the Frost Monarch had dropped more than a dozen Dark-Gold Equipment pieces. Its drop-rate was many times higher than the Bosses in 100-man, Hell Mode Team Dungeons.

Naturally, the weakest piece of equipment the Frost Monarch had dropped was for Level 90.

Even the various superpowers only dreamed of acquiring Level 90 Dark-Gold Weapons, and players could likely rely on these weapons even after they reached Level 100.

The World Boss had even dropped Epic Equipment. The chances of such equipment dropping in a 100-man, Hell Mode Team Dungeon were abysmal; players would only have a reasonable chance of acquiring such items if they secured the First Clear.

“Alright, healers, resurrect our fallen comrades. We’ll distribute the loot once you’re done,” Shi Feng said, smiling when he saw the hunger in everyone’s eyes.

There likely wasn’t a single player in God’s Domain who wouldn’t be tempted by a World Boss’s loot. World Bosses represented the peak of power among monsters of the same level, and any random item they dropped could raise a player’s strength by a considerable margin.

Shi Feng’s reminder snapped the healers out of their daze, and they promptly went to work, resurrecting their fallen allies. Meanwhile, Shi Feng turned to organize the Frost Monarch’s loot. The rest of the raid team took a seat and watched Shi Feng with eager looks since they didn’t have anything better to do. Even Cola stared at the pile of items in the snow.

The healers finished resurrecting the fallen players after a short moment, and Shi Feng quickly appraised the items, sharing the statistics in the team chat.

“Isn’t this World Boss’s loot a little too generous!?”

“This loot is ten times better than the items a Hell Mode Team Dungeon’s Final Boss drops.”

Zero Wing’s members were no strangers to a World Boss’s loot, so they, more or less, held their composure when they saw shared information. However, Asura’s members were a different story. They were ecstatic after reading the loot’s details.

The Frost Monarch dropped a total of 115 items, far more than what ordinary Mythic Bosses typically dropped. Among the 115 items, there were 17 pieces of Dark-Gold Equipment and 3 Dark-Gold Weapons. The World Boss hadn’t even dropped one Fine-Gold Weapon or Equipment piece.

They'd likely have to raid eight or nine Mythic Bosses in Hell Mode Team Dungeons to acquire so many pieces of Dark- Gold Equipment. Unfortunately, Team Dungeons had very long Cooldowns, and players couldn't raid them as often as they'd like.

Furthermore, every Dark-Gold Weapon and Equipment piece the Frost Monarch had dropped was top-tier.

This Golden Razor's Attributes are just as high as an Epic Weapon's," Cola said, astonished as he inspected a Dark-Gold ranked greatsword.

Although the Golden Razor was only Dark-Gold rank, its Attack Power and Strength were on par with Epic ranked two- handed weapons. Most importantly, the Golden Razor had a Passive Skill that allowed players to wield it as a one- handed weapon as long as they had the required 1,800 Strength.

In other words, players could wield a one-handed weapon with the Attributes and Attack Power of a two-handed greatsword. This Passive Skill alone placed the Golden Razor at the top among Level 90 Dark-Gold Weapons.

Although the required 1,800 Strength was relatively high to ordinary Tier 2 Berserkers, it wouldn't be an issue for expert players of Cola's caliber. In fact, Cola already met the requirement, despite being a Guardian Knight under Level 90.

He couldn't help his growing excitement when he thought about wielding a two-handed weapon alongside his shield.

“That’s nothing. Take a look at the Extreme Frost Set! It’s practically made for Berserkers! The four-piece set effect even lower’s the level requirement by five levels, on top of increasing the wearer’s Ice Resistance by 100 and maximum Stamina by 10%. The six-piece set effect even increases the user’s Strength by 20% and all Berserker Skills by one tier!” Blackie nearly drooled as he examined the Extreme Frost Set’s Attribute bonuses and set effects. He even wished he had chosen the Berserker class, instead of becoming a Cursemaner.

Moreover, the Frost Monarch had dropped the complete Extreme Frost Set. This meant that Berserkers could equip the set at Level 85, and the armor would forcibly elevate all Berserker Skills by one tier to a maximum of Tier 3.

Tier 3 Skills!

Tier 3 Skills were far more powerful than Tier 2 Skills. Zhao Yueru had already made that much clear. Despite the fact that Gentle Snow and Fire Dance had higher Basic Attributes, Zhao Yueru had dealt considerably more damage in the raid than her companions. Her total damage had almost been as high as Shi Feng’s monstrous damage.

If a Tier 2 Berserker equipped the Extreme Frost Set, they’d be on par with an actual Tier 3 Berserker, not including their Basic Attributes and physique.

“Indeed. This Extreme Frost Set’s effects are truly amazing. The Berserkers in the team have just won the lottery,” Yan Tianxing chimed in. Even he was moved when he saw the Extreme Frost Set.

If the set were meant for Assassins, he wouldn’t have hesitated to replace three of his Epic Equipment pieces for the set.

Tier 3 Skills would drastically increase a player’s combat power. If the Extreme Frost Set’s effects were specialized for Assassins, Yan Tianxing would even be confident of contending with Sword Demon.

While the team discussed the Extreme Frost Set, Shi Feng shared the next item's Attribute Panel. When they saw this item, every one of them gasped.

This next item was a weapon, and one the team recognized and feared.

This weapon was none other than the icy-blue spear the Frost Monarch had used against them throughout the raid!

Chapter 2243 – Winter Spear

The entire raid team had personally experienced how powerful this spear, which the Frost Monarch had manifested with condensed Power of Frost, was.

The Frost Monarch's extraordinary Strength and speed hadn't been the main reason that the raid team had struggled against it. They had relied on Kite as the lead MT, and the NPC was more than capable of surviving the World Boss's attacks, taking barely any damage. Rather, the Frost Monarch's frost spear had been the main reason that these players had had so much trouble.

Despite the Frost Monarch's focused attacks against Kite throughout the raid, it had used its attacks' residual power to assault the players, sapping their Stamina and Concentration. This, in turn, had steadily decreased the team's combat power, and to make matters worse, they hadn't been able to block or dodge this residual power.

If Anna hadn't been so powerful, the team would've died from exhaustion before they could kill the World Boss.

"It's even possible for such a weapon to drop?"

"Its Attributes are insane! The team's Berserkers have truly hit the jackpot!"

When they saw the frost spear's Attribute Panel, everyone on the team felt jealous. Even Shadow Sword and Rampant Blade, who both used an Epic Weapon, couldn't help their desire for the spear. Its Attribute bonuses were just that awesome.

[Winter Spear (Replica)] (Spear, Epic Rank)

Level 50 – Level 100

Equipment Requirement: Strength 2,100 Attributes adjust according to user's level.

Attack Power +2,550 (Level 50)

Strength +301, Agility +210, Endurance +270 Attack Speed +12

Attacks carry the Power of Frost. When attacking, all attacks reduce the target's Stamina and Concentration.

Attacks have:

30% chance to deal frost damage to all enemies in a 10-yard radius;

20% chance to trigger Frost Possession, increasing Strength by 20% by 3 seconds. During this time, attacks also deal an additional 270% frost damage and reduce targets Movement Speed when struck by 30%.

When equipped:

Main Attribute increased by 25%;

All secondary Attributes increased by 15%;

Reaction speed increased by 10%;

Ignore Levels +10;

All Berserker Skill effects increased by 30%;

All item level requirements reduced by 5 Levels;

Additional Passive Skill 1-

Chaotic Battle: Strength, Attack Speed, and Movement Speed increased according to the number of enemies hit. Each enemy hit will grant a 3% increase for 5 seconds. Bonus can stack to 30%.

Additional Passive Skill 2-

Ice Guard: When HP falls below 50%, Power of Frost triggers to improve the user's physique by 15%, main Attribute by 15%, and Defend Skill by 3 levels.

Additional Active Skill-

Frozen Century: Converts a 100-yard radius into a frozen realm, using the Power of Frost to corrode all enemies in range. At the same time, the user creates two frost doppelgangers, each with 115% of the main body's Strength.

Duration: 5 minutes

Cooldown: 1 hour

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Even Shi Feng was relatively surprised to see the Winder Spear Replica drop.

The original Winter Spear was a Legendary Weapon, but even a Replica would be extraordinarily powerful. The Epic ranked Replica could likely rival an ordinary Fragmented Legendary Weapon's strength. In terms of Attack Power, this Replica was even stronger than Gentle Snow's Glorious Will. The only difference between the Winter Spear's Replica and Glorious Will's was that the latter could be upgraded to Fragmented Legendary rank, while the former could not.

Even so, the Winter Spear was the best weapon under Fragmented Legendary Rank for Berserkers at Level 100 or below.

If current players wielded this spear, their Attack Power would be among the best in God's Domain. Moreover, players wouldn't have to worry about fighting groups or a single opponent with the Winter Spear's effects.

Naturally, every Berserker on the raid team grew restless after seeing the Winter Spear's Attribute Panel, and they all turned toward Shi Feng almost as one, waiting to learn how he intended to distribute the weapon.

According to Shi Feng's rules, everyone that participated in the raid would have a chance of competing for any Dark- Gold Weapon. Unfortunately, those rules didn't hold true for Epic ranked weapons.

Even the various superpowers treated Epic Weapons and Equipment as a part of the Guild's foundation, and not even the Guild's upper echelons could claim such an item simply because they wanted it. Guilds had strict inspections and evaluations before they'd assign an Epic item to their members, especially when it came to a top-tier Epic Weapon like the Winter Spear.

"The Winter Spear and Extreme Frost Set will go to Lifeless Thorn," Shi Feng announced after giving the matter some thought.

Although he was Asura's commander, Shi Feng hadn't contributed to the adventurer team recently since he'd been so busy with Zero Wing. As a result, Lifeless Thorn had taken full responsibility for leading the Asura adventurer team and the massive Adventurer's Alliance.

By now, many superpowers had begun to compete for resources and player population in the Ice Crystal World. If the Adventurer's Alliance wished to maintain its standing, it needed to rely on more than a Flowing Water Realm expert like Lifeless Thom. The Alliance would need a peak expert, at the very least, to defend it.

"Commander?"

Lifeless Thom stared at Shi Feng, moved. He had never expected his commander to hand him the Winter Spear and Extreme Frost Set. Not even superpowers' upper echelons had the privilege of using such high-quality weapons and equipment, yet despite being Asura's vice commander, he had earned the right.

Adventurer teams weren't nearly as restrictive as Guilds, and even though Lifeless Thorn was Asura's vice commander, he enjoyed far more freedom than large Guilds' elite members.

Moreover, Zero Wing's members wouldn't be pleased to hear that their Guild Leader had given him such powerful items. The consequences were just too high.

Lifeless Thom couldn't understand what Shi Feng was trying to do.

And yet, despite carrying an Epic Weapon and multiple pieces of Epic Equipment, he was sorely tempted to wield and wear the Winter Spear and Extreme Frost Set. Refusing such a generous offer wasn't easy.

Naturally, Shi Feng understood what Lifeless Thorn was thinking. Taking the initiative, he said, "There's no need to say anything. Zero Wing isn't like other Guilds. Asura may only be Zero Wing's subordinate adventurer team, but it's still a part of Zero Wing. As long as you perform well, I have no problems giving you weapons and equipment of this quality. I hope that you will use this weapon and set equipment to improve Asura further."

Zero Wing was quite different than the various superpowers. It didn't have the support of major corporations, and it wasn't as attractive to expert players. If Zero Wing wanted to contend with super-first-rate Guilds and Super Guilds, subordinate, independent organizations like the Asura adventurer team were necessary.

Furthermore, if an adventurer team wasn't led by a powerful expert, it would struggle to develop.

Although Asura was impressive enough to become one of the Fire Dragon Empire's top 10 adventurer teams, that was its limit. Growing any stronger would be an incredible challenge for the adventurer team. Unless Lifeless Thorn increased his strength, it would only be a matter of time before another adventurer team, one with a powerful background, surpassed Asura.

If possible, Shi Feng wanted to help Lifeless Thorn reach the Void Realm, but doing so wouldn't be easy. One would have to improve their senses on a qualitative level, which couldn't be done by simply improving one's combat standards. If it were that easy, the various Super Guilds would have more than just a few peak experts among their ranks.

After Shi Feng's comment, Lifeless Thorn turned to Zero Wing's members to see their reactions, but to his surprise, none of the main force members seemed dissatisfied with the situation. They didn't actually seem to care who received the Winter Spear and Extreme Frost Set.

When Asura's other members saw this, they couldn't help but feel a little ambitious.

As players that had chosen to join an adventurer team, they had knowingly forsaken the resources a Guild could provide in exchange for more freedom. However, enjoying the freedom of an adventurer team, as well as access to a Guild's important resources was better than they could've hoped for.

In that moment, Asura's members silently decided that they would become an even more powerful adventurer team in the future. Even if they couldn't obtain top-tier Epic Weapons like the Winter Spear, they'd still have a chance of securing ordinary Epic Weapons. Such a situation was normally unthinkable for adventurer team members like them.

While everyone secretly envied Lifeless Thom, Shi Feng revealed a playful grin as he shared the Attribute Panel for a jade flute.

When the raid team saw this item, their jealousy of Lifeless Thorn vanished.

"Crap! Am I seeing things?! This is...a Flying Mount!"

Chapter 2244 – Another Flying Mount

Upon seeing the summoning flute decorated with blue runes, every member of the raid team was ecstatic.

Thanks to the Flying Mount that had appeared in the Sea of Death, players were no longer strangers to the concept of Flying Mounts. News of that Mount had spread across God's Domain, giving countless players a new dream of obtaining one for themselves.

Even Aqua Rose and Zero Wing's other main force members, who already knew that Shi Feng was the owner of that mysterious Flying Mount, were at a lost for words, not to mention Asura's members.

Except for Shi Feng, they hadn't heard of any player owning a Flying Mount at this stage of the game. In other words, this summoning flute was only the second Flying Mount found in God's Domain!

Epic Weapons and Equipment might be incredibly precious, but not even the top-tier Epic Weapon, Winter Spear, was worth one-tenth of a Flying Mount. They had already experienced the benefits Flying Mounts had to offer, and their travel speed was simply unbelievable. A Flying Mount could even cross a large-scale map in no more than two or three hours.

Most importantly, Flying Mounts' combat power was incredible. Take Shi Feng's Thunder Eagle, for example. The Thunder Eagle was a bona fide Tier 3 combatant with the ability to contend with Level 100 Great Lords.

If they had a Flying Mount, they'd have their own powerful companion in battle.

"I won't say much about this Flying Mount. If you want it, fight for it. The starting bid will be 300,000 GCPs or 300,000 Asura Contribution Points. The highest bid wins!" Shi Feng said, chuckling as he glanced at the excited crowd before him.

In truth, even Shi Feng had been quite surprised to see the Frost Monarch drop a Flying Mount.

Even a Common Flying Mount was easily worth several Level 100-plus Epic items. Although this Frost Bone Dragon, the Flying Mount the Frost Monarch had dropped, wasn't as powerful as his Thunder Eagle, it was an Intermediate Extraordinary Flying Mount. It was even more valuable than ordinary Fragmented Legendary items.

Initially, he had intended to give the Flying Mount to someone of his choosing to maximize its usefulness, but everyone's intense desire for the Mount had changed his mind. Hence, he had resorted to an internal auction.

Three-hundred-thousand Contribution Points was exceedingly cheap for a Flying Mount like the Frost Bone Dragon. Normally, he should've set the starting bid at 3,000,000 CPs, but since this was an internal auction, he didn't mind lowering the price. Moreover, the sooner one of his players was spotted using the Flying Mount, the more Zero Wing or Asura could benefit.

Naturally, there was no chance of some low-rank player claiming the Frost Bone Dragon. Three-hundred-thousand Contribution Points was an astronomical amount for both Zero Wing's and Asura's members. Not even ordinary core members could afford that price. Of the 200 players participating in this raid, only a dozen or so had enough CPs to bid for the Flying Mount.

Every member of the raid team stared at Shi Feng in astonishment. They had never expected him to sell off the Flying Mount in an internal auction.

He had even assigned the Winter Spear and Extreme Frost Set to a specific player, yet the Flying Mount would go to the highest bidder.

Most importantly, Shi Feng was actually allowing them to compete for it, not keeping such a precious Flying Mount for himself. No other Guild Leader or commander would be as generous as Shi Feng.

It didn't take long for the raid team members to snap out of their daze after Shi Feng's announcement.

"I bid 300,000 GCPs!" Blackie shouted, placing the first bid.

“In that case, I’ll bid 310,000!” Cola shouted, not willing to concede.

“Commander, I bid 320,000 CPs!” Solitary Nine shouted, unable to help himself from participating in the auction.

Asura’s Contribution System was similar to Zero Wing’s, and earning Contribution Points wasn’t easy. Of course, as one of Asura’s two vice commanders, he could afford to hand over 300,000-plus CPs.

“I bid 350,000 CPs!” Lifeless Thorn announced.

Although Lifeless Thom had already acquired a top-tier Epic Weapon and Dark-Gold Set Equipment, the idea of owning a Flying Mount was simply too tempting. A Flying Mount would also affect his development rate, so he couldn’t just give up this chance.

Zero Wing and Asura’s members frantically bid on the Frost Bone Dragon, the price quickly climbing to 450,000 CPs. Once the price rose that high, Asura’s Lifeless Thorn and Solitary Nine had to drop out of the auction. Unlike a Guild, there were fewer means for adventurer team members to earn Contribution Points. Adventurer teams didn’t have access to Guild Quests, for example. Now, only Zero Wing’s upper echelons could compete over the Flying Mount.

In the end, Gentle Snow had won the Frost Bone Dragon for 580,000 Contribution Points. Although Shi Feng didn’t prohibit his players from borrowing points, they had silently agreed to rely on their own Contribution Points due to the importance of a Flying Mount. Their Contribution Points, after all, represented how much they had contributed to the Guild or adventurer team. The player who had contributed the most deserved something as important and valuable as a Flying Mount.

After the auction, Shi Feng handed Gentle Snow her new Frost Bone Dragon summoning flute, and she rejoiced. Ideas of how to use this Flying Mount swam in her head.

Shi Feng then let the raid team members bid for the remaining Dark-Gold Weapons and Equipment, and every item had been auctioned off in less than 10 minutes.

As for the other items the Frost Monarch dropped, Shi Feng didn't share their information or add them to the internal auction. These items touched on Guild interests.

The Bronze Shop Promotion Order, for example, had to be kept a secret.

Moreover, since the Frost Monarch was a Bloodline Lord, it had dropped a Bloodline.

Normally, Shi Feng would've let his players take a look at an ordinary Bloodline. It's not like they were a secret among the various superpowers anymore, and some were even available for purchase in the World Summit's Divine Shrine. If players had enough points, they could even purchase a Peak Bloodline.

However, the Frost Monarch's Bloodline was special, and Shi Feng couldn't afford to reveal it casually.

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[Arctic Bloodline] (Special Bloodline)

Can be fused with a normal Bloodline to produce a new Bloodline. The resulting Bloodline has one opportunity to evolve, and the evolution's benefits depend on the Bloodline Power the resulting Bloodline has absorbed. The more Bloodline Power absorbed, the more benefits the resulting Bloodline will provide. Can absorb a maximum of 100 Bloodline Power. Current Bloodline Power absorbed: 0 points

(Warning: The resulting Bloodline will automatically bind to the user after using the Arctic Bloodline. It cannot be traded and can only be stored in the user's bag space. If the user dies, the Bloodline will drop and be forever lost.)

...

System: Do you wish to fuse with the Arctic Bloodline?

System: You have one hour to decide. If you fail to decide or refuse the fusion, the Arctic Bloodline's power will be lost.

...

Although Shi Feng trusted these players, he had no plans to inform them of the Arctic Bloodline.

While the team rested, Shi Feng wandered off to find a place to sit. He then agreed to fuse with the Arctic Bloodline.

Chapter 2245 – New Bloodline

The instant Shi Feng agreed to the fusion, the Arctic Bloodline in his bag shot through his body and began to merge with the Dark Iron Bloodline.

Thus far, Shi Feng had been quite satisfied with the Dark Iron Bloodline. Although it was only a Basic Bloodline, it was the perfect Bloodline for melee classes, far more valuable to melee players than other Basic Bloodlines.

In fact, Shi Feng wouldn't necessarily trade the Dark Iron Bloodline for a bona fide Advanced Bloodline if given a chance. Compatibility was incredibly important, and the Dark Iron Bloodline improved his compatibility with his melee Skills. It was a rare Attribute.

Although the Dark Iron Bloodline's Attribute Panel didn't clearly outline how much the Bloodline improved his compatibility, Shi Feng had discovered, through trial and error, that his Bloodline improved his Skill Completion Rates by roughly 2%.

While 2% might not seem that high, and even some Epic Equipment could provide a similar bonus, Shi Feng's Skill Completion Rate was already impressive. Shi Feng was very close to 100% Skill Completion Rate with his Tier 2 Skills. For any other player, the Dark Iron Bloodline would likely increase their Skill Completion Rate by more than just 2%.

Even so, a 2% improvement was extremely valuable for Shi Feng. As God's Domain evolved into a more perfect game, higher-tiered Skills and Spells would become increasingly difficult to use properly. A player who had a 100% Completion Rate with their Tier 1 Skills wouldn't be guaranteed to perform as well with Tier 2 to 6 Skills and Spells.

Take Fire Dance, for example. When she had been a Tier 1 player, she had executed her Tier 1 Skills with a 95% or higher Completion Rate, but after reaching Tier 2 and the Flowing Water Realm, she barely

achieved a 90% Completion Rate with her Tier 2 Skills. If she wanted to increase her Skill Completion Rate, she had to continue her training and find more inspiration.

In reality, not even Domain Realm experts fared better than Refinement Realm experts with Skill or Spell Completion Rates. Completion Rates depended on a player's physical control and their understanding of the Skill or Spell in question. Refinement Realm experts already had precise control of their bodies, and Domain Realm experts' physical control wasn't that much better. Domain Realm experts merely had superior perception.

Shi Feng only had such a high Completion Rate with his Tier 2 Skills because he had already grown incredibly familiar with the various Tier 2 Skills in God's Domain. Not a single player in the game could compete with his experience in this regard.

Moreover, the Dark Iron Bloodline would offer greater benefits as he continued to level up and reach higher tiers, particularly as he rose through the tiers.

Although he had already absorbed the Dark Iron Bloodline, he couldn't yet fully exhibit the Bloodline's power. Bloodlines' strength was simply too great for low-tiered players like him to tolerate. He could only unlock more of the Bloodline's abilities as he increased his tier.

Otherwise, Bloodlines wouldn't have been as valuable as Fragmented Legendary and Legendary items, becoming one of the best tools to support God's Domain's players as they became powerhouses.

As the Arctic Bloodline continued to fuse with the Dark Iron Bloodline, Shi Feng felt an indescribable power spread throughout his body. This power felt violent and cold, the sensations mixing within him. If he hadn't deliberately concealed his aura with the Nightwalker's Cape, Fire Dance and the others would've sensed his transformation.

After 10 seconds, the turbulent power within Shi Feng had calmed. The moment it did, the crisp sound of a system notification reached his ears.

...

System: Congratulations! You have successfully fused the Arctic Bloodline and Dark Iron Bloodline. The Frost Iron Bloodline has now bound with you.

...

Eagerly, Shi Feng inspected the resulting Bloodline.

...

[Frost Iron Bloodline (Fused Bloodline)]

Increases player's compatibility with melee Skills and reaction speed. Mainly improves Strength, followed by Agility, Endurance, Vitality, and Intelligence. (Can absorb Bloodline Power to evolve once. The more Bloodline Power absorbed, the greater the evolution's effects will be. Can absorb up to 100 Bloodline Power. Currently absorbed Bloodline Power: 0 points.)

...

So, this is a Fused Bloodline?

As he inspected the Frost Iron Bloodline's Attributes, Shi Feng couldn't believe his eyes. He had assumed the fusion would only improve the Dark Iron Bloodline's inherent Attributes, not birth an entirely new ability. The Frost Iron Bloodline could practically rival Advanced Bloodlines[!]. The only real difference was the increased Basic Attributes.

Fortunately, the missing Basic Attributes weren't that important to Shi Feng. He valued the Bloodline's ability far more,

especially the Frost Iron Bloodline's new ability. Increased reaction speed would be significantly helpf^^

players.

The improved reaction speed would be especially useful when fighting monsters. Unlike players, monsters' reaction speed continued to increase with their levels, which was why higher-leveled monsters were so difficult to deal with. Normally, the only way players could improve their reaction speed was by increasing their Basic Attributes and physique, but the resulting improvement would be minor.

Meanwhile, weapons and equipment that increased reaction speed directly were painfully difficult to acquire. Now that the Frost Iron Bloodline could do just that, it was easily more valuable than the Advanced Bloodlines players could buy from the Divine Shrine.

Amazing! Truly amazing! With this boost, my reaction speed is just as fast as true Tier 3 classes'! Shi Feng was ecstatic when he sensed the change to his reaction speed.

The Tier 3 Promotion Quest was far more difficult to complete than the Tier 2 version, and players' results would

largely influence their future development. Shi Feng had hoped to obtain an Advanced Bloodline before

Tier 3 Promotion Quest to increase his chances of securing a good result. After all, his Blade Saint class was one of

God's Domain's Ten Great Saint Legacies, and his Promotion Quest would be considerably more challenging than other

classes.

Now that he had the Frost Iron Bloodline, he was far more confident of clearing his Tier 3 Promotion Quest.

If this Bloodline is so powerful after the fusion, just how powerful will it become after evolving with 100 points of Bloodline Power? Anticipation overwhelmed Shi Feng as he read the Bloodline's Attribute Panel again.

To obtain Bloodline Power, players had to extract it from Bloodline Creatures or Archaic Species. Unfortunately, the former were incredibly rare in God's Domain.

It seems I'll have to find some time to explore the Thunder God's Secret Land. After giving the matter some thought, Shi Feng decided that hunting in the Thunder God's Secret Land would be the most reliable way to collect Bloodline Power.

Although he knew where to find a few low-level Bloodline Creatures, the Main God System wouldn't give him any chance to exploit such a loophole. His chances of extracting Bloodline Power from low-level Bloodline Creatures would be abysmal. To increase his chances, he had to hunt Bloodline Creatures in the Thunder God's Secret Land.

Unfortunately, it wasn't easy to gain access to the secret land. He would need an entry pass, and entering the secret land by himself wouldn't be efficient. He'd need to obtain enough entry passes for a group of players.

As a result, Shi Feng decided to prioritize Zero Wing's development in the Sea of Death. However, he hadn't come to that decision simply because he wanted entry passes to the Thunder God's Secret Land. After Level 100, the various major powers would turn their attention to the sea due to its many available resources, and if Zero Wing wanted a cut of that pie, it would have to secure a foothold in the Sea of Death as soon as possible.

Thinking up to this point, Shi Feng's gaze drifted to the Bronze Shop Promotion Order in his bag, his desire to upgrade the Wanderer's Shop as soon as possible growing. The naval resources he obtained through his partnership with Phoenix Rain wouldn't be enough for Zero Wing to establish itself in the Sea of Death, and Zero Wing still had to deal with Starlink's harassment.

Once the raid team had rested, Shi Feng returned to White River City alongside his companions.

Chapter 2246 – Turmoil at Dragonheart City

Star-Moon Kingdom, White River City:

Hashes of light illuminated the Teleportation Hall as Shi Feng's team returned to White River City. After Monarch raid, they had spent almost all of their Stamina and Concentration. Although they had rested in the Purple Frost Field for some time, they were visibly exhausted.

"How strange. I'm back in the city, yet my Stamina still feels like it's barely recovering?" Aqua Rose muttered as she concentrated on her physical state.

Fire Dance, Yan Tianxing, and the other Refinement Realm experts felt the same.

Once players reached the Refinement Realm, they gained more precise control over their bodies, and when they lacked Stamina, it subtly influenced their physical performance. Hence, Refinement Realm experts could sense how much Stamina they had remaining based on their physical condition.

Normally, players' Stamina rapidly regenerated when they returned to a town or city, yet Aqua Rose and her companions' Stamina had barely changed. Their Stamina recovery rate was surprisingly slow.

"Don't worry about it. It's just the result of the Power of Frost that infected your bodies. Once the Power of Frost dissipates, you'll return to normal," Shi Feng explained.

Not only were high-level maps dangerous, but they also inflicted lasting negative effects on the players that dared to explore them.

Even among high-level maps, the Purple Frost Field was considered a special place. All forms of energy, with the exception of the Power of Frost, had been expelled from the map. Not only would players' Stamina deplete far faster than usual if they remained in the map for a long time, but their Stamina recovery rate would also be affected. Fighting a World Boss like the Frost Monarch would only make

their condition worse. In their current state, these players would need to rest in a city for at least 10 hours to recover fully.

“Doesn’t that mean that we’ll have to rest for a long time, unable to do much else?” Gentle Snow asked, frowning.

She had just obtained the Frost Bone Dragon, and she wanted to lead a team to grind Field Bosses in unexplored high-level maps as soon as possible to utilize this advantage and secure a large stock of high-level equipment. Zero Wing’s main force members had reached such a high level, but most of their weapons and equipment hadn’t. If they had had up-to-date weapons and equipment in their competition with Starlink, securing their victory would’ve gone much smoother.

“Mhm, but it can’t be helped. High-level resource maps aren’t like they were before,” Shi Feng responded with a shrug.

Reaching Level 100 in God’s Domain wasn’t difficult. The true difficulty lay in obtaining top-tier weapons and equipment that corresponded with their levels.

The Purple Frost Field was one of the best places to acquire top-tier Level 90 equipment. Not only did the map have its own Level 90 World Boss, but it was also home to quite a few Level 90-plus Mythic Bosses.

Unfortunately, maps like the Purple Frost Field had their own form of special energy, so grinding for top-tier weapons and equipment was even harder than normal. In reality, the Purple Frost Field’s harsh environment was gentle compared to the various maps available at that level. Some environments even affected players’ physiques and Basic Attributes.

This was also why the various minor powers and adventurer teams had survived in God's Domain in Shi Feng's previous life. Grinding in these special maps for long periods was impossible due to their environments, and as a result, the various major powers hadn't been able to monopolize these maps' Field Bosses. To dominate these maps, God's Domain's major powers would need a lot more manpower.

This was precisely why Shi Feng wanted to develop the Asura adventurer team, using it to attract more expert players. Although Zero Wing had an incredible main force, the Guild's other teams lagged far behind them.

Gentle Snow's and Aqua Rose's frowns deepened. This meant that their level and Mount advantages weren't as great as they had thought.

"Forget about farming top-tier weapons and equipment for now. You should help our other members level up. Once the Power of Frost's effects wears off, you can organize teams to raid Team Dungeons and get our raiding progress up to speed," Shi Feng said, chuckling.

Collecting a large stock of top-tier weapons and equipment wasn't a walk in the park. If it were, the various superpowers would have squashed the game's minor powers and adventurer teams. They wouldn't have poured so much attention into nurturing Lifestyle players and grinding for resources, either.

"I'll do that, then." Gentle Snow felt helpless. She had no choice but to accept Shi Feng's suggestion and take things one step at a time.

After their conversation, Gentle Snow and Aqua Rose left the Teleportation with the rest of Zero Wing's members. They planned to take the Guild's members out to power-level in high-level maps. Shi Feng, on the other hand, led Asura's members to the Candlelight Trading Firm and loaded them up with Advanced Mana Armor Kits, All-rounded Devices, and other Consumables that the trading firm only sold internally. He also instructed Melancholic Smile and her team to produce some Resistance equipment for the adventurer team members to help them develop at a higher rate.

Shi Feng then found a Special Forging room before using the Abyss Pendant to teleport to Dragonheart Island.

In the blink of an eye, Shi Feng appeared in an alleyway in Dragonheart City's outer area.

But for some reason, Dragonheart City seemed livelier than during Shi Feng's last visit. Hardly any players had spent their time in the city's outer area before, but now, he noticed a large number of players in this area of the city. Moreover, most of these players were neutral-race players, not human.

Why are so many neutral players here? Shi Feng was astonished when he saw how many neutral players roamed the street.

These neutral players were very high-leveled, with most of them at Level 76 or higher. There were even quite a few Level 78 players. Mainstream players had just reached Level 72 and 73 at this stage of the game, so these neutral players' levels were surprising. Even most large Guilds' peak experts had only just reached this level. Meanwhile, Dragonheart City was located in the Sea of Death's inner region, and the closest neutral city was very far away. There should only be a small number of neutral players that would bother traveling this far.

Neutral experts weren't the only players in the city right now. There were also large crowds of experts from the various major powers and many from second- and third-rate Guilds.

As Shi Feng observed the passing players, he noticed a familiar group.

It was none other than Thoughtful Rain and Blue Bamboo, who loved to vanish from the Guild, and they seemed to be in the company of Melody and a few other Ninth Heaven members. Since Shi Feng was still disguised as Black Flame, Thoughtful Rain and her companions quickly recognized him.

You're here, too, Big Brother Black Flame?" Blue Bamboo promptly walked up to Shi Feng as soon as she saw him.

"Guild Leader Black Flame," the Half-elf Melody greeted.

"Why are you guys here?" Shi Feng asked, surprised.

The Fairy Country, Melody's home country, was quite a distance away from Dragonheart Island. Traveling so far was a major challenge.

"Oh? You don't know, Guild Leader Black Flame?" Melody asked, giving Shi Feng an odd look.

"Know what?" Shi Feng asked.

"We're here because we've received news that a pathway to the western continent has appeared in Dragonheart City.

All of the various major powers are heading this way to test their luck and see if they can make it to the western continent," Melody explained.

Chapter 2247 – Wanderer’s Shop Promoted

“A pathway to the western continent?” Shi Feng was surprised to hear the news.

God’s Domain consisted of two main continents, separated by a massive distance. Even with a Flying Mount, it would take several days to travel from one continent to the other. To make matters worse, one would encounter many Level 180 and 200-plus sea monsters and flying monsters.

Even after players reached Tier 3 during Shi Feng’s previous life, very few people had been strong enough to travel between the continents.

Normally, players would have to rely on teleportation arrays or special paths that had survived since ancient times.

Take Starlink, for example. The Guild must’ve secured a teleportation array that only it, alone, knew of.

However, Shi Feng had never heard of a path leading to the western continent in Dragonheart City during his previous life. Shi Feng was also certain this wasn’t because of a weakness in his information network or his Guild’s inability to learn it. If a path had appeared in the middle of a city, it would’ve shaken every power on the continent.

The current situation was the best proof of this. Guilds from the eastern continent’s various kingdoms and empires were rushing to Dragonheart City after learning of the pathway. Even the various neutral powers were making the trip. It would be very difficult not to learn of this pathway’s discovery.

A pathway between the two main continents represented unimaginable opportunities and wealth. The two continents had different cultures and development goals, which was why neither Unyielding Heart nor Crimson Emperor was a match for Starlink's economic development.

"I'm not sure about the exact details. I came here with a friend who is trying to find out more about the situation," Melody explained.

"Big Brother Black Flame, why don't you come with us and take a look at this pathway? Rain and I have explored so many places, but we've never visited the western continent," Blue Bamboo invited Shi Feng.

"My friend has been in Dragonheart City for quite some time now, so his connections and information network are quite impressive. I'm sure he'll find the facts soon," Melody said, nodding in agreement. She had considered inviting Shi Feng to join them as well, but it wouldn't be proper to invite another Guild Leader without a good enough reason.

Since Blue Bamboo had taken the initiative to invite him, she might as well go with the flow and use this opportunity to develop the relationship between Ninth Heaven and Zero Wing.

Zero Wing had prospered lately, and because of that, the Death God Workshop had calmed quite a bit in the Fairy

Country, allowing Ninth Heaven to develop peacefully. Since Shi Feng clearly didn't know much about the western continent, she could use this opportunity to earn a favor.

"Alright, but I have some matters to see to before I can join you," Shi Feng said after giving the matter some thought.

A pathway to the western continent was indeed a tempting issue. If he could visit the western continent this early, Zero Wing could gain access to endless wealth and resources. Since Melody was trying to do him a favor, likely to earn one back, he didn't mind taking advantage of this situation.

"That won't be a problem. In any case, my friend still needs some time to investigate. We'll be wandering around this area of the city in the meantime," Melody said. She secretly rejoiced when she heard Shi Feng's answer.

Zero Wing was already incredibly strong as a Guild and was almost guaranteed to become a superpower in the future.

If Ninth Heaven could secure a close relationship with the Guild now, Ninth Heaven would only benefit later.

Once Shi Feng and the others agreed on where to meet later, he hurried toward the Wanderer's Shop.

Due to news of the pathway, the street the Wanderer's Shop occupied, which had been deserted during Shi Feng's last visit, was crowded with players. Everyone was here to learn more about this mysterious path to the western continent.

Although I'm surprised that someone has discovered the pathway, it has saved me a lot of trouble in luring customers to the Shop.

With a quick glance, Shi Feng realized that most of the players on the street were experts. These expert players were either from Guilds or well-known adventurer teams. Naturally, they'd have stronger information networks than ordinary experts.

Shi Feng had been worried about how to lure in customers after upgrading the Wanderer's Shop. Without enough customers, he wouldn't be able to sell the Black Market teleportation slots for a good price, but it seemed that he no longer had to worry about that.

He immediately headed into his Wanderer's Shop.

The Wanderer's Shop had a total of three floors, and the building itself was quite old. The items it currently sold were of little value, as well. Not even ordinary players would be interested in these items, much less expert players. The only customers currently in the Shop were NPCs, and when Shi Feng checked the daily transaction volume, it was pitifully low.

...

System: Bronze Shop Promotion Order detected. Do you wish to upgrade the Wanderer's Shop?

...

"Upgrade." Shi Feng chose to upgrade the Shop without hesitation.

The Bronze Shop Promotion Order sitting in Shi Feng's bag transformed into particles of light and disappeared. As it did, the Shop itself began to change.

The changes were not visible from outside the Shop, but internally, the Wanderer's Shop underwent a metamorphosis.

Although the Shop's first floor still looked old and tattered, the system replaced the old, garbage items. Now, the shelves held magic tools that could even tempt expert players, including Tier 2 Magic Scrolls.

Among the various new items, one stood out to Shi Feng, surprising him.

The Spirit Stone!

The Spirit Stone was a special type of gemstone, a Consumable. It was incredibly rare, and when equipped, it would improve players' Mana perception.

The improved Mana perception would be useless to physical-class players, but to magical class players, the Spirit Stone was a priceless treasure. Their Mana perception directly affected their Spell Completion Rates. Unlike Skills, casting a Spell didn't rely on physical movement. Instead, it relied on players' control over Mana. Naturally, a caster with stronger Mana perception would have better control of their Spells.

Once God's Domain's magical class players discovered the Spirit Stone, they'd go crazy over it.

However, when Shi Feng saw the Spirit Stone's price, he broke out in a cold sweat.

Each Spirit Stone actually cost 400 Ancient Gold!

The Spirit Stone was a Consumable item and would vanish after seven days of use, but even incredibly powerful experts would need several months to earn 400 Ancient Gold.

As expected of the Black Market. The prices are all fraudulent. Shi Feng realized that earning Ancient Gold through the Wanderer's Shop alone wouldn't be as easy as he had hoped. Although the Wanderer's Shop's merchandise was incredible, very few players would be able to afford any of it.

As for the Black Market teleportation slots, the 2-star Shop would only sell 20 slots each day, and the minimum price for each slot was 200 Ancient Gold, 10% of which would go to the Shop's owner. Even if all 20 sold for the minimum price, Shi Feng would earn 400 Ancient Gold from the Wanderer's Shop each day. It was an absurd amount.

Players would be lucky to earn 200 Ancient Gold from ordinary 2-star grocery stores or smithies each day. With the Wanderer's Shop, on the other hand, a player could earn double that through the teleportation slots alone. And that was only the beginning. As the Shop's traffic and transaction volume increased, more teleportation slots would become available for purchase, increasing the Shop's total income.

It's no wonder why the various superpowers were so desperate to own a Wanderer's Shop. Every Wanderer's Shop is a goldmine. The daily profit from one of these Shops can rival one-fifth of the income from a newly-captured fortress in the Gravity Mountain Range.

As Shi Feng browsed the Shop's wares, he determined that he could earn 500 Ancient Gold per day if sales were good. Even the well-established first-rate powers in Dragonheart City only earned that much Ancient Gold per day.

As for the Gravity Mountain Range's fortresses, players couldn't just capture one on a whim. Unlike other fortresses, a power would need a large number of experts to garrison the Gravity Mountain Range's fortresses long-term. Swarms of monsters would attack the fortresses every day, and the amount of manpower needed to run a fortress was no trivial matter. Not even ordinary superpowers would have the necessary strength to secure and profit from one of these fortresses.

In comparison, the Wanderer's Shop could generate one-fifth of a newly-captured fortress's income without any risk.

...

System: The Wanderer's Shop has been upgraded. Do you wish to open it to the public?

Chapter 2248 – Blackhearted Shop

Shi Feng immediately agreed to open the Wanderer's Shop to the public after hearing the system notification.

Although it was possible to hire more NPC staff and renovate the Shop after the upgrade to 2-star status to lure in more customers, Shi Feng did not have the money to do so.

He only had 1,000 Ancient Gold remaining, and every item and service in Dragonheart City cost Ancient Coins. Players even had to pay to enter the World Tower.

To enter the World Tower's first floor, where the Gravity Mountain Range was located, a team had to pay 5 Ancient Copper per player. If one wished to explore the World Tower's second floor, it would cost 1 Ancient Gold per player.

Dining in Dragonheart City was also very expensive. However, it was an unavoidable expenditure as the food and drink in Dragonheart City accelerated Stamina and Concentration regeneration, as well as

expelling the Otherworld Energy that infected players' bodies, allowing players to reenter the World Tower sooner.

This was also why minor powers couldn't survive in Dragonheart City. Otherwise, the World Tower would've been crowded with players since it was such a wonderful place to level up and obtain resources. Players wouldn't need to waste hours traveling to high-level maps, subjecting themselves to strange energies.

Shi Feng planned to bring Zero Wing's members to develop in Dragonheart City in the near future, so he couldn't afford to waste money.

Most importantly, he needed to pay 3,000 Ancient Gold once every ten days to maintain the Wanderer's Shop. It was best that the Shop started conducting business as soon as possible.

Shortly after the Wanderer's Shop opened to the public, an NPC entered the Shop to sell his item. Surprisingly enough, the NPC was selling a Tier 2 Skill Book. Unfortunately, his asking price was 60 Ancient Gold.

Not long after this NPC entered the Shop, players began to cross its threshold.

These players had only intended to window shop, but once they saw the available merchandise, they froze, their feet glued to the ground.

"Crap! Isn't this a Resurrection Scroll!? These are even rare in empires' Auction Houses! The last one I saw even went for 200 Gold, yet this place is only selling it for 50 Gold!"

Take a closer look. It cost Ancient Gold, not normal Gold.”

The players’ eyes glowed with excitement when they saw the Shop’s merchandise, but once they saw the listed prices, that excitement vanished. Well-known adventurer team experts like themselves could save up 50 Gold, but even if they sold everything they had on them, they still wouldn’t have 50 Ancient Gold.

Yet, every item in the Wanderer’s Shop cost Ancient Gold...

When Shi Feng heard this group curse the Wanderer’s Shop for its blackhearted prices, he couldn’t help but shake his head and chuckle. He had felt the same in the past. Despite being the Guild Leader of a second-rate Guild, the Wanderer’s Shop’s goods had been too expensive for him. Needless to say, adventurer team members wouldn’t fare any better.

Shi Feng then left the Shop and hurried toward the agreed-upon meeting place to meet up with Melody and the others.

Since the Wanderer’s Shop was now open for business, it would only be a matter of time before the various major powers in the city discovered it. He would not have to worry about the Black Market teleportation slots selling. He had also left 500 Ancient Gold with the Shop and instructed its NPC staff to purchase Epic materials. He decided to refuse NPCs’ other items since he couldn’t afford them at the moment. He could only slowly accumulate Ancient Gold through the Wanderer’s Shop.

After a few minutes, Shi Feng arrived at a bar in the city’s inner area. The bar was called the Blue Rose, and as soon as he arrived, he discovered Melody’s group, happily chatting with a Level 79 Tigerkin Berserker.

Not only was this Tigerkin Berserker very high-leveled, but his equipment was also quite impressive. The Berserker currently wore the Raging Punishment Set, a Level 75 Fine-Gold Set Equipment. His two-

handed axe also gave off the glow effect unique to Epic items. The wild and powerful aura he radiated was even powerful enough to deter first-rate Guilds' peak experts.

Moreover, Shi Feng could tell he was a Refinement Realm expert by the Tigerkin's movements. The Tigerkin Berserker's strength was even stronger than Melody.

"Big Brother Black Flame, have you settled your affairs?" Blue Bamboo asked when she saw Shi Feng enter the bar. "Mhm, they're done." Shi Feng nodded.

You're just in time. Here, let me introduce you. This is my friend, Swimming Dragon. He's the commander of the Dragon Riders adventurer team," Melody said. She then turned to Swimming Dragon and continued, "This is Zero Wing's Guild Leader, Black Flame."

"So, you're that famous Sword King!" Swimming Dragon looked at Shi Feng in surprise.

As Dragon Riders mainly operated on Dragonheart Island, Swimming Dragon was not particularly familiar with Guilds and experts outside of his home base. However, the top 50 experts on the God's Domain Experts List were a different story. Furthermore, Shi Feng's rank had recently risen on the Experts List. In the latest issue, Shi Feng had been ranked 14th. The man was difficult to miss.

Although the God's Domain Experts List was not a clear indicator of an expert's strength, those who could earn a high rank were definitely extraordinary.

However, Shi Feng didn't seem any different than an average person as he sat before Swimming Dragon. If not for Melody's introduction, he might've dismissed the Guild Leader as an ordinary player. He couldn't sense the imposing aura that was typical of powerhouses. In fact, Shi Feng's aura felt quite weak.

“Hello,” Shi Feng replied with a slight nod.

After a brief introduction, Swimming Dragon informed the group of what he had learned about the pathway to the western continent. However, to everyone’s disappointment, the pathway didn’t actually exist. Players had simply discovered a King-class sea monster a short distance away from Dragonheart Island. Based on what the various superpowers had discovered, this sea monster had a chance of dropping a teleportation stone that could transport players to the western continent.

The various superpowers had only spread the news because of how powerful the King-class sea monster was. There was also a group of powerful sea monsters protecting this King-class, and it would take more than two superpowers to take the King-class sea monster down. Hence, the various superpowers intended to use the various major powers’ strength for the raid.

When they found this out, the various naval powers that had gathered in Dragonheart City hurried toward the island nearest to the King-class sea monster. They would begin the raid once they had enough overall combat power.

Swimming Dragon had voiced his intentions to join the raid to see if he could get a piece of the pie. Melody’s group was interested in taking a look, as well. Naturally, Shi Feng wouldn’t refuse this opportunity and decided to travel to the island with Swimming Dragon and the others.

“There are so many people here!” Blue Bamboo was astonished when she saw the number of ships in the port.

There were usually plenty of ships in Dragonheart City’s port, but right now, there were at least 10 times more ships than normal. Just leaving the port was a challenge.

“It will take too long to get to Tranquil Mine Island by ship. Dragonheart City has a specialized transport ship that travels to that island. The trip will be easier if we take the transport ship,” Swimming Dragon said. “Previously, I’ve already asked someone to purchase our tickets. We can just get on board the transport ship directly.”

After saying so, Swimming Dragon led Shi Feng and the others to the transport ship’s dock.

Players crowded around the docked transport ship, everyone waiting to board. With no other choice, Shi Feng and his latest companions patiently waited in line.

After waiting for more than half an hour, it had come time for Shi Feng’s group to board the ship, but suddenly, two burly men approached them. One of these players was Level 78, while the other was Level 79. When the surrounding players saw these men, they promptly stepped out of the way and did their best to avoid meeting their eyes. Both of these experts possessed powerful backgrounds in Dragonheart City, and ordinary experts wouldn’t dare provoke them.

“Swimming, I’ve heard you’ve purchased tickets to board the ship. Give them to me; I’m in a rush,” the Level 78 Shield Warrior said, grinning at Swimming Dragon. “Relax, I won’t just take advantage of you. I’ll pay the favor back later.”

“You’re too late, Ironhand. I’ve already given my tickets away,” Swimming Dragon said, shaking his head.

“Does that matter? People are easy to replace. Tell me who they are, and I’ll negotiate with them. I’m sure they’ll gladly agree to give me their tickets,” the Shield Warrior named Ironhand said, laughing.

Swimming Dragon's expression darkened at Ironhand's words.

"Stop messing around, Ironhand! The Dragon Riders adventurer team is working under Heaven's Blade!" Swimming Dragon warned.

The Shield Warrior, Ironhand, was nobody of significance. Like Swimming Dragon, Ironhand was only a Refinement Realm expert. However, the Nine Snakes adventurer team stood behind the man.

Plenty of powers operated on Dragonheart Island, and the various adventurer teams ruled over a significant portion. Naturally, the island's top 10 adventurer teams led the way. These 10 adventurer teams were extremely powerful and had support from various corporations. They walked the path of the elite and had a large number of capable experts. In terms of strength, these top 10 adventurer teams were even stronger than the various first-rate Guilds on Dragonheart Island.

Meanwhile, Nine Snakes was one of the top 10 adventurer teams.

Due to Nine Snakes' position on Dragonheart Island, the adventurer team's members were particularly arrogant. Unfortunately, very few players and powers had the strength to put Nine Snakes in its place. As a result, most of the adventurer teams and independent players on Dragonheart Island tried to avoid Nine Snakes' members as much as possible.

The Sea of Death's situation wasn't like that of the main continent. Not only was the competition here extremely intense, but the consequences for dying were also more severe. On land, players would only lose a piece of equipment and a level if they were killed. Out at sea, however, one would lose a ship. These ships were the key to naval players' survival. Without a ship, naval players' development would stagnate.

Of course, as Dragon Riders was a well-known adventurer team as well, it had caught the eye of many powerful adventurer teams. As a result, Dragon Riders could ally itself with one of these adventurer teams for protection. The adventurer team Dragon Riders had chosen to ally with was none other than the Heaven's Blade adventurer team.

Like Nine Snakes, Heaven's Blade was also one of the top 10 adventurer teams on Dragonheart Island.

You think Heaven's Blade is that awesome? Do you know who this expert beside me is?" Ironhand asked, sneering. "This is the War Blood adventurer team's newly promoted team leader, Snowy Afterglow!"

"He's that genius from War Blood?" Swimming Dragon's expression turned serious as he looked at the slightly arrogant-looking Level 79 Berserker youth beside Ironhand.

Practically every adventurer team on Dragonheart Island knew the name 'Snowy Afterglow.' The man had become one of War Blood adventurer team's team leaders despite being only 22-years-old.

War Blood was the third-ranked adventurer team on Dragonheart Island, and overall, it was even stronger than Nine Snakes and Heaven's Blade. In fact, the two adventurer teams combined might not be a match for War Blood.

It was no exaggeration to say that War Blood was half as strong as a superpower. Of course, one had to be a peak expert to become one of its team leaders.

"That's right, and we're in a hurry. We don't have time to waste with you," Ironhand snapped, annoyed. His gaze then shifted to Shi Feng and the others before he said, "I've never seen you before. You guys must be Swimming Dragon's friends, right? I'll get straight to the point. Give me two of your tickets. If anyone tries to give you a hard time on Dragonheart Island, you can give them our names."

After all was said and done, Swimming Dragon commanded Dragon Riders, one of Heaven's Blade's subordinate adventurer teams, so Ironhand couldn't take his ticket from him. However, he shouldn't have any problems taking one of his companions' tickets.

When the nearby players heard Ironhand's demand, they gave Shi Feng's group envious looks.

Earning Ironhand's favor was worth the price of a ticket, not to mention Snow Afterglow's. PvP was more common in the Sea of Death than it was on the main continent, and without sufficient strength, surviving here would be impossible. If one were protected by a VIP like Ironhand or Snowy Afterglow, they could develop on Dragonheart Island without worry.

The only problem was the blow one would suffer to their reputation by conceding their tickets.

Unfortunately, there wasn't much Swimming Dragon could say against it. It might not have been an issue if Ironhand had been alone, but he couldn't afford to offend Snowy Afterglow. Heaven's Blade might not protect him from the young man.

However, Melody and the others were his friends, and he couldn't let someone bully them out of their tickets.

As Swimming Dragon was about to offer his own ticket, Shi Feng, who had been silent throughout the conversation, opened his mouth and snarled, "Scram!"

With one word, silence fell over the area. Even the adventurer team expert players who hadn't been paying attention, happy chatting among themselves, stopped and turned toward Shi Feng. This situation was simply too shocking to ignore.

"Has this guy lost his mind?"

"Based on his looks, he must be new to Dragonheart City. He probably doesn't know who Snowy Afterglow is."

The various adventurer team players were already used to the arrogance Nine Snake's members displayed. Moreover, Nine Snakes' influence on Dragonheart Island had been growing stronger recently. Anyone with more than half a brain would avoid picking a fight over such a small issue.

And yet, someone had actually dared to provoke a Nine Snakes member. This was the first time anything like this had occurred on Dragonheart Island.

Furthermore, Ironhand was accompanied by one of War Blood's newest team leaders. By disrespecting both Ironhand and Snowy Afterglow, Shi Feng had practically sacrificed his development on Dragonheart Island and in the Sea of Death.

Shi Feng's response even stunned Ironhand for a moment.

After snapping out of his daze, Ironhand coldly asked, "Are you looking to die?"

"What? You want to try me?" Shi Feng shot back, smirking at Ironhand.

“Good! I’ll remember you!” Ironhand growled as he glared at Shi Feng. Strangely calm, the two experts left.

However, none of the watching players were surprised by Ironhand’s reaction. They were still in Dragonheart City, and anyone that tried to assault another player was simply suicidal. Not even the War Blood adventurer team would dare attack another player inside the city. There wasn’t a single power in the game that could contend with the NPC soldiers that patrolled this city.

“That guy is dead for sure. His life in the Sea of Death is likely over now. Not even Swimming Dragon can protect him.” “Regardless, it was awesome to see Ironhand so pissed!”

Many of the expert players on the docks flashed Shi Feng pitying looks. There would now be bad blood between Shi Feng and the Nine Snakes adventurer team, and Nine Snake’s members were well-known for seeking vengeance for the smallest insult. Ironhand definitely wouldn’t let this matter rest.

While the crowd quietly discussed the disruption, Shi Feng’s group boarded the transport ship without any more interruptions. They then made their way toward Tranquil Mine Island.

As this was the first time they had boarded a transport ship, Blue Bamboo and Thoughtful Rain were surprised by the ship’s size. The transport ship was almost as large as a destroyer in the real world, with a total of four floors. It was considerably larger than God’s Domain’s sailboats. There were even break rooms on the ship, which would accelerate players’ Stamina and Concentration recovery. No other ship had this ability. Moreover, the transport ship was very fast, even faster than a Bronze Speedboat.

It was the ideal ship for most players who wished to develop out at sea.

“It’s a pity that only NPCs can own transport ships. If players like us could own one, we wouldn’t have to worry about our development at sea,” Thoughtful Rain said. When she had inspected the break rooms’

effects, she had discovered that time flowed differently in these rooms. The time in the break rooms passed as quickly as it did in the real world, which meant that the travel time players experienced would be halved while they rested. They wouldn't have to be bored or irritated that the journey took so long.

Transport ships, huh? When Shi Feng heard Thoughtful Rain's comment, he remembered a shipyard in Dragonheart City.

It was a Large Shipyard that was capable of producing a unique transport ship. Although that ship wouldn't be as powerful as the transport ship they currently rode, it had a transport ship's basic functions. Back when player-owned transport ships had emerged in the past, it had caused quite a commotion among the various naval powers. Players had only discovered which shipyard had been responsible for these transport ships after in-depth investigations. However, a superpower had long since purchased the Large Shipyard in question by then.

Players had only started developing on Dragonheart Island, and the shipyards here were still extremely expensive.

Even the cheapest shipyard cost 80,000 Ancient Gold, a price only superpowers could afford. However, the various superpowers were busy contesting over Dragonheart City's Shops. They had no time to pay attention to these shipyards.

If Shi Feng could purchase the Large Shipyard in question early on, not only would it generate a significant amount of wealth, but it would also drastically increase Zero Wing's naval strength.

While Shi Feng pondered over how to earn a large sum of Ancient Gold as quickly as possible, Swimming Dragon approached with a worried expression.

"Guild Leader Black Flame, Nine Snakes, the adventurer team Ironhand that belongs to, is one of the local tyrants on Dragonheart Island. I don't think we should participate in the joint sea monster raid near

Tranquil Mine Island. Nine Snakes will definitely try to pull something to punish us,” Swimming Dragon said.

Although Swimming Dragon knew that Shi Feng was very powerful, they were in the Sea of Death. The rules here were drastically different than those on land. Otherwise, the various adventurer teams wouldn't have been able to secure territory on Dragonheart Island despite so many superpowers present.

“Relax. I know what I'm doing,” Shi Feng said, chuckling. He did not bother to explain further.

Swimming Dragon sighed inwardly. He thought that Shi Feng was acting a little too full of himself. He simply didn't know how powerful naval adventurer teams were.

After a little over two hours, the transport ship finally docked on Tranquil Mine Island.

A thick layer of dark fog enveloped Tranquil Mine Island, and other than the port, a ghostly atmosphere devoured the island. Once players set foot on the island, they'd succumb to a chill, and their reaction speeds would significantly decrease. Players could even freeze to death if they lingered for too long on the island. This was practically an island of death.

However, the port was full of Bronze and Mysterious-Iron Speedboats. There were even a few sailboats here. The scene was even grander than in Dragonheart City's port.

Shortly after the transport ship docked and just as Shi Feng and the others were about to step onto the wooden platform, they discovered a group of players before the transport ship. Every one of these players emitted a dense killing intent, and a few of them had already reached Level 80. Even an expert like Swimming Dragon was afraid as he felt these players' dangerous auras washed over him.

Meanwhile, two familiar figures led this group of experts, and they were none other than Ironhand and Snowy Afterglow.

“Brat! You were quite bold earlier! Would you dare repeat yourself now?” Ironhand demanded, sneering at Shi Feng.

Chapter 2250 – A Person You Shouldn’t Provoke

When the players on the transport ship saw the small fleet surround them, they couldn’t help but grow nervous.

Combat was a daily occurrence for Dragonheart Island’s players, whether it be against sea monsters or players. Although large-scale naval PvP was common as well, none of those battles had involved a fleet as powerful as the one around the transport ship. Over 20 speedboats had the larger ship surrounded, eight of which were Bronze Speedboats, and one was Mysterious-Iron rank.

Nine Snakes’ grand display of strength even surprised the other powers on Tranquil Mine Island, not to mention the players aboard the transport ship. These powers upper echelons immediately ordered an investigation into this matter.

“We’re doomed...”

Swimming Dragon stared at Nine Snakes’ fleet with a grim expression. He hadn’t expected Ironhand to be so vicious.

An ordinary adventurer team would be fortunate to have a single advanced speedboat in their fleet. The Dragon Riders were lucky enough to have two Bronze Speedboats, which were the reason that the adventurer team had become quite famous and gained some influence on Dragonheart Island.

Yet, the Nine Snakes adventurer team had dispatched a Mysterious-Iron rank and eight Bronze ranked Speedboats. Even if they could sprout wings and fly, they wouldn't escape Nine Snakes' encirclement.

Unlike on land, there wasn't anywhere players could flee to at sea, especially when they were surrounded by a powerful enemy. Even if they had a Bronze Speedboat on their side, escape would be impossible.

"Are we in trouble, Big Brother Dragon?" Blue Bamboo asked curiously. Since she was not familiar with naval players' ways, she didn't understand why everyone seemed so nervous about the few speedboats around them.

"'Trouble' is an understatement..." Swimming Dragon replied, gesturing to an Elementalist aboard Nine Snakes' Mysterious-Iron Speedboat with a bitter smile. This Elementalist was clad in pitch-black robes and wore a silver mask. "If we only had to face Ironhand, I could find a way out of this, but that is Nine Snakes' vice commander, Undefeated Star. He used to be the Nine Star Family's Vice Guild Leader, but he left the super-first-rate Guild a few years ago for some unknown reason and joined Nine Snakes. He is also one of the few Naval Legacy holders in the Sea of Death."

Countless seafaring players dreamed of obtaining a Naval Legacy.

Naval Legacies might not be of much help, or any, to players on land, but they could help a seafaring player become an overlord on the open water. Picking a fight with a Naval Legacy holder at sea was suicidal.

After listening to Swimming Dragon's explanation, the other players on the transport ship turned to Shi Feng.

“Sure enough, the Nine Snakes adventurer team really shouldn’t be provoked. That guy might’ve enjoyed a moment of glory, but now, he’ll pay for it.”

“I hadn’t thought that Nine Snakes would respond so ruthlessly. Even Undefeated Star is here.”

“Friend, Undefeated Star is vicious. It’s best if you apologize. Otherwise, they might hunt you down and kill you back to Level 0!”

“I’ve heard that Undefeated Star has a special tool that can double the death penalty, and Nine Snakes has quite a few expert trackers. Another adventurer team’s commander had provoked Undefeated Star not that long ago and lost over 10 levels as a result. That commander had no choice but to lead his adventurer team away from the Sea of Death.”

Many of the players on the transport ship pitied Shi Feng. If he hadn’t acted so rashly earlier, he wouldn’t be in this situation. Some kind-hearted players even offered him advice.

Being able to mingle on Dragonheart Island was already proof of one’s strength, and everyone present knew how difficult it was to reach this point in the game. Losing 10 levels would be more than enough to despair over, not to mention dying back to Level 0.

“Punk, if you accept your death and obediently hand over all of your equipment, we might consider letting the insult slide!” Ironhand shouted.

“It’s only a ship ticket, Ironhand. Do you really have to make such a fuss over this?” Swimming Dragon pleaded through gritted teeth, stepping forward. “Will you let me apologize for my friend?”

“Why would I want an apology?!” Ironhand snapped, disgusted. “I had to mobilize Nine Snakes’ Mysterious-Iron Speedboat just to get to Tranquil Mine Island! Do you really think an apology can make up for that?”

“I know you’re a righteous person, Swimming Dragon, but your friend has disrespected our adventurer team. Do you think we can let him get away with that without paying a price?” Undefeated Star asked Swimming Dragon before shifting his gaze toward Shi Feng.

“What do you want?” Shi Feng asked.

“Kneel, apologize to my friend, and offer 1,000 Ancient Gold as compensation. Do that, and we’ll consider this matter settled,” Undefeated Star said as he gestured to Snowy Afterglow, who stood beside him.

“One thousand Ancient Gold?”

“Nine Snakes really is ruthless. An ordinary adventurer team on Dragonheart Island would be lucky to have a few dozen Ancient Gold. I’m not sure even well-known adventurer teams can fork out 1,000 Ancient Gold.”

Many of the spectating players gasped when they heard Undefeated Star’s demands.

Every player on Dragonheart Island knew how difficult it was to acquire Ancient Gold Coins, yet Undefeated star demanded 1,000 Ancient Gold as compensation, in addition to an apology. Undefeated Star was practically shoving Shi Feng toward his doom.

“Isn’t this going a little too far, Vice Commander Star? My Dragon Riders adventurer team is working under Heaven’s Blade. I hope that you will consider taking a step back out of respect for Heaven’s Blade.” Swimming Dragon tried to reason with the man again.

Swimming Dragon hoped that he could convince Undefeated Star to back off by dropping Heaven’s Blade’s name. Heaven’s Blade was the fifth-ranked adventurer team on Dragonheart Island, a rank higher than Nine Snakes. If Heaven’s Blade found out that Nine Snakes refused to show respect, the larger adventurer team would take action.

“You’re so brave to negotiate with Brother Star, Swimming Dragon. Not even Heaven’s Blade’s vice commanders would dare to speak to him that way!” Ironhand said, sneering at Swimming Dragon. “Of course, if Commander Zwei were here, it might be a different story.”

Heaven’s Blade had four vice commanders, but none of them was a match for Undefeated Star. Only Zwei, Heaven’s Blade’s commander, could suppress him.

Swimming Dragon couldn’t think of a response. He simply wasn’t important enough to ask for help from Heaven’s Blade’s vice commanders, much less from Commander Zwei.

“Since Nine Snakes’ Undefeated Star has spoken, that guy can only pay his due.”

“I know some people are strong enough to save him, but those powerhouses don’t just show up to help anyone.”

None of the spectators found anything wrong with Ironhand’s statement. It was true that Swimming Dragon didn’t qualify to negotiate with Undefeated Star. In fact, if Undefeated Star was in a foul mood, he might decide to take out Swimming Dragon along with Shi Feng.

“I don’t know who you are, punk, but you should be careful of who you provoke in the Sea of Death,” Ironhand said, smirking at Shi Feng. “Well? Hurry up and apologize to Brother Afterglow!”

The moment Ironhand finished speaking, a blue sword light shot toward him. Instinctively, he tried to defend himself, but the attack had been too fast. The sword light had sliced through him, devouring all of his HP. Ironhand tried to speak, but his vision had already darkened, and his body fell to the deck of the ship. His corpse then transformed into particles of light and left behind a piece of equipment.

“What incredible Attack Speed!”

Shocked by the abrupt attack’s speed, the watching crowd gasped.

Almost as one, they all turned toward the attack’s origin. To their surprise, the attacker was none other than Shi Feng, the player who had dared to provoke the Nine Snakes adventurer team.

“Just who are you?” Undeclared Star watched Shi Feng carefully after Ironhand’s body had vanished.

“A person you shouldn’t provoke,” Shi Feng said, chuckling as he sheathed Killing Ray and stared back at Undeclared Star.

Chapter 2251 – Fury

Silence fell over the area after Ironhand's death, and everyone stared at Shi Feng in shock.

"He's dead?" Swimming Dragon muttered, utterly stupefied after watching Ironhand's body transform into particles of light and disappear. However, he wasn't just shocked that Ironhand hadn't responded to the attack in time to save himself and died instantly as a result. Rather, Shi Feng's decisiveness astounded him.

Swimming Dragon had known that Shi Feng wouldn't tolerate humiliation, especially since Zero Wing had become a pseudo-super-first-rate Guild. As Zero Wing's Guild Leader, Shi Feng was like a king. If he weren't, Melody wouldn't be working so hard to strengthen her relationship with him.

However, Zero Wing might be Star-Moon Kingdom's absolute overlord, but there were plenty of overlords on Dragonheart Island. The weakest Guilds on the island was a first-rate Guilds, and even they had to show Nine Snakes respect. The adventurer team was simply that powerful.

This was also why Swimming Dragon had been trying to ease the tension between Shi Feng and Nine Snakes, yet all of his efforts were for nothing.

Not only had Shi Feng slain Ironhand, but he had spoken so arrogantly to Undefeated Star in front of a large crowd. It was akin to a slap in the face. Powers like Nine Snakes, which prioritized their reputations, wouldn't take this insult lying down.

We're truly doomed now. Swimming Dragon couldn't help his bitter smile when he saw Undefeated Star's ashen complexion.

Undefeated Star was one of the top-ranked experts on Dragonheart Island. Moreover, he was accompanied by his squad of powerful bodyguards, all of which carried a special item that allowed them to form a specific magic array. This magic array would massively boost these bodyguards' strength when they were on the open ocean. Every one of these bodyguards was like a humanoid sea monster when the array was active. Because of this, very few people dared to disrespect Undefeated Star.

Even Heaven's Blade's vice commanders treated the man with respect.

You are the first person to speak to me in such a way in the Sea of Death," Undefeated Star said, staring at Shi Feng like he was a dead man walking. "Let's see whether or not I can afford to provoke you!

"Wolf, I want him to suffer 100 deaths today!"

Every one of Undefeated Star's last few words had been spoken in an incredibly chilling tone. Even unrelated players shuddered when they heard it.

"Understood!" a man named Devouring Wolf, who stood beside Undefeated Star, replied.

Devouring Wolf then led the dozen or so bodyguards in a charge against Shi Feng.

Not only were these bodyguards all Level 79, but they were also experts that had followed Undefeated Star when he had left the Nine Stars Family, giving up his position as Vice Guild Leader. Every one of them was a veteran Refinement Realm expert.

As these bodyguards approached Shi Feng, magic runes began to appear on their bodies. At the same time, a gigantic magic array, covering a 300-yard radius, appeared in the sky above them. As the array manifested, the bodyguards' Basic Attributes began to rise. Their auras also underwent a tremendous transformation. Now, they felt more like ancient sea monsters rather than human players.

“Careful! Their Basic Attributes are higher than a Great Lord’s of the same level while they’re in the magic array! You can’t face them head-on!” Swimming Dragon hurriedly warned Shi Feng.

“Thanks.” Shi Feng responded to Swimming Dragon’s warning with a light nod.

“So what if you know about the magic array? You might be able to avoid a fight with one of us, but can you avoid us all?” Devouring Wolf, the bodyguards’ leader, asked disdainfully.

Devouring Wolf swung his battle axe at Shi Feng, and the weapon’s Strength was even high enough to warp space around it. However, before the battle axe could come anywhere near Shi Feng, the Swordsman used Killing Ray to deflect the attack.

The moment the sword and axe collided, an intense shockwave shook the players’ surroundings. The clash of metal echoed throughout the magic array.

Surprisingly, Shi Feng didn’t stumble backward after the exchange, yet Devouring Wolf’s expression changed as if he had just seen a ghost.

How is his Strength so high? Shock and confusion filled Devouring Wolf’s mind as he glanced down at his trembling arms and the 1,000-plus HP he had just lost.

He was as strong as a sea monster while the magic array affected him. He even had enough Strength to frighten a peak MT. However, when his axe had met Shi Feng’s sword, he had actually taken damage.

Swimming Dragon gaped at the two fighting players. Devouring Wolf wore even better equipment than he did, and while the magic array affected the bodyguard, even he’d have to activate a Berserk Skill to

match Devouring Wolf's Strength. However, Devouring Wolf had taken damage after charging at Shi Feng...

"Not bad. I can see why Nine Snakes has become one of Dragonheart Island's top 10 adventurer teams," Shi Feng said, chuckling at Devouring Wolf's frightened expression. "Now that you've attacked me, I should return the favor."

Shi Feng then swung Twilight Blade.

A sword light sliced at Devouring Wolf, and although he had seen it coming, he hadn't been able to keep up with the attack's speed no matter how hard he tried to block it with his axe.

In the end, Devouring Wolf could only watch as the sword light passed through his body. His HP then plummeted, only stopping after it had hit zero. A moment later, Devouring Wolf's vision faded to black, and his body collapsed to the deck of the transport ship.

Devouring Wolf was dead!

Despite their many years of combat experience, Undefeated Star's other bodyguards were stunned when they saw this. For a moment, they even forgot to surround and attack Shi Feng.

However, Shi Feng did not wait for these players to recover from their daze, and he charged forward.

Shadow Blade!

Immediately, 10 sword lights flew at the remaining bodyguards.

After acquiring the Arctic Bloodline, Shi Feng had practically become a Tier 3 player. He only lacked the ability to use Tier 3 Skills.

The difference between Tier 2 and Tier 3 players was even larger than the difference between Tier 1 and Tier 2. The most obvious difference was the players' reaction speed. It was no longer a gap that could be shortened through Basic Attributes.

Every one of Undefeated Star's bodyguards died in less than 20 seconds, and as a result, the magic array vanished. The only evidence that they had been here was the several equipment pieces they had left behind.

"Vice Commander Star, do you still think you can afford to provoke me?" Shi Feng calmly asked as he sheathed his swords.

Chapter 2252 – Shocking Tranquil Mine Island

Shi Feng's words, combined with the fact that all of Undefeated Star's bodyguards were now dead, stunned the spectating players. They had ridiculed him for his ignorance and arrogance, yet now, they were silent, staring at Shi Feng as if he were a frightening monster.

On the other hand, Swimming Dragon's eyes were so wide they might fall from their sockets. Staring at Shi Feng, Swimming Dragon unconsciously muttered to himself, "Isn't he a little too strong?"

Although Swimming Dragon had known that Shi Feng was extraordinarily strong, he hadn't dreamed that the Swordsman was this powerful.

Swimming Dragon had seen many peak experts before, but the difference between them and Shi Feng was like the difference between heaven and earth. If he hadn't known that Undefeated Star's bodyguards had been trying to kill Shi Feng, he would've suspected that they had been putting on a play, with Shi Feng as the hero. Those bodyguards' Basic Attributes were monstrous, and their combat standards were no weaker than his.

Even Zwei, Heaven's Blade's commander, would have to retreat from Undefeated Star's bodyguards if they ganged up on him. None of those players feared death, and they were more than willing to disregard their defense to go blow for blow with their opponents like lunatics.

However, those bodyguards had been as weak as toddlers before Shi Feng. The Swordsman had only needed one hit to kill each of those players. He had acted as if that fight had been nothing more than a walk in the park.

Shi Feng's strength was simply inhuman!

Swimming Dragon couldn't help but turn toward Melody, who stood beside him. He had wondered why she and her companions had tolerated Shi Feng's rash actions. Their opponent was Nine Snakes, one of Dragonheart Island's top 10 adventurer teams, but after this latest display, it seemed they didn't have to worry about dissuading Shi Feng...

What Swimming Dragon didn't realize, however, was that Melody and her companions were just as shocked as he was.

Of course, they had been confident in Shi Feng's prowess, not worried that he'd have issues when dealing with Nine Snakes. Even if Nine Snakes were Dragonheart Island's local tyrant, the adventurer

team wouldn't find a Domain Realm expert like Shi Feng easy to deal with. Even if the Swordsman weren't a match for Nine Snakes, he was more than capable of evading their grasp.

Only, Melody and the others hadn't thought that Shi Feng would be this strong, even able to kill strengthened Refinement Realm experts without activating a Berserk Skill. Shi Feng's Basic Attributes were simply heaven-defying.

"It seems you're not all talk after all," Undefeated Star said suddenly, laughing. Contrary to everyone's expectations, Undefeated Star had remained calm, even after watching his bodyguards die. "However, this isn't some competition. You might be able to deal with a dozen or so players, but do you think your Basic Attributes can outmatch players with active Berserk Skills? If I send expert group after expert group to attack you, how long do you think you'll last?"

"Moreover, we are on an island right now, surrounded by the sea. Don't think you can escape me."

As soon as Undefeated Star finished speaking, another group of a dozen or so players stepped forward, sneering at Shi Feng.

Their combat standards might not be as high as the bodyguards, but their equipment was just as high-quality. Moreover, every one of them possessed Berserk Skills. If they activated their Berserk Skills, their Basic Attributes would be even higher than the bodyguards', who had been strengthened by the magic array.

"Crap! Undefeated Star's aiming for a rotational battle!" Swimming Dragon's expression darkened.

Shi Feng's strength was shocking, but they were still out at sea. These players didn't fight like those on land.

On land, one could simply flee from an opponent with an active Berserk Skill, waiting until the duration ended, but an island was only so large. Where could players possibly run to?

Moreover, Shi Feng was greatly outnumbered. Even if he activated his own Berserk Skill and widened the gap in Basic Attributes, Undeclared Star's subordinates could take their time, dragging the fight out and waiting for Shi Feng's Berserk Skill to end. Once it did, hundreds of experts with Berserk Skills would besiege Shi Feng.

"You're really quite brave to insist on provoking me. Unfortunately, you simply don't know how foolish it is to make me your enemy at sea," Undeclared Star said, glaring at Shi Feng. However, he did not hurry to order an attack; he enjoyed seeing his opponents despair before him. The stronger his opponent was, the more pleasure he'd get from seeing their anguish.

"Are you not afraid that I'll kill you before my Berserk Skill ends?" Shi Feng asked, curious.

Berserk Skills had short durations, but Undeclared Star only had so many players. Shi Feng only counted 100 or so Nine Snakes members. If he activated his Berserk Skill, he could easily take these players out within a few minutes.

"You think our adventurer team has so few members on this island, punk?" a bald man beside Undeclared Star spoke up, laughing. "Dragonheart Island's various major powers have dispatched several hundred players to Tranquil Mine Island to raid the King-class sea monster. Some of them have sent over a thousand members. How many players do you think Nine Snakes, an adventurer team famed for its high member count, has sent? Moreover, everyone knows that Thirteen Thrones, a bona fide Super Guild, backs Nine Snakes! Do you really think you can take on Thirteen Thrones?"

None of the watching experts commented on the bald man's statement. What he had said was true, after all. Thirteen Thrones' support was the reason that so many major powers feared Nine Snakes, allowing the adventurer team to develop as rapidly as it had.

Thirteen Thrones?” The revelation surprised Shi Feng slightly.

“What? Afraid now, punk?” Undefeated Star chuckled when he saw the change in Shi Feng’s expression. “Unfortunately for you, it is too late for regrets. Nine Snakes’ members aren’t the only ones on their way. Thirteen Thrones’ experts are almost here. How long do you think you can evade us all?”

This latest information made Melody and her companions nervous.

Nine Snakes was enough trouble on its own. They had never thought that the adventurer team had the support of a Super Guild. This mess had really blown out of proportion.

God’s Domain only had a small number of Super Guilds, and every one of them was an overlord. Ordinary superpowers simply couldn’t compare.

“Guild Leader Black Flame, you should leave. We’ll figure out a way to stop them. If we wait until their reinforcements arrive, it will be too late to escape,” Melody said in the team chat as she disembarked from the transport ship.

Shi Feng was Zero Wing’s Guild Leader and the main reason for the Guild’s success. He couldn’t afford to let other players kill him. If that happened, and word spread, Zero Wing’s reputation would take a massive hit. Moreover, she was responsible for inviting Shi Feng on this trip, so it was imperative that she keep him safe.

Thoughtful Rain also nodded her agreement, following Melody as she approached Shi Feng.

As the two women reached Shi Feng's side, a large group of players emerged from the island's forest. This group was comprised of Nine Snakes and Thirteen Thrones' members, led by a savage man. This man was none other than Nine Snakes' commander, Halfstep Victor.

Crap! How is this possible?! Why is a VIP like him here?! Swimming Dragon stared at Halfstep Victor in shock, unable to believe his eyes.

"How did they get here so soon?" Melody's anxiety spiked as she watched reinforcements arrive.

"You're really unlucky, punk!" Undefeated Star smiled when he saw Halfstep Victor's figure. "If you have any last words, now's the time to speak up."

When the spectating experts saw Halfstep Victor, they shook their heads and sighed. That man was a VIP that could shake Dragonheart Island with a stomp of his foot, and now that he was here, Shi Feng's fate was sealed.

However, while Undefeated Star and his companions basked in their assumed victory, a rugged voice echoed across the port.

Star, get over here this instant!"

Chapter 2253 – Bigshot?

Halfstep Victor's arrival alone had surprised the various experts in the port, but when they heard what he had to say upon his arrival, they were utterly dumbfounded.

"What's going on?"

As one of the top 10 adventurer teams on Dragonheart Island, Nine Snakes was even stronger than some of the first-rate Guilds in the area. It was no exaggeration to say that Nine Snakes was only inferior to Dragonheart Island's superpowers.

Halfstep Victor was resoundingly famous on Dragonheart Island for his numerous victories on the battlefield. He had earned the nickname 'Ironblooded Berserker' and was one of the island's publicly acknowledged top 10 Berserkers.

Plenty of superpowers had focused their attention on Dragonheart Island, and they had countless experts under their command. It was easy to imagine how powerful Halfstep Victor was to rank among the top 10, despite such impressive competition.

When such a bigshot had arrived, the crowd had immediately assumed that Shi Feng was a dead man.

Unexpectedly, however, Halfstep Victor had disregarded Shi Feng, yelling at his own vice commander instead. Based on the man's tone, he clearly wasn't pleased with Undefeated Star's latest behavior.

Even Nine Snakes' members were stunned.

"You called for me, commander?"

Undefeated Star approached Halfstep Victor, confused. He had no idea what was happening, either.

“Order your men to pull back immediately!” Halfstep Victor snarled, glaring at Undefeated Star.

“But, Commander, we haven’t taught that punk a lesson yet,” Undefeated Star quickly insisted. “We invited Snowy Afterglow to further our relationship with War Blood, yet that punk dared to disrespect us in front of him. If we don’t deal with this properly...”

“Enough! I will not repeat myself!” Halfstep Victor frostily declared.

Halfstep Victor commanded great respect, even on Dragonheart Island. Needless to say, his word was law within the Nine Snakes adventurer team. Not even Undefeated Star would dare to defy him.

Obediently, Undefeated Star ordered his subordinates to retreat.

The spectators on the docks were astonished as they watched Nine Snakes’ members withdraw. None of them understood what the adventurer team was up to.

“They’re not fighting anymore?”

“What?! Is this for real?! Nine Snakes’ members are leaving, just like that?!”

Undefeated Star had been adamant about killing Shi Feng a moment ago, yet now, his subordinates were pulling away from the fight. The watching experts simply couldn't keep up with this situation's development.

Even Melody, Swimming Dragon, and their companions were confused. They didn't understand why the adventurer team would retreat so suddenly.

While everyone wondered about Nine Snakes' intentions, Halfstep Victor approached Shi Feng.

"Friend, this has all been a misunderstanding. I hope you won't take this matter to heart," Halfstep Victor said with an apologetic look. "Here, take this Sea Barrier Stone as compensation for the Nine Snakes adventurer team's mishap."

Halfstep Victor then revealed a fist-sized, light-blue globe and handed it to Shi Feng. Right now, the man looked nothing like Nine Snakes' peerless commander.

Undefeated Star's eyes nearly fell from their sockets as he watched the exchange. He even wondered if the player he was looking at was the same Halfstep Victor he knew.

Halfstep Victor was an overlord on Dragonheart Island, standing at the very apex of the island's experts. Even superpowers' Guild Leaders treated him with respect, yet now...

Melody and Thoughtful Rain, who stood by Shi Feng's sides, were at a loss, and Swimming Dragon stared at the Swordsman as if he were some unknown god.

Melody and Thoughtful Rain's group were new to Dragonheart Island, so they weren't familiar with Halfstep Victor's status and normal behavior. Swimming Dragon, however, was very familiar with what kind of person the commander was.

Halfstep Victor was the Demon King of Disasters!

He was absolutely ruthless!

He wouldn't have been able to tame Nine Snakes' arrogant members, otherwise. He was so ruthless that not even Undefeated Star dared to show any disrespect before him.

And yet, Halfstep Victor apologized and offered Shi Feng compensation. It was the first time many of the spectating experts had ever seen such a thing.

Moreover, the item Halfstep Victor had offered was the Sea Barrier Stone.

Players outside of the Sea of Death might not be familiar with the Sea Barrier Stone, but those who frequented the map knew it was a priceless treasure. First-rate naval Guilds would go crazy over the item.

The Sea Barrier Stone would generate a magic array that was strong enough to suppress any sea monsters caught within. Not only would players have an easier time defeating the sea monsters, but it also increased players' chances of escaping powerful sea monsters they encountered and couldn't defeat.

However, the Sea Barrier Stone only dropped from Level 70-plus Mythic ranked sea monsters.

Mythic sea monsters were many times more difficult to defeat than Mythic monsters on land. Even the various superpowers would have to pay a high price to take down such a powerful target. Hence, very few powers were willing to raid Mythic sea monsters.

Swimming Dragon was utterly flabbergasted that Halfstep Victor was actually willing to offer Shi Feng such a precious item.

“Do we know each other?” Shi Feng asked. Halfstep Victor’s behavior surprised him, as well.

Shi Feng had been prepared for a fight. Although the Nine Snakes adventurer team was quite formidable, the team had no hope against the cards he had on hand.

Shi Feng certainly hadn’t expected Halfstep Victor to submit before him.

He knew quite a bit about Nine Snakes’ commander. The man was undoubtedly a ruthless player. Not only was Halfstep Victor a Domain Realm expert, but he would also grow into a Tier 6 Berserker God in the future. Halfstep Victor had been known as the Ironblooded Wargod during Shi Feng’s previous life.

“No,” Halfstep Victor said, shaking his head. “However, we have a shared acquaintance on Tranquil Mine Island. You’ll understand once you meet them.”

“A shared acquaintance?” Halfstep Victor’s answer confused Shi Feng. He did not remember having any acquaintances on Dragonheart Island or Tranquil Mine Island. “Since that is the case, let’s forget about this issue. Take me to them.”

“Please, follow me.” Halfstep Victor released a held breath, relieved after hearing Shi Feng’s reply. He then led Shi Feng away from the docks.

When the spectating crowd saw this, they were dumbfounded. Undefeated Star had been out for Shi Feng’s blood a moment ago, yet a bigshot like Halfstep Victor had shown up, offering peace and leading Shi Feng away. Moreover, Halfstep Victor smiled amicably and treated Shi Feng with immense respect. For a moment, the watching experts wondered if they were hallucinating.

“Who is that player?”

“For Halfstep Victor to apologize and act as a guide, he must be some kind of VIP.”

The spectators discussed their guesses about Shi Feng’s identity, but since he wore a Black Cloak, they couldn’t learn anything about him other than the fact that he was a Level 80 Swordsman. They had no idea who Shi Feng really was.

The experts from the various major powers promptly reported the situation to their superiors, while the adventurer team players spread the news throughout the Sea of Death. For a while, Dragonheart Island was in an uproar.

Chapter 2254 – Sea God’s Kin

As Undefeated Star watched Halfstep Victor lead Shi Feng’s group to Tranquil Mine Island’s inner region, he was overwhelmed with shock.

“May I know what is going on here, Vice Commander Star?” Snowy Afterglow asked.

As the War Blood adventurer team’s youngest team leader, Snowy Afterglow qualified to look down on Nine Snakes’ vice commanders. He wasn’t a match for Undeclared Star, but his combat power did rival peak experts’.

Of course, Nine Snakes’ commander, Halfstep Victor, was an entirely different story.

Nine Snakes was far weaker than War Blood, but it was still one of Dragonheart Island’s top 10 adventurer teams, and as such, Halfstep Victor stood on the same level as War Blood’s commander.

“I don’t know, but we have to put this matter to rest. I hope Brother Afterglow can forgive us for this,” Undeclared Star said, shaking his head as he smiled bitterly.

Undeclared Star had assumed Shi Feng had been joking; he hadn’t actually thought that the man’s claim was true. If even someone like Halfstep Victor had to treat Shi Feng with such great respect, how could a vice commander possibly afford to provoke the Swordsman?

“You jest, Vice Commander Star. Encountering such an important person had made this trip worth my time,” Snowy Afterglow said, chuckling. Not even he could afford to provoke someone that even Halfstep Victor clearly feared. At this moment, he only hoped that Shi Feng would forget about what had happened between them.

The various major powers had set up Advanced Tents on a vast, open plain within the Tranquil Mine Island’s forest. Swimming Dragon, who had followed Shi Feng, was stunned when he saw it.

Every one of these tents housed a power that was much stronger than the Dragon Riders adventurer team. With just a casual glance, Swimming Dragon noticed quite a few of Dragonheart Island's top 50 adventurer teams' and those were the powers on the edge of the clearing.

As Halfstep Victor led the group toward the clearing's center, Swimming Dragon noticed increasingly stronger powers, many of which were first-rate powers on Dragonheart Island.

Since Halfstep Victor was their guide, Shi Feng's group attracted a lot of attention as they passed.

"Who are those people? Halfstep Victor is treating them so respectfully, acting like a tour guide."

"Isn't that Swimming Dragon, the commander of the Dragon Riders adventurer team? Why is he with that group?"

These players weren't familiar with Shi Feng and Melody's group, but they did recognize Swimming Dragon. The Dragon Riders adventurer team ranked among the top 100 adventurer team on Dragonheart Island, albeit barely. Since it was a second-rate power on the island, Dragonheart Island's players would have some familiarity with the adventurer team's commander.

As Swimming Dragon felt the various first-rate powers watching him, his heart pounded with excitement. Normally, Dragon Riders didn't qualify to stand on equal footing with Dragonheart Island's first-rate powers, even if it was a well-known adventurer team, yet because of Shi Feng, he received these powers' attention. He had never dreamed of such a thing happening.

"Commander Dragon, I've caused you quite a bit of trouble. This Sea Barrier Stone should be helpful to your adventurer team while at sea. I hope you can accept it as my apology," Shi Feng said as he handed Swimming Dragon the Sea Barrier Stone.

Shi Feng greatly admired Swimming Dragon's righteous behavior. The man had stood up for him, despite knowing how powerful the Nine Snakes adventurer team was. Although the Sea Barrier Stone was a valuable item, it was useless to Shi Feng. The stone was only effective against Great Lord rank and below sea monsters. Its effects against Grand Lords and Mythic sea monsters would be minimal.

One Sea Barrier Stone would mean nothing to a Guild of Zero Wing's size. Otherwise, why would Halfstep Victor have been so willing to part with it?

In comparison, the stone would provide a massive boon to a weak adventurer team with few members.

"How can I accept such a valuable item? I barely did anything, anyway," Swimming Dragon instinctively rejected Shi Feng's offer.

"Guild Leader Black Flame has made the offer. You should accept it, Dragon," Melody advised.

"Big Brother Dragon, just take it. Our Guild Leader rarely offers gifts," Blue Bamboo chimed in.

"In that case, I'll take it." Realization dawned on Swimming Dragon after listening to Melody and Blue Bamboo's insistence. Turning back to Shi Feng, he said, "Guild Leader Black Flame, if ever you find yourself in need of the Dragon Riders adventurer team's help, please, feel free to give us a call. We'll use everything we have to assist you."

The apology had confused Swimming Dragon, but after listening to Melody and Blue Bamboo, he realized that Shi Feng was trying to offer him a favor. How could he possibly ignore the opportunity to form a connection with someone that even Halfstep Victor respected?

“I might have to take you up on your offer in the future, Commander Dragon,” Shi Feng said, nodding.

Dragonheart Island would become the heart of navel development in the future. If Zero Wing wanted to gain strength on the open sea, it would have to develop on the island as well. Fortunately, Swimming Dragon was familiar with matters that related to the Sea of Death, and if he could convince the Dragon Riders to become one of Zero Wing’s subordinate adventurer teams, Zero Wing would have an easier time developing on the island.

Most importantly, Zero Wing could recruit Dragonheart Island’s independent experts through the Dragon Riders adventurer team. Not all of God’s Domain’s experts wanted to join a Guild; most of them preferred adventurer teams that offered far more freedom.

Swimming Dragon silently rejoiced that Shi Feng was willing to accept his offer. With this connection, he wouldn’t have to worry about his adventurer team’s development on Dragonheart Island. He couldn’t help but flash Melody a grateful look.

While Shi Feng and his companions chatted and followed Halfstep Victor, they quickly arrived before a three-story-tall Bronze Tent.

Six Level 80 Refinement Realm experts stood guard outside of the tent’s entrance. Although they were only Refinement Realm experts, they radiated unique auras, which didn’t feel that those of human players. Their auras resembled Undefeated Star’s, who possessed a Naval Legacy, yet somewhat different.

Sea God’s Kin? Shi Feng looked at the six players in surprise.

Bloodlines could increase players' Life Ratings, but there were other items and methods that could do the same in God's Domain. One of these methods involved receiving a God's blessing and becoming said God's kin. This was akin to becoming a Bloodline Creature.

In other words, the six players before him were Bloodline Creatures.

Unlike players with Bloodlines, Bloodline Creature players didn't receive boons to all aspects. Only certain aspects were improved. Not only would the six Refinement Realm experts before him receive a boost to their Basic Attributes and physiques when fighting out at sea as a Sea God's Kin, but they'd also be able to trigger the Bloodline Abilities the Sea God had granted them.

Although these benefits couldn't rival those a Peak Naval Legacy provided, they could rival and Advanced Legacy. In other words, these six Refinement Realm experts were even stronger than ordinary Refinement Realm experts. Every one of them should have the strength to rival ordinary peak experts.

The only downside to becoming a Sea God's Kin was that players would be barred from many of the kingdoms and empires on the main continent, which weren't friendly to non-human races.

Obtaining a Sea God's blessing and becoming a Bloodline Creature wasn't an easy process, yet these six players had succeeded.

Suddenly, a young, Level 80 player emerged from the tent. His aura was similar to the guards, but more intense. Based on the young man's movements, Shi Feng could tell that he had reached the Void Realm and was a bona fide peak expert.

"You may enter. The lord is waiting inside," the young man said, glancing at Halfstep Victor with an indifferent gaze. "Remember; you must show respect once you're inside!"

Halfstep Victor nodded in response before leading Shi Feng and his companions into the tent.

Chapter 2255 – Tower of Four Gods

Confused, Shi Feng followed Halfstep Victor into the tent.

Just who was this shared acquaintance that could make Halfstep Victor submit?

Halfstep Victor was a Domain Realm expert that would be considered an apex combatant in a Super Guild. Even Super Guilds' Guild Leaders had to show him respect, especially at sea.

Naval transportation was both dangerous and inconvenient. The sea was vast, and because of this, the various superpowers couldn't control as much of the ocean's maps as they did on land.

Since the various superpowers gathered on the sea, the competition here was far more intense than on the main continent, as well. Even Melancholy, Thirteen Thrones' Guild Leader, couldn't demand so much respect from Halfstep Victor. Every expert had their pride, after all, especially Domain Realm experts.

While Shi Feng wondered who this acquaintance was, he and his group entered the tent's main hall.

Although the Bronze Tent only revealed three floors from the outside, occupying a relatively small area, it was many times larger within. It was as if the Bronze Tent contained a miniature world, and its main hall was a spectacular sight to behold. As they entered the main hall, Shi Feng and his companions felt as if they had stepped inside an ancient shrine.

A dozen Level 80 experts lined the two walls, radiating imposing auras. Every one of these experts wore two to five pieces of Epic Equipment, and even the weakest player had reached the Void Realm. Their frightening auras weren't that of a human player, but of Bloodline Creatures or wielders of Advanced Naval Legacies.

As these experts watched Shi Feng's group, even Swimming Dragon broke out in a cold sweat. He couldn't help but lower his head and avoid their gazes.

Blue Bamboo, on the other hand, turned deathly pale when she sensed the experts' horrific auras. Only Thoughtful Rain fared better than her companions.

Even Shi Feng was a little astonished to see these players.

These experts could likely kill Halfstep Victor with very little effort if they wished to. Shi Feng would have to rely on his trump cards to escape their pursuit.

Among the dozen experts, Shi Feng sensed six Domain Realm experts, two of which had even progressed even further in the Domain Realm than he had. However, since these players held special tools and wore black masks to hide their faces, he couldn't determine their identities. He couldn't even see their current levels.

There were three other players in the hall, two males and one female. One of the two men was young, while the other was older. Their female companion was a beautiful youth, and when Shi Feng saw the young man and woman, he was surprised to recognize both of them.

The young man was none other than his old acquaintance Lu Xingluo, while the beautiful woman was Happy Art.

“Elder Wu, I’ve brought the player you requested to see,” Halfstep Victor respectfully announced as he gazed at the elderly man who sat in the hall’s seat of honor. He behaved like a subordinate reporting to his superior.

Elder Wu didn’t radiate the terrifying aura the other experts in the room had. On the contrary, his aura felt ethereal, as if he had one foot in the grave. The elder was Level 79, and there was no comparison between him and the other experts in the room.

Shi Feng didn’t recognize the older man at all, and he had never heard of him in this life or his previous one. However, the fear and respect Halfstep Victor showed this elder were legitimate; this wasn’t some act.

“You may go,” Elder Wu said, nodding.

Hearing this, Halfstep Victor bowed and left the hall, his usual arrogance in the Sea of Death nowhere to be seen. Swimming Dragon was stupefied was so anxious he began to sweat.

To Swimming Dragon’s knowledge, Halfstep Victor could demand respect from superpowers’ Guild Leaders, even if he didn’t stand on equal footing, yet...

While the Dragon Riders’ commander wondered about the elderly man’s identity, the player in question shifted his gaze to Shi Feng. Shi Feng felt as if this old man could look straight through him, and for a moment, even he felt a little afraid.

“Sure enough, the younger generation will always surpass the old. It’s no wonder why Little Melancholy is so optimistic about your prospects,” Elder Wu said, chuckling.

Little Melancholy? Hearing the way Elder Wu referred to Thirteen Thrones’ Guild Leader confused Shi Feng. How is he still little?

Melancholy might seem young in God’s Domain, but that was just his appearance. The man should be nearing his 60s. Moreover, Melancholy was Thirteen Thrones’ Guild Leader, and he had held that position for over two decades. His word was practically law within his own Guild. Who would dare call him ‘little?’

“Big Brother Black Flame, Elder Wu is Thirteen Thrones’ largest shareholder and one of the Guild’s founders. You might not know of him since he had been in seclusion for some time. Our Guild Leader is two generations younger than Elder Wu,” Happy Art explained in a whisper to Shi Feng when she saw his confusion.

The explanation stunned Shi Feng.

Thirteen Thrones had been established nearly a century ago. Initially, the Guild had been supported by two major corporations. In other words, this Elder Wu was more than 100 years old.

Although Elder Wu had the support of a Super Guild, it was astounding that a man like him had reached Level 79 at this stage of the game.

It was true that a person’s physical body in the real world wouldn’t impact their virtual body in God’s Domain, someone as old as Elder Wu should have some mental deterioration. It was simply impossible for him to behave like a lively, young man, even in God’s Domain.

If Elder Wu kept up with peak experts despite his extreme age, Shi Feng couldn't imagine how powerful this man had been during his prime.

"May I know what business you have with me, Elder Wu?" Shi Feng asked after taking a moment to calm down.

He didn't know Elder Wu, and no one of this man's status would call him here for a simple greeting.

"Smart young man," Elder Wu nodded approvingly. Smiling, he continued, "I've heard about your situation from Little Melancholy. I'll be direct. I want Zero Wing to withdraw from the deal involving Gravity Mountain Range's fortress. My reasoning is simple. This operation involves some of Thirteen Thrones' valued secrets.

"However, Little Melancholy has still made you a promise. As compensation for breaking this promise, I will give you one of the Tower of Four Gods' teleportation stones we will obtain after raiding this King-class sea monster. The Tower of Four Gods has existed since before the Great Destruction, and it's rumored to contain countless opportunities.

Some of the current empires' founders even attributed their success to the Tower of Four Gods. In fact, the Ore Empire's Founding Emperor had only gained enough strength to unify the Ore race, forming his empire, due to his experience in the Tower of Four Gods.

"Each teleportation stone can transport two players into the Tower of Four Gods. Whomever you choose to accompany you will be none of my business."

Realization dawned on Shi Feng after listening to Elder Wu's explanation.

He had never heard of Dragonheart Island containing a path to the western continent in the past. How could such a trip be so easy, after all? It was more likely that the rumor about the teleportation stone had been blown out of proportion as it had spread. The fact that various superpowers were keeping a tight lid on the information likely played a factor.

Although the true teleportation stone didn't allow one to visit the western continent, its ability to access the Tower of Four Gods was just as valuable.

As Elder Wu had stated, the Tower of Four Gods was an amazing place. To be precise, it was a land for Gods. Every teleportation stone that allowed entry into the Tower of Four Gods was incomparably valuable, easily worth an Epic item.

"What are your thoughts?" Elder Wu asked.

Happy Art couldn't do anything about this situation due to Elder Wu's immense authority within Thirteen Thrones. Not even Melancholy would dare go against this man.

Lu Xingluo couldn't help his inward sneer as he glared at Shi Feng.

The higher-ups have forbidden me from touching you, but they never said anything about impeding your development! Don't even dream that you'll get access to Dragonheart Island through Thirteen Thrones!

Thirteen Thrones was a Super Guild. Melancholy might be interested in Shi Feng, but he wasn't the only person with authority over the Guild.

Although Elder Wu offered the Tower of Four Gods' teleportation stone due to the broken partnership, not everyone would find success within the tower, especially with a single teleportation stone.

As Lu Xingluo felt pleased with himself for pulling this coup off, Shi Feng opened his mouth and replied, "Thank you for your offer, Elder Wu, but since Zero Wing will not be participating in the fortress's capture, we will not need compensation. Zero Wing has its own strength, and we will fulfill our dreams on our own."

Chapter 2256 – Youthful Arrogance?

Lu Xingluo was stunned to hear Shi Feng's reply, but his lips curled into a sneer.

Black Flame, do you really think such a noble attitude will gain Elder Wu's favor? Lu Xingluo inwardly chuckled. Unfortunately, you've made the wrong bet! Elder Wu is not Melancholy!

Lu Xingluo was very familiar with Elder Wu's personality. Elder Wu was a man of his word. Since Elder Wu had promised to give Shi Feng the Tower of Four Gods' teleportation stone, he would ensure Shi Feng took it. Rejecting the offer would only disgust Elder Wu. Moreover, the old man wouldn't mind retracting his offer after such a rejection.

The experts standing guard along the hall's sides stared at Shi Feng in astonishment, looking at him as if he were a fool.

"Has this kid gone crazy?"

“Even if he isn’t, I’m sure he is very close. Does he really think he can obtain an entry slot to the Tower of Four Gods with his strength alone?”

“He might be trying to boast about his bravery before Elder Wu.”

The Tower of Four Gods’ entry slot presented a very rare opportunity, and only one King-class Sea Monster dropped the tower’s teleportation stone. However, an extremely large number of powers was currently vying for these teleportation stones. There were already more than 10 superpowers preparing for the upcoming raid.

At this point, only Thirteen Thrones was confident of securing these teleportation stones. The other superpowers had no guarantee of success.

Shi Feng had only recently reached Dragonheart Island, and even though Zero Wing had some naval power, it couldn’t dispatch its forces to Tranquil Mine Island on such short notice. Swimming Dragon’s Dragon Riders adventurer team could help the Guild by adding to its combat power, but the adventurer team wasn’t even strong enough to defeat the sea monsters that guarded the King-class Sea Monster, much less the main boss.

The idea that Shi Feng intended to rely on his strength to obtain the teleportation stones was simply a joke.

However, the moment Shi Feng finished his statement, he turned and left the tent. He didn’t even pause to wait for Elder Wu’s response.

Startled, Melody and her companions followed Shi Feng out of the tent.

Youthful arrogance,” Elder Wu indifferently commented as he watched Shi Feng leave. His gaze then shifted to Lu Xingluo as he began to address their plans, reacting as if Shi Feng had never arrived.

The expert guards found nothing strange about Elder Wu’s reaction. They had watched many arrogant players behave as Shi Feng had, and they received nothing from Elder Wu after rejecting his offers.

Youthful arrogance, huh? Inwardly, Happy Art couldn’t disagree with Elder Wu more.

She had gained some understanding of Shi Feng’s mindset during her time with him in the Thunder God’s Secret Land. He didn’t act unless he was absolutely confident in succeeding. Since Shi Feng had claimed that he’d secure the teleportation stones by himself, then he was confident he’d succeed.

However, Happy Art couldn’t help but worry. Trying to claim the Tower of Four Gods’ teleportation stones from the various superpowers wouldn’t be easy, and they were currently out at sea. One would need ships to defeat sea monsters.

“If you’re worried, little Art, I can let them tag along with our fleet. At least that would give them a chance to approach the boss. It will also avoid giving the others a reason to call out our Guild for being unscrupulous,” a young, robust Level 80 male Ranger said when he noticed Happy Art’s concerned expression.

“Really?” Happy Art asked, giving the Ranger youth an excited, joyful look.

The youth before her was the commander of Thirteen Throne’s Third Fleet, Modern Rain. If Modern Rain were willing to help, they wouldn’t have any trouble getting Shi Feng’s group close to the King-class Sea Monster.

“Rest assured; if they’re with me, they’ll reach the Boss’s side,” Modern Rain declared.

Happy Art was Thirteen Thrones’ prided daughter. Modern Rain was a little annoyed with how highly Happy Art thought of Shi Feng, but he could use this opportunity to show off his power before the young woman.

Once Elder Wu and Lu Xingluo finished their business, Happy Art and Modern Rain left in search of Shi Feng.

Countless ships, all belonging to the various major powers, were tied to the docks in Tranquil Mine Island’s port, including hundreds of Bronze Speedboats, which the various well-known adventurer teams considered quite rare and precious. There were also quite a few Small Sailboats, and many of the expert players on the island were shocked by the spectacular scene.

This was especially true when these experts saw the fleets the various superpowers had dispatched. Every fleet consisted of 100 ships, and even the weakest among them was an advanced speedboat. Each fleet had over 20 Bronze Speedboats and two or three Mysterious-Iron Speedboats, as well. Every one of them was led by a Medium Sailboat.

“So, this is the strength of various superpowers’ foundations?” Melody gazed at the fleets, surprised.

These superpowers were on an entirely different level compared to Dragonheart Island’s adventurer teams. Melody even spotted Bronze Sailboats among the multiple fleets.

A single Bronze Sailboat was more than enough to annihilate the Dragon Riders adventurer team.

Of course, adventurer teams had their own powerhouses. Take Dragonheart Island's top 10 adventurer teams, for example. All of these top adventurer teams had their own Medium Sailboats as the core of their fleet. They only lacked the Bronze and Mysterious-Iron Speedboats that the various superpowers employed.

"With so many ships heading toward the Boss, I'm afraid that there won't be any room for us to squeeze through, Guild Leader Black Flame," Swimming Dragon said, smiling bitterly as he watched the powerful fleets sail toward the King-class Sea Monster's last known sea zone.

Although Swimming Dragon was confident in his Bronze Speedboat, every one of the powers participating in this raid had their own Bronze Speedboats. It was no exaggeration to call these speedboats cannon fodder in this upcoming raid. Trying to claim a teleportation stone with a Bronze Speedboat was simply impossible.

While the group stood in the port, watching the ships, Modern Rain and Happy Art found Shi Feng and approached to greet him.

"Big Brother Black Flame, our Guild Leader's initial offer was sincere. Unfortunately, Elder Wu has too much authority in the Guild. Even our Guild Leader had no choice but to follow his wishes. Please, don't be upset with this outcome," Happy Art explained.

"I understand." Shi Feng nodded. In truth, he hadn't paid the matter much mind, to begin with.

"Since that is the case, why don't you tag along with us, Big Brother Black Flame? With Vice Guild Leader Rain's fleet, approaching the King-class Sea Monster won't be a problem," Happy Art said.

“Since you are Happy Art’s acquaintance, Guild Leader Black Flame, please leave the journey to the Boss to me,” Modern Rain stated as he gestured to the Bronze Sailboat that was the core of Thirteen Thrones’ Third Fleet.

The various major powers would step aside and open a path to the King-class Sea Monster for Thirteen Thrones’ Third Fleet. They wouldn’t need to fight or squeeze through the countless ships.

“Thank you, but we can get there by ourselves,” Shi Feng said, shaking his head as he rejected the offer without a second thought.

“Big Brother Black Flame?” The response surprised Happy Art.

You’re going there yourselves? I don’t mean to look down on you, but even if you have a relatively formidable fleet, I’m afraid that you won’t even reach the mobs around the Boss, not to mention with just the five of you,” Modern Rain said, smirking.

While Modern Rain spoke, however, Shi Feng retrieved the Thunder Eagle’s flute and blew into it.

The deafening screech of an eagle echoed throughout the port, heralding the arrival of a gigantic eagle with a wingspan of 20 meters. It gracefully descended from the sky, landing before Shi Feng.

Chapter 2257 – Reappearance of the Flying Mount

Silence fell over the port after the Thunder Eagle's arrival. Everyone stared at the massive bird, surrounded by arcs of blue electricity, with wide eyes.

A Flying Mount?! Modem Rain was stunned when he saw the Thunder Eagle stand obediently before Shi Feng, unable to believe his eyes. Is he the player that appeared on Frost Hell Island?

Ships might be precious, but compared to a Flying Mount, they were utterly worthless. Not even Medium Sailboats were as valuable as Flying Mounts.

The various superpowers had been in a frenzy, searching for any trace of another Flying Mount. Some superpowers even offered 10,000 Gold for a clue that would lead to a Flying Mount.

However, their search had been fruitless thus far, which was only a testament to how rare and valuable Flying Mounts were.

The only player-owned Flying Mount anyone had heard of was the one that had appeared on Frost Hell Island. There hadn't been another sighting.

Melody, Thoughtful Rain, and Blue Bamboo, who stood beside Shi Feng, were dumbfounded, as well.

They had only heard of Flying Mounts before. They hadn't bothered to look further into the matter or try to acquire one for themselves, however. If not even the various superpowers were having any success, what were their chances?

"Rain, look! It's a Flying Mount! A Flying Mount!" Blue Bamboo excitedly exclaimed as she grabbed Thoughtful Rain's arm.

Only Happy Art maintained her composure, yet even she envied Shi Feng for his Thunder Eagle.

Thus far, the only person Happy Art had talked to about Shi Feng's Thunder Eagle was Melancholy. To prevent others from finding out, Melancholy had decided to keep the information between them. As a result, neither player had mentioned anything about the Thunder Eagle's origin or owner to anyone. Instead, they secretly assigned more teams to grind for Thunder God's Secret Land entry slots to prepare to raid the side temple.

"Let's go," Shi Feng told Melody and the others as he hopped onto the Thunder Eagle's back. He no longer cared whether or not people knew that he owned the Flying Mount.

The current Zero Wing was no longer the Guild it had been, and since he intended to develop Zero Wing on Dragonheart Island in the future, he could use the Flying Mount to garner some fame for the Guild in the area.

Melody and her companions quickly jumped up to join Shi Feng on the Thunder Eagle's back as everyone around them watched.

Once everyone was on-board, the Thunder Eagle screeched and flapped its wings. In the blink of an eye, it rose several dozen meters above the ground. With another flap, the Flying Mount broke the sound barrier, disappearing on the horizon and leaving behind a bunch of stunned players.

Naturally, news of the Thunder Eagle quickly reached the various superpowers.

"So, it turns out this kid had such a trump card. It's no wonder why he was confident of securing teleportation stones to the Tower of Four Gods by himself," the masked man beside Elder Wu muttered,

smiling as he watched the video of Shi Feng leaving Tranquil Mine Island's port on the Thunder Eagle. The masked man's information was thoroughly hidden; not even his name or level was visible.

"So what if he has a Flying Mount? Does he think that King-class Sea Monster is so easy to approach? Would we have lost so much to that sea monster if it were?" a similarly masked woman next to him said disdainfully.

Although a Flying Mount would give one an advantage in terms of speed, ships were king in a naval battle.

"Enough!" Elder Wu snapped in a low tone. "This matter is of no concern. Our goal is to secure as many teleportation stones as possible, as well as that item."

Elder Wu was surprised to learn that Shi Feng possessed a Flying Mount, but it was of little significance to him. It was not worth his attention and time.

"Understood!"

Berated by Elder Wu, the masked man and woman lowered their heads and promptly left the tent to see to the final preparations for the raid against the King-class Sea Monster.

Meanwhile, on a Bronze Sailboat amidst Starlink's fleet...

"What? The Flying Mount that was spotted on Frost Hell Island belongs to Black Flame?" When Lu Xingluo heard his subordinate's report, envy flashed in his eyes.

A Flying Mount!

As someone with the ability to travel between God's Domain's two main continents, he knew just how valuable and useful a Flying Mount could be.

Information about Flying Mounts might be scarce on the eastern continent, but it had already become a well-

topic on the western continent. Some superpowers had even obtained clues leading to Flying Mounts.

Based on what they had discovered, not only were Flying Mounts powerful tools for leveling, but they were also a miraculous addition to a team's strength.

Flying Mounts were particularly useful at sea. Ship travel was still incredibly inconvenient, and a single Flying Mount could carry multiple players at once. A Flying Mount could transport a team to various islands and provide a massive advantage when exploring new islands.

Unfortunately, despite the discovery of quite a few clues, no one on the western continent had acquired a Flying Mount, yet the Flying Mount Lu Xingluo had been searching for belonged to Shi Feng.

"Why don't we shoot it down, Guild Leader? Although resurrecting a Flying Mount should be easier than reviving a Personal Guard, he won't be able to use it for some time," Bright Dawn ruthlessly suggested.

His hatred for Shi Feng was truly immeasurable!

Flying Mounts had a certain degree of combat power and were much stronger than Land Mounts, but there was no way they could compete with speedboats and sailboats at sea.

They wouldn't be able to destroy Shi Feng's Flying Mount completely, but he could use this chance to let off some steam.

"No need," Lu Xingluo said, shaking his head. Sneering, he continued, "Black Flame is a gullible fool if he thinks he can approach the King-class Sea Monster just because he has a Flying Mount!"

They were going to raid a Level 91 Mythic ranked King-class Sea Monster. Every one of its attacks had Tier 4 power. They were prepared to use their ships' extraordinary defensive capabilities to tank the Boss. Even before this King-class Sea Monster, a Level 100 Flying Mount was a joke. The shockwaves from the Boss's attacks alone would likely be enough to throw the Thunder Eagle.

...

Meanwhile, Shi Feng rode his Thunder Eagle through a stormy patch of the Sea of Death.

If the Thunder Eagle hadn't been an Extraordinary Flying Mount, it would've had quite a bit of trouble navigating through the powerful storm.

Sure enough, ships still have an advantage when passing through special sea zones. When Shi Feng glanced at the Mysterious-Iron Sailboats below, he noticed that they made more progress than the Thunder Eagle.

Of course, not even Dark-Gold Speedboats would be a match for the Flying Mount's speed through normal sea zones.

After nearly half an hour, Shi Feng's group arrived in the heart of the stormy sea zone.

When they saw the spectacle before them, Blue Bamboo and her companions gasped.

A giant tornado stretched between the water and the sky, spinning in the very center of the stormy sea zone. Nestled within the eye of the tornado was a colossal sea serpent that was several thousand meters long. The sea serpent's body was pitch-black, and a silvery-white horn grew from its head.

...

(Storm Serpent King) (Marine King Creature, King-class Sea Monster, Mythic)

Level 91

HP 2,250,000,000/2,250,000,000

...

The Storm Serpent King's 2.25 billion HP was more than enough to induce despair, yet the Boss was protected by a group of Lord and Great Lord-ranked One-horned Sea Serpents. At a glance, they were easily more than 300 of these monsters. The One-horned Sea Serpents would likely devour an ordinary fleet before it even reached the Boss.

For the moment, every ship in the area remained at least 1,000 yards away from these monsters. None dared to approach, yet as more powers gathered, the various superpowers began to assign tasks to their ships. The fleets then began to surround the Storm Serpent King.

As all 10,000-plus ships spread out, even Swimming Dragon, who had seen many naval battles, was shocked.

When these ships began to attack, the results were catastrophic. The Level 90 Great Lord ranked sea serpents rapidly lost HP, unable to survive a bombardment from so many ships. However, as they fell, new sea serpents surfaced to replace them.

Prepared for this, the various superpowers lured these sea monsters away with their weaker ships, leaving their main ships behind to attack the Storm Serpent King.

“Foolish humans, I will tear you to pieces to feed the fishes!”

The Storm Serpent King bellowed in rage as the numerous ships approached. A massive tidal wave rose around the Boss and swept toward the offending ships.

“Defend yourselves!”

The main ships promptly activated their defensive abilities. Among the various superpowers ships, the Mysterious-Iron Speedboats in the lead took the brunt of the Serpent King’s attack.

Boom... Boom... Boom...

As the tidal wave slammed into the Mysterious-Iron Speedboats, their defensive barriers flickered with light. It was obvious that the barriers' durability had decreased by a sizable chunk.

The lesser powers in the raid weren't as fortunate as the various superpowers. The tidal wave crushed their advanced speedboats, dragging ship and crew to their watery graves. Only their Bronze Speedboats had withstood the attack, yet they had lost nearly 100 durability from the blow. At this rate, the Storm Serpent King only needed four or five more attacks to skin the Bronze Speedboats.

With its first attack, the King-class Sea Monster had sunk nearly a hundred advanced speedboats. The attack's ferocity instilled fear in the various adventurer teams' members.

Of course, the superpowers didn't stop their assault, despite witnessing the Storm Serpent King's power. Immediately, several dozen sailboats responded with attacks of their own.

Sailboats' cannons were far more powerful than speedboats', and the various superpowers had invested a large number of resources into reinforcing these ships. As a result, every one of their attacks had peak Tier 3 destructive power, and each sailboat carried five or six cannons. Each sailboat dealt over - 1,000,000 damage to the Storm Serpent King after a single round of attacks.

The Storm Serpent King's HP fell by several tens of millions, inspiring hope in the various powers. They charged toward the Boss without any regard for the sea monster's attacks.

The Storm Serpent King shattered one speedboat after another, and in return, its HP rapidly decreased.

The scene even shocked Shi Feng.

Not even a creature as powerful as the Storm Serpent King could withstand a bombardment from 10,000-plus ships.

As the Storm Serpent King's HP continued to fall, the intervals between each attack grew shorter. As a result, more ships began to sink. The tragic scene was even more frightening than a large-scale war between two Guilds.

"We should make our move, too," Shi Feng said once the Storm Serpent King's HP fell below the 10% threshold. He directed the Thunder Eagle to fly into the King-class Sea Monster's domain.

"We're going in?" Shi Feng's comment took Melody and her companions off guard.

They had witnessed the Storm Serpent King's strength; charging toward it now would be suicidal.

When Lu Xingluo, who commanded Starlink's fleet, noticed the Thunder Eagle's approach, he sneered.

The Storm Serpent King's attacks bombarded the entire area and were impossible to avoid, even from above. The sailboats' defensive magic arrays were the only reason that the various superpowers had survived the attacks thus far. How could a Level 100, Great Lord ranked Flying Mount possibly stand up against the Storm Serpent King's attacks?

"Another attack is coming! Prepare to defend yourselves!"

The Storm Serpent King growled again, and the various superpowers fleets deployed their defensive barriers once more.

A powerful storm swept toward the players, and not even the Thunder Eagle, which had entered the Storm Serpent King's range, was spared.

As the approaching blast of wind was about to strike the Flying Mount, Shi Feng retrieved a Summon Guard Scroll and called forth Anna.

Chapter 2258 – Might of a Magical Class

As soon as Anna appeared on the Thunder Eagle's back, she pointed her staff at the approaching blast of wind. Violent Mana immediately gathered around the Level 96 Summoner, forming a dual-colored, twofold magic array.

Tier 3 Overtier Spell, Yin Yang Pillar!

With Anna in the center, the 30-yard-radius Yin Yang Pillar, a Legacy Defensive Spell Anna had learned after reaching Level 95, manifested.

As the pillar completed, the blast of wind transformed into a lance that flew toward it. The wind lance was so horrifically powerful that space around it began to shatter, and its speed and range made it impossible to dodge, even for the Thunder Eagle.

Melody and her companions paled, terrified, as the wind lance approached.

They had only watched from afar before now, and although they knew that the Storm Serpent King's attacks were incredibly powerful, they hadn't been able to get a clear sense of just how powerful the attacks were. Now that they faced one of these attacks personally, they felt nothing but despair as they felt the attack's devastating aura.

It was this moment when Melody and the others finally understood how frightening the Storm Serpent King truly was.

The strongest monster they had faced thus far was a joke compared to the Storm Serpent King. Before this sea monster, Tier 2 players were little more than ants.

Boom!

A massive explosion blasted through the sky as the wind lanced plowed into the Yin Yang Pillar. The resulting shockwave was so powerful that it even pushed away the water below, creating 10-meter-high waves around the impact.

"Fool!" Lu Xingluo sneered up at the Thunder Eagle. The mist the explosion had created obscured his vision, but he was certain that both Shi Feng and the Thunder Eagle must be dead. "Do you think the Storm Serpent King's raid is a battle you can just stroll into?"

The King-class Storm Serpent King was just as powerful as a World Boss of the same level. In fact, the sea monster might actually command even more destructive power than a World Boss. The Storm Serpent King was impossible to raid with normal methods. They could only defeat this Boss by relying on powerful war weapons.

Even the various superpowers' ships, which had been upgraded multiple times, rapidly lost durability as the Storm Serpent King's attacks slammed into them. Trying to contend with this Boss with the power of a single individual was extremely foolish.

So what if you can fly? Did you really think that could save you? Modem Rain, who watched from his Bronze Sailboat's deck, was quite satisfied to see the Thunder Eagle collide with the Storm Serpent King's attack.

A Flying Mount could cross the sea quickly, but one still needed ships for naval combat.

However, to everyone's surprise, the mist revealed the Thunder Eagle, still hovering above them, as it dissipated. Shi Feng and his comrades appeared completely unharmed atop the Flying Mount.

"How is that possible?" Lu Xingluo stared, stunned.

That had been a Tier 4 AOE attack, with just as much power as an Intermediate Mana Pulse Cannon. Such an attack would even shatter an Intermediate Defensive Magic Array, yet Shi Feng's group had emerged unscathed...

"What?! They blocked it?!"

Quite a few powers, aside from Starlink and Thirteen Thrones, were paying attention to Shi Feng's group. The Thunder Eagle was just too eye-catching, after all.

While the players below were surprised to see that the Thunder Eagle had survived, Shi Feng flew toward the Storm Serpent King.

The King-class Sea Monster's attacks were immensely powerful, but Anna was no ordinary Tier 2 Personal Guard. Her Yin Yang Pillar was just as strong as an Advanced Defensive Magic Array; Tier 4 attacks wouldn't be enough to break it.

Unfortunately, Shi Feng's group couldn't rely on the Yin Yang Pillar to block every one of the Storm Serpent King's attacks. That last blow had already depleted almost 6% of Anna's Mana reserves. At most, the Personal Guard could block another 15 or 16 attacks. Shi Feng needed to end this battle as quickly as possible.

However, he was not a ship, and he couldn't attack from hundreds of yards away. He had to get closer to the sea monster Boss if he wanted to hit it.

Due to the looting rules for sea monsters, he wanted to attack the Storm Serpent King personally. If he did not deal any damage, he wouldn't have any claim to the items the Boss would drop. He would have to wait until someone else picked them up and kill that player to get what he wanted.

However, trying to take an item from another player was easier said than done. The various powers would do everything in their power to protect the players that collected the loot.

The moment the Boss died would be the only opportunity he'd have to claim any of the loot. Everyone would be busy contesting for their share and wouldn't pay attention to him. This was why he had decided to attack once the Storm Serpent King had very little HP remaining.

"Don't even think of touching the Boss that easily! Attack him!" Lu Xingluo commanded. He recognized what Shi Feng intended to do the moment he noticed the Swordsman approach the Storm Serpent King.

Several dozen ships within the Boss's range immediately turned their attacks on the Thunder Eagle.

Gnome Cannons!

Magic Cannons!

Several hundred cannonballs and beam attacks flew toward the Thunder Eagle' each with peak Tier 3 power. Moreover, every player in charge of these cannons was a Refinement Realm expert, and they all had an accurate grasp of the Thunder Eagle's flight trajectory. They were able to get an accurate grasp of the Thunder Eagle's flight trajectory.

It's over! Swimming Dragon's expression darkened as he watched hundreds of beam attacks and cannonballs fly toward him.

These attacks might not be as powerful or cover as much area as the Storm Serpent King's attacks, but there were many of them. Not even a fly could evade these attacks in time.

"Don't think I'm that easy to stop!" Shi Feng growled as he glanced at the incoming attacks. "Do it, Anna!"

All players still had the opinion that magical classes were weaker than melee players in PvP. At best, a team treated its magical class members like mobile turrets. However, God's Domain's magical class Personal Guards were far more valuable than melee Personal Guards. The value of a magical class Fine-Gold Guard could even rival that of a melee Dark-Gold Guard. During Shi Feng's previous life, most players with magical class Fine-Gold Guards had refused to trade, even when offered melee Dark-Gold ranked Personal Guards.

At most, a powerful melee Personal Guard could annihilate a city by themselves, but a powerful magical class Personal Guard could obliterate an entire country.

Hearing the command, Anna, who had completed her next Spell's chant, waved her staff.

Suddenly, a frightening amount of Mana gathered around Anna. These Mana fluctuations were even stronger than that of her previous Spell.

Several hundred magic arrays then manifested around Anna, their glowing light illuminating the stormy sky. Black and white chains shot forth from these arrays.

Tier 3 Overtier Spell, Yin Yang Chains!

Every one of these chains had peak Tier 3 power, and they were all under Anna's control.

The chains blocked and countered every cannonball and energy beam in the air, and none of the attacks reached the Thunder Eagle.

"Impossible!"

The players below were dumbfounded by the scene.

The sight astonished Melody and her companions on the Thunder Eagle, as well. They had never thought that a Personal Guard could be so powerful that she could render Starlink's several dozen ships powerless.

While everyone watched Anna block one round of Starlink's attacks after another, the Thunder Eagle came within 100 yards of the Storm Serpent King. With less than 5% of the Boss's HP remaining, it had gone berserk, but since there were so many ships participating in this raid, several thousand remained, despite the several thousand the King-class Sea Monster had already destroyed.

Once the Flying Mount was within range of the Storm Serpent King, Shi Feng ordered Anna to attack the Boss. Meanwhile, he pulled a Tier 4 Magic Scroll, which he had obtained from the Frost Monarch, from his bag.

This Tier 4 Magic Scroll contained a single-target Spell, one that would be perfect against this Boss.

As the Storm Serpent King's HP fell to a critical low, Shi Feng unfurled the Magic Scroll and activated it. The Mana around him grew turbulent, and the surrounding temperature plummeted.

Tier 4 Spell, Arctic Fall!

Immediately, countless ice shards appeared and rained down from the sky. As the ice shards collided with the Storm Serpent King, they formed an icy shell around the Boss. One second after the Storm Serpent King had been imprisoned, the shell shattered, and a damage of over -10,000,000 appeared above the Boss's head, even surprising Shi Feng.

This attack decimated the Storm Serpent King's remaining HP, and its titanic body slammed into the ocean, the impact forming a 30-meter-tall tidal wave that swept across the water's surface in a perfect ring.

Chapter 2259 – Snatching Loot

The moment the Storm Serpent King died, Shi Feng's experience bar skyrocketed.

Since he hadn't been a part of a raid team, that last hit had allowed him to claim nearly half of the Storm Serpent King's EXP.

The Boss definitely awarded a lot of EXP. I really got my money's worth for that Tier 4 Magic Scroll. Shi Feng was quite satisfied with his rising experience bar.

Shi Feng had already reached Level 90, and normally, it would take him four or five days, at least, to fill his experience bar.

However, the Storm Serpent King wasn't the usual Boss.

Sea monsters originally already granted more EXP than ordinary monsters, and combined with the fact that the Storm Serpent King was King-class, it granted even more abundant EXP than a World Boss of the same level. Each player would receive a sizable amount of EXP if they split it between two fleets. It was easy to imagine how much EXP Shi Feng had earned by monopolizing nearly half of the Storm Serpent King's EXP.

In less than a second, Shi Feng had risen to Level 91. After two more seconds, he reached Level 92. His experience bar only began to slow after he had climbed to Level 93.

Eventually, Shi Feng's experience bar stopped at 24% of Level 93. Not even he had expected to receive so much EXP.

Once the Storm Serpent King had died, the various major powers in the sea zone went mad, charging toward the Boss's corpse without any hesitation.

"Quick! Get the loot!"

Everyone's eyes were bloodshot as they rushed to claim the items.

A Mythic ranked King-class Sea Monster's loot was unimaginably tempting to current players. Not even the various superpowers' upper echelons could resist.

Thousands of ships sped toward the sinking sea monster's corpse.

The Storm Serpent King's corpse slowly began to disintegrate, and orbs of light began to appear around it. These orbs of light were none other than the Boss's loot.

However, unlike ordinary Boss's loot, the Storm Serpent King didn't drop a single pile of items. Instead, the items scattered, floating through the air. By the time the loot reached the water's surface, a significant distance separated each orb. Players would have to swim for quite some time to get from one item to another. This setting prevented players from claiming all of the Storm Serpent King's loot for themselves.

The Storm Serpent King had dropped a very large number of items. Easily more than 300 items had scattered within 200 yards of the Boss's corpse, their beautiful lights decorating the area.

Unfortunately, none of these players had the patience to admire the graceful scene. They all rushed toward the globes with everything they had.

The various superpowers, on the other hand, began to work together to claim the items as if they had already negotiated a deal. They formed a barricade around the area, preventing outsiders from approaching the sea of lights.

“If you won’t let us claim any of the treasure, you should forget about getting any, either!”

The various adventurer teams didn’t need long to figure out the superpowers’ goals. Instead of speeding toward the floating orbs, they put themselves in range of the superpowers’ AOE attacks, launching an assault.

The adventurer teams had an overwhelming numerical advantage. Even if they weren’t a match for the superpowers’ quality, they could make up for it by swarming their opponents. The various adventurer teams were fully capable of standing up to the various superpowers as equals.

For a time, cannon fire filled the sea zone, especially near the sea of lights and the Storm Serpent King’s corpse. Flying cannonballs blanketed the ocean, and anyone that tried to enter the area died instantly.

Some of the superpowers, who thought their defenses were strong enough, had tried to send Mysterious-Iron Speedboats to claim the loot, yet in the end, the ships and crew were blown to smithereens.

“What should we do, Guild Leader?” Blue Bamboo grew very anxious as she looked at this scene.

Despite how close to the Boss they were, ships had begun to fire at them before they had a chance to claim any of the loot. Moreover, far more ships attacked than when Starlink had assaulted them earlier. As a result, they had to distance themselves from the loot.

Superpowers and adventurer teams hammered the loot area with constant attacks, preventing anyone from getting close to the dropped items. Anyone that dared approach the loot would become everyone's enemy, and every ship in the area would attack.

Not even the various superpowers dared to approach the area, stuck in a stalemate with the adventurer teams while they tried to think of a solution. Not even a Bronze Sailboat would last long against thousands of ships.

"Wait here. I'm going to give it a try," Shi Feng said after giving the matter some thought.

The various adventurer teams and superpowers kept a close eye on the loot, and as more time passed, it would become harder to get one's hands on those items. At this rate, the adventurer teams and superpowers would be forced to sit down and negotiate terms, or the various superpowers would reveal a trump card to clear the area by force.

Regardless of which outcome occurred, Shi Feng wouldn't get anywhere near the Storm Serpent King's items. If he wanted to claim his share, he'd have to brave the cannon fire.

Shi Feng activated the Seven Luminaries Ring's Gale Domain and flew straight toward the loot area. Since he was significantly smaller than the Thunder Eagle, the ships would have a very hard time targeting him. In addition, Shi Feng was far more agile than the Thunder Eagle, and with Tier 3 reaction speed, he had no trouble dodging the monotonous cannon fire.

"Black Flame's approaching the loot!"

“Kill him! Those items are ours!”

Many players quickly notice Shi Feng, and none of them showed any mercy as they bombarded him together.

Cannonballs and energy beams flooded the loot area. The various powers attacked Shi Feng with even more ferocity than their assault on the Storm Serpent King...

Does Black Flame really think he can snatch the loot by relying on his own strength? When Modern Rain saw the various powers target Shi Feng, the corners of his lips curled to form a delighted grin.

While the idea was that everyone would have an opportunity to claim some of the Storm Serpent King's loot, the true outcome of this raid would be based on the later negotiations. The quantity and quality of items each power would receive would be determined by their strength.

This was also why Elder Wu had dared to offer Shi Feng a teleportation stone to the Tower of Four Gods.

Shi Feng seemed to have some difficulty dodging the various powers' attacks, and as he got closer to the loot area, the more concentrated the attacks became. Some superpowers had even begun to use their Basic Mana Pulse Cannons against the Swordsman.

Not only did the Basic Mana Pulse Cannons's attacks possess a huge, 20-yard-radius AOE, but they also carried incredible power. Anna was only able to stop a few of the shots with her Yin Yang Pillar.

How ruthless! The superpowers' bombardment astonished Shi Feng.

Basic Mana Pulse Cannons were war weapons. Installing them on a city's walls was troublesome enough, and trying to install them on a ship was even more of a challenge. Installing a single Basic Mana Pulse Cannon would cost around 70,000 Gold, and once it had been installed, it couldn't be removed. If the ship sank, all of the invested money would go to waste.

As a Mana Pulse Cannon's energy beam swiftly approached, Shi Feng gritted his teeth and activated Absolute Domain, gaining damage immunity for 10 seconds.

Although the Skill protected him from damage, he wasn't immune to the resulting impact. That one hit nearly plunged him into the ocean.

Fortunately, Basic Mana Pulse Cannons had a very long Cooldown. Even if multiple superpowers had them equipped, they couldn't fire unceasingly at Shi Feng.

A second later, Shi Feng entered the loot area.

Cannonballs continued to buzz through the area, but Shi Feng's Basic Attributes were incredibly high. Even if a cannonball hit him, it barely affected his movement. However, since the various powers concentrated their cannon fire, Shi Feng only caught a glimpse of a few items. He couldn't tell what any of the other items were.

With little choice, Shi Feng dashed for the items that were closest to him and those surrounded by dense Mana.

One item... Two items... Three items...

Shi Feng picked up more items, and the various superpowers went mad, firing one Mana Pulse Cannon at him after another.

“Die! Kill him! Those treasures are mine!” Lu Xingluo’s eyes were almost fully red with rage as he watched Shi Feng claim the loot.

With how bright the light globes were, it was easy to watch them vanish from so far away. According to Lu Xingluo’s count, Shi Feng had already picked up 17 items, which was likely even more than Starlink would get after the negotiations ended.

Unfortunately, no matter how loudly Lu Xingluo bellowed, it didn’t affect Shi Feng’s looting spree.

With less than a second of Absolute Domain’s duration, Shi Feng sighed as he pulled a Tier 1 Instantaneous Teleportation Scroll from his bag. He activated the scroll immediately, vanishing from the loot area.

Chapter 2260 – Big Harvest

The various powers’ craze grew even more intense after Shi Feng had left the loot area.

In less than 10 seconds, as many as 26 light globes had disappeared from the sea of lights. The Storm Serpent King had only dropped a little over 300 items, and even if each participating power only received one, there wouldn’t be enough items for everyone. And now, Shi Feng had gotten away with nearly one-tenth of the King-class Sea Monster’s loot.

The most infuriating part about all of it was how little Shi Feng had contributed to the raid. The various powers, on the other hand, had lost a large number of speedboats.

The imbalance of the situation only incited a deep hatred for Shi Feng.

“Kill him! Kill him at all costs!”

Some particularly furious superpowers stopped focusing on the loot area and fired their Mana Pulse Cannons when they found where Shi Feng had reappeared.

The various adventurer teams saw their opportunity. With the loot in a single location, the various superpowers could guard the items easily, but now that Shi Feng had taken some of these items and teleported elsewhere, the Storm Serpent King’s loot had been split. This would make safeguarding the loot a much greater challenge for the various superpowers, which presented an opportunity they could take advantage of.

The various adventurer teams immediately used their trump cards against Shi Feng.

Tier 4 Magic Scroll, Spatial Lock!

Tier 4 Magic Scroll, Soul Chaser!

Tier 4 Magic Scroll, Stormy Weather!

Any adventurer team that could survive on Dragonheart Island, especially the island's top 10, was far stronger than an ordinary adventurer team. Even the weakest of them had a foundation that could rival a pseudo-super-first-rate Guild. These top 10 adventurer teams might not possess large-scale war weapons like the Basic Mana Pulse Cannons, but acquiring Tier 4 Magic Scrolls wasn't impossible.

Spatial Lock would prevent all players in an area from teleporting, while Soul Chaser would lock the target in place, allowing the user to keep track of their position for a certain time. As for Stormy Weather, it summoned a powerful magic barrier that trapped targets within.

All three Spells were Tier 4 and practically impossible for current players to escape.

"These people are insane!" Swimming Dragon paled as he watched the magic barrier form around them. "Do they really need to go this far?"

Tier 4 Magic Scrolls were incomparably precious. Although they were not as valuable as Epic items, each Tier 4 Magic Scroll was worth half as much, yet the adventurer teams below had used three Tier 4 Magic Scrolls in a row. Their small party had practically no hope of escape now.

...

"This kid really is amazing. He actually snatched 26 items on his first try. I doubt we'll even get that many after the negotiations," the masked man beside Elder Wu commented. He sighed ruefully, however, and continued, "It's a pity that this is a superpowers' game. How could it be so easy to steal food from a tiger's mouth?"

Even if the various adventurer teams hadn't attacked Shi Feng, the superpowers would certainly take him down.

Shi Feng had simply taken too much of the loot. Worse, he had gotten close enough to pick and choose which items he took. Even if he hadn't taken the best of the loot, he definitely hadn't claimed the worst of it. It didn't take much effort to determine an item's quality based on the Mana density around it.

Shi Feng had taken at least 10% of the loot's total value. How could the various superpowers afford to let Shi Feng and his party leave with their lives?

"He is a fool that doesn't recognize his own limitations," the masked woman coldly commented. "If he hadn't been so stubborn, he would've acquired a Tower of Four Gods' teleportation stone, at least. Now, he'll have nothing at all."

The masked woman was still annoyed with Shi Feng's prior behavior.

Thirteen Thrones was a bona fide Super Guild and had existed in the virtual gaming world for nearly a century. Moreover, it occupied a significant portion of God's Domain's eastern continent. Countless powers sought an alliance with the Guild, yet Shi Feng refused to cherish the opportunity he had been offered.

Hence, she was quite pleased to see him in such a precarious situation.

Even Mythic monsters would have trouble escaping the Tier 4 Stormy Weather's magic barrier. Surrounded by so many enraged powers in such a cramped space, Shi Feng wouldn't even escape death if he had multiple Vulnerability Skills.

...

“Guild Leader Black Flame, we’re in trouble. With us trapped in this barrier, we’ll become moving targets for the powers below us,” Melody stated grimly as she looked at the magic barrier that had completed around them.

Targeted by several thousand ships, not even Anna could protect them from every attack. Moreover, the various powers had marked their souls. Even if they dove into the ocean, there was nowhere they could hide.

“These powers certainly came prepared.” Shi Feng smiled at the magic barrier surrounding them.

“You’re still in the mood to smile at a time like this, Big Brother Black Flame?” Blue Bamboo whined when she saw his grin.

They had gone to great lengths to claim some of the Storm Serpent King’s loot, yet before they had a chance to inspect the items, they were going to die. It was a huge loss.

“Here, take these,” Shi Feng said as he took out two tokens made of Seven Luminaries Crystals. He then handed Thoughtful Rain and Melody one each.

“Seven Luminaries Crystal!?” Melody’s eyes nearly fell from their sockets when she saw the token in her hand.

At this stage of the game, everyone in God’s Domain knew how valuable Seven Luminaries Crystals were. They were necessary for upgrading players’ Mind Space Systems, which was useful both in-game and in the real world.

Even when a large Guild like Ninth Heaven found some, they only obtained two or three units at most, yet the palmsized token in Melody's hand was made entirely of Seven Luminaries Crystal. By her estimates, the token should be more than 40 units. It could easily fetch an astronomical sum on the market. One wouldn't even have a problem trading it for two or three Epic items.

However, Melody quickly discovered that this token was not as simple as it appeared. As she held the token, the ambient Mana began to gather around her. As a Half-elf, she was far more sensitive to Mana than human players. Hence, she could tell that the Mana around her had grown at least 20% denser during the brief moment she held the crystal token. This was definitely a priceless treasure.

"Stop daydreaming! This is the teleportation stone to enter the Tower of Four Gods! Melody, take Dragon with you. Rain, you'll take Bamboo! Teleport away from here now!" Shi Feng barked when he noticed Melody's dazed expression.

Although he had blindly picked up loot, he had obtained quite a few items by searching for higher Mana density.

Among these items, he had claimed five Tower of Four Gods' teleportation stones.

These teleportation stones were incomparably valuable. Not even a Mythic ranked King-class Sea Monster would drop more than 30 teleportation stones on its First Kill, yet Shi Feng had claimed five for himself. He had profited greatly from this trip.

If Thirteen Thrones' people learned this, they'd die from envy.

With so many superpowers participating in the raid, even a top-ranked Super Guild like Thirteen Thrones would be lucky to claim three or four teleportation stones after the negotiations. The ordinary superpowers would likely be limited to a single stone.

The Tower of Four Gods had been created by an ancient civilization for the Gods. As long as one had one of the tower's teleportation stones, they could enter the tower from anywhere in God's Domain, even from a special place like the Thunder God's Secret Land.

A measly Tier 4 Magic Scroll couldn't disable such a powerful teleportation stone.

Hearing Shi Feng's orders, realization dawned on Melody and Swimming Dragon, and they flashed the Swordsman a grateful look.

The Tower of Four Gods' entry slots were beyond precious. The various superpowers' madness to reclaim the teleportation stones made that clear. Receiving an entry slot was akin to encountering a golden opportunity to further one's development, yet most experts would never have such a chance.

No one would've been surprised if Shi Feng had given a teleportation stone to Thoughtful Rain and Blue Bamboo since they were Zero Wing members, but he had handed Melody and Swimming Dragon, both outsiders, entry slots. Not even a superpower's Guild Leader would be so generous.

"Alright, hurry it up! If you don't go now, it'll be too late!" Shi Feng urged his companions as the ships below prepared to open fire.

Melody and Swimming Dragon nodded and stopped hesitating. Following which, Shi Feng, Melody, and Thoughtful Rain began to activate their teleportation stones.

A moment later, three large-scale magic arrays enveloped Shi Feng's group. The arrays remained intact even as the various powers' cannon fire struck them. Similarly, Shi Feng and his comrades were safe within the magic arrays.

"What's going on?"

"A defensive magic array?"

When the players below realized that Shi Feng's group hadn't taken any damage from their bombardment, they were stunned.

They had fired several thousand cannonballs, in addition to a few energy beams from Basic Mana Pulse Cannons. Each of those energy beams contained Tier 4 power, and they were even capable of punching a hole through a city's defensive magic array, yet they had done nothing to the array protecting Shi Feng's party...

While the various powers stared at Shi Feng's group in confusion, a spatial tear opened before the flying players. Shi Feng and his companions then transformed into five streaks of light as they shot through the tear, vanishing.

"They're gone?"

"How is that possible? Didn't we seal the area with a Tier 4 Magic Scroll?"

Frustrated and confused, the various major powers wondered how Shi Feng's group had managed to escape. The various superpowers' upper echelons, on the other hand, had turned ashen.

There was only one way they could think of that Shi Feng had been able to ignore the cannon fire and Tier 4 Spatial Lock's effects; he had used the Tower of Four Gods' teleportation stones.